<u>General Statement by Japan at the 66th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the</u> <u>Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2025</u>

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Japan, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to the Chair, DG Tang and the Secretariat for their dedicated efforts in organizing the Assemblies. Japan fully supports DG Tang's vision and remains committed to contributing to WIPO's initiatives.

First, I would like to highlight that Japan places particular emphasis on supporting SMEs, startups, and entrepreneurs.

The Japan Patent Office, JPO welcomes WIPO's initiatives such as the Global Entrepreneur Empowerment Program and the IP Management Clinic, and has agreed to strengthen collaboration with WIPO in supporting SMEs in developing countries and will continue to cooperate in global initiatives.

Second, we also recognize the transformative impact of frontier technologies, especially AI, on IP systems.

Japan is actively conducting domestic consultation in this area and looks forward to sharing our experiences and participating in WIPO's discussions on these important topics.

Third, IP plays a crucial role in addressing global challenges such as climate change and achieving the SDGs.

Japan is proud to be the largest contributor to WIPO GREEN partners and is working closely with WIPO, including through Funds-In-Trust Japan IP Global, to expand these initiatives. In conjunction with EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, the JPO will host an international forum focusing on WIPO GREEN and Women and Youth, aiming to spread the vision of promoting IP utilization for solving social issues.

In closing, I commend the progress made under DG Tang's leadership in advancing efficiency, digitalization, transparency and customer-centricity.

I conclude my statement with the expectations for WIPO's continued efforts and our commitment to contribute to our shared goals.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.