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Republic of Zambia

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**Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO: Sixty-Fourth Series of Meetings
July 6 to 14, 2023, Geneva, Switzerland, 14-22 July, 2017**

**General Statement Delivered By the Permanent Representative of Zambia to
the United Nations, H.E. Ms. Eunice M. Tembo LUAMBIA**

Thank you,

Chairperson, Director General and Distinguished Delegates,

Zambia fully aligns itself with the statement made by Ghana on behalf of the Africa Group.

Firstly, my delegation wishes to acknowledge you Director General Daren Tang for your efforts in promoting the use of IP in African countries as a tool to create jobs, attract investments, grow businesses, and develop our economies. My delegation looks forward to engaging and tapping on your ability to raise the profile of IP in our country by engaging key national stakeholders on the importance of IP for economic growth and national development.

Chair, from legal and policy frameworks, Zambia has continued to make strides in ensuring that the country has a balanced ecosystem for the protection and utilization of IP. A fortnight ago, the government of Republic of Zambia approved for legislation a new Trade Marks Bill that will among other things introduce into our trade mark law border enforcement measures to restrict the importation of counterfeit trade mark goods and also bring about the protection of geographical indications.

Chairperson, we are grateful to WIPO for the legislative support rendered to Zambia during the development of this Bill and other pieces of legislations that have already been enacted.

Regarding the agenda items for this year's assembly, Zambia applauds the continued cooperation and constructive discussions in the WIPO committees, and we reaffirm our commitment towards reaching consensus on issues that remain outstanding. Finally, Zambia looks forward to continued cooperation and engagement with WIPO in areas such as the Integration of IP in the school curriculum, provision of support to SMEs and IP, and capacity building for Collective Management Organisations(CMO) and the Digitalization of IP Records system in Zambia.

I thank you!!