

General statement by the Czech delegation
at the Assembly Meetings of the Member States of WIPO,
5 to 14 October, 2015

Mr.Chairman,

The Czech delegation would like to associate itself with the statement made by Luxemburg on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and with the statement made by Romania on behalf of the Group of Central European and Baltic States. We would also like to thank the Director General and the Secretariat for hard work in the preparation of this session, for clear and comprehensive documents.

First of all let us congratulate you on your election as a Chair of the General Assembly. Our congratulations also extend to your vice-chairs. We wish you many success in your forthcoming work.

The Czech Republic would like to express its continuing support to the key role of WIPO in maintaining and developing a balanced and effective international intellectual property system, for the protection of innovations and creativity. We are well aware of many challenges for its further successful development. Therefore, we attach great importance to the adoption of the WIPO Programme and Budget for biennium 2016/17.

The Czech delegation appreciates improvement of the international normative framework for intellectual property protection. The Czech Republic as a member of the Lisbon Agreement welcomes the adoption of the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications. We firmly believe that the modernization of the Lisbon system under the Geneva Act and the flexibility of this treaty are in the benefit of all countries. We fully support seeking of solutions for ensuring full transparency and long-term financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union. We are ready to consider and accept adequate measures in this respect.

Moreover, the Czech delegation continues to remain committed to the work of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT). We continue to share the view that prepared substantive texts concerning Design Law Treaty are sufficiently mature for the convening of a diplomatic conference for adoption of this Treaty in 2016. The Czech delegation continues to pay a great attention to the work of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and to the development of discussion on technical issues relating to patent law with a view to patent harmonization.

The Czech delegation regrets a current stalemate in the work of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. We believe that a joint efforts of all member states, based on a concrete road map, could help us find a way to convening in the next biennium of a diplomatic conference on the protection of broadcasting organizations.

We continue to support activities of the Advisory Committee for Enforcement for building better understanding of the importance of effective IPRs enforcement system and for raising public awareness in this area.

The Czech delegation recognizes the importance of the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. Due to the fact that IGC was unable to reach any agreement we share the view that other alternatives for work should be considered.

The Czech delegation remains committed to the work of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property.

Last but not least, the Czech delegation fully supports the appointment of the Visegrad Patent Institute as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

In conclusion, let us draw attention to the Czech exhibition “120 Years Škoda Auto: Simply Clever Since 1895”, held on the occasion of this Assemblies meeting and organized in cooperation with WIPO. The objective is to celebrate the Škoda’s anniversary, one of the five oldest car manufacturer in the world, and to highlight the importance of intellectual property protection for practical development of creations and innovations. We would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation and many thanks to the Director General of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry for his support and participation in the opening ceremony of this exhibition.

The Czech Republic looks forward to further cooperation with WIPO.

Thank you.