



**Country Statement delivered by H.E. Dr. James Alex Msekela, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations Offices in Geneva, at the 57<sup>th</sup> Series of the Meetings of WIPO Assemblies of Member States**

**Mr. President,**

I have the honour and privillage to deliver this statement on behalf of the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania. My delegation would like also to associate itself with the statement delivered by Senegal, on behalf of the African Group and the Delegation Bangladesh on behalf of the LDC group.

My delegation would like to congratulate you Mr President for your election to steer this 57<sup>th</sup> series of WIPO Assemblies and, under your stewardship, is looking forward to a positive outcome of the Assemblies. On the same note, allow me to also congratulate the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Dr. Francis Gurry, and the WIPO Secretariat for their tireless efforts and excellent work in implementing the WIPO's Work Plan, and particularly for the preparations of this Assembly.

**Mr. President,**

My delegation would like to acknowledge the continued efforts of WIPO in undertaking a number of intellectual-property-oriented projects in Tanzania. Some of the projects have been successfully completed, and others are at different phases of implementation.

Tanzania remains appreciative of the successful launch of Technology Transfer Project in 2015 by WIPO, in collaboration with the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). Two undertakings namely; semi refined carrageenan extraction, and aquaculture were identified for development, and currently we are in the process of preparing business plan for each of them. Certainly, their completion will contribute greatly to the economic development in the specific industrial sectors, and in the economic development of my country.

The use of the Intellectual Property Automation System (IPAS) has immensely simplified and enhanced the speed to process trademark applications being filed at the office, an achievement worth mentioning. WIPO's acceptance in undertaking the scanning process of our documents, to establish an Electronic Data Management System (EDMS), and introduction of IPAS Online Model are highly appreciated as they modernize the Industrial Property Registries in the country for efficient service delivery.

We would like to register our appreciations following a number of WIPO capacity-building and programs conducted at our national IP Office, and other Institutions in the country, with a view to create a knowledge based society. We are recently noticing an increase in awareness on Intellectual Property issues in the country, although there is still much to be done in the area. That is why we look forward to continued cooperation with WIPO in our endeavor to bridge the knowledge gap.

**I thank you Mr.President.**