



## Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

### General Statement by Pakistan at WIPO Programme and Budget Committee (10-14 June 2024)

**Mr. Chair,**

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

My delegation expresses confidence in your stewardship of the PBC and congratulates you and the Vice Chairs on the assumption of your positions. We also take this opportunity to appreciate regional groups for their support to the nomination of Ambassador Bilal Ahmad. We also thank the honorable Director General for his opening remarks.

My delegation has taken note of the valuable reports prepared by the Secretariat with regards to Audit and Oversight, the Progress Report on the implementation of the Joint Inspection Unit's Recommendations and the WIPO Performance Report for the period 2022-23.

**Mr. Chair,**

While we will engage separately under the relevant agenda items; my delegation would like to highlight some general points at this stage.

First of all, we appreciate that WIPO was able to maintain a healthy revenue as well as sound programmatic performance and prudent financial management. We hope that these positive trends would continue longer term.

Second, we appreciate the management's prioritization of the Development Agenda across all WIPO sectors and its delivery of concrete results under Strategic Pillar 4 in the 2022-23 biennium. The visible results under Strategic Pillar 4 with priority to demand-driven interventions, projects and increased attention to WIPO's contribution to SDGs through the work of the RNDS Project Team are encouraging signs for member States looking to infuse the benefits of IP, particularly in underprivileged segments of the society.

Finally, with regard to the Draft Terms of Reference for the Evaluation of WIPO External Offices, this meeting offers another opportunity to bridge differences on key pending issues to enable an objective evaluation of the External Offices Network. In line with the Guiding Principles regarding External Offices agreed at the 2015 WIPO Assemblies, we strongly support an independent and external evaluation to ensure the objectivity of the process.

Please be assured of my delegation's full support to you during the course of this meeting.

I thank you.

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