

Speaking Notes for Ambassador Doualeh, Chair of the CDIP

Honorable Chairperson,
Director General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

I am taking the floor in my capacity as the Chair of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP).

This year, we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the first proposal for a WIPO Development Agenda. The adoption of the Development Agenda in 2007 was a decisive step for WIPO in strengthening its role as a UN Specialized Agency. With this milestone achievement, the Organization was granted a unique opportunity to mainstream Development into its Programs.

Since the establishment of the CDIP in 2008, the Committee has held 13 sessions with a continual commitment by Member States in fulfilling all parts of its mandate, particularly through the adoption and monitoring of projects and WIPO activities implementing the Development Agenda Recommendations, as well as the work undertaken on IP and Development related issues, such as Flexibilities in the international IP system. I have had the privilege of facilitating the work of the CDIP during its last five sessions, which has been a rewarding experience for me.

The report of the CDIP under your consideration indicates the progress made during the last year. Two new projects have been adopted and seven completed projects were evaluated. The Committee also examined a number of conceptual and country studies, pertaining to, *inter alia*, crucial matters such as IP and the Public Domain, the Informal Economy and the Audiovisual sector in African countries. The CDIP also discussed an assessment of WIPO's impact in the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals, a revised document on this matter will be presented at the forthcoming session of the Committee.

The report of the CDIP also contains the Director General's report on implementation of the Development Agenda. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Director General for his commitment and leadership in this endeavor. I would also like to thank Mr. Onyeama for his dedication and skillful management of the work of the committee during this period.

Allow me now to briefly recall the pending issues before the CDIP:

1. Independent Review of the Implementation of the Development Agenda Recommendations, as requested by the WIPO General Assembly in 2010. The Committee has to define the Terms of Reference for the Review;
2. General Assembly decision of CDIP matters. In 2013, the GA took a decision, inviting CDIP to consider two issues, namely the establishment of the third part of the Committee's mandate as an agenda item for the committee and the report by the relevant WIPO bodies on the implementation of the DA. The committee discussed these matters during its previous two sessions and has requested the GA to extend this mandate;
3. The International Conference on Intellectual Property and Development, which could not take place last year due to a lack of agreement over the list of speakers; and
4. Consideration of the Recommendations of Report on the External Review of WIPO Technical Assistance in the Field of Cooperation for Development. Some recommendations

were discussed and their implementation was approved. However, the consideration of other recommendations has not been possible yet.

I take this opportunity to reiterate firm belief in multilateralism. In every multilateral process, consensus building is key to achieving progress and reaching balanced solutions. In this context, it is essential for the CDIP to accommodate the contributions of all Member States, and debates should continue to be guided by a spirit of consensus.

To conclude, Ms. Chairperson, as Chair of the CDIP, I will dedicate all my efforts, with the support of the Secretariat, to facilitate negotiations on those issues, and call upon all delegations to work in a spirit of consensus and to always bear in mind our collective mission to promote an IP system oriented towards everyone's needs and interests.

Thank you.