

**Japan's General Statements at WIPO  
Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)  
Twenty-seventh Session  
November 22 to November 26, 2021**

Item 5

<b>Agenda item 5: General Statements</b>
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Thank you, Madam Chair.

The delegation of Japan aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegation of France on behalf of Group B.

At the outset, this delegation would like to express its appreciation to the Chair for all of the hard work performed to make this session of the CDIP a success. This delegation would also like to commend the Secretariat for its efforts in arranging this meeting under the difficult circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We will be actively involved and engaged in WIPO's efforts to overcome this challenging situation.

Since 1987, each year, the government of Japan has made voluntary contributions to WIPO for its development initiatives in the field of intellectual property. This year, Japan contributed 4.7 million Swiss francs.

Making effective use of these voluntary contributions, which are called the Funds-in-Trust Japan Industrial Property Global (FIT Japan IP Global), Japan has been implementing a variety of programs to assist developing countries all over the world in the field of industrial property. The Japan Patent Office (JPO) has invited more than 1,800 trainees since 1996, from 61 countries and four regional IP offices. In addition, JPO has sent more than 400 of its own experts to 38 countries since 1987. The work plan includes workshops and seminars, and support for the IP offices to either launch or upgrade their IT infrastructure.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to highlight some activities conducted through the FIT Japan IP Global, including those related to the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

For example, FIT Japan IP Global was used to finance the Sub Regional Workshop in Master's Degree in Intellectual Property (MIP) organized by WIPO and the ARIPO in June 2021. The objective of this workshop was to support MIP graduates to enable them expand their networks in the field of IP and to add value to the knowledge acquired from their training. This delegation hopes that this would be the first step in a continuing process aimed at further engaging interested MIP graduates to support capacity building activities undertaken in the region.

In addition, JPO, jointly with WIPO and the League of Arab States (LAS), held a virtual meeting in July 2021 with the support of financing from the FIT Japan IP Global. The meeting focused on sharing opinions and information on IP policy and strategic considerations relating to the current international circumstances and emerging trends in the field of IP. In total, eight Arab countries participated in the meeting (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Tunisia), as well as Japan and regional and sub-regional organizations (LAS, GCCPO and GCC-IPTC). This delegation believes that through the meeting, all participants could share the same view that the ultimate objective of IP offices is to contribute to national development goals in promoting innovation, creativity and sustainable development.

Furthermore, JPO provided financial support to the "Project on Intellectual Property (IP), Innovation and Sustainable Development for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) : A Look at Innovation and Leveraging IP in the Blue Economy" in November 2021 organized

by WIPO. The goal of meeting was providing a platform-thinking approach to IP and innovation in the blue economy space for CARICOM SIDS (Caribbean Community Small Island Developing States). This delegation believes that this meeting served as an opportunity to build a network of stakeholders to facilitate access to the ecosystem of technology and information, and to further protect and commercialize IP that will contribute to economic growth in the blue-economy sector in this region.

Moreover, FIT Japan IP Global was used to finance IP4Youth&Teacher Workshop organized by WIPO Academy and WIPO Japan Office in June 2021, on how to teach IP to youth as part of the IP4Youth&Teachers project. This project was organized for the benefit of 44 national curricula setters, policy makers, schoolteachers and practitioners from Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. This delegation believes that it is important to foster a knowledgeable future generation of IP users and producers and this workshop contributed to that perspective.

Next, we would like to touch upon WIPO GREEN.

Today, we are facing many global challenges such as global warming. Japan believes that it is crucial for IP to address these challenges, and strongly supports WIPO in its efforts to resolve global challenges.

Since Japan has the world's largest number of WIPO GREEN users and partners, we can significantly contribute to its development. The JPO has expanded the WIPO GREEN network by working with WIPO and stakeholders around the world, supporting its activities by making voluntary contributions.

For example, this year JPO has begun supporting an Acceleration Project in Latin America utilizing FIT Japan IP Global. JPO is interested in producing concrete best practices, and

presenting them to the world. This also brings more attention to WIPO GREEN, increases the number of participating companies, produces more best-practices, and enables WIPO to achieve SDGs. This is what we believe to be the ideal approach. We hope that this support will further encourage the matching of green technologies to existing needs in Argentina, Brazil and Chile, which are targets of the Acceleration Project and which produce best practices.

Furthermore, JPO held a joint symposium with WIPO in June on WIPO GREEN's initiatives that facilitate the advancement of green technologies around the world. In the symposium's panel discussion, the panelists discussed the initiatives, current status, challenges, and future development of WIPO GREEN from various perspectives based on their concrete and practical experiences. Utilizing WIPO GREEN, JPO will continue striving to improve the IP landscape within which to help solve social issues.

Lastly, we would like to share some updates on IP Advantage.

We believe IP Advantage, which is a collection of success stories in which IP was utilized, is effective in the context of development. In 2008, JPO and the WIPO Japan Office initiated a project under the FIT Japan IP Global, which at that time was called the Japan Funds-in-Trust. The project involves the WIPO Japan Office's collecting, creating, and sharing stories on successful creation and entrepreneurship on IP. The initiative eventually evolved into the "IP Advantage Database", a collection of over 200 success stories and case studies. We believe that IP Advantage can further promote innovation and contribute to the development of the global IP ecosystem. To this end, we will continue to work with WIPO and the WIPO

Japan Office to increase the number of best practices in the IP Advantage Database and make IP Advantage more user-friendly.

Japan recognizes the importance of conducting development activities effectively and efficiently, in line with the objectives of WIPO, to protect IP. Going forward, the government of Japan, in cooperation with WIPO, is committed to further improving its cooperative initiatives to ensure that FIT Japan IP Global is used even more efficiently and effectively.

I thank you, Madam Chair.