Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations Office and
other International Organizations in Geneva

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Statement

by

H.E. Mr. Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani

Director General of International Legal Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of Islamic Republic of Iran

before

Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)
Thirty-Seventh Session

Agenda item 4: General Statements

Geneva, 16 November 2026

Thank you, Madam Chair,

At the outset, my delegation thanks you for your able leadership in guiding the work of this committee. I would also like to congratulate DDG Qobo on his appointment and appreciate him for his insightful opening remark.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Singapore on behalf of APG.

Madam chair,

Nearly two decades after adoption of development agenda, it is timely, if not late, to review the implementation of this agenda and to discuss the way ahead, taking into account that development must remain an integral part of WIPO's work. In fact, IP protection should not be regarded as an end in itself, but as a means of promoting innovation, social and economic development, and public welfare.

While progress has been made over the past two decades, more remains to be done to ensure the effective implementation and mainstreaming of the Development Agenda throughout the Organization and across all its works. To that end, three major points should be highlighted:

First, CDIP has a central role in following up on the Development Agenda, but its implementation goes beyond this Committee and should encompass all works of the WIPO. This is why the WIPO General Assembly adopted the Coordination Mechanism in 2010. Under this mechanism, relevant WIPO bodies are required to report on their contributions to the implementation of the Development Agenda, with those reports forwarded by the General Assembly to the CDIP for discussion.

We believe this mechanism deserves renewed attention, thus relevant WIPO bodies should be encouraged to resume reporting

in accordance with the 2010 General Assembly decision, enabling the CDIP to fully exercise its mandate to monitor, assess, discuss and report on the implementation of the Development Agenda.

Second, an inclusive IP system must take account of countries' different levels of development and preserve the sufficient policy space for Member States to pursue their legitimate public policy objectives.

The same principle applies to CDIP projects. They should remain demand-driven, reflect national priorities and help countries respond to emerging challenges, with a clear focus on practical development results.

Third, technical assistance and development-oriented projects are essential. However, they should not be considered as a substitute for the systematic integration of development considerations into WIPO's substantive work, particularly its norm-setting and institutional activities. In this regard, my delegation notes with appreciation the progress report on the 45 Development Agenda Recommendations and believes that, greater emphasis should be placed on assessing developmental outcomes and impacts alongside reporting on activities and outputs.

Madam Chair,

Since last year, acts of aggression against my country have inflicted severe and far-reaching harm on its scientific, technological, and innovation ecosystem.

The loss of human capital as true holders of IP and damage to universities, research institutions and scientific infrastructure extend far beyond immediate physical destruction. They undermine years of investment in knowledge creation, innovation and technological development, disrupting the very foundations upon which intellectual property ecosystem and sustainable development depend.

Developmental objectives of WIPO cannot be achieved where the Charter of the United Nations and indeed every basic principles of international law are gravely violated.

Madam Chair,

In conclusion, my delegation would like to highlight, once again, the importance of development in the work of WIPO and the need to ensure the effective implementation of the Development Agenda. To that end, we assure you of our full support and reaffirm our commitment to engaging constructively in the Committee's deliberations. We look forward to advancing outcomes that fulfil the development dimension of the Organization's mandate.

Thank you.