

DRAFT

CDIP 7

**Agenda Item 7 – Report of the Director General on the Implementation of
the Development Agenda Recommendations**

PHILIPPINES

Thank you, Excellency.

As this is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor, we wish to join other delegations in expressing our sincerest felicitations to you on your re-election. We are confident that under your able stewardship, our Committee would have a productive discussion during this Session, which would translate into tangible outcomes.

Excellency,

My delegation also wishes to express our immense gratitude to the WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, for his report. It provided valuable information on the work being carried out by our organization in mainstreaming the Development Agenda recommendations.

Excellency,

Building upon the statements made by the Asian Group and the Development Agenda Group, my delegation would be most grateful if the Director General could share with us the specific nature and content of the work provided by the WIPO Secretariat to other international organizations as was mentioned in paragraph 12 of his report in line with Development Agenda recommendation no. 40.

My delegation would also wish to take this opportunity to seek more clarity on how the Development Agenda has been mainstreamed in the work of other bodies. In particular, my delegation has noted that in paragraph 17 c of the report, there was no reference to how the DA recommendations were mainstreamed insofar as the Industrial Designs Law proposal is concerned. In this regard, my delegation wishes to recall that member states, in good faith, shared information on its laws, regulations and practices on Industrial Designs by replying to questionnaires prepared by the Secretariat. While we certainly acknowledge the efforts of the Secretariat in preparing said questionnaires, there was neither a clear understanding among member-states as to what the questionnaires purported apart from information sharing and sharing of best practices nor was there even an implicit concurrence among member states to advance discussions thereon with a view to negotiating an instrument on

Industrial Designs. This was precisely the reason which prompted developing countries, including my delegation, to request the Secretariat for an information document to be presented at the next session of the SCT (i.e., 26th Session) on how the Development Agenda Recommendations, in particular Cluster B, were mainstreamed with regard to the work of the SCT on industrial design law and practice.

Having said this, Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, my delegation has noted that while the use of questionnaires has some utility, it could not and should not be taken as substantive compliance with the specific requirements under Cluster B of the Development Agenda on Norm setting flexibilities, public policy and public domain, particularly Recommendation Nos. 15, 17, 21, and 22, which provides the fundamental elements attendant to all norm-setting activities in WIPO.

Mr. Chairman,

We wish to thank the Director General for providing us with information on the implementation of the Development Agenda Projects. In particular, my delegation wishes to request clarification on paragraph 23 e on the project on "Improvement of National, Sub-Regional and Regional IP Institutional Capacity".

It may be recalled, Mr. Chairman that the Philippines was among the delegations which sought information on the specific tools that were currently provided by the Secretariat to member states/sub-regional/regional groups in shaping their IP institutional capacity and how these tools were actually developed as may be gleaned from paragraph 119 of CDIP 6/13 (Report of the 6th CDIP), which we adopted this morning. The Secretariat's reply to the said query as reflected in paragraph 125 of the same report regrettably failed to squarely address this concern. We are, thus, requesting the kind indulgence of the Director General in providing clarity and guidance on this matter.

Finally, Mr. chairman, we wish to underscore the need for Geneva-based Missions to be constantly kept abreast of projects and programs, particularly those which are intended to be implemented in their respective countries and/or regions. This would ensure greater coordination thereby facilitating the free flow of information in keeping with the open, transparent and member-driven character of our organization.

Thank you, Excellency.