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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	11th Session of WIPO Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) (Geneva, 5-7 September 2016) - Final EU / Member States Opening Statement

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Delegations will find in the Annex, for information, the opening statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its Member States at the above mentioned WIPO meeting

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**WIPO Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE)**

**Eleventh Session**

**(Geneva, 5 – 7 September 2016)**

**EU Opening Statement**

Chair,

On behalf of the European Union and its Member States we would like to commend you on the progress made in the development of the work programme for the Advisory Committee on Enforcement.

We believe that the new state-centric agenda point complements the existing issue-centric agenda points in a balanced manner. We note with satisfaction that a high number of contributions have been received from Member States, and look forward to both the presentations that will be made over the next days as well as the interactive discussion that will follow between the Presenting State and other WIPO States, as well as accredited stakeholders.

We express respect for this Committee in its mission to serve as the forum where different Intellectual Property enforcement experiences and policies are debated in a constructive and outward looking manner, and welcome the broadening of the interesting and stimulating exchanges of views that have typified the working session of this Committee's meetings.

We look forward to the exchange of information on national experiences on awareness building activities and strategic campaigns as a means for building respect for IP among general public, especially the youth, and applaud the high number of initiatives received from the WIPO Academy and Member States. We are especially interested in all initiatives that promote respect for and foster cultural awareness of Intellectual Property Rights.

Regarding national experiences relating to institutional arrangements concerning IP enforcement policies and regimes, we look forward to the exchange of information both on the items relating to national IP enforcement coordination and the items relating to the enforcement functions of national IP Offices.

Regarding the success stories of national initiatives for training purposes with the support of WIPO, we stress our support of the initiative in line with the Development Agenda Recommendations and the ACE mandate, and thank the WIPO Secretariat for the preparation of the Document on WIPO's Capacity-building and Training Activities in the Area of Building Respect for IP. We look forward to hearing about the national and regional experiences, as well as the perspective of a WIPO Expert Consultant.

We believe the high number of contributions received on the state-centric agenda point is indicative of its relevance for the WIPO Members, and support the Committee in continuing to place this item on future agendas. We believe that further encouragement is needed to have a meaningful exchange of information on national experiences in respect of WIPO's legislative assistance, in order to have a fruitful discussion on the issue of drafting national laws of enforcement that take into account the flexibilities, the level of development, the difference in legal tradition and the possible abuse of enforcement procedures, bearing in mind the broader societal interest and in accordance with Member States' priorities. Alternatively, an evaluation of the relevance of this sub-item might be suggested.

Thank you

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