

## **General Statement by Japan at the 62nd Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2021**

The delegation of Japan thanks the chair and Secretariat for their efforts in organizing this meeting. Japan congratulates Director-General Daren Tang on successfully completing the transition to the new administration.

In speaking with you today, I first want to mention that Japan supports WIPO's Medium-Term Strategic Plan. It shares the same views as the recently updated Mission, Vision and Values of the Japan Patent Office (JPO). The common key expressions between the two documents are “IP ecosystem”, “promote innovation”, “stakeholders” and “future”.

The next topic I will speak about is the voluntary contributions Japan makes. Specifically, Japan will continue to work with WIPO on developing IP infrastructure.

To further develop the IP ecosystem, enhancing user-friendliness is essential. Japan can help improve WIPO's services by working with the WIPO Japan Office and by listening to opinions from users filing international applications.

In addition, Japan looks forward to WIPO's increasing support to SMEs and startups.

This third item I want to mention is to respond to COVID-19. Japan hopes that WIPO, along with other UN agencies, will establish measures that relieve users of hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and promote innovation for businesses to meet new needs.

The last issue that I will talk about is the necessity for IP to respond to global challenges. We support WIPO's initiatives such as WIPO GREEN, to achieve the SDGs. Japan has the world's largest number of WIPO GREEN users and partners. The JPO has expanded the WIPO GREEN network by working with the WIPO and stakeholders around the world, supporting WIPO's activities by making voluntary contributions.

As I conclude my remarks, Japan wishes the WIPO community a successful year ahead and looks forward to working with all our partners to co-create an inclusive, balanced, and vibrant global IP ecosystem.