

Mr. Chairman, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen,
Honorable Ministers,
Mr. Under-Secretary-General, High Representative E. Courtenay Rattray,
Madame Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the UN ESCAP Armida Salsiah
Alisjahbana,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, I would like to extend our sincere thanks and high appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh, UNOHRLLS and UNESCAP for organizing the Asia-Pacific regional review meeting. It is indeed a great honor for me to participate and speak at this meeting on behalf of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Our long-standing partnership with the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) has always been underpinned by a strong commitment for collaboration from both WIPO and the LDC Member States.

Director General Mr. Daren Tang, our Organization is strongly committed to intensifying support and assistance to the LDCs, thereby contributing to the implementation of the relevant targets of the SDGs in the LDCs, together with building an inclusive, balanced and effective global IP ecosystem that serves the interests of all countries, including LDCs and their stakeholders.

In this spirit, we attach a great importance to promoting intellectual property (IP) in LDCs and to supporting them to utilize intellectual property (IP) as a tool for growth and development.

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates

WIPO has been actively contributing to the implementation of the Istanbul Program of Deliverables for LDCs for 2011- benefit of the LDCs over the last decade, which was adopted by a Ministerial Declaration during the High-Level Forum on Building a Comprehensive Framework for Promoting Development in Least-Developed Countries C /P <</M

the Swedish Government. In addition, since 2015, WIPO has been organizing regional partnership initiatives for innovation and technological capacity-building in the LDCs in Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with the UNESCAP. Until now, four regional meetings for LDCs

innovation to drive economic growth and development, for example by linking research with enterprises, building skills and capabilities in technology transfer and licensing, strengthening