50th ANNIVERSARY of CHINA-WIPO COOPERATION

In November 1973, with the approval of Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, Mr. Ren Jianxin, then Director of the Legal Affairs Department of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, led a Chinese government delegation to Geneva to attend the 4th Series of Meetings of the Governing Bodies of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Unions Administered by WIPO as an observer, which marked the beginning of cooperation between China and WIPO.

Over the past 50 years, international cooperation and exchanges in intellectual property (IP), as represented by the China-WIPO cooperation, have boosted the leapfrog development of China's IP undertaking from scratch by introducing, adapting, and localizing IP systems from abroad.

Over the past 50 years, China and WIPO have deepened their friendship and cooperation. Multiple outcomes have been achieved in high-level exchanges, promoting development, serving innovation, and raising IP awareness, among other areas.

Over the past 50 years, as the largest developing country and a regional group of WIPO, China has firmly supported the multilateral IP system, and has actively and constructively participated in the WIPO Assemblies and meeting of related WIPO Committees. By committing itself to promoting WIPO's agenda and norm setting, China has been contributing toward a more effective global IP governance with Chinese wisdom.

At a new historical starting point, China will uphold the vision of a global community with a shared future, remain committed to the principles of openness, inclusiveness, balance, and universal benefit, play a deeper role in global IP governance under the framework of the WIPO, and make Chinese contributions to the development of global IP ecosystem.

1973

From November 19 to 27, 1973, Chinese representatives attended the 4th Series of Meetings of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administrated by WIPO (Ren Jianxin, the 2nd from the left).

(Photo: *Twenty Years of China-WIPO Cooperation*)

1980

On March 3, 1980, China deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, which took effect on June 3, and China officially became the 90th member state of WIPO.

(Photo: WIPO)

1984

On December 19, 1984, the Chinese government deposited its instrument of accession to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (as revised at Stockholm in 1967), which entered into force with respect to China on March 19, 1985.

(Photo: *Twenty Years of China-WIPO Cooperation*)

1986

In 1986, the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) sent a delegation to Geneva to discuss the draft of the Copyright Law of China with WIPO.

(Photo: *Twenty Years of China-WIPO Cooperation*)

1989

In October 1989, Tong Ren Tang, an herbal-medicine company from China, filed China's first Madrid trademark application.

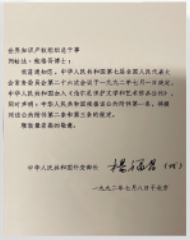
(Photo：WIPO)

In November 1989, the Chinese Patent Office and WIPO announced the winner of the first Awards for Chinese Outstanding Patented Inventions, and Dr. Bogsch, Director General of WIPO, presented awards to the winners at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

(Photo: *Twenty Years of China-WIPO Cooperation*)

1992

On July 10, 1992, China deposited its instrument of accession to the *Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works*, which entered into force with respect to China on October 15, 1992.



(Photo: *Twenty Years of China-WIPO Cooperation*)

1994

In 1994, the China Patent Office received the first PCT international application from a Chinese female inventor.

(Photo: China Patent Office)

1999

On March 23, 1999, the Chinese government delegation formally deposited its instrument of accession to the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).

(Photo: UPOV)

2000

In September 2000, at the Thirty-Fifth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, April 26th was approved as "World Intellectual Property Day", as proposed by China and Algeria.

(Photo: WIPO)

2006

In 2006, the WIPO Interregional Seminar on Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources was held in Henan province, China.

(Photo: SIPO)

2009

In March 2009, the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) and WIPO signed the Cooperative Agreement on the Excellent Example of Copyright Protection.

(Photo: NCAC)

2010

In March 2010, the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and WIPO co-organized the Regional Seminar on the Development Agenda for WIPO in China.

(Photo: SIPO)

2012

From June 20 to 26, 2012, the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances was held in Beijing, China, at which the *Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances* was successfully concluded.

(Photo: WIPO)

2014

In 2014, the Chinese government made voluntary contributions to WIPO for the first time and established the WIPO/China Funds-in-Trust (China FIT). Supported by this fund, WIPO has carried out a series of IP development projects in developing countries, contributing to local economic and social development. The photo shows a China FIT project in Cambodia in 2022.

(Photo: WIPO)

On July 10, 2014, the inauguration ceremony of the China Office of WIPO was held in Beijing. In 2019, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Shanghai Service was established in Shanghai, China.

(Photo: China IP Daily)

2016

On October 25, 2016, Mr. Sherif Saadallah, Executive Director of the WIPO Academy, attended the launching ceremony of the WIPO Distance Learning Courses in Chinese at China IP Training Center (CIPTC).

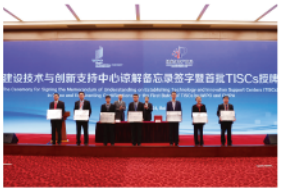
(Photo: CIPTC)

In November 2016, the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) held an exhibition at WIPO Headquarters in Geneva to showcase the achievement of copyright protection for porcelain in Dehua, China.

(Photo: NCAC)

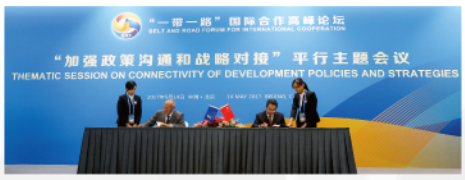
2017

In 2017, SIPO and WIPO initiated the construction of WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in China.



(Photo: SIPO)

In May 2017, during the 1st Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the *Agreement on Enhancing "Belt and Road" Intellectual Property Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the WIPO* was signed as one of the 9 documents on Belt and Road cooperation signed between the Chinese Government and relevant international organizations, and included in the list of achievements of the Forum.



(Photo: SIPO)

In July 2017, SIPO and WIPO jointly held in Guangdong, China the China-Africa High-Level Seminar on Intellectual Property System and Policies for English-speaking African countries. In November 2018, China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA, former SIPO) and WIPO held the China-Africa High-Level Seminar on Intellectual Property System and Policies for French-speaking African countries.

(Photo: China Intellectual Property News, CNIPA)

2019

In 2019, the number of PCT international applications filed by applicants from China reached 58,990, ranking first in the world for the first time.

2021

In 2021, Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of WIPO, attended online the 18th Shanghai International Intellectual Property Forum co-organized by CNIPA, WIPO, and the Shanghai Municipal People's Government.

(Photo: Shanghai Municipal People's Government)

2022

In 2022, China ranked 11th in the *Global Innovation Index 2022* released by WIPO, showing steady progress for ten consecutive years, ranking first among the upper-middle-income group economies.

(Photo: WIPO)

On February 5, 2022, China deposited its instrument of accession to the *Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs and its instrument of ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled,* which entered into force with respect to China on May 5, 2022.

(Photo: WIPO)

In July 2022, WIPO launched the first WIPO Global Awards, 6 Chinese companies were shortlisted, and 2 Chinese companies won the award finally, accounting for two-fifths of all the winners.

(Photo: WIPO)

In December 2022, Mr. Lee Ka-chiu, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, met with Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of WIPO, who attended the 12th Business of IP Asia Forum in Hong Kong, China.

(Photo: WIPO)