

Agenda item 5

General/Opening Statement

(to be submitted in writing)

Chair,

1. Slovenia is honoured to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We look forward to working efficiently under your and your vice-chairs' able guidance during this session.
2. We would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for preparing and organising the meeting, in particular as regards the supporting documentation for such a wide range of issues.
3. The EU and its Member State are pleased to take note of the comprehensive Secretariat's Report on Progress. We especially appreciate a clear structure concerning the Development Agenda (DA), which enables getting a quick overview.
4. In regards to the agenda item "WIPO's Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development", we would like to reiterate that technical assistance and the DA projects are central for this Committee's work and should be oriented to substantial improvements in the frameworks of the beneficiary countries.
5. We look forward to the presentation and discussions on the topic "The role of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) as a catalyst for Technology Transfer: Opportunities and Challenges" under the agenda item 8 "IP and Development", which will contribute to an important exchange of experience and best practices among Member States.
6. Chair, the EU and its Member States look forward to continuing working and contributing constructively in the various discussions during this session.

Thank you.