

General Statement of DPR Korea Delegation at the 55th Session of the
Assemblies of the Member states of WIPO

*By H.E. Mr. So Se Pyong, Ambassador,
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organisations in Geneva*

Mr. President,

First of all, allow me to congratulate you, on behalf of the DPRK delegation, on your election as the president of the 55th Session of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO with expectation that the present session will bear due fruits under your able leadership.

I also would like to take this opportunity to appreciate efforts made by Mr. Francis Gurry, Director-General of the WIPO and his secretariat for the successful preparation of the current session.

The DPRK commends continued efforts made by the WIPO Secretariat in recent years to strengthen the system for the protection of the Intellectual Property conform to the era of knowledge-economy.

The WIPO has been redoubling its efforts in International IP norm-setting activities such as “Industrial Design Law” and for protection of traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources” and put into force the adopted Marrakesh and Beijing Treaty.

Our delegation appreciates the efforts made by the WIPO secretariat for the modernization of Patent System with a view to facilitating the increasing patent applications, while saving its managerial costs.

Recent WIPO's initiatives arranging briefing sessions at regional level and thematic meetings for permanent missions based in Geneva encourages its member states to take more active parts in the WIPO's activities, guaranteeing the transparency.

The increasing number of applications of patents and industrial designs and trademarks despite of global economic fluctuations explicitly

proves the important role of Intellectual Property in dealing with global challenges.

Mr. President,

We are of the view that a fair and equitable IP system should be established to bridge the big gap between the South and North through the full implementation of the Development Agenda.

In this context, my delegation fully endorses the view of countries to incorporate the technical assistance into the “Industrial Design Law” and supports the holding of a diplomatic conference at the earliest possible date for its adoption.

We also welcome setting up external offices in different region that could step up cooperation with member states in the region. To ensure that the external office fully performs its mission, guiding principles needs to be well defined and on the other hand, we consider that due consideration should be given to its location versus geo-politic situation for the latter to cater all member states of the region in convenience and without travel restriction.

We strongly believe the WIPO would take its ever increasing responsibility to deal with global challenges in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recently adopted in the United Nations General Assembly.

Mr. President,

It is the firm will and ambition of the DPRK Government to propel the development of every sector of national economy by dint of science and technology.

The respected Marshal **Kim Jong Un**, the supreme leader of our people instructed us to boldly initiate the knowledge-based modernization of the national economy upholding the science and technology as a lifeline and to dynamically push ahead with all the work of the country relying on science and technology advancement.

Korean nation was among the first ones to build a physical astronomical observatory in the world and today DPRK has gained full capacity to manufacture and launch practical satellites of multi-purposes, including meteorological observations.

In the near future, DPRK will accede to the Geneva Act of the “Hague agreement” and to other WIPO-administered agreement and treaties including the “Marrakech treaty”.

The DPRK government will continue its cooperation with the international community in the IP protection and fulfill its commitment as a member of the WIPO.

Thank you.