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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
Subject:	32nd Session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), Geneva, 29 April - 3 May 2024 - Final EU/Member States statements

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

32nd Session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property

(CDIP)

(Geneva, 29 April – 3 May 2024)

**Statement of the delegation of Belgium,
on behalf of the European Union and its Member States
in support of Ukraine**

Thank you Madam Chair,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

1. Two years into the war of aggression that Russia launched against Ukraine, and ten years after Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol, both in manifest violation of its obligations under the UN Charter and international law, the European Union is ever more steadfast in its support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.
2. We therefore demand on Russia to immediately stop its invasion of Ukraine and cease all violations of international law. Russia must instantly and completely withdraw its troops from the whole territory of Ukraine and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognised borders.
3. Russia and its leadership must be held fully accountable for waging a war of aggression against Ukraine and for other most serious crimes under international law, as well as for the massive damage caused by its war. The European Union remains committed to supporting Ukraine's repair, recovery and reconstruction, in coordination with international partners.

4. As our deliberations in the CDIP will touch upon IP and development related issues, the European Union and its Member States reiterate the negative impact on the Ukrainian IP ecosystem of the ongoing Russian war of aggression, as reported by WIPO in document A/64/8, the EU and its Member states recognize the importance of WIPO's Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System.
5. We therefore welcome the decision of the 64th series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO to continue these activities, hoping for prompt and efficient recovery process of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem.

Thank you.

**Statement of the delegation of Belgium,
on behalf of the European Union and its Member States
about the situation in Gaza**

Thank you Madam Chair,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

1. The European Union and its Member States are appalled by the unprecedented loss of civilian lives and the critical humanitarian situation in Gaza.
2. The European Union and its Member States call for an immediate humanitarian pause leading to a sustainable ceasefire, the unconditional release of all hostages and the provision of humanitarian assistance.
3. The European Union and its Member States condemn Hamas in the strongest possible terms for its brutal and indiscriminate terrorist attacks across Israel on 7 October 2023, recognising Israel's right to defend itself in line with international law and international humanitarian law, and calling for the immediate release of all hostages without any precondition.
4. All parties must respect international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
5. The European Union remains firmly committed to a lasting and sustainable peace based on the two-state solution.

Thank you.

Agenda item 4

General Statement

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. Belgium is honoured to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We would like to congratulate you and your Vice Chairs on your election, and 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 the meeting and preparing all the documentation for such a wide range of issues.
3. We also would like to thank the Secretariat for processing the completion and evaluation reports on the Project on the Registration of the Collective Marks of Local Enterprises as a Cross-Cutting Economic Development Issue. We would also like to mention the valuable work done in the completion report of the Project on Identifying and Using Inventions in the Public Domain.
4. Besides, we welcome the project on Enhancing the Capacities of National Intellectual Property Offices in Times of Crisis presented by the honourable delegation of the United Kingdom and which is in our view of utmost importance.
5. Furthermore, we would like to thank the Secretariat for the “Report on Women and IP: Internal and External Activities, Strategic Direction” and the initiatives and projects that WIPO will launch or continue to carry on this subject.
6. 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.

7. 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 5(a)

Director General's Report on the Implementation of the Development Agenda

(CDIP/32/2)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the report on the implementation of the Development Agenda for the year 2023. It provides a comprehensive overview of the projects and activities carried out in 2023.
2. We appreciate the structure and format of the report, which use the format agreed at CDIP 28 and makes it possible to quickly grasp the current state of play of the Development Agenda.
3. We are pleased to see that WIPO engaged with a wide variety of stakeholders ensuring an impact-driven approach for development, thereby ensuring that IP is a powerful catalyst for jobs, investments and development.
4. We also appreciate the particular focus on small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), women, youth, indigenous peoples, and communities at large. We underline the adoption of 7 new projects in addition to the excellent work carried out in relation with the other ongoing projects.
5. The EU and its Member States acknowledge and value the contribution of WIPO and its Secretariat to the implementation of the Development Agenda recommendations.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(c)

Report on the Sharing Sessions on Women and IP

(CDIP/32/4)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, thanks the Secretariat for the organization of the two sharing sessions on Women and IP during the years 2022 and 2023.
2. We are pleased to note the level of engagement of the audience, and the positive feedback received from the different participants.
3. We are convinced of the importance of raising awareness about the gender gap in IP. The sectors of tourism and creative industries are relevant examples and we hope that the practical information given during these two sharing sessions effectively helped to demonstrate how IP can boost women's participation in and contribution to those sectors.
4. We take note of the information contained in the report and thank the Secretariat for its preparation, as well as for the promotion and communication activities carried out after the sharing sessions.

Thank you.

Agenda items 5(e) and 5(f)

Completion Report of the Project on the Registration of the Collective Marks of Local Enterprises as a Cross-Cutting Economic Development Issue

(CDIP/32/10)

Evaluation Report of the Project on the Registration of the Collective Marks of Local Enterprises as a Cross-Cutting Economic Development Issue

(CDIP/32/11)

Thank you Vice Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for the completion report, which covers the entire period of the project implementation, from January 2021 to February 2024, and for the evaluation report prepared by Mr. Glenn O'Neil.
2. We welcome the fact that this project has achieved its goal as associations from Bolivia, Brazil, Tunisia and the Philippines were able to develop, manage and use collective marks. We are convinced that the awareness-raising material developed in the local language as well as the higher degree of knowledge and familiarity with collective marks will help these associations to share their positive experience and ensure that other local enterprises will develop and register their own collective mark.
3. We also take note of the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation report and encourage the organization of training workshops based on the practical guide, and to conduct awareness raising activities using the promotional leaflet and video. We also invite the national IP offices to build on the project's benefits to promote further the use of collective marks in their countries for a cross-cutting economic development.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(d)

Completion Report of the Project on Identifying and Using Inventions in the Public Domain

(CDIP/32/5)

Thank you Vice Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to express their appreciation for the completion report of the Project on Identifying and Using Inventions in the Public Domain, contained in document CDIP/32/5, and covering the entire period of the project implementation, from January 2022 to December 2023.
2. The project has enabled the delivery of a toolkit comprising practical tools to support decision-making on whether to proceed with a new product development initiative based on assessed freedom to operate, as well as the delivery of a modular blended-learning approach and training materials on the effective use of the toolkit for future training activities on the same or other related subject matters.
3. We commend the professional editing and design of the toolkit for publication on the dedicated web page in all official United Nations languages. We also encourage the integration of the toolkit and training materials into WIPO's regular training offerings in the areas of IP commercialization and IP for business, as well as the further dissemination and promotion of those new learning resources through appropriate platforms to increase their visibility.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(b)

Report on WIPO's Contribution to the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and its Associated Targets

(CDIP/32/3)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the annual report on the contribution of WIPO to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its Associated Targets contained in document CDIP/32/3.
2. We welcome the report's detailed overview and update for 2023 of the SDG-related activities carried out by WIPO, by WIPO as a part of the United Nations System, as well as the assistance provided by WIPO to its Member States at their request.
3. The EU and its Member States appreciate WIPO's contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular by promoting a strong, balanced and effective IP system that encourages innovation and creativity.
4. We remain committed to support the achievement of the SDGs as they are vital and relevant for the developing as well as for the developed countries.

Thank you.

Agenda item 6(a)

Continuation of discussion on the Adopted Recommendations of the Independent Review – Updated Proposal by the Secretariat and Member States Inputs

(CDIP/29/6)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, supports the statement made by Group B. We acknowledge the thorough work done by the Committee and the Secretariat on this agenda item that has led to the conclusion of several implementation strategies.
2. With regards to the implementation strategy 1, we continue to believe that the discussions under the agenda item on IP and Development should be limited to Member States, the WIPO Secretariat and observers. Academics, members of industry and civil society, as well as other UN bodies and IGOs have in our view enough opportunities to contribute to meaningful discussions through the participation to the numerous activities organized by WIPO, such as the Biennial Conference, roundtables and side events.

Thank you.

Agenda item 5(i)

WIPO Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development

No statement.

Agenda item 6(d)

Project on Sustaining and Strengthening the Role of Collective Marks as a Tool for Economic, Cultural, and Social Development through a Holistic Developmental Approach – Project Proposal Submitted by the Philippines, Brazil and the Plurinational State of Bolivia (CDIP/32/8 REV.)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the honourable delegations of the Philippines, Brazil and the Plurinational State of Bolivia for submitting the project proposal on Sustaining and Strengthening the Role of Collective Marks as a Tool for Economic, Cultural, and Social Development through a Holistic Developmental Approach, described in document CDIP/32/8.
2. We welcome the objective of this proposal to support and empower current and future collective marks holders to maximize the full potential of and sustain their collective mark. It further builds on the recommendations of the completion and evaluation reports of the Project on the Registration of the Collective Marks of Local Enterprises as a Cross-Cutting Economic Development Issue. The material developed in relation with this project could usefully contribute to the proposed holistic approach.
3. We look forward to the further discussion on this project proposal.

Thank you.

Agenda item 6(c)

Project on Enhancing IP Education Capacities of Artistic and Creative Academic Institutions to Foster Creativity – Project Proposal Submitted by the United Kingdom and Georgia

(CDIP/32/7 REV.)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the honourable delegations of the United Kingdom and Georgia for submitting the project proposal on Enhancing IP Education Capacities of Artistic and Creative Academic Institutions to Foster Creativity, described in document CDIP/32/7.
2. We appreciate the objective of this proposal to enhance the IP education capacities of post-secondary creative arts institutions (schools and academic institutions) in beneficiary countries to support youth creativity and entrepreneurship, which are important values in our view. Ensuring that the new generations of creators and artists are well educated in the field of IP will be beneficial to the development of a healthy IP ecosystem within the framework of our economies.
3. We support this project proposal.

Thank you.

Agenda item 6(b)

Project on Enhancing the Capacities of National Intellectual Property Offices in Times of Crisis – Project Proposal Submitted by the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic

(CDIP/32/6 REV.)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the honourable delegations of the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic for submitting the project proposal on Enhancing the Capacities of National Intellectual Property Offices in Times of Crisis, described in document CDIP/32/6.
2. We fully support the objective of the proposal, which aims at enhancing the resilience and business continuity of national IP Offices in times of crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic, the increase of various natural disasters in relation to the global warming, the wars and conflicts across the world are all examples amongst others that highlight the need to take measures to address the issue.
3. Helping IP offices to properly manage such crisis is key in our view to ensure the resilience of the IP ecosystem and avoid as much as possible a loss of potential and a long recovery of economies already hard hit.
4. We support this project proposal.

Thank you.

Agenda item 7(a)

Building the Capacity of Universities to Manage and Commercialise IP: Transferring IP and Technology

No statement.

Agenda item 7(b)

Report on Women and IP: Internal and External Activities, Strategic Direction

(CDIP/32/9)

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing the report on Women and IP: Internal and External Activities, Strategic Direction. It provides a comprehensive overview of WIPO's numerous activities in 2023 as well as a mention of the new initiatives and projects that are underway and in planning.
2. As expressed in the past, we support the view that women make important contributions to science, research and intellectual property. We are therefore grateful for the internal and externally-facing activities undertaken by the WIPO Secretariat and the positive results that have been achieved.

Thank you.

Agenda item 6(e)

**Summary of the “System for Standardization, Enrichment and Economic Analysis of
Intellectual Property and Innovation Data to Support Policy Design (Version 1.0)”**

(CDIP/32/INF/2)

No statement.

Agenda item 8

Future Work

No statement.

Agenda item 9

Summary by the Chair

No statement.

Agenda item 10

Closing statement

Thank you Madam Chair,

1. The delegation of Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, congratulate you Madam Chair, as well as your Vice Chairs, for your able leadership and thank you for your efficient guidance through this 32nd session of the CDIP. We thank the WIPO Secretariat for their hard work prior to and during this week, and the interpreters for their invaluable efforts in helping us understand each other.
2. The EU and its Member States welcome the outcome of this meeting, as reflected in the Summary of the Chair, and thank all Member States for their valuable contribution to the session. The EU and its Member States look forward to having further constructive discussions at the next session.
3. Finally, we would like to thank Mr Irfan Baloch for his much appreciated work within the CDIP and throughout his career, and wish him a happy retirement.

Thank you.
