



VII International Cooperation



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In 2021, CNIPA was engaged in upgrading the top-level design of international cooperation, and took innovative and proactive measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Exchanges and cooperation were conducted via cloud dialogues, traditional partnerships were strengthened via cloud training sessions, and outcomes of cooperation were consolidated via cloud signing ceremonies. CNIPA continued to advance international cooperation and competition in the IP field, participate constructively in the adjustment of international IP norms, and deepen pragmatic IP cooperation with other countries and regions. Further progress was made in establishing the comprehensive paradigm of international cooperation featuring coordinated progress at bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral levels and with neighboring countries.

01 Engagement in global governance and promotion of adjustments to international IP norms

1.1 Participation in global governance under the framework of WIPO

In September, the Chinese delegation led by Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the 62nd Session of the Assemblies of the WIPO Member States remotely. In the general statement, Commissioner Shen Changyu shared China's latest achievements in the IP field despite the COVID-19 pandemic and other global challenges, and made proposals on related IP affairs under the WIPO framework,

calling for a more positive role of WIPO in response to global challenges, further improvements of WIPO's global IP service system, and more effective security controls on user data. Commissioner Shen Changyu and Deputy Commissioner Gan Shaoning were elected as Vice-Chairmen of the Assembly of the Paris Union and the Assembly of the PCT Union respectively.



Commissioner Shen Changyu delivering a general speech via video at the 62nd Session of the Assemblies of the WIPO Member States

CNIPA steadily pushed forward China's accession to the Hague Agreement, and discussed with WIPO on examination standards, business procedures, the instrument of accession, and other related issues.

CNIPA achieved the phase I target for building WIPO

Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in China, with 101 TISCs established. The first Global TISC Conference was held jointly with WIPO, at which Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered a video speech to share China's experience in TISC development.



Global TISC Conference held Jointly by CNIPA and WIPO

1.2 Promoting improvement of international IP norms

CNIPA kept participating in the discussions on IP issues at WIPO, UPOV, WTO TRIPS Council among other international platforms, and promoting improvements and adjustments to international IP systems including PCT, Madrid and IPC, playing an active part in international IP affairs and development of international IP norms.

In October, Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered a video speech at the 2021 AIPPI World Congress, proposing joint actions to address IP protection challenges in the post-COVID-19 era.

The Chinese language was officially adopted as one of the working languages of UPOV at the UPOV-Council (C/55) 55th Ordinary Session held in October .

CNIPA signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Remittance of Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Fees* with WIPO. Since December 1, 2021, Renminbi has officially become a pricing and settlement currency for

related PCT fees in the international phase, which has further facilitated domestic innovation entities to file international patent applications via the PCT system.

7 IPC revision projects proposed by CNIPA were approved. CNIPA worked closely with other members on the project for new IPC class in the semiconductor field, and got assigned with the new project on revising the H10N subclass. Terms of goods and services with Chinese characteristics were included into the Madrid Goods & Services Manager, under which 84 terms were provided by CNIPA in 2021.

CNIPA kept track of the development of international IP norms in new emerging technological fields and new business formats, such as artificial intelligence (AI) and big data. It participated actively in WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), WIPO Conversation on Intellectual Property (IP) and Artificial Intelligence (AI), among other related events.

1.3 Deepened bilateral cooperation with WIPO

In May, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a virtual meeting with Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of WIPO, on consolidating the sound cooperation with WIPO.

CNIPA continued to promote global IP service systems in China in joint efforts with WIPO. Roving seminars on the Madrid System and the Hague System were held in China. The Funds-in-Trust China was fully leveraged for joint programs on technical assistance, including the "Belt and Road" IP master program, the program on poverty alleviation with GIs in developing countries, and the program on promoting electronic communication in the "Belt and Road" countries under the Madrid System.

The exchanges between WIPO and Chinese local

governments were promoted. The 18th Shanghai International Intellectual Property Forum was held jointly by WIPO, CNIPA and Shanghai Municipal Government, at which Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered an opening speech. Sichuan Intellectual Property Service Promotion Center was recommended by CNIPA to join the Virtual Exhibition on Geographical Indications held by WIPO. Director General and other senior officials of WIPO attended a series of events held in China remotely, including the Ceremony for the 22nd WIPO-CNIPA Award for Chinese Outstanding Patented Inventions & Industrial Designs, the license granting ceremony for the 4th batch of TISCs, the 4th China International Import Expo (CIIE) and Hongqiao International Economic Forum, etc.

02 Pragmatic cooperation under the "Belt and Road" framework

The enrollment of the "Belt and Road" master program for the 2021-2022 academic year was completed. A total of 32 students were enrolled by Tongji University and Zhongnan University of Economics and Law to join the program online.

Online training sessions on trademark examination were held for 56 IP officials from 24 "Belt and Road" countries.

Two research projects were completed, including the comparative study on examination procedures of invention patents, industrial designs and trademarks among the "Belt and Road" countries, and the demand study on international cooperation in the IP field among the "Belt and Road" countries. The brochures on trademark registration and protection in 5 "Belt and Road" countries (Myanmar, Italy, Thailand, India and South Africa) were published.

03 Plurilateral cooperation

3.1 IP5 & ID5 & TM5 cooperation

In June, Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the 14th IP5 Heads of Office Meeting. At the meeting, the *2021 Joint Statement of the IP5 Offices* was adopted. The IP5 Offices exchanged best practices in leveraging IP to address social challenges, took notes of breakthroughs made by the IP5 Offices

over the past year, and passed future work plans in several key areas, including cooperation on new emerging technologies and artificial intelligence (NET/AI), harmonization of patent practices and procedures, improving examination quality and efficiency, etc.



The 14th IP5 Heads of Office Meeting

In November, CNIPA held the annual meetings of the ID5 and the TM5 successively. Commissioner Shen Changyu attended both meetings, and consensuses were reached on the *2021 ID5 Joint Statement* and the *2021 TM5 Joint Statement*. At the 2021 ID5 Annual Meeting, the offices discussed the latest progress and next steps of 13 ongoing projects, including 3 projects concluded and 1 new project led jointly by CNIPA and EUIPO approved, and agreed on the update to the *ID5*

Operational Guidelines. At the TM5 Annual Meeting, the latest progress and next steps of the 16 ongoing cooperation projects were discussed, 2 new projects including "Trademark Protection in the Opposition and Review Procedure" jointly proposed by CNIPA and EUIPO and "Trademark Archives Management and Administration" proposed by CNIPA were adopted, and views were exchanged on the optimization of the TM5 operation mechanism.



The 2021 ID5 Annual Meeting



The 2021 TM5 Annual Meeting

3.2 BRICS cooperation

In August, the CNIPA delegation led by Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the 13th BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO) Meeting virtually. At the meeting, the progress of projects under the IP-BRICS cooperation roadmap and the next-step work plan were discussed. CNIPA shared China's

best practices in leveraging IP for targeted poverty alleviation, and introduced the achievements made in boosting IP competitiveness and promoting national development. The *Minutes of the 13th BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO) Meeting* was signed subsequently.



The 13th BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO) Meeting

3.3 CNIPA-JPO-KIPO cooperation

In November, CNIPA hosted the CNIPA-JPO Heads Meeting, CNIPA-KIPO Heads Meeting, and TRIPO Heads Meeting respectively, at which plans for the future cooperation were discussed. Updated memorandums of understanding (MOUs) were signed with JPO and KIPO respectively, to further deepen IP cooperation in the post-pandemic era. Besides, CNIPA hosted the 9th China-Japan-Korea IP User Seminar. Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered a video speech at the seminar, and experts from the 3 Offices shared the latest developments in respective IP systems, on creating a more user-friendly business environment.

The cooperation projects with the JPO and KIPO in patent examination, industrial designs, automation, reexamination, trademarks, personnel training and other fields progressed steadily via video conferences and email correspondence. Cooperation were expanded to new technological fields, including expert exchanges on examination standards regarding AI technologies with JPO, information exchanges in AI fields with KIPO, and exchanges on patent examination regarding carbon neutrality with JPO and KIPO.



The 21st TRIPO Heads Meeting Among CNIPA, JPO and KIPO

3.4 China-ASEAN and China-Mongolia-Russia IP cooperation

In October, CNIPA hosted the 9th China-Mongolia-Russia Joint Seminar on Intellectual Property. At the seminar, Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered a video speech, and experts from CNIPA, Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM) and Federal Service for Intellectual Property (ROSPATENT) exchanged views on the latest development of their respective IP systems.

In December, CNIPA hosted the 12th Meeting of China-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices. At the meeting, CNIPA presented the progress on implementing the *China-ASEAN IP Cooperation Work Program 2020-2021*, and shared China's countermeasures in the IP field against the COVID-19 pandemic. The China-ASEAN work plan for the year 2021-2022 was adopted.



The 12th Meeting of China-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices

CNIPA hosted the China-ASEAN Webinar on Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge for exchange of best practices on the protection of genetic resources and traditional knowledge. The first China-ASEAN Trademark Expert Meeting was held for in-depth

exchanges on trademark examination. Personnel training and other projects funded by the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund (ACCF) were launched for ASEAN countries, which further expanded and reinforced the China-ASEAN IP cooperation.

04 Bilateral cooperation

4.1 Cooperation with EPO and EUIPO

In May, Commissioner Shen Changyu had a video conference with Mr. Christian Archambeau, Executive Director of European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). At the conference, the two sides jointly

announced the launch of Chinese trademark data on EUIPO's TMView database, an EU trademark search platform, and signed an updated MOU on bilateral cooperation.



Commissioner Shen Changyu meeting with Mr. Christian Archambeau, Executive Director of EUIPO

In December, Commissioner Shen Changyu and Mr. António Campinos, President of the European Patent Office (EPO) attended the 15th Heads Meeting between

CNIPA and EPO virtually, and signed the 2022 CNIPA-EPO work plan and an agreement on EPOQUE Net.



The 15th Heads Meeting Between CNIPA and EPO

From July 1, 2021, in respect of any European application filed with the EPO or any PCT application entering the European phase claiming priority for Chinese applications, it was no longer required to submit the copy of search report for prior applications,

which effectively eased the burden on applicants. The PCT International Searching Authority pilot project, launched jointly by CNIPA and EPO on December 1, 2020, progressed well in facilitating Chinese applicants' access to IP protection in Europe.

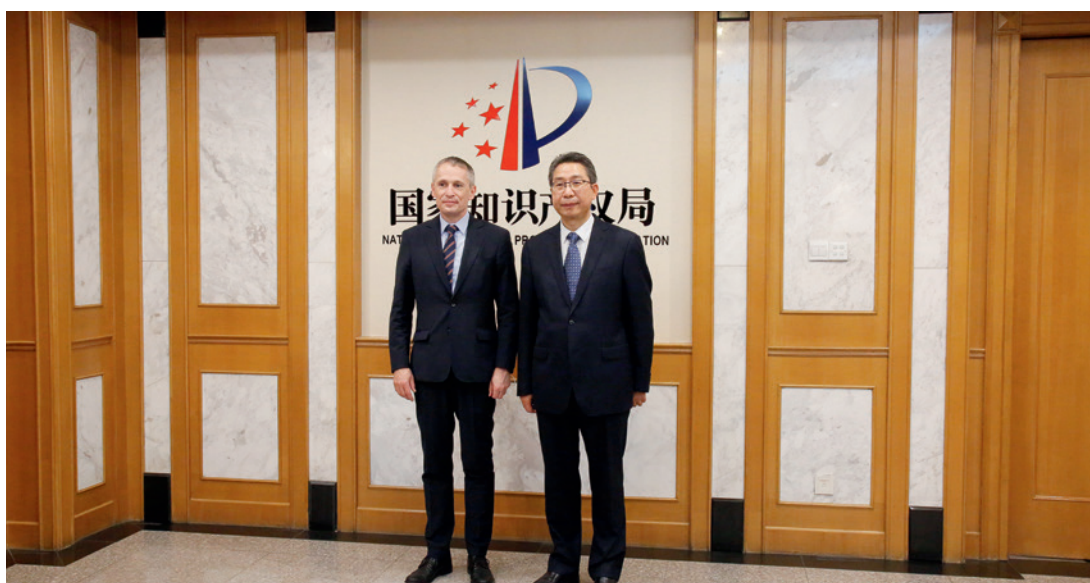
4.2 Cooperation with European countries

In May, Commissioner Shen Changyu met with Dr. Clemens von Goetze, German Ambassador to

China, and Mr. Thomas Østrup Møller, Ambassador of Denmark to China, successively.



Commissioner Shen Changyu meeting with Dr. Clemens von Goetze, German Ambassador to China



Commissioner Shen Changyu meeting with Mr. Thomas Østrup Møller, Ambassador of Denmark to China

In June, Commissioner Shen Changyu met with Mrs. Edyta Demby Siwek, President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland via video conference and signed a MOU on bilateral cooperation.



The Online Signing Ceremony Between CNIPA and the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland

In July, Commissioner Shen Changyu and Mr. Pascal Faure, Director General of National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of France, attended the 32nd Meeting of China-France Mixed Committee on Intellectual Property Rights virtually, and signed an agreement on bilateral cooperation.

In November, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video conference with Mr. Wolfgang Burtscher, Director

General of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission.

Commissioner Shen Changyu and Mr. Tim Moss, Chief Executive Officer and Comptroller General of Intellectual Property Office of the United Kingdom (UKIPO), held a video conference, and signed the 2022 work plan between the two offices, amid a series of celebration activities for the 25th anniversary of China-UK IP cooperation.



Commissioner Shen Changyu and Mr. Tim Moss, Chief Executive of UKIPO, celebrating the 25th anniversary of China-UK IP cooperation via video conference

Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video conference with Mr. Grigory Ivliev, Director General of the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (ROSPATENT),

at which CNIPA and ROSPATENT jointly published a manual entitled the *Guidelines on Trademark Protection and Enforcement in China* with its electronic version.



Commissioner Shen Changyu meeting with Mr. Grigory Ivliev, Director General of ROSPATENT

Commissioner Shen Changyu held a virtual conference with Mr. Sune Stampe Sørensen, Director General of the Danish Patent and Trademark Office. A MOU on bilateral cooperation was signed at the conference, and was listed in the outcomes of strategic dialogue between China and Denmark.

Deputy Commissioner Gan Shaoning delivered a video speech on China's IP ecosystem at the XXV International Conference of Rospatent "Building IP Ecosystem". Deputy Commissioner Liao Tao delivered a video speech at the III International Conference "Digital Transformation: Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence Trends" held in Russia.

MOUs on bilateral cooperation were signed with the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO), respectively, and were both included in the outcome list of the China-CEEC Summit 2021. The cooperation agreement with the General Directorate of Industrial Property (GDIP) of Albania was renewed. The one-year pilot project "China-Poland Liaison Mechanism", jointly launched by CNIPA and the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland since October 2020, was extended for five years, so as to better serve the IP users of the two countries.

4.3 Cooperation with neighboring and Asian countries

In March, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video conference with Mr. Vuttikrai Leewiraphan, Director General of the Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) of Thailand, and signed a MOU to lay down the framework for future cooperation.

In July, Commissioner Shen Changyu and Mr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister, Minister of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI) of Cambodia attended the China-Cambodia High-Level Meeting on Intellectual Property, at which the 2021-2022 work plan for IP cooperation was signed.



The China-Cambodia High-Level Meeting on Intellectual Property

In August, Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered a keynote video speech at the Global Forum on IP Conference of IP Week @ SG 2021 held in Singapore, introducing the outline to boost China's competitiveness in the area of intellectual property (2021-2035), and sharing China's best practices in leveraging IP for innovation-driven development and economic growth.

In October, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video conference with Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Swailem, CEO of Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP), and signed a statement of intent under which CNIPA was designated as the international search authority (ISA) and international preliminary examination authority (IPEA) of SAIP under the PCT system.



Video Conference and Signing Ceremony Between CNIPA and SAIP

In November, Commissioner Shen Changyu had a video conference with Mrs. Rena Lee, Chief Executive of Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), and consensus was reached on future cooperation plans.

A supplementary agreement was signed by CNIPA and its Cambodian counterpart regarding the registration and effectuation of Chinese industrial design patents

in Cambodia. The working level of the two sides held a number of meetings to promote the implementation of the agreement, and had exchanges on a regular basis via the bilateral work mechanism.

An online training seminar on patent search practices was held for the Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC Patent Office).

4.4 Cooperation with North American and Oceanian countries

Exchanges and cooperation with North American and Oceanian countries in patents and trademarks were carried forward.

In September, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video conference with Mr. Drew Hirshfeld, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Deputy Director of the USPTO. They had in-depth exchanges on cooperation projects, new emerging technologies and AI, as well as IP-related measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In November, expert meetings on industrial design, examination quality and patent classification were held with USPTO.

In December, the China-US Intellectual Property Policy Program was co-hosted by the CNIPA/US Bar Liaison Council and CNIPA, attended by IP agencies, attorneys and practitioners from China and the US for exchanges on the latest developments in the IP field.

4.5 Cooperation with Latin American and African countries

In September, CNIPA held the 2021 online IP training seminar for Africa and Latin America countries, attended by 59 officials from OAPI and IP offices of Tunisia, Angola, Sudan, Mauritius, Morocco, Madagascar, Cuba, Mexico, Jamaica, Peru, Costa Rica, Brazil and Chile.

In December, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a video

conference with Mr. Alfredo Rendón, Director General of the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property, and signed a MOU on bilateral cooperation. Commissioner Shen Changyu delivered congratulatory speeches via video to the 45th Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO and the 61st Ordinary Session of the Administrative Council of OAPI.



A MOU signed by CNIPA and the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property

The second online IP training seminar was held for African countries in December, attended by examiners from ARIPO and IP offices of South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Algeria and Liberia.

Ms. Gwendolyne Spech, Economic and Commercial Counsellor of Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in China, visited CNIPA and had exchanges on

trademark-related issues. Exchanges were also had with the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of Argentina on the expedited procedure of patent examination. Besides, Mr. Subhas Gujadhur, Deputy Head and Director of General Affairs of the Embassy of Mauritius in China visited CNIPA and had exchanges on the protection of trademarks and geographical indications.

05 Participation in intergovernmental dialogues and negotiations

CNIPA continued to focus closely and conduct studies on IP issues in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), promoting the entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) at an early date, and implementing the China-US phase one economic and trade agreement, the China-EU GI agreement and the China-France GI agreement. CNIPA participated in multiple high-level dialogues and

meetings, including relevant China-US dialogues, the China-UK economic and financial dialogue, the China-France high-level economic and financial dialogue, the China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation, China-Singapore mechanism meetings on bilateral cooperation, China-Italy Intergovernmental Committee sessions, China-Poland Intergovernmental Committee meetings, as well as FTA negotiations with Peru and other countries.

06 Cooperation in business areas

6.1 PPH Cooperation

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) cooperation network was consolidated. PPH pilot programs were extended with the Eurasian Patent Office and IP offices of Germany, Austria, Singapore, Canada and Portugal. PPH cooperation was explored with more countries including Thailand, Viet Nam, the Philippines, France,

etc. As of the end of 2021, CNIPA signed cooperative agreements with 30 PPH partners, including 16 "Belt and Road" countries or regions and 4 RCEP member states. Sessions on PPH promotion were held to provide pragmatic guidance for Chinese enterprises to file applications and obtain patent rights overseas.

6.2 Exchanges in patent examination

Bilateral expert conferences on patent examination quality were held online with USPTO, EPO, JPO and KIPO, respectively, for exchanges on examination quality management and examination rules in new emerging technology fields. Virtual case study sessions were held with IP offices of Japan, Korea, the UK, Finland, and Israel, respectively, for thorough discussions among examiners on the examination standards and practices in hotspot technical fields

such as business methods and biopharmaceuticals.

The project "Cooperative Study of Quality Management by ID5 Offices" led by CNIPA was completed. The outcome of the Common Statistical Parameters for Examination (CSPE) project was promoted at the IP5 platform. The comparative study among IP5 offices on examination standards in AI pharmaceutical field was explored.

6.3 Cooperation in GI and Trademark field

The China-EU GI experts webinar and China-EU GI and trademark webinar were held under the framework of IP Key, a China-EU IP cooperation project.

China-France comparative study on GIs was carried out under the framework of China-France GI agreement. The implementation of the China-Thailand GI pilot program "3+3" proceeded well.

The EU Trademark Search System was launched

on April 26, the World Intellectual Property Day, as the first official international trademark information search system in China. Catering to the needs of the public and innovative entrepreneurs, it provides users with fast, convenient and comprehensive EU trademark search services.

A seminar on trademark examination was held with UKIPO. Exchanges were conducted with the Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam on GI trademarks and GI products.

07 Exchanges with the industries

Exchanges with domestic and foreign enterprises were maintained for better understandings of their actual needs in IP protection. Online and offline meetings were held with representatives of associations and enterprises, including the R&D-Based Pharmaceutical Association Committee (RDPAC) under the China Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment (CAEFI), the American Chamber of Commerce in China, the US-China Business Council, Burberry, Bosch, NBC Universal, and the Riga Varnish and Paint Factory. Patent and trademark-related requests were handled for Burgundy, Burberry, Johnson & Johnson, etc.

Supports were offered to domestic enterprises in broadening their international cooperation channels. 18 companies attended the IP5 Heads of Office and

Industry Meeting as representatives of the Chinese industries, including Huawei, Baidu, Gree, COMAC, Luye Pharma, etc. An AI expert committee was set up under the Patent Protection Association of China (PPAC) with CNIPA's guidance, to provide perspectives of Chinese enterprises on the formulation of international IP norms regarding AI technologies. The pilot project of the National Intellectual Property International Cooperation Base (Beijing) was launched.

CNIPA reached out to Chinese enterprises on overseas patent portfolio planning. Two webinars were held in joint efforts with EPO to help Chinese patent applicants and agents gain a better understanding of application procedures in Europe for their overseas patent portfolio planning.

08 Disseminating Chinese IP story

CNIPA actively shared China's perspectives and practices in leveraging IP to boost development in the fields of COVID-19 pandemic prevention and control, poverty alleviation, sustainable development and employment promotion.

At international platforms such as WIPO, AIPPI World Congress, ID5 and TM5, CNIPA introduced the Chinese experiences in anti-pandemic scientific innovation and IP protection, put forward the Chinese perspectives in coping with the pandemic, and advocated for further international cooperation to address challenges amid the pandemic and post-pandemic eras. According to related WIPO statistics, China was the largest source country of patent applications for COVID-19 related vaccines and therapeutics.

At the Global TISC Conference co-hosted with WIPO, CNIPA shared the best practices of China in exerting the role of TISCs in innovation, entrepreneurship, technology transfer and commercialization.

The practice of Qingdao TISC was selected as a demonstrative case by WIPO.

In the WIPO World IP Day activities, CNIPA presented the case of poverty alleviation with IP in Sangzhi County, Hunan Province, where people got rid of poverty and become rich by developing GI products including reed leaf and white tea. A field trip was arranged for the officials of WIPO Office in China and domestic and foreign media to visit Sangzhi. The Sangzhi story was also presented at the 14th IP5 Heads Meeting, summarized as "Two Golden Leaves Make a County Rich: Intellectual Property Helps Targeted Poverty Alleviation", as a best practice for tapping the great potential of IP to help realize the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

CNIPA published the booklet *How to Protect Trademarks in China*, the *Guidelines on Trademark Protection and Enforcement in China* (in Chinese, English and Russian), TM5 and ID5 cooperation brochures and videos, etc.

