

There will amendments (shorter rendition)

STATEMENT BY THE SIERRA LEONE DELEGATION TO THE FIFTIETH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBERS OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION

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~~Mr.~~ Chair, Vice Chairs,

Honourable Ministers, Director General

Your Excellencies Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives here present,
Distinguished Delegates
Observers.

The Sierra Leone delegation on behalf of the Government and People of Sierra Leone, join all former speakers in extending congratulations to you ^{*Ume*} Mr. Chair and Vice Chairs, on your election to steer the ship of this occasion. Indeed it is already clear that the passengers are having a smooth sail. My delegation also conveys to all here present, warm greetings and wishes for a successful deliberation.

Algeria Sierra Leone aligns herself with the statement and sentiments expressed by ~~Egypt~~, Coordinator of the African Group, and expresses appreciation for the untiring efforts of the said Group in furtherance of the objectives of the Intergovernmental Committee. Sierra Leone welcomes progress made by the ICG during the year under review with the production of three texts on the subject matter under consideration. We very much look forward to the ICG's conclusion of its current mandate by coming up with a legally binding instrument soonest, that will ensure the effective protection of traditional knowledge, expression of folklore, and genetic resources.

omit To you Director General Gurry, Sierra Leone congratulates you on your many successes during the year under review, including the hosting of the Diplomatic Conference on Audio Visual Performances in Beijing last June, the outcome of which is the Beijing Treaty on Audio Visual Performances.

Sierra Leone also recognises WIPO's continued drive through your leadership, in the formulation of new strategies, and implementation thereof, to meet new challenges faced by the intellectual property system in management and technological innovation. In this regard, the establishment of the South South Cooperation the main objective of which is to promote intellectual property through the sharing of experiences and the drawing of best practices from

Member States, and the creation of a website that will provide access to much needed information to IP Offices of Member States.

My delegation is pleased to share with this august body, the fact that in addition to the Copyrights and Related Rights Act passed ^{earlier} ~~last year~~, Sierra Leone now has a new Patents and Industrial Designs Act was recently enacted.

For Sierra Leone, this is a great achievement in that for the very first time, we are going to be undertaking the original registration of patents. In this respect, we look forward to the usual support provided under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in the establishment of the Patents Office, and support for capacity building in the administration thereof.

Once again, Sierra Leone extends appreciation and thanks to WIPO, for its facilitation of positive intellectual property development in my country, and wishes this august body, a successful deliberations and outcomes.

I thank you all for your attention.

Mariama Seray Kallay
Administrator and Registrar General of Sierra Leone