

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO  
Fifty-Fifth Series of Meetings  
October 5 to 14, 2015  
Canada's General Statement**

Mr. Chair,  
Ministers,  
Ambassadors and heads of delegation,  
Distinguished guests and participants,

Mr. Chair, on behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to join my counterparts in congratulating you on your election, and I assure you of the Canadian delegation's full collaboration towards making this meeting a success. Canada would also like to support Japan's declaration on behalf of Group B.

Mr. Chair, as part of its commitment to continually improve its intellectual property regime, Canada has developed a highly ambitious intellectual property program that we continued to implement this year.

In this same context of modernization, Mr. Chair, Canada is continuing its efforts to accede to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement, the Singapore and Patent Law treaties, and the Hague and Nice agreements. This year Canada adopted a series of legislative amendments to that end and we are now working on making the necessary operational and regulatory adjustments.

Mr. Chair, Canada would like to take this opportunity to thank the Secretariat for its ongoing and invaluable support in this regard and to recognize all of its international counterparts who have generously shared their experience with us.

Mr. Chair, Canada continues to play an active role in providing technical assistance in the area of intellectual property through such forums as the annual workshops on the management of intellectual property offices organized in collaboration with WIPO. Again this year we welcomed participants from all kinds of backgrounds who had the opportunity to learn about the management practices that make the Canadian Intellectual Property Office an effective organization focused on providing service to creators and innovators. The Office recently concluded its first training program for patent examiners from foreign offices.

Mr. Chairman, despite ongoing challenges, Canada remains a strong supporter of WIPO as the key forum for the development of international IP norms, such as through the SCCR and the SCP. Canada could support the resumption of work at the IGC on the basis of a shared understanding of principles and objectives, with a focus on the sharing of concrete national experiences, all in a way that does not prejudice the outcome. We regret, however, that

difficulties in negotiations at the SCT toward a Design Law Treaty are compromising its conclusion.

Canada welcomes the recent progress at the PBC on the definition of development expenditure, on governance, and on enhanced financial transparency in the Lisbon System. We trust that this progress moves us closer to agreement on the 2016/2017 program and budget.

Merci. Thank you.