

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I am taking the floor on behalf of the Development Agenda Group (DAG).

This session of the CDIP marks the first anniversary of our group.

During its relatively short life, the Development Agenda Group has shown its commitment to working constructively with all other groups as well as with individual delegations to mainstreaming the development dimension in all areas of WIPO's work.

An important step in this regard was the approval, at the last General Assembly, of the decision on "Coordination Mechanisms and Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting Modalities" of the implementation of the Development Agenda Recommendations.

In accordance with this decision, the first two relevant WIPO bodies – the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) and the Committee on Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) - have already reported to the General Assembly on their contribution to the implementation of the Development Agenda.

We note, however, that these reports were made on an "ad hoc" basis. Member States still need to agree on a permanent and standard procedure for reporting. They must also decide on what relevant WIPO bodies should be reporting to the General Assembly.

The Development Agenda Group believes that delegations should, at this session of the CDIP, take the time necessary to address this issue with a view to reaching a common understanding. This is long overdue.

Mr. Chairman,

At the last session of the CDIP, Brazil proposed, on behalf of the Development Agenda Group, the inclusion of an additional standing item in the agenda of the CDIP, entitled "IP and development-related issues".

This new agenda item should be devoted to discussing matters covered by the third pillar of the very decision that created the CDIP, at the 2007 General Assembly.

According to that decision, the CDIP was established with a mandate based on three pillars:

(i) the first one is “to develop a work-program for implementation of the adopted recommendations”;

(ii) to second pillar’s goal is “to monitor, assess, discuss and report on the implementation of all recommendations adopted, and for that purpose it shall coordinate with relevant WIPO bodies”;

(iii) to third and final pillar is “to discuss IP and development related issues as agreed by the Committee, as well as those decided by the General Assembly”.

With the approval of the Development Agenda Coordination Mechanism, the time has come for the CDIP to start discussing how to put into practice the third pillar of its mandate.

We are of the view that the implementation of the Development Agenda should not be restricted to the design and execution of projects. Our aim should be more ambitious and ensure that the Development Agenda will indeed permeate the mindset of WIPO and the daily activities in our organization. Towards this end, the CDIP has a very important role to play.

The Development Agenda Group is open as to what subjects may be discussed under the new proposed agenda item and encourages all groups to present their views on the matter.

As an initial contribution, the Development Agenda Group has suggested, in document CDIP/6/12 Rev., that discussions under this agenda item could contemplate, among other issues: (i) Report on the discussions of the WIPO Seminar Series on “The Economics of Intellectual Property”; (ii) WIPO’s Contribution to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals; (iii) Preparation for the upcoming Conference on IP and Development.

Regarding this last issue, it is important to recall that resources necessary for the organization of a "Major International Conference on Integrating Development into IP Policy-Making" have already been allocated in the WIPO's Program and Budget for 2010/2011.

We reiterate our suggestion that the process of preparation for the Conference be dealt within the CDIP. Members should discuss the date, venue and agenda for that Conference, which should be preceded by substantive and detailed preparation, requiring high- quality background studies.

Mr. Chairman,

The Development Agenda Group would like to support the project proposal presented by the African Group entitled "Project on Enhancing South-South Cooperation on IP and Development among developing Countries and LDCs". We are glad to see that the project initially proposed by Egypt at the last CDIP has been taken up by the whole African Group.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by recalling that the Development Agenda Group has come to fill a gap that existed in WIPO for a much-needed cross-regional coordinating body among developing countries, bound together by pursuing a development-oriented approach to intellectual property matters at WIPO.

After this meeting of the CDIP, India will be taking over the coordination of the DAG. I take this opportunity, therefore, to wish to my Indian colleagues a successful coordination of the DAG.

Thank you.