

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

WIPO GA 2019 STATEMENT

Honorable President, distinguished delegates,

It is a great pleasure for me to address the General Assembly on behalf of the Turkish Delegation. We are glad to see you again as a Chair and look forward to your guidance throughout the discussions. We would like to also extend our appreciation to the Director General Gurry and the Secretariat for their efforts in preparing for this General Assembly.

Distinguished Delegates,

The nature of IP continues to evolve in response to the rapidly changing innovation eco-systems. In this context, My country has drafted a new IP Strategy Paper for the period 2019-2023. Together with the recently enacted IPR code, this new IP strategy will ensure my country's alignment with the international Best practices of IP governance

In line with this new Strategy, quality and timeliness remains our priority in processing constantly increasing applications. For the first eight months of this year, my Office has received approximately 7600 patent, 1700 utility model, 27000 design and 71000 trademark applications. This signals that TURKPATENT will keep its position among the top Offices by the end of the year.

On the other hand, our office gives utmost importance to the training of its staff and further improve its IT infrastructure with the latest available tools. While improving the quality of our services, we maintain an open communication and consultation with our stakeholders through regular meetings, conferences and seminars. In this regard, I am pleased to acknowledge that the Turkish IP Academy is now fully functioning, thanks to WIPO's support.

Furthermore, as one of the first examples of its kind, the Turkish IP Valuation and Commercialization Incorporation. – TURKSMD was established by our office in 2018 with a mandate to value IP assets. After a year long investment, TURKSMD is now ready to officially launch its services with its recently recruited staff at the renovated facility in TURKPATENT Campus. With this initiative, I have no hesitation to suggest that TURKPATENT is one of the most active offices in its region.

Before moving on to our agenda, I am pleased to add that, Turkey has completed the ratification process of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions as of 02 February 2018, and we believe, this convention will be an important instrument for the development of our country's creative cultural industries.

Distinguished Delegates,

WIPO remains as the most important platform where we have the unique opportunity to decide on the future of global IP eco-system. In doing so, my delegation is ready to assist in the discussions to reach a common agreement on the issues that has been on our agenda for quite a long time.

Within the scope of the normative agenda, we support the statement delivered by Canada on behalf of Group B and welcome the important work accomplished during this Assembly.

- On the issue of IGC, we welcome the recommendation on the renewal of the mandate and work program for the next biennium.

Finally -With regard to opening new external offices, we urge all member states to move forward on a transparent, merit based, and a convergent manner in accordance with the guiding principles.In conclusion of my statement, I am confident that this Assembly will be a success and I thank you all for your valuable contributions.