

## STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE 59TH Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization including the PCT Union Assembly

## Item Agenda No. 15 - Report on the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)

The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago wholeheartedly supports the continuing efforts of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. The issues arising from the deliberations in this important Committee continue to inform Trinidad and Tobago's legislative agenda in respect of the laws of copyright and related rights.

Mr. Chairman,

Trinidad and Tobago is rapidly progressing its legislative agenda in relation to copyright and related rights with planned accessions to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled, the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performers, and the Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations during this General Assemblies. In this regard, Trinidad and Tobago has drafted the Copyright Amendment Bill, 2019, in consultation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The Copyright Amendment Bill, 2019 has been vetted and is in the final stages of approval before the Law

Review Commission of Trinidad and Tobago. It is expected that the Copyright Amendment Bill, 2019 will be laid in Parliament before the end of 2019.

The Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) has also sought technical assistance from WIPO for a regional approach to the regulation of Collective Management Organizations (CMOs). In this respect, the TTIPO in cooperation with WIPO hosted the Regional Heads Meeting in Copyright in January 2019 to discuss this issue among other copyright issues in the region.

Trinidad and Tobago looks forward to the continuing work in this Committee as it seeks to guide Member States along their developmental paths. Our continued gratitude is of course extended to WIPO for its assistance in developing and preparing the draft copyright legislation. We look forward to working together with other member states regarding their operations.

Trinidad and Tobago also supports the conclusion of a broadcasting treaty and continued active participation in the ongoing work regarding limitations and exceptions for libraries and archives.

Mr. Chairman, with these comments, I thank you.