

**Statement by Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey,
Permanent Representative of India at
64th Annual Session of the General Assembly of WIPO
6th July 2023, Geneva**

Madame Chair, I join other Delegations in conveying our appreciation of your leadership and assure you of our full cooperation. We commend Director General and his team for their efforts in organization of this Assembly and update on WIPO's activities.

Madame Chair,

India believes that WIPO has a key role to play in global development of IPR system that enables innovation and sustainable and inclusive development. We welcome WIPO's commitment to work towards striking a balance between IPR and innovation and development. We welcome WIPO's focus on young and women entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises.

Madame Chair,

The IPR landscape and innovation ecosystem in India has witnessed significant transformation over the last decade. We have joined a number of WIPO Instruments. There has been increase in domestic filing of patents with nearly five-fold increase in grant of patents. As regards innovation, India is now home to more than 100 unicorns and it has emerged as the 3rd largest ecosystem for start-ups globally with almost 100,000 start-ups. We have made progress in implementation of SDGs and we have also been assisting other countries from Global South through our developmental partnerships in realising their SDGs. We are committed to work with WIPO in its global efforts towards capacity building of member States.

Madame Chair,

We have been stressing the need for opening of new External Offices of WIPO as soon as possible. We believe that the evaluation of existing External Offices should be delinked from opening of the new Offices and, as in the past, WIPO Secretariat should be made responsible for both the tasks.

Madame Chair,

We are looking forward to participating constructively in deliberations and decisions of the GA.

I Thank You Madame Chair.