



4 October 2021

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

Sweden

Opening Statement by Sweden at the 62nd Series of WIPO Assemblies

Chairperson,

First of all, we would like to express our gratitude to you Chair for all your work since October 2020. We are looking forward to a productive meeting under your guidance in this hybrid format. Our gratitude also extends to the Vice-chairs.

The secretariat should also be commended for all the preparatory work and flexibility to enable us to meet in this hybrid format.

This delegation fully supports the opening statements made by United Kingdom on behalf of Group B and by Slovenia, on behalf of the EU and its member states.

Sweden would like to thank the Director General Daren Tang and Deputy Director Generals and Assistant Director Generals. We appreciate all the good work and the contributions made to further develop the work of WIPO during the last years.

In particular Sweden would like to thank Director General Daren Tang, the Secretariat and the WIPO-staff for the hard work and great effort that has been made to facilitate the continuing work in the development of the intellectual property law system also during this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though the pandemic has affected the work of WIPO's committees and bodies, your hard work and commitment has made progress possible in several important areas.

The work of the committees of WIPO is important. With regard to the SCCR, Sweden is especially looking forward to following the ongoing work with updating the international legal framework for the effective protection of broadcasting organizations and we would like to reiterate our commitment to constructively participate in the future deliberations of the Committee.

IP diagnostics will be of great importance for small sized enterprises as well as business intermediaries for managing intangible assets and to manage these assets to enter new business opportunities. Small and medium sized enterprises have an important role to play for the economic growth of member states and for the development of sustainable and green technologies. We therefore welcome the WIPO IP Diagnostics tool.

This Delegation also welcomes the continued development and the current update of WIPO Good Practice Toolkit for CMOs, that we believe is of even greater importance now when the creative and cultural sector has struggled to maintain revenues during the time of lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We strongly believe that a vibrant and sustainable creative and cultural sector is of great importance now and in the future.

Sweden follows the WIPO Conversations of AI and Intellectual Property with great interest and encourage WIPO to continue to facilitate discussions in a multi-stakeholder forum on this very important topic also in the future.

This Delegation would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation for the excellent cooperation between WIPO and the Swedish Intellectual Property Office in relation to the advanced international training programmes financed by the Swedish international development cooperation agency, Sida. Together with the LDC-division we offer programs directed to “Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries”, and together with the TK-division we offer the program “Intellectual property and genetic resources-in support of innovation”. We would like to thank WIPO and in particular the LDC-division and the TK-division for their enduring and invaluable work and support for these programmes.

Sweden would in this context also like to thank the former Director of the Least Developed Countries Division Mr Kifle Shenkoru who retired from WIPO this year. Mr Shenkoru played an important role in the creation of these programs in 2004 and continued to be a very active, inspiring, and much appreciated partner in the development of the programs over the years.

Finally, Sweden looks forward to continuing its successful cooperation with WIPO on the development of the international intellectual property system to the benefit of economic, social, and cultural development for all.

Thank you Chair