

Agenda item 13: Opening of New WIPO External Offices WO/GA/50/11

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Taking into account of the statement made by a certain delegation yesterday, this delegation would like to make a statement on the benefit of External Office for the record.

Japan, speaking as a Member State that hosts an External Office, believes that the presence of external offices is extremely important.

Please allow me to briefly explain this. Ever since the WIPO Japan Office (WJO) was set up as an External Office to provide promotional activities on WIPO's global IP systems by conducting activities such as holding seminars, visiting companies, participating in exhibitions.

The WJO has become an important bridge connecting the WIPO Headquarters and Japanese stakeholders by holding discussions with and providing support to private sector associations such as JIPA, JPAA, etc. in Japan, such as by signing partnership agreements with these associations.

From a financial standpoint, the WJO has not created an additional financial burden on WIPO.

Furthermore, the WJO has continued to support developing countries through the WIPO Japan Funds-in-Trust, by holding seminars, workshops, internship programs, and various other events that form the backbone of Japanese projects.

From the perspective of government of Japan, our stakeholders, and our partners, External Office's activity is helpful and add value, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.