

**Your Excellency, distinguished Madam Chair,  
Honorable Ministers,  
Your Excellences, Permanent Representatives,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Georgian delegation would like to express its appreciation towards WIPO for its continuous efforts to develop the IPR system.

WIPO's activities promoted the implementation of contemporary mechanisms to strengthen the capacity and capabilities of national patent offices. In this area, we are actively cooperating with WIPO and the patent offices of various member states. This delegation would like to encourage the WIPO Secretariat to continue implementing the development related programs and would like to welcome the progress already made in that particular regard.

We acknowledge that WIPO has managed to render technical assistance projects over the past few years and many development projects are still ongoing. We uphold the position that WIPO takes best efforts and strives to meet member state demands while implementing development agenda activities, thus significant progress has already been achieved in this area. Overall, Georgian delegation supports WIPO's ongoing and planned development activities directed at reduction of knowledge gap, and facilitating capacity building, infrastructure modernization, and access to specialized databases.

Georgian delegation would like to support the ongoing work and efforts of the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (Appellations of Origin), which currently discusses the Draft Revised Lisbon Agreement and the corresponding Rules in the Draft Regulations. In this regard, we support WIPO's single instrument covering both appellations of origin and geographical indications which will provide for a high and equal level of protection for both IP subject-matters.

Georgian delegation would like to express its support for the review of the international registration system of the Lisbon Agreement with the objective to make the system more attractive for users and prospective new member states. We also support the convening of a diplomatic conference for the adoption of a Revised Lisbon Agreement in 2015.

This delegation would like to thank the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) for the substantial work it has carried out. Among other progress reached by the Committee, we need to stress the activities on the harmonization and simplification of the design registration formalities and procedures. We believe that it is a matter of high importance which will certainly raise motivation of the interested parties to register designs in various countries. Georgia would like to highlight its commitment to constructively engage in the discussions of the SCT, with a view to coming up with a balanced text on industrial designs for the benefit of all prospective member states, including the insertion of relevant technical assistance provisions in the design law treaty.

With regards to possibility of establishing the external offices as envisaged in the Proposed Program and Budget for the 2014/15 Biennium, Georgian delegation acknowledges that the demand for external offices is very high and that the consensus among the member states have yet to be reached on this matter. While this delegation is flexible as regards to the locations of the prospective external offices, as

proposed by the WIPO secretariat, we would like to raise concerns as to the concrete mandate of the given External Office and its territorial coverage, which is not clear from the documents produced by the Secretariat. Therefore this delegation would like to underline that before relevant decision is made, we would like to have clarity on the mandate, functions, and the geographic coverage of the external offices to be established.

We would like to conclude, Mr. Chairman, by extending our gratitude to all of you represented here, Permanent Missions and Patent Offices and call upon all countries to develop, under the guidance of WIPO a common understanding on IPR issues in the multilateral community and to strengthen international cooperation in the area of IP.

Additionally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization for the ongoing excellent cooperation, which had enabled this country to organize various valuable international and national IP events.

Allow me also to thank Director General Francis Gurry for his dedication, advice and guidance over the past years.

Georgian delegation believes that we will achieve a common goal in responding to the challenges related to protection of Intellectual Property.

Georgian delegation would like to thank you all for your attention and look forward to working with you constructively in the coming years.

Thank you Madam Chair.