

*Dear honoured guests*

*Ladies and gentlemen*

*The protection of the intellectual property is important. Also the intellectual property office is important as they are first contact of the applicants.*

*As today we have here as honoured guest Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization, the president of European Patent organisation, the Chairman of the Administrative Council of European Patent Organisation and the President of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market shows that each country patent office is important in international level despite how small the country is.*

*Twenty years ago the Estonian Patent Office was re-established, twenty years ago was founded also the institution of the patent attorneys as professional representatives in Estonia.*

*In our side we can tell that the system is working but there are possibilities to improve the system. For example harmonization of decision or at least looking what are done in the European level, we are not an island somewhere in ocean of the property right.*

*The intellectual property is related with reliability of the system, how much the users can rely on for example databases of the intellectual property rights, for example today the branding is very strategic and quick which needs to know are there filed similar trademarks. Sometimes our image as e-country is fading in this respect.*

*The system should be designed for the users understanding their needs and recognising that the protection is not just filing the application but in addition different strategic of the proceedings. For example we should ask why sometimes the first filing is done abroad and not in Estonia.*

*However today is celebration and we should look to the future. Looking to the Europe we can see that there is possibility to our Patent Office to work more closely with European Organisations. For example European Patent Office is very interested to join all member state offices into the one big network of the national offices. And we hope that our Patent Office can find the areas where give their contribution.*

*At the end I would like to wish all good to our Patent Office and remember we patent attorney are your fellow colleagues, yes on the user's side but still colleagues.*

*Thank you!*