**WIPO**

**16th Session of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)**

**Third World Network Statement on Project on IP Education and Professional Training with Judicial Training Institutes**

Thank You Mr. Chair,

The Judiciary plays a particularly critical role in countries. It is an independent, just and an impartial arbiter of disputes, and this needs to be safeguarded.

It is within this context that we make the following statement:

Currently WIPO carries out a number of intellectual property (IP) related-service activities and earns substantial revenue from applicants of IP. At the same time, it sets norms and undertakes technical assistance activities.

There is presently no firewall dividing these activities, resulting in a risk of technical assistance activities focusing on IP protection and enforcement.

In this regard, we would also recall that the recent External Review of technical assistance did raise a number of concerns with regard to the orientation of the technical assistance that is being delivered. The External Review also expressed the view that in WIPO the understanding of “development “ is rather narrow.

Further on reading the Project document, a number of questions emerge. For instance Section D of the Project Document is on Development Content and it speaks about "Good practices for IPR education". We would like to know what is considered to be a “good practice” by the Secretariat. What is the basis for determining which practice is good and which is not.

Given this we are of the view that going ahead with the Project as presently defined is not advisable.

Further, at this stage we are of the view that CDIP Member States should call for an independent review of all materials and presentations that are being used in existing technical assistance activities involving the judicial authorities.

Thank you.