

**General Statement made by Bangladesh Delegation At the 56th WIPO Assemblies
Delivered by: Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan ndc
Senior Secretary, Ministry of Industries**

Hon'ble President
Director General of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry,
Distinguished delegates, Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset we would like to align ourselves with the statement made by India on behalf of the Asia and the Pacific Group and the Statement of Bangladesh made from the LDC group.

On behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President for your election as President of the Assemblies and other elected officials for their commitment. We also thank the outgoing President for his valuable contribution. I express my sincere appreciation to Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, WIPO as well as to the Secretariat for excellent arrangement and logistics of the meeting. I would like to assure you of our full support and cooperation in your steering the meeting. Our delegation is confident that under your leadership WIPO is dedicated to foster creativity, innovations and strengthen National IP Office to provide world class international IP services.

We are very much aware that WIPO, the global IP institution, is working as a pivotal catalyst in developing intellectual property system across the world with special attention to the LDCs like Bangladesh. During the past decades WIPO extended its cooperation for the promotion & protection of inventions and innovations in Bangladesh.

Notably, in January 2015, the Director General of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry, visited Bangladesh and during his visit a "Service Level Agreement" (SLA) was signed between WIPO and Department of Patent Design and Trademarks (DPDT). In pursuance of this agreement, DPDT with the assistance of the WIPO, established two 'Technology and Innovation Support Centers'(TISCs) for helping the potential inventors to access to IP databases and other technology resources for the dissemination of best practices and experiences in the field of intellectual property rights of Bangladesh as well as of the whole world.

One of the famous public universities of Bangladesh, Khulna University of Engineering and Technology has introduced the 'Innovation and Innovator Cell' (IIC) for developing

technology transfer and innovation management of 'Science, Technology and Innovation' (STI) and IP development and its commercialization and industrialization.

Bangladesh is in the process of amending and updating the existing IP laws and rules. We have already enacted Geographical Indications (GI) Law and prepared Rules which is now in operation. Bangladesh IP Office is going to register the first GI product 'Jamdani' by October 2016. It is pertinent to mention that Bangladesh has already implemented Industrial Property Rights Project (IPAS) introducing Automation System in DPDT for the management of IP applications in collaboration with WIPO. We have also introduced a short course on IP at the Bangladesh Institute of Management with the assistance of WIPO.

Bangladesh Government is positively thinking to join PCT, Madrid Protocol and the Marrakesh Treaty for visually impaired. We also express our deep gratitude to WIPO for their help in preparing the draft IP Policies of Bangladesh which is now with WIPO for finalization. Moreover, Bangladesh is currently following the robust National IP Roadmap provided by WIPO.

Mr. President,

Bangladesh would like to see substantive development in the negotiation for legally binding instrument or instruments for GRTKF. We also want an article on technical assistance and capacity building in the proposed DLT. We further urge that in no way the development expenditure stalled or reduced over disagreement on an issue to which the LDCs are not any party. We also support an agreement on broadcasting unions on signal-based approach in traditional sense.

We appreciate the Director General's contribution for WIPO's engagements and achievements in different sectors last year. The Ministerial Declaration, adopted in Istanbul in 2011, has identified the specific priorities where we want WIPO to continue its focus on IP related technical cooperation for the LDCs.

Lastly, I would like to conclude my statement with the hope that we will work together and WIPO will continue to extend its cooperation for improvement of IPR system in Bangladesh.

Thank you Mr. President.