



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

**Statement by Pakistan at the 47th Session of the WIPO Standing Committee
on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical
Indications**

(19th March 2024)

AGENDA 5: INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

- 1. Updated Proposal by the Delegations of Canada, Israel, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the European Union and its member States for a Joint Recommendation Concerning Industrial Design Protection for Designs for Graphical User Interfaces (Document SCT/44/6 Rev.4.)**
- 2. Proposal by the African Group for a Study on the Impact of Design Protection for Graphical User Interface (GUI) Designs on Innovation (Document SCT/46/5.)**
- 3. Update by Member States on Digital Access Service (DAS) for Priority Documents.**

Madam Chair,

Excellencies and Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, Pakistan aligns itself with the statement delivered by Iran on behalf of the Asia Pacific Group.

As a responsible member of the comity of nations, Pakistan is firmly committed to the protection of all manifestations of the creation of the human mind of whatever nomenclature or classification including industrial designs and considers it essential for sustainable growth and development the humanity.

The Joint Recommendations contained in the Document SCT/44/6 Rev.4 are broad in scope, technical in nature and far reaching in their implications especially for Developing Countries. This circumstance presupposes extensive review and consultation with the stakeholders before their enactment into law.

My delegation is cognizant of the latest developments in the IP realm and eager to keep pace with emerging challenges in this domain. For these reasons, our national IP laws including Registered Design laws are being regularly updated to cover the emerging scenarios aiming to strengthen the existing framework of protection and facilitation.

Madam Chair,

The protection of modern technology-based creations like Graphical User Interface (GUI), icon, and digital display necessitates thorough deliberations. Pakistan considers it indispensable to have a comprehensive study, as proposed by the Africa Group, on the impact of GUI design protection in the development of GUI design innovation in countries that extend such protection, considering the legal implications of digital content. The issues highlighted in Document SCT/46/5 are pertinent and need to be addressed first and foremost, which could potentially pave the way for putting in place the Joint Recommendations laid down in SCT/44/6 Rev.4.

My delegation also supports and appreciates the initiative of Digital Access Service (DAS) (WIPO/DAS/PD/WG/3/3) for Priority Documents. Pakistan is committed to development of the existing infrastructure by digitizing and automating all the processes that tend to facilitate the end-user. Pakistan, therefore, also seeks to continue its collaboration with WIPO on technical support in the development of the requisite legal as well as digital mechanisms to join the DAS.

Madam Chair,

In conclusion, we express our confidence in your stewardship of this meeting.

I thank you.
