

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO 55<sup>th</sup> Series of Meetings**

*Geneva, October 5 to 14, 2015*

*Agenda item 5: GENERAL STATEMENTS*

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

**H.E.Mrs Filloreta KODRA, Ambassador**

*Mr President,*

*Distinguish Delegates,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

The Delegation of Albania aligns itself with the CEBS Group Statement.

In national capacity, we would like to commend the WIPO's efforts and activities in strengthening the global system of IP legal protection and encouraging the dialog regarding the development of various fields of IP system. The presented reports reflect the progress made and the results achieved by the Organization this year as well as bring optimism and perspectives for the future outcomes.

Albania would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Francis Gurry on his successful leadership and looking forward to cooperating effectively to further develop models of cooperation between the WIPO and its members, having in mind particularities and diversities of countries and regions in the world.

At the same time, we recognize the distinctive role of WIPO within the United Nations family in particular the Department for Transition and Developed Countries, its' Director and whole staff for the ongoing cooperation and assistance in carrying out many initiatives undertaken by the Albanian General Directorate of Patents and Trademarks. We very much appreciate the contribution of this department and as well other WIPO Departments for the role they play in modernisation of IP system in Albania.

In this frame, Albania is more than conscious that efficient enforcement of the intellectual property rights stand as a crucial component towards the future social economic progress, the increase of country competitiveness in the international market, and ensuring a competitive and fair environment in the national market. We attach great importance to IP as a vehicle of achieving and protecting financial growth on a solid basis.

It is with pleasure to stress that Albania had fruitful cooperation activities over the years with WIPO, with focus on modernisation, strengthening the capacities and raising the awareness, among which we can mention some of them: Implementation of the WIPO IPAS Software in 2006; Instalment of the new Java version of IPAS; Use of the WIPO EDMS tool for digitalization of patent and trademark files, adding that the patent archive is now fully digitalised by the EPO support, etc.

We may summarise as well some achievements of Albanian General Directory of Patents and Trademarks last year like: steps undertaken to implement and monitor the National Strategy on Intellectual Property (2010-2015); legal grounds were completed upon the entry into force of Laws which are fully approximated with the EU directives, etc.

Albania therefore continuously undertakes raising awareness activities regarding the recognition of and respect for IP rights, and have promoted the World Intellectual Property Day on April 26<sup>th</sup> through a media campaign.

Albania is EU candidate – country membership, and we believe that this integration process should be taken into account as well, in planning and implementing cooperation activities between Albania Government and WIPO, which will result more efficient performance of rightly targeted and therefore fully successful activities. Furthermore, we believe that WIPO will continue to have more open and flexible approach in promoting global intellectual property system in Albania.

Finally, the delegation of Albania would like to wish to all Members States to endorse a spirit of constructive cooperation and to achieve positive and balanced results concerning all issues during these Assemblies.

Thank you,