Agenda item 14: Report on the SCCR WO/GA/50/3

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The delegation of Japan would like to express our appreciation for the meaningful discussion in the SCCR sessions since the last General Assembly. We also commend Mr. Daren Tang, and the secretariat, for their diligent efforts toward the progress of the discussion.

We recognize that some progress has been made in regard to the protection of broadcasting organizations based on the fruitful discussions. We welcome the recommendation to the WIPO General Assembly agreed at the last SCCR. Under the 2007 GA mandate, a Diplomatic Conference will be convened only after agreement on fundamental issues has been achieved, such as objectives, specific scope and object of protection. However, we recognize that a consensus on the fundamental issues has not been reached yet at this moment. Therefore, this delegation hopes that the further discussion based on the 2007 GA mandate will be made in order to reach a consensus on the fundamental issues early. Japan is willing to contribute to further substantial progress to achieve the common goal.

Regarding the issue of exceptions and limitations, it is essential that we work to achieve an appropriate balance between the interest of rights holders and the public interest. In this sense, the three-step test has worked well as a properly balanced international standard. The member states have established balanced and suitable exceptions and limitations based on the three-step test taking into account the respective social and cultural backgrounds in each country. Under the circumstances, we hope that the discussion on this issue will focus on the sharing of national experiences and practices.

Finally, this delegation would like to contribute to further discussions in a constructive manner.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.