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Delegations will find attached the final EU/Member States statements delivered at the above-mentioned WIPO meeting.

29th Session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)**(Geneva, 17-21 October 2022)****Ukraine**

Madam Chair,

1. I am speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.
2. Just last week, through a resolution of the UN General Assembly, in a defence of the principles of the UN Charter, 143 Member States have condemned Russia's latest attempt to illegally annex further regions from Ukraine's internationally recognised territory. This has again clearly shown the international community's unwavering support to Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.
3. The EU and its Member States will never recognize Russia's illegitimate claims on Ukraine's territories, which are being taken by force and under threat. We reaffirm our unwavering support for and solidarity with Ukraine against the unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression led by the Russian Federation.
4. Furthermore, the EU and its Member States condemn in the strongest possible terms the recent horrific and unacceptable strikes that Russia has launched on Kyiv and across Ukraine. We share the grave concern of the UN Secretary General António Guterres that the missile attacks on the civilian areas in multiple locations in Ukraine 'constitute another unacceptable escalation of the war and, as always, civilians are paying the highest price'. We call on Russia to immediately cease all violations of international law, to instantly and completely withdraw its troops from the whole territory of Ukraine and to fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognised borders.

5. Finally, let me reiterate our wish to receive regular updates on the implementation of the recent GA decision on WIPO's Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System.

Thank you.

Agenda item 3

General/Opening Statement

Madam Chair,

1. The Czech Republic is honoured to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We look forward to working efficiently under your able guidance and that of your vice-chairs during this session.
2. We would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for organising this meeting covering such a wide range of outstanding issues and for supporting us with all the documentation. We look forward to hearing all the contributions during the WIPO Development Agenda (DA) 15th Anniversary Celebration, which will give us an overview of how the idea for the WIPO DA came about, what the expectations for it were and what impact it has had on WIPO's development-oriented work and on Member States' perception and use of intellectual property rights. We will therefore be able to reflect on what the DA is today and try to outline the expectations for future work and the direction it should take.
3. The EU and its Member States are pleased to take note of the Secretariat's comprehensive progress reports with a clear and transparent structure concerning the ongoing Development Agenda projects. We also would like to thank the Secretariat for processing the completion and evaluation reports on the DA project on 'Tools for successful DA project proposals', covering the entire period of the project's implementation from January 2020 to June 2022.
4. Technical assistance and the DA projects are key elements of this Committee's work. In this regard, we stand ready to discuss the African Group's proposal for an 'Independent External review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development'. We believe that there will be a positive outcome of our debate on the future webinars on TA. Equally, we look forward to the presentation on the Evaluation of WIPO Match by the Internal Oversight Division.

5. The prevention of occupational risks and the improvement of working conditions are of particular interest to the EU and its Member States. Therefore, we will present some remarks in support of Tunisia's revised project proposal on "Reducing Work-related Accidents and Occupational Diseases through Innovation and Intellectual Property" later this week.
6. We appreciate the positive response received from Member States on the international conferences on intellectual property and development held in 2019 and 2021. We are ready to discuss constructively the African Group's proposal on a biennial international conference on IP and development.
7. We appreciate the large amount of work undertaken by the Secretariat. We are also grateful to the Member States for their important input to the work of the Committee. In order to take full advantage of the work done, we hope to continue the discussion on pending issues and valuable proposals for future work.
8. Madam Chair, the EU and its Member States look forward to continuing this work and contributing constructively to the various discussions during this session.

Thank you.

Agenda item 4

Monitor, assess, discuss and report on the implementation of all Development Agenda Recommendations and consideration of the Director General's Report on the Implementation of the Development Agenda

Agenda item 4(a)

Progress Reports – Ongoing Development Agenda Projects (CDIP/29/2)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for the clearly arranged table of progress reports on the implementation of nine DA projects. We would like to reiterate our sustained support for the continuation and acceleration of the listed projects, specifically in IP areas which are promising in terms of their high potential for development, such as the digital economy and new business models in the audiovisual sector and other creative industries, including the music sector, where outstanding progress has been made in many developing countries in recent years. We would also like to highlight the successful projects focused on IP in the tourism industry, including gastronomy tourism, which have been dealt with by this Committee, and, finally, the effective use of collective marks, certification marks and geographical indications in strengthening the local economies of developing countries and LDCs.
2. Despite delays in some projects, including in their budget allocation, we believe that a successful implementation of all the respective projects is possible in terms of their benefits for the participating Member States, and, potentially, also for other Member States. We encourage the Secretariat to make further efforts in this regard.

Thank you.

Agenda items 4(b) and 4(c)

Completion Report of the Development Agenda (DA) Project on Tools for Successful DA Project Proposals (CDIP/29/4)

Evaluation Report of the Development Agenda (DA) Project on Tools for Successful DA Project Proposals (CDIP/29/5)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the Completion Report of the Development Agenda (DA) project on Tools for Successful DA Project Proposals. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the projects and activities carried out throughout the entire period of the project's implementation from January 2020 to June 2022. The information clearly links the DA recommendations to the key results and impact of the projects.
2. We highly value the experience gained and lessons learned, the information on risks, mitigation, follow-up and dissemination, and the project self-evaluation. It is important to continue working on the sustainability of the project results. We also welcome the online searchable catalogue of DA projects, the written handbook on how to prepare a DA project, and the distance learning course.
3. We also wish to thank the WIPO Secretariat for providing us with the external, independent evaluation report, contained in the annex to document CDIP/29/5 and its appendices. The report sums up the most important findings regarding the design and management of the project, including its effectiveness, sustainability, and its impact on the implementation of DA recommendations. It provides us with useful conclusions and recommendations. The Member States can also benefit from experience acquired during the project's implementation.

4. The EU and its Member States acknowledge and highly value the contribution of WIPO and its Secretariat to the implementation of the DA recommendations.

Thank you.

Agenda item 4(d)

Progress Report on the Implementation of the 45 Development Agenda Recommendations

(CDIP/29/10)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the progress report, in table format, on the implementation of the 45 DA recommendations for the period from July 2021 to June 2022. The report contains the links to WIPO's current Program of Work and Budget, and to the Medium-Term Strategic Plan, its expected results and the relevant DA projects, including other related platforms and other documents. It provides a comprehensive overview of the implementation of specific DA recommendations to date.
2. We appreciate the clear format of the report, which it makes it possible to quickly grasp the current state of play of WIPO's Development Agenda.

Thank you.

Agenda item 4(e)

Presentation of the Evaluation of WIPO Match by the Internal Oversight Division

(EVAL 2020-05)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for its presentation of the detailed evaluation report.
2. We consider the findings of the report to be critical, specifically as regards the insufficient visibility and reach of the WIPO Match free online tool aimed at potential seekers of IP technical assistance, the outmoded web platform and the questionable efficiency of the WIPO Match project.
3. We support the recommendations made by the report, specifically as regards strengthening the governance of the project under the leadership of higher management, developing a mechanism to involve key stakeholders in the project deployment, and preparing a strategy document on how to improve the project.

Thank you.

Agenda item 4(i)

WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development

Continuation of discussion on WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development

(CDIP/24/8)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to express satisfaction with the impressive work of the Committee and the Secretariat, which has continued since the closure of the item “An External Review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development”. We appreciate the implementation of the proposal submitted by the delegation of Spain containing the following six elements: sharing platforms, coordination and cooperation, quality and effectiveness, selection of consultants, roster of experts, and the TA webpage.
2. We consider the debate on document CDIP/24/8 to be exhausted. In our view, it is time to formally close this item.
3. We also want to stress that we are prepared to take a new approach to the WIPO Technical Assistance under another item on the basis of fresh insights.

Thank you.

Continuation of discussion on Future Webinars

(CDIP/26/6)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would once again like to thank the Secretariat for drawing up document CDIP/26/6, which sets out the strategy for organising future webinars on WIPO technical assistance. Webinars are a new digital form of social communication which are extremely useful when we are faced with travel restrictions or funding constraints, or when we need to overcome long distances in a short period of time. They also have other advantages: the number of participants is almost unlimited, and the content of webinars can be recorded and replayed afterwards. But of course, webinars are not a substitute for the personal contacts made during traditional WIPO events or for the direct experience of WIPO staff within a particular country.
2. We acknowledge the ~~six~~ guiding principles for future webinars indicated in the document with the exception of principle iii, which we propose to rephrase as follows: ‘iii. Progressive approach. The topics of webinars should follow a progressive approach, with each one building on the information shared and the discussion held in the previous ones.’ We would like to reiterate our view that the scope of webinar topics should not go beyond WIPO Technical Assistance.
3. As we already stated at the previous sessions of the CDIP, we support both options for the topic selection process and other aspects. We consider the proposals to be complementary and not mutually exclusive. Therefore, we believe that both options could be consolidated into one single procedure where the needs and proposals of Member States would be reflected, and the human and financial resources of the Secretariat would be taken into account.
4. We are prepared to work towards reaching agreement in this regard.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5

Consideration of work program for implementation of adopted recommendations

Agenda item 5(a)

Proposal by the African Group concerning the biennial organization of an International Conference on Intellectual Property and Development

(CDIP/29/3)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States wish to thank the African Group for its proposal containing the framework of terms of reference for the biennial organisation of an international conference on intellectual property and development.
2. We appreciate the core objectives declared, namely: to discuss urgent and emerging issues in the areas of intellectual property and development; to highlight the role of intellectual property in promoting creativity and innovation for economic, social and cultural development; and to share national experiences and best practices on the use of intellectual property with a view to addressing global challenges. We could also support the intention to involve civil society in the-conference to stimulate further work on new incentives.
3. The EU and its Member States would also like to recall the lengthy and repeatedly postponed deliberations on the organisation of the previous international conferences in this Committee. We are open to debate on a proposal which could improve the efficiency of the Committee's work on this matter.

4. To reach a consensus, we would welcome the incorporation of the following additional elements in the proposal: (a) the conference will take place during the CDIP session, to facilitate the participation of the members of the Committee; (b) the conference duration will be limited to one day, in order to leave sufficient time for other CDIP agenda items; (c) the budgetary ceiling for a conference will be established; (d) a conference will be organised only if sufficient budgetary resources from the Secretariat are available. We are ready to agree on a limited number of conferences, namely three biennial conferences in six years. We would like to underline our understanding of the proposal that the organisation of a given international conference is to be conditioned by the agreement reached by the committee on the secondary title of the conference.
5. The EU and its Member States have noted the positive feedback on the international conferences organised so far. We would like to request that the Secretariat inform this Committee of the total cost of running the last CDIP international conferences, as that information could help us in further debate on this proposal.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(b)

Implementation of the Adopted Recommendations of the Independent Review – Updated Proposal by the Secretariat and Member States Inputs

(CDIP/29/6)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States acknowledge the thorough work done by the Committee and the Secretariat on the item ‘An Independent Review of the Implementation of the Development Agenda Recommendations’ and on the subsequent ‘Secretariat’s Proposal on Modalities and Implementation Strategies for the Adopted Recommendations of the Independent Review and Options as Regards the Reporting and Reviewing Process’. We thank the Secretariat for the updated document containing implementation strategies numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 15, which have not been adopted, including strategy 16 as proposed by South Africa, as well as the rest of the fifteen strategies which have been adopted.
2. We are of the view that strategies 1 and 3 have been addressed by the consensus reached on the new agenda item ‘IP and Development’, strategy 2 is to be discussed at this session, strategy 4 is covered under another agenda item of the Committee and, moreover, has been addressed at previous sessions, and strategies 7 and 15 have been addressed by the activity of the Secretariat, inter alia through the online Catalogue of DA projects and outputs. As for strategy 16, proposed by the delegation of South Africa, we do not believe it would be helpful to develop further indicators to evaluate the impact and efficiency of the DA in addition to the existing mechanisms.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(c)

Compilation of WIPO Case Studies on Intellectual Property Management by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

(CDIP/29/7)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the compilation of a selection of case studies and success stories in the area of intellectual property management by small and medium-sized enterprises. The examples provided give us a comprehensive overview of how IP is used by entrepreneurs, inventors and creators, and how IP adds value to their products, supports business growth, creates employment and promotes economic development.
2. SMEs are critical to the EU economy – they are its backbone. They represent 99% of all businesses, employ around 100 million people, and account for more than half of Europe's GDP. According to the 2022 Intellectual Property SME Scoreboard, 10 % of SMEs in the EU report that they own registered IP rights, including national trade mark (6 %), EU trade marks (4 %) and patents (4 %). In addition, 39 % of SMEs in the EU use 'other alternative measures' including domain names, or non-registered IP rights, such as trade secrets (19 %), unregistered design rights (16 %) and database rights (13 %). SMEs mentioned improved company reputation or image (60 %), better protection of IP assets (58 %), and better long-term business prospects (48 %) due to the registration of IP rights. Still, one-third of SMEs (36 %) that own IP rights say they have made a financial gain from registered IP rights. The reasons for non-registration by SMEs vary: from lack of knowledge of the benefits of registration; perceived lack of innovativeness of their intellectual asset; insufficient knowledge; or lack of registration requirements. The reasons for the limited use of IP rights among EU SMEs include also a lack of financial resources, and concerns about high administrative burdens, complex and costly registration procedures and the enforcement of IP rights.

3. The EU, EUIPO and EPO as well as the EU Member States themselves are continuously raising awareness around IP among SMEs through a number of awareness and training programmes and initiatives, and by providing technological information, customised and personalised IP advice and financial incentives for innovations.
4. The EU and its Member States appreciate all the information contained in the WIPO compilation. We look forward to hearing about future WIPO activities to support SMEs, in particular activities aimed at the Member States in Europe which are assessed as ‘emerging or moderate innovators’ according to the European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS) ranking.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(d)

Enhancing the Use of Intellectual Property for Mobile Applications in the Software

Sector – Proposal for Phase II

(CDIP/29/8)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States took note of the information contained in the evaluation and completion reports on the project ‘Enhancing the Use of Intellectual Property for Mobile Applications in the Software Sector’ at the last session and of the positive reactions of the Member States. We have noted the Committee’s request that the Secretariat further mainstream the outputs of this project and submit a follow-up document on further activities in the same area.
2. We welcome the proposal for second phase of this project aiming at improving the understanding of the relevance of IP and at enhancing the use of its protection to support the mobile app industry in the sectors of music, publishing, videogames, and audiovisual content. We believe that the expected outputs of the project – such as the development of training course material and tools on IP for mobile apps – could be potentially beneficial for a number of the Member States, in addition to the beneficiary countries.
3. We would welcome an awareness-raising strategy in relation to the training material and tools, to be delivered by the Secretariat and focused on the relevant target groups of users and stakeholders.
4. Finally, let us remark that we welcome projects aimed at providing easy and free internet access to digital content and tools supporting the use of IP and IPR protection, which could be integrated into the regular work of WIPO.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(e)

Proposal by the African Group for an Independent External Review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development (CDIP/29/9)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank the African Group for the proposal on a new Independent Review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the area of cooperation for development.
2. We view WIPO technical assistance as an umbrella concept covering middle-range activities of development support primarily for the Member States, national and regional IP offices and the users of the IP system. As a key element, we consider that all TA activities are needs-driven and tailor-made for a particular recipient. We are convinced that TA activities should continue to be initiated on the basis of the specific needs and requests of recipients, and that they should be focused on Member States and the users of IP systems. WIPO cooperation with other intergovernmental organisations in the field of development and global issues is effectively covered by other frameworks of the UN system, such as the UNSDG, and within the respective taskforces, platforms and forums.
3. We found certain elements of the African Group's proposal interesting, namely the impact of digital transformation, which is revolutionising economies and societies, and the increased use of new digital technologies in the conduct of TA activities. What is the impact of using digital platforms on the effectiveness of TA activities? What is the role of the Organization's stakeholders in achieving results and what general risks can be identified? What means are there to ensure continuing relevance vis-à-vis changing needs and new developments? What are the critical success factors for the effective and efficient delivery of WIPO TA for development? In our view, these issues deserve to be further explored by the Committee.

4. In this context, we would prefer to concentrate the work of the Committee on particular areas, clusters and specific activities of WIPO technical assistance and on practical aspects thereof. This could be arranged in different ways, as appropriate, e.g. reviews, sharing sessions and thematic roundtables organised as part of the CDIP sessions. The thematic work of the Committee regarding WIPO TA activities should address, inter alia, topics such as new needs of recipient countries and IP users, a WIPO policy regarding the creation and implementation of new TA activities, including activities arising from successful DA projects, technical options for submitting requests for specific TA and use of digital technologies in delivery of TA.
5. The previous comprehensive review of WIPO technical assistance, known as the ‘Deere-Roca Report’, and subsequent recommendations have been under consideration by this Committee since 2011. Moreover, it is still addressed under agenda item 4(i) containing two documents CDIP/24/8 ‘Continuation of discussion on WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development’ and CDIP/26/6 ‘Continuation of discussion on Future Webinars’. It is obvious that this Committee has conducted a thorough and detailed debate on the delivery of technical assistance by WIPO and it has adopted a number of recommendations and other measures, including the ‘Manual on the Delivery of WIPO Technical Assistance’ published in 2014. Therefore, we do not believe that a new comprehensive ‘desk review of relevant documents’ on WIPO technical assistance ‘at the macroeconomic level’ is needed for the time being.
6. We look forward to hearing the views of other Member States and are ready to participate in further discussions on the matter.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(f)

Revised Project Proposal Submitted by Tunisia on Reducing Work-Related Accidents and Occupational Diseases through Innovation and Intellectual Property

(CDIP/29/11)

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States would like to thank Tunisia for providing a revised project proposal, following the debate held on document CDIP/28/4 at the last session of the Committee.
2. We note the seriousness of work-related accidents and occupational diseases, as shown by the ILO's findings that 'more than 2.78 million people die every year as the result of occupational accidents or work-related diseases worldwide. There are also 374 million non-fatal work-related injuries each year, resulting in more than 4 days of absences from work'. We are aware of the fact that high-risk jobs and dangerous work present social and economic challenges, particularly in developing countries and LDCs.
3. Patents stimulate innovation within any sector of industry, including the protective equipment sector. Therefore, we are interested in the results of technology mapping and patent landscaping in this case. Given the global demand for masks during the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to assure their quality, we are also interested in the extent to which, and how successfully, certification trademarks are used for protective materials (including filtering nano-materials, for example) in high-risk jobs and dangerous work in fields such as the chemical industry, healthcare, emergency professions, heavy manufacturing, the building industry, and the extractive industry.
4. We are also interested in exploring the current options for technology transfers, namely licencing, cross-licencing and patent pools enabling access to high-quality technologies in the protective equipment sector. A study on the effects of the informal economy, and in particular counterfeit protective tools, on work-related accidents and occupational diseases would also be welcomed.

5. We reiterate our interest in learning more about the role of WIPO fellowship in the project.
Having said that, we are of the view that the project proposal is ready to be adopted.

Thank you.

Agenda item 9

Closing statement

Madam Chair,

1. The EU and its Member States thank you and your vice-chairs for your able leadership and efficient guidance during this 29th session of the CDIP. We thank the WIPO Secretariat for its hard work prior to and during this week, and the interpreters for helping us to understand each other.
2. We appreciate the organization of the WIPO Development Agenda 15th Anniversary Celebration and we thank all speakers for their contributions and sharing their inspiring experiences with WIPO DA. At the same time, we thank all speakers and organizers for the insightful side events held during this week.
3. The EU and its Member States welcome the outcome of this session, as reflected in the Summary by the Chair.
4. We wish to thank all delegations for their efforts to find the agreement on the Secretariat's Proposal on Modalities and Implementation Strategies for the Adopted Recommendations of the Independent Review and Options as Regards the Reporting and Reviewing Process as well as on the Independent External review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development.
5. The EU and its Member States have a strong impression that this Committee is on the right way in considering the WIPO developing activities to support IP offices, users of IP system and other stakeholders in the field of IP and development.
6. The EU and its Member States will continue to engage constructively in the future work of this Committee.
7. To conclude, let me wish everyone a good rest during the coming weekend and a safe journey home to the capital-based delegates.

Thank you.