

Important Activities and Works

Chinese National Meeting of Heads of IPR Administrations was Held

On January 15, 2015, the national meeting of heads of IPR administrations was successfully held in Beijing. During the meeting, Shen Changyu, the Commissioner of SIPO, conveyed important instructions from Wangyong, the commissioner of state on IP work and delivered a report on the IPR Administrations. In the report, Commissioner Shen reviewed major progress for IPR administrations in China in 2014, meanwhile, elaborated eight key focuses for 2015. He stressed that IPR administration of all levels should seize the opportunity for further development to enthusiastically build China into an IP power. 170 participators including officials from the central government and the State Council, members of the SIPO, heads of IPR administration department from all provinces, autonomous regions, provincial cities and municipalities in China, as well as representatives from state-owned enterprises participated in the meeting.

SIPO Issued *Public Guidelines for National Patent Information (2014 Revision)*

In January 2015, the *Public Guidelines for National Patent Information (2014 Revision)* was issued by SIPO. The guidelines gave an introduction on measures related to public service of national patent information, national patent information resources, patent information service platform, ways of information services, newly opened patent data services pilot system.

National Technical Committee on IP and Knowledge Management Standardization was Established

On February 13, 2015, the conference on the establishment of National Technical Committee on IP and Knowledge Management Standardization (NTCIPKMS) was held. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, NTCIPKMS Chairman Tian Shihong attended the meeting and gave speeches. “The establishment of such committee is one big event with the milestone significance during the development of China’s knowledge management standardization.



It was a great measure to beef up strategic management of knowledge resources in standard way, which played an important role in realizing coordination development between IP strategy and standardization strategy, improving standardization system in China's IP field, enhancing IP capability, promoting the transformation from manufactured in China to create in China. SIPO would take this opportunity to improve such work and explore a standardization system of knowledge management in accordance with China's economic and social development," said Shen Changyu. "Great efforts should be made to implement the deployment of the State Council on standardization reform; make contribution to the prosperity of China's knowledge economy by guiding the companies to establish technical innovation system and coordinating the standardization of knowledge management; beef up standardization of traditional knowledge. The participators voted the statute at the first plenary session. The committee was responsible for formulating and revising the national standards on IP, traditional knowledge and organization knowledge and coordinating the technical committee on innovative management of International standardization organization. The first committee was composed by 67 experts from IP, traditional knowledge and organization knowledge. As of now, China has issued three national standards including the *Management Regulations on Patent-related National Standard (Trial)*, *IP Documentation and Information* and *IP Management Standard for Enterprises*.

Service Invention Bill (Draft) Asked for Opinions

On April 2, 2015, the *Service Invention Bill (Draft)* submitted by the SIPO and the Ministry of Science and Technology asks for opinions by Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council. The draft included 44 articles of 7 chapters, which contained the provisions on identifying property right of invention, reporting of invention and filing invention application, reward on service inventor, the use and implementation, supervision and law responsibilities. The work started in 2010, and the draft was formulated after many times of embedded investigation, broadly asking for opinions and repeated demonstration.

SIPO Held Trilateral Meeting with IPOS, Guangdong Government, Jointly Promote Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City

On April 14, 2015, the trilateral meeting among the SIPO, Singapore Intellectual Property Office (IPOS), Guangdong Government, and the signing ceremony of the summary of the meeting between SIPO and IPOS was held in Guangzhou. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, Chief Executive of IPOS Tan Yih San, Vice

Governor of Guangdong Government Chen Yunxian attended the meeting and gave speeches. The meeting is an effective way of implementing the cooperation agreement between the government of China and Singapore, and is of great significant to promote the building of Sino–Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City and comprehensive reform in the IP utilization and protection in the knowledge city. The meeting gave an introduction on the preliminary preparation of the reform in IP utilization and protection in the knowledge city. *The Minutes of Talks of SIPO–IPOS Meetings on November 27, 2014* was also signed. The two sides reached a consensus on implementing the *Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in IP field between the Government of People’s Republic of China and Government of Republic of Singapore*.

Press Conference on 2014 China’s IP Development was Held

On April 16, 2015, as one of vital activities of 2015 National IPR Publicity Week, the press conference on 2014 China’s IP development was held in Beijing. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce Deputy Director–General Liu Junchen, the National Copyright Administration Deputy Director Yan Xiaohong answered the questions of the journalists on the relationship between IP and development driven by innovation, IP power house building, newly revised *Trademark Law*, registration of software copyright.

The 2015 National IPR Publicity Week was Held

On April 20, 2015, the 2015 National IPR Publicity Week, co–organized by the SIPO, the Ministry of Publicity of CCCPC and other 21 central departments, was held on people.com.cn. This event was themed on building IP power and supporting innovation–driven development. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu and WIPO Director General Francis Gurry delivered a video speech respectively. During the event, the member units of the organizing committee held nearly 70 activities including providing consultant services, forum, giving lecture, open day, seminar and exhibition around the themes.

Shen Changyu Visited IMPI and USPTO

On April 20, 2015, SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu led a delegation to the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) and held a meeting with Miguel Angel Margain who is the director general of IMPI. The two



sides reviewed the latest development of two offices and signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on Industrial Property Cooperation between SIPO and IMPI*. Both two sides wish to strengthen high-level exchange, mutual visits, popularization of PPH, and provide more convenient and high efficiency services for innovators of two countries.

On April 21, 2015, SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu visited the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and exchanged views with USPTO Director Michelle Lee. The two sides highlighted the great importance of cooperation between SIPO and USPTO, introduced the latest development of the two offices, and exchanged views on branch construction, patent date exchange, staff training and other seven topics. Both two sides also signed the *SIPO-USPTO Bilateral Cooperation Work Plan 2015-2016*, deciding to beef up cooperation on examination, date exchange, branch construction, and subject research.

SIPO Patent Search and Service System Added Seven Languages Versions

Based on the Chinese and English versions, SIPO patent search and service system has made a major upgrade recently, adding seven other foreign language versions, namely Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Arabic, Japanese and French, for users abroad. New system has been in operation on April 27, 2015. The patent search and service system was successfully initiated in 2011. This system is similar to the digital search system of libraries which can provide comprehensive patent search services for users all over the world, thus it has an intelligent feature. In efforts to provide convenient service and favorable experience for users abroad, SIPO has re-designed the UI and added seven other foreign language versions, based on usage habits by users from different language zone and the languages characters themselves. Users from abroad now enjoy the same operation experience and service with the Chinese-language users, and can update the system and data timely. Up to now, the patent search and service system has released several major upgrades, and has added several functions, such as one-stop search, medicine search, structured search, data mining analysis, patent utilization platform and multi-language, etc.

Online Examination Searching Service for Multinational Invention Patent was Initiated

On May 18, 2015, in a bid to meet domestic and foreign users' requirement for searching foreign patent examination information, the online examination searching service for multinational invention patent was added to

China and Multinational Patent Examination Information Searching Network (<http://cpquery.sipo.gov.cn>) . This service could allow users to search information of invention patent received by SIPO, EPO, JPO, KIPO and USPTO. Users could log in the website and enter its query interface to search patent information of the above five IP offices by plugging in application number, open number and priority number. After the services put into operation, Chinese public could access to similar information of multinational invention patent, which could improve searching efficiency and further promote the popularization and utilization of patent examination information.

The 8th IP5 Heads Meeting was Held in Suzhou

On May 22, 2015, the 8th Heads Meeting of the world's five largest intellectual property offices (IP5) was held in Suzhou. The meeting was chaired by Shen Changyu, Commissioner of the SIPO, with the participation of Benoit Battistelli, President of the EPO, Kihara Yoshitake, Deputy Commissioner of the JPO, Mr. Choi Dong-kyu, Commissioner of the KIPO and Russell Slifer, Deputy Director of the USPTO. John Sandage, Deputy Director General of the WIPO, attended the meeting as an observer. The IP5 Heads signed the Joint Statement of the IP5 Offices. The joint statement includes common recognition, benefits delivered, target areas at current stage and future IP5 activities. During the meeting, the Heads of IP5 Offices met 150 representatives of industry from the five countries/regions. The 14th Meeting of IP5 Deputy Heads of Office on cooperation was also held in Suzhou.

China's CPES was Put into Service

On May 22, 2015, the Cloud Patent Examination System (CPES) developed by the SIPO was put into service. The system was upgraded from the cloud patent examination pilot system launched on June 2013, and pulled in examination dossier of examination institutions in many parts of world, cataloging items and open text message. It could also provide topics and timely communication for users. CPES has covered the patent examination information from SIPO, EPO, JPO, KIPO, USPTO, Intellectual Property Office of United Kingdom (UKIPO), Austria Patent Office (APO), German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA) and other eight IP offices. The users could be provided with nine languages including Chinese, English, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic. The translation tools within the system could translate 12 languages including Chinese, English, Korean and Japanese. Before that, the system had been used by EPO, IPOS, Patent Office of Saudi Arabia, and it had been well received by the users.



New National IP Strategy Network was Put into Service

On June 5, 2015, the new national IP strategy network (www.nipso.cn) was formally put into service after seven years' implementation of National IP Strategy Outline. Since it was launched on July 2005, the network had been well received by users from home and abroad, and it had become a vital media platform for national IP strategy implementation. The newly columns including Working Dynamic, Strategy Research, National IP Strategy Research Base were added to the network besides the existing Important News, Media Focus, National Strategy, Department News and other six columns. It showed the working trend of implementation of national IP strategy from central point of view to local, industrial, protection and research.

The 4th BRICS Heads of IP Offices Conference was Held

From June 10–11, 2015, local time, the 4th BRICS heads of IP offices conference was held in Rio de Janeiro. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, together with the heads from National Institute of Industrial Property of Brazil (INPI), Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks (ROSPATENT), Office of the Controller General of Patents of Indian, Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office of South Africa attended the conference. The minutes of meeting was signed. The IP coordination group for BRICS countries which would in charge of organizing and coordinating IP cooperation affairs would be established. At the conference, the participants reviewed the history of BRICS IP cooperation and conducted in-depth interviews about roadmap for IP cooperation. Each Party agreed to integrate cooperation project in the future. Six cooperation projects including staff training and examiner exchange, improving public IP awareness, IP information services, IP filing and process, national and company IP strategy, cooperation on international forum were established. In parallel, each Party decided to jointly edit and publish IP publications, so that users of five countries could easy access to IP system and office information of five countries. The hosting office for next conference would be ROSPATENT.

SIPO Signed MOU with Malta Economy Services

On July 6, 2015, SIPO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on IP with Malta Economy, Investment and Small Business Bureau. This was the first MOU of its kind signed between two sides. Both sides

agreed to exchange and share information and experience on IP system, law and measures, IP commercialization, technical assistance, capacity building, and carry cooperation on staff training, information exchange, information system, data management, public services and co-hosting conference.

High-level Symposium for IP Office Heads was Held

On July 9, 2015, the high-level symposium for IP office heads across the nation was held in Beijing. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the meeting and delivered a speech. He fully affirmed the IP works in the first half of 2015, analyzed the new situation and gave a speech on deepening IP reform and accelerating the building of IP power. Shen stressed that great efforts should be made to fully recognize the importance, necessity and feasibility of such reform, take full advantage of opportunities in the reform, identify the priorities, balance the planning with priorities, top design with basic exploration, deepening reform with other tasks, deepen the reform in IP field and promote the stable development of IP works. The relevant principals from provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities, together with those from SIPO and departments under SIPO exchanged views on deepening IP reform and accelerating building China into an IP power.

Promotion Conference on PPH was Held by SIPO

On July 16, 2015, the promotion conference on PPH, organized by SIPO, was held in Beijing. The relevant experts from Danish Patent and Trademark Office, EPO, JPO, KIPO, UKIPO, USPTO and SIPO attended the conference. The experts introduced the latest development of PPH of each office and global PPH business to 200 representatives from companies and patent agencies. PPH has the advantages of speeding up approvals, low cost and high granting rate. Currently, China has launched 19 PPH pilot projects, with more and more companies using PPH to file patent application in foreign countries. The number of PPH filed by Chinese applicants abroad has increased from 836 in December 2013 to 1,692 in December 2014.

SIPO Held Symposium on Macro-management

On July 21, 2015, the symposium on Macro-management was held by SIPO in Beijing. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu stressed to beef up IP macro-management and provide a strong support for building China into



IP power. As with patent examination work, the IP macro-management is not only the core business of SIPO, but also the lawful duty given by CCCPC, which could not separate from each other. Under the new circumstance, the cadres and workers should fully recognize the importance of macro-management and make great efforts to do a good job. The macro-management work should be strengthening in three ways: firstly, beef up vertical linkage and improve the macro-management level by building an IP macro-management system covering from SIPO, provincial, municipality to companies. Secondly, enhance horizontal coordination and exert full role of national IP strategy inter-ministry meeting, strengthen inter-ministry communication, coordination and cooperation, enhance IP macro-management efficiency and promote implementing the action plan of national IP strategy. Thirdly, coordinate international IP affairs in line with their division of works, actively integrate national foreign affairs, establish and make full use of relevant mechanism and platform, and make contribution to open policy and economic and S&T exchange via IP international cooperation. Shen Changyu put forward fine-point requirements to beef up IP macro-management: firstly, pay more attention to macro-management and fully understand that it is not only the duty of SIPO, but also requirement to IP development; secondly, properly making use of existing platform to improve the connotation and denotation of macro-management; thirdly, invent new methods to work, grasp the opportunity, make and carry out some key projects, measures and build some vital platform around macro-management work; fourthly, vigorously proceed with IP management reform, improve IP macro-management efficiency; fifthly, strengthen macro-management to carry out relevant research on theory and practice, so as to develop a better concept of macro-management.

SIPO Popularized Industrial Planning Patent Navigation Project

On July 29, 2015, SIPO issued *Guideline on Implementing Industrial Planning Patent Navigation Project (Trial)*. Starting from practice, the guideline standardized the basic flow and main points in project management, which was not only one of the regulatory documents of implementing patent navigation pilot project, but also a guiding paper for governments, industrial park, association and social services to conduct the project. As an important carrier of patent navigation industrial development, the implementation of such project was an important indication of building a work mechanism for patent navigation industry development, which was significant to use patent information effectively and support innovative development of industries.

SIPO, MYIPO Signed Cooperation Agreement

On August 21, 2015, the cooperation agreement between SIPO and Malaysia Intellectual Property Office

(MYIPO) was signed. The agreement was the first framework of its kind signed by the IP offices of the two countries. The two sides agreed to exchange information and experience on IP strategy, staff training and human resources development, IP finance service, information technology development and application, data and documentation exchange, public service for patent information, IP publicity, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and culture folks.

National Meeting on Intellectual Property Personnel was Held

On August 21, the national meeting on IP personnel was held in Xining, Qinghai Province. The participants made a summary of achievements made in national IP personnel system during the “12th Five-year” Plan and clarified the major tasks in the “13th Five-year” Plan. During the “13th Five-year” Plan, great efforts would be made to build a group of leading IP talents with abundant theoretical knowledge, superior practice skill and rich experienced, and exerted full role of IP talents in demonstration and leading; focus on developing social much-needed IP talents; divide the tasks of IP talents in the “13th Five-year” Plan and develop implementation plans of key projects, drive the talent team-building through the policy guidance. A number of advanced collectives and individuals were awarded in the meeting.

SIPO–APO Signed a New MOU on Intellectual Property

On August 27, 2015, SIPO and APO signed a new *Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Cooperation*. The two sides decided to attach great importance to patent research and examination, quality management, staff training, raise public IP awareness and exchange IP publications.

The Third Sino–Mongolia, Sino–Russia IP Symposium was Held in Beijing

On August 28, 2015, the third Sino–Mongolia, Sino–Russia IP symposium was held in Beijing. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM) President Chinbat Namjil, ROSPATENT Director General Liubov Kiriya attended the symposium and delivered a speech respectively. At the meeting, the three sides introduced their latest development of IP law system. The representative of SIPO, IPOM and ROSPATENT gave an introduction on the new round of revising Chinese *Patent Law*, the formulation and



implementation of national IP strategy in Mongolia and judicial practice of Russia respectively. The representatives of three offices also exchanged views on the topics of common interests. During the symposium, an MOU on IP cooperation was also signed.

Shen Changyu Met with WIPO Director General

On September 8, 2015, SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu met with WIPO director general Francis Gurry in Beijing. The two sides exchanged views on deepening and developing cooperation and issues of common interests. “SIPO has attached a great importance to cooperate with WIPO. Each cooperation project is progressing smoothly, the new ground for cooperation is expanding, and great achievements have been made. The WIPO China Office has served as a new bond and a communication platform for the cooperation and communication between China and WIPO,” said Shen. He also briefed the latest formulation of the “13th Five-year” Plan on IP, the patent application and granted in 2015, the revising of *Patent Law*, construction of IP operation platform and the IP5 cooperation. Gurry appreciated the outstanding achievements China had made in IP work in the past year, and positively appraised the achievements of the cooperation between WIPO and SIPO. In the last year, supported by SIPO, WIPO China Office had made remarkable progress. WIPO wished to expand and deepen cooperation with SIPO, and continue to enhance such cooperation to a new level. Both two sides also exchanged notes on PCT, patent documentation and date exchange. The signing of *Memorandum of Understanding on Voluntary Contributions between WIPO and SIPO* marked the establishment of WIPO China trust funds. According to the MOU, China would continue to implement international obligations on the WIPO platform by relying on such trust fund, and make contributions to the prosperity and development of global IP works by providing developing countries with support of capacity building and technical assistance within its capability.

China Added Its Design Data to Designview

On September 14, 2015, China added its design data to Designview project. Foreign users could search the design patent data of China via Designview. The Designview project was developed by Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) to search design patent data. Its website is <http://www.tmdn.org/tmdsview-web/welcome>. More than 35 IP offices had joined the project since it was initiated on November 19, 2012. The project had provided more than 8.6 million design patent data for 1.2 million users from 137 countries to search. China's accession to the project would further promote and popularize the broadcasting and utilization of its design patents.

Senior Symposium for National Intellectual Property Advisory Committee was Held

On September 17, 2015, the senior symposium for national intellectual property advisory committee was held in Beijing. The symposium was held to discuss the “13th Five-year” Plan on IP. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu stressed that in a bid to formulate the plan on IP, we must closely adhere to the following demand and base. On the one hand, we must clarify the new demand and expectation of social and economic development for IP around the targets of “four comprehensive” strategy layout, new normal of economic growth, reform and opening up, ruling the country by law and driven by innovation, so as to find out the principal contradiction of IP works. In parallel, our IP community had been the biggest one in scale, but not stronger enough in the world. There were some gaps between IP protection and social expectation. The economic benefit gained from IP commercialization was not satisfactory. So it was important for us to have a clear understanding and a clear direction in the future. On the other hand, we should fully realize that there lies good base to IP development, especially CPPCC and the State Council have been attaching great importance to the IP works. As the China’s IP community has the basis of quantity, system, talent and culture, we should increase our confidence in promoting reform and development planning. In a bid to design and formulate the “13th Five-year” Plan on IP, we should earnestly comb the strategic, comprehensive and core problems that IP works face during that plan, clarify the strategic target, strategic thought, strategic measures, make sure a good grasp of all level, coordination, continuity and practicality and increase the level of scientificity, authority and binding when formulate the plan, so as the plan would be successfully formulated and implemented. Experts gave their opinions and suggestions on ways to build a scientific IP development indicator, facilitate IP to develop in both quality and quantity, generate the excitement of whole society for innovation and entrepreneurship, beef up IP protection, build an IP talent cultivation system, enhance IP public service level and improve IP operation system.

SIPO-ROSPATENT, SIPO-PPO PPH Pilot Project Programs were Extended

The PPH pilot programs between the SIPO and the ROSPATENT would be extended for three years from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. Patent applicants filing a PPH requests with SIPO or ROSPATENT should follow the requirements and processes of the newly issued guideline on the pilot project from July 1, 2015. According to the SIPO and Polish Patent Office Joint Statement of Intent on Deepening Cooperation on Patent Examination and Extending PPH Pilot Project, the SIPO-PPO PPH pilot project would be extended infinitely since July 1, 2015.



China's Rapid IPR Defense Work Delivers

Since the rapid patent rights–defense work mechanism was launched at the end of 2012, the six rapid IPR defense centers established in Zhongshan (lighting), Nantong (home textiles), Beijing Chaoyang District (design services), Hangzhou (pen–making), Dongguan (furniture) and Shunde (appliances) which had developed their rights–defense mechanism with their own characteristics, and provided strong support for the technical innovation and industry cluster development. The six centers received cumulatively 6,500 design applications and dissolved 1,500 patent infringement cases. China's rapid IPR defense work had achieved initial results. Firstly, the efficiency of IPR defense was improved. The settlement period of patent infringement case was shortened from four months to one month. Secondly, with their actions, the patent examination efficiency was enhanced. The examination period of design patent was shortened to ten work days via the establishment of rapid examination mechanism. Thirdly, the industrial innovation and design capacity was improved. With the operation of centers, more and more companies and institutions had come to the industrial cluster. The creation and use of IP was enhanced.

SIPO–CIPO, SIPO–IPOS PPH Pilot Project Programs were Extended

The PPH pilot programs between the SIPO and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) would be extended for three years from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2018. The PPH pilot programs between the SIPO and the IPOS would be extended for two years from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2017. The relevant requirements and processes remained unchanged.

Series of Meetings of the 55th Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO were Held

Series of meetings of the 55th Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO were held in Geneva, Switzerland on October 5, 2015, local time. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu led the Chinese government delegation which was made up of delegates from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of China, the

SIPO of China, China's Permanent Mission to Geneva and Hong Kong SARG Intellectual Property Department attended the meetings. Shen Changyu made a general speech at the meeting, introduced the latest development of intellectual property in China and gave three opinions on intellectual property affairs under the framework of WIPO. He believed that China, as always support the work of WIPO and its committees, would continue to provide capacity support and technical assistance on IP for developing countries within its capability, make new contributions to the development of international IPR system in multilateral arenas of WIPO and distribute the benefits of innovation and creation to all. At the meeting, the member states of WIPO had consultation on 32 topics including program budget, each committee under WIPO and international framework and global IP services. During the assemblies, Shen Changyu attended the 5th BRICS Intellectual Property Office heads meeting, held bilateral talks with the intellectual property department directors of more than 15 countries and four regional organizations such as Israel, the U. S. , Switzerland, Chile, Sweden, New Zealand, Denmark, Egypt, Canada, Russia, Japan, Brazil, Germany, Syria, Spain, WIPO, OHIM, OAPI and ARIPO, and exchanged views on IPR topics of common interests, further deepening the content of cooperation and consolidating the bilateral cooperation relationship.

The 28th Sino–French Joint Committee Meeting on Patents was Held

On October 8, 2015, the 28th Sino–French Joint Committee Meeting on Patens was held in Lyon. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu and French National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) Commissioner Yves Lapiere attended the meeting. Both parties exchanged views on international IP events, and agreed to beef up IP cooperation and facilitate all–round strategic partnership between China and France. *The Minutes of Talks of the 28th Sino–French Joint Committee Meetings on Patent* which included cooperation on high–level exchanges, training and exchanges of experts was signed, laying a solid foundation for deepening pragmatic cooperation in the future.

Computerized Test System Access to National Patent Agent Bar Exam

The 2015 national patentagent bar exam was initiated in 89 sites of 24 cities in the nation from November 7 to 8. The computerized test system was firstly applied in the exam. Thanks to its smooth running, the system was well–received by the public. The number of candidates this year was 27,861, among them, 13,850 took “patent law subject” tests, 13,715 took “relevant law” tests, and 15,313 took “patent practice” tests. The system was easy to use and could improve the answer efficiency, according to most candidates.



The 22th SIPO–JPO Heads Meeting was Held

On November 16, 2015, the 22th SIPO–JPO heads meeting was held in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, JPO Commissioner Hitoshi Ito attended the meeting. The meeting combed through the results of their collaboration in the past year, planned for new cooperation projects in 2016, and summarized the prospect of such cooperation in the future. Both sides exchanged ideas on PPH, cooperation on classification of patent documentation and design. The *Minutes of Talks of 22th SIPO–JPO Heads Meeting*, the *SIPO–JPO Joint Statement of Intent on Extending PPH Pilot Project*, the *SIPO–JPO Memorandum of Understanding on IP Information and Date Exchange* were signed at the meeting. The SIPO–JPO PPH pilot project was extended to three years from October 1, 2015 to October 31, 2018. The relevant requirements and processes remained unchanged.

The 21th SIPO–KIPO Heads Meeting was Held

On November 16, 2015, the 21th SIPO–KIPO Heads Meeting was held in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu and KIPO Commissioner Choi Dong–kyu attended the meeting. The two sides exchanged views on SIPO–KIPO PPH project, joint search and examination project, patent expert meeting. The *Minutes of Talks of the 21th SIPO–KIPO Heads Meeting*, and the *Memorandum of Understanding on IP Information and Date Exchange between SIPO and KIPO* was also signed.

The 15th IP Policy Meeting among SIPO, JPO and KIPO was Held

On November 17, 2015, the 15th IP Policy Dialogue Meeting between China's SIPO, JPO and KIPO was held in Guangzhou. Shen Changyu, the commissioner of SIPO, Hitoshi Ito, the commissioner of JPO, and Choi Dong–kyu, the commissioner of KIPO, attended the meeting and addressed. Three parties jointly reviewed the achievements of cooperation over the past year, and exchanged views of common concern. On the meeting, three offices carried out extensive and in–depth exchanges around the cooperation in design, automation, reexamination and training institutions. In addition, three offices also reported the latest developments in intellectual property rights in their countries respectively. After the meeting, three officers signed the *Minutes of Talks of*

15th Policy Dialogue Meeting between SIPO, JPO and KIPO.

Additionally, on the 3rd Seminar on Intellectual Property on November 17, 2015, three offices of China, Japan and Korea announced that the website TRIPO adding Chinese, Japanese and Korean service under trilingual cooperation was formally launched, and further defined that three offices would better serve the public.

The 9th China Patent Week was Launched

The 9th China Patent Week, with the theme of beefing up IP use and protection, and held mass entrepreneurship and innovation was held from November 30 to December 6, 2015. During the event, the IP administrative organs across the nation would popularize IP measures and services information, help companies, universities and R&D institutions to conduct IP work, and create a sound environment for mass entrepreneurship and innovation. The event was launched at www.cneip.org.cn. No major event and opening ceremony were held. The event had become a comprehensive exhibition platform for collecting patent resources, promoting use of patent and fostering patent culture.

Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council Asked for Opinions for *Revising Patent Law (Draft)*

In a bid to further revise the *Patent Law*, on December 2, 2015, the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council asked for opinions for *Revising Patent Law (Draft)*.

The First ID5 Forum was Held in the U. S.

The First Industrial Design 5 Forum (ID5) was held in the U. S. during December 2–4. The Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO Michelle K. Lee attended the forum and delivered a speech. The representatives from USPTO, JPO, KIPO, OHIM and the SIPO attended the event and signed an *Agreed Statement on Administering a New Industrial Design Framework (ID5)*. The representatives of WIPO joined the forum as an observer. ID5 is an institutional collaboration carried out by SIPO, USPTO, EPO, JPO and KIPO. ID5 is a new collaboration mechanism after IP5 and TM5 aiming to facilitate mutual understanding and cooperation, further improve efficiency, quality and user friendly of designs. The statement set the goal and mechanism of ID5. The next session would be hosted by SIPO.



SIPO, UKIPO Agreed to Conduct Cooperation on CPES

On December 7, 2015, SIPO signed a work program of 2016 with UKIPO, deciding to conduct cooperation on CPES. The cooperation includes the UKIPO providing dossiers to CPES, and aiming to be the formal user of CPES. UKIPO would also jointly carry out patent examination and information sharing with SIPO. In a bid to improve patent searching and examination efficiency, CPES is a cloud patent examination system for sharing knowledge of searching and examination among patent offices. At present, CPES has registered free trial for 30 IP institutions in the world. The cooperation between SIPO and UKIPO has not only enriched dossier resources of CPES, helping CPES to develop into a global exchange and sharing platform of patent examination information, but also build a new road for SIPO to conduct cooperation with European national IP institutions.

The 17th Ceremony for the WIPO–SIPO Award for Chinese Outstanding Patented Invention and Industrial Design was Held in Beijing

On December 15, 2015, the 17th Ceremony for China Patent Awards, co-hosted by SIPO and WIPO was held in Beijing. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu, WIPO Deputy Director General Wang Binying attended the opening and delivered a speech. They handed out awards for representatives who won the China Patent Gold Award, China Design Gold Award and China Excellent Patent Award. Some awarded companies representatives delivered thoughts of winning. The event started from 1989, and 17 sessions had been successfully held since then. In this session, 20 China Patent Gold Awards, five China Design Gold Awards, and 507 China Excellent Patent Awards and 57 China Excellent Design Awards were selected.