



**Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva**

**General Statement by Ambassador Bilal Ahmad, Permanent Representative of
Pakistan to the UN in Geneva at the WIPO Diplomatic Conference to conclude
an International Legal Instrument on Genetic Resources and Associated
Traditional Knowledge
(13 May 2024)**

**Mr. President,
Excellencies and distinguished delegates,**

At the outset, my delegation congratulates Ambassador Patriota and the officials elected to facilitate negotiations at this Diplomatic Conference. We repose our trust in your stewardship of this meeting and assure you of our full cooperation.

Pakistan aligns itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the LMCs and by Iran on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group.

Over two decades of hard work and deliberations have culminated in this historic Diplomatic Conference. We now have an unprecedented opportunity to redress the imbalances in the global IP system.

Mr. President,

Pakistan has a rich pool of diverse Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge. Accordingly, we are sensitive to the normative gap in this area. A legal instrument that protects indigenous people and local communities from misappropriation of their rights is necessary to equitably extend the benefits of the global IP architecture. My delegation would like to highlight the core elements for adopting a balanced treaty:

First, we must work towards a minimum standards treaty that enhances the transparency of the patent system.

Second, an unambiguous mandatory disclosure requirement must be backed by clear sanctions and remedies.

Third, limitations and exceptions should be narrow in scope as any exception to these collective rights have consequences for entire communities.

Finally, the treaty must be in line with and augment a growing global momentum towards equitable access and benefit sharing.

Mr. President,

With a collaborative approach to fostering genuine understanding, we must utilize this historic opportunity to build the norms that many have waited to see for so long. To this end, my delegation expresses its commitment to engage constructively towards the success of this Diplomatic Conference.

I thank you.
