



**FULL STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
AGENDA ITEM 5 : GENERAL STATEMENT**

**56th SERIES OF ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO MEMBER STATES
3 - 11 OCTOBER 2016**

Mr Chairman,

Malaysia congratulates you on your appointment as Chair of this meeting. We are confident that you and the two vice-chairs will ably guide our work.

2. Malaysia aligns itself with the statements delivered by Brunei and India on behalf of ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific Group, respectively.

3. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Director General, Dr Francis Gurry for his report and we commend WIPO for its continuous effort in advancing knowledge and increasing awareness of intellectual property rights. We particularly recognise the coming into force of the Marrakesh Treaty, which facilitates access to published works by print-disabled persons. We urge WIPO to continue its good work towards building an inclusive global intellectual property system that benefits all member states.

Mr Chairman,

4. The awareness and interest on intellectual property in Malaysia is certainly growing. Malaysia is presently ranked 35 in the world and second out of a total of 34 upper-middle-economies, according to the Global Innovation Index of 2016. We hope to improve Malaysia's international ranking.

5. The 11th Malaysia Plan, 2016-2020 places innovation at the heart of the government's development agenda. Several measures have been taken to promote industrial innovation, including the promotion of science- industry linkages and knowledge transfer parallel to the aspirations of our National Agenda to foster innovation. We hope that the collaboration with WIPO in establishing the Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) would continue to promote awareness of Intellectual Property Rights domestically and harness an environment conducive to high-level innovation. Currently, nine universities and one research institution have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish TISCs in Malaysia.

6. Additionally, Malaysia is undertaking the necessary domestic legislative amendments, namely the Patent Law to enable Malaysia to accede to the Budapest Treaty and to accept the Protocol Amending the TRIPs Agreement on Public Health. Malaysia is also amending its Trade Mark Law to enable Malaysia to accede to the Madrid Protocol. We are continuing the necessary operational and regulatory adjustments, with WIPO's support in these areas, and hope to accede to these key WIPO treaties by 2017/2018.

Mr. Chairman,

7. The establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015 is a major milestone in the regional economic integration agenda, offering opportunities in the form of a huge market of USD2.6 trillion and over 622 million people. As ASEAN strives to become a competitive and dynamic economic hub, the demand for IP services will naturally increase. To this end, we look forward to WIPO's continuous support and cooperation in realizing the ASEAN Intellectual Property Strategic Action Plan 2016-2025.

Mr Chairman,

8. Malaysia maintains the importance of striking a balance between the protection of intellectual property and the promotion of development. We believe that such mutual grounds exist. Furthermore, the commitment to 'leave no one behind' has been a key feature of all the discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With the SDGs coming into effect in January 2016, we believe that it is even more crucial now to ensure that the work of WIPO is consistent with the broader global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

9. Malaysia acknowledges the contribution of traditional knowledge, genetic resources, and traditional cultural expressions for global development. We remain committed to working with all Member States in narrowing the gaps on these issues, under the current mandate of the IGC and look forward to an early finalization of an international instrument (s) for protection of GR, TK and TCE.

10. We also believe that the Standing Committee on Copyrights and Related Rights (SCCR) should continue to work on the basis of its current mandate with a view to reaching practical outcomes. All three issues in the SCCR, relating to the protection of broadcasting organizations; limitations and exceptions for libraries and archives and exceptions and limitations for educational and research institutions and for persons with other disabilities, are of great importance. Malaysia's interest in the exceptions and limitations is deeply rooted in fulfilling the right to knowledge and education, inclusive for all levels of society.

11. Malaysia stands ready to engage with Member States towards a constructive and complete resolution of the outstanding issues, which would enable the SCT to convene a diplomatic conference within the time frame prescribed.

Mr. Chairman,

12. With your able leadership and the membership's collective efforts, my delegation is confident that this meeting would yield positive outcomes in setting the priorities and direction of WIPO for the coming year. To this end, we offer our fullest support and cooperation.

Thank you.

Geneva, Switzerland
3 October 2016