

**MATCHED AGAINST DELIVERY**

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION  
61<sup>st</sup> SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES**

**Statement by the Singapore Delegation on Agenda Item 12 –  
WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center, including Domain Names**

Dear Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor.

IPOS and the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center enjoy a long and professional collaboration, since 2011 when we were the first national IP office in the world to collaborate with WIPO on alternative dispute resolution (ADR). We appreciate the presence of a legal representative of the Center in Singapore, and the critical role the Center plays in support of regional ADR activities. The Center has a good list of Singapore-based neutrals to service the region. We have much to offer businesses with IP disputes, especially through the many challenges resulting from the current pandemic.

Over the years, we have implemented mediation and expert determination options that are customised to IPOS proceedings, and co-organised a number of well-received seminars and workshops with WIPO. Our Enhanced Mediation Promotion Scheme funds a large part of parties' mediation costs, up to \$12,000 per mediation case, and has attracted a good number of cases administered by the WIPO Center.

Singapore looks forward to wider adoption of ADR for IP disputes, and the WIPO Center is an important partner towards this vision. With the Singapore Convention on Mediation making it easier for mediation parties to enforce settlement agreements worldwide, on the international front, and the Mediation Act on the national front, we are confident of the value which Singapore and WIPO can, together, offer businesses and users of IP.

Thank you.