

Statement by the Czech delegation
at the Assembly Meetings of the Member States of WIPO,
23 September to 2 October, 2013

Madam Chair,

The Czech delegation would like to take this opportunity of congratulating you on your election as Chair of this Assembly. We wish you every success in your work. Our congratulations also extend to your vice chairs.

The Czech delegation associates itself with the statement made by Lithuania on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and with the statement made by Poland on behalf of the Group of Central European and Baltic States.

We would like to thank Director General and the Secretariat for excellent work done in the preparation of this session, for clear and comprehensive documents.

The Czech delegation believes that Member States' discussion related to the Program and Budget for 2014/15 biennium will be fruitful and this fundamental document will be successfully adopted. With regard to global economic situation, we do not cease to encourage the Secretariat to improve its financial and control mechanisms and to adopt further cost effective measures. We welcome positive results of the Strategic Realignment Program (SRP) for WIPO. We welcome new members of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee.

The Czech delegation attaches great importance to the development of the international normative framework for intellectual property and the enhancement of the access to, and use of.

The Czech delegation welcomes a successful outcome of the recent diplomatic conference resulting in adoption of the Marrakech Treaty. It has been an important step forward to ensure a substantially improved access to copyright protected works for visually impaired people all over the world. The Czech delegation believes that this remarkable accomplishment will be inspiration for accelerated completion of another long overdue normative task of WIPO, namely an international protection of broadcasting organizations, duly reflecting technological progress in this area. The Czech delegation is also prepared for further discussion on exceptions and limitations already existing in international treaties and in many national laws of WIPO's Member States. We believe that a deep and robust exchange of experience will enable us to find a lot of still unexplored space for effective application of such exceptions and limitations in practice. At the same time the Czech delegation looks to constructive discussion on the future work of the SCCR which should concentrate on the hottest topics and actual issues of the international copyright system.

We support the convening of diplomatic conference for adoption of Design Law (Formality) Treaty in 2014. We appreciate work done by the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) in the field of industrial designs up to now. We also welcome the progress made by the working group for

the development of the Lisbon system, we support its further working program including convening of diplomatic conference for adoption of revised Lisbon Agreement in 2015. The Czech delegation hopes that the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) will be able to adopt a balanced working program towards the international patent law harmonization soon.

We continue to attach great importance to effective delivery of WIPO's services in the global registration systems (PCT, Madrid, Lisbon, Hague), highly dependent on information and communication technologies (ICT). We therefore support any progress in this area. In this context we also welcome Capital Master Plan 2014-2019.

As regards the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) we are of the opinion that it is necessary to reach consensus on its organizational and special rules of procedure as soon as possible.

The Czech delegation continues to pay attention to the activity of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement and its enhancement. We welcome the topics agreed for its nine session, in particular, on practices and operation of alternative dispute resolution systems.

The Czech delegation supports new renewal of mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. We are convinced that despite of progress made, further substantive negotiations on the effective protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklor are needed.

We are aware of the importance of the activities of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property for the implementation of adopted DA recommendations. We continue to support the work of CDIP and improvement of its efficiency.

The Czech Industrial Property Office would like to take this opportunity to express many thanks to Director General, Mr. Gurry and his staff, in particular the Department for Transition and Developed Countries, for continuing and excellent cooperation and support. In April 2013 we organized in cooperation with WIPO the national seminar "Alternative Dispute Resolution" in Prague. This seminar was very much welcomed by all participants, users of intellectual property system from industry, research and business. It highly contributed to raise public awareness of the importance of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center's services. In June WIPO participated in the first International Fair of Inventions-INVENTO 2013, co-organized with expert cooperation of the IPO CZ in Prague, and handed over the WIPO Award to nominated inventor. The purpose of this fair was to give space to research and development institutions, universities and all other innovators and interested parties to present results of their work and efforts in order to support creativity and innovations.

From other activities of our Office in the field of increasing awareness about the industrial property protection system and international competitiveness of companies, businesses and all its users let us mention the IPO CZ's public campaign "Patentuj", available on www.patentuj.cz, which has been launched on the occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day in April 2013. Moreover, our Office with an offer of cooperation on introducing and improving education on intellectual property rights, also entered into talks with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Council of Higher Education Institutions of the Czech Republic, and the leadership of most universities and higher education institutions in order to strengthen the process of expanding knowledge of the intellectual property system.

We look forward to future cooperation with WIPO.

Thank you.