

(Translation)

**General Statement of the Chinese Delegation
At the 51st General Assembly of WIPO Member States**

23 September 2013

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

At the outset, I wish to extend, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, congratulations to you on your election as the Chairman of this General Assembly. I also wish to congratulate the two vice Chairmen on their election. I am confident that, under your able leadership, this General Assembly will deliver its expected results. The Chinese delegation would like to express heartfelt thanks to the Director General and the Secretariat for their good preparation for this General Assembly.

Mr. Chairman,

Please allow me to take this opportunity to give you a briefing about the progress of intellectual property development in China over the past year.

This year marks the fifth anniversary of China's national intellectual property strategy. In the past five years, China's capability to create, use, protect and manage intellectual property keeps improving. Now, we are taking stock of our experience and lessons in the past five years in order to lay a solid foundation for our future work.

In IP legislation, China has recently launched a new round of amendment of its *Patent Law* and *Trademark Law*, and just completed the revision of *Trademark Law*.

In application figures, in the first eight months of this year, we have received over 449,000 patent applications, up by 23.3% year-on-year, and 13,800 PCT applications, up by 13.8% year-on-year. On trademark registration, we have received around 1,016,000 applications in the first seven months of this year, up by 7.1% year-on-year respectively. In 2012, China's registration of copyright in works reached 688,000, up 49% year-on-year.

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation highly appreciates the report delivered by the Director General just now. WIPO has made remarkable achievements in the past year. In June this year, WIPO successfully adopted the *Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled*. In addition, WIPO has made major progress in negotiating a design law treaty as well as international legal instruments on the protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore. We'd like to extend congratulations on the achievements made by WIPO.

In the past year, China has sustained and deepened its cooperation with WIPO. In 2013, with the joint efforts from both sides, China is moving faster in joining *The Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs*. The two sides have co-sponsored a number of important events such as the "Roving seminar on the Protection of industrial design", the "PCT Advanced Seminar" and "WIPO Roundtable on the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks".

The Chinese delegation would like to take this opportunity to extend its heartfelt thanks to WIPO for the friendship, support and assistance offered to China over the years. We look forward to further broadening and deepening our cooperation with WIPO in the future.

Mr. Chairman,

Here, I wish to share with you a few observations on the following WIPO-related issues:

First, we need to give into full play and expand the important role of PCT as the existing international patent application system, make this system more efficient, and full attention needs to be given to the needs of micro, small and medium-sized businesses in the reform process.

Second, we should pay full attention to the concerns of developing countries on the development agenda and will continue to provide sufficient support in human and financial resources to implement proposals under the development agenda.

Third, we need to continue to support the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic

Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). We hope the IGC will continue to build consensus with the view to conclude a binding international legal instrument at an earlier date.

Mr. Chairman,

As a responsible developing country, China will continue to support the work of the General Assembly under your leadership and the work of other WIPO committees. In the meantime, China will further deepen cooperation with other countries as well as WIPO to contribute to the improvement of the international intellectual property regime.

Next, I would like to invite Mr. Peter Cheung, Director of the IP Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, to give us complementary remarks on the IP affairs in Hong Kong.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.