



## VIII. International Cooperation

In 2015, SIPO continued to actively participate in international IP affairs; the cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and various other IP institutions and organizations was further promoted, and many new cooperation partners were made. In 2015, SIPO gained fruitful achievement, and signed 42 new multilateral and bilateral cooperation agreements or joint statements.

### **1. Comprehensive Coordination of Foreign-related IP Affairs**

In 2015, SIPO fully exerted its role of coordination, promoted the development of related work and completed related tasks with success.

SIPO organized delegations including members from relevant departments to attend various meetings under the framework of WIPO and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), including the meetings of the Committee of Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and



Geographical Indications (SCT) and the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). In October, Commissioner Shen Changyu headed the Chinese governmental delegation to attend the 55<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the member states of WIPO. In November, Deputy Commissioner Liao Tao headed a delegation to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee of Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP).

Cooperating with relevant ministries and departments, SIPO participated in relevant meetings of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and established the coordination mechanism for the operation of the WIPO China Office.

## **2. Participation in Mechanisms of Dialogue, Consultation and Negotiation**

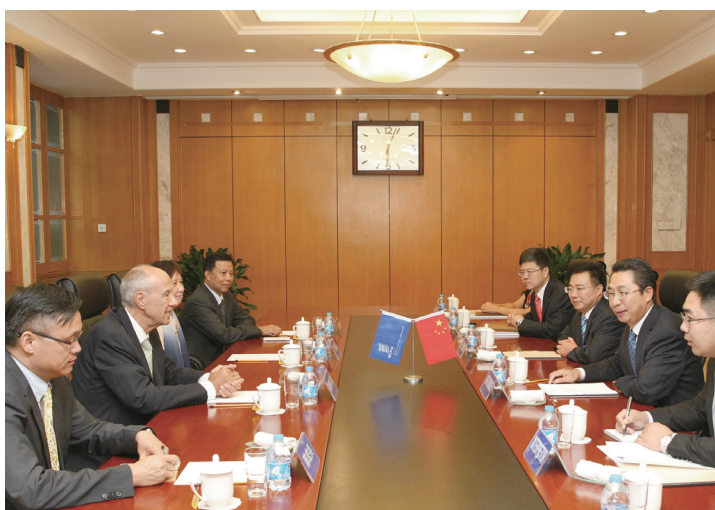
SIPO actively participated in mechanisms of dialogue, consultation and negotiation, for example, the China-U.S. Strategic and Economic Dialogue,

the China-U.S. Innovation Dialogue, the China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade, the China-EU Intellectual Property Dialogue and the China-EU Innovation Dialogue, the China-UK and the China-France Economic and Financial Dialogues, the China-Italy Inter-governmental Commission, as well as the China-U.S., China-EU, China-Swiss, China-Russia and China-Brazil Intellectual Property Working-Unit Meetings, etc.

SIPO actively participated in the IP negotiations of the China-Japan-Korea FTA and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

### **3. Cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization**

To further deepen the cooperation with WIPO, SIPO and WIPO signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Voluntary Contribution in 2015, marking the establishment of China Fund-in-Trust in WIPO.



Commissioner Shen Changyu met with WIPO Director General Mr. Gurry and his delegation.

SIPO kept short-term visiting contacts and long-term communication with WIPO. SIPO and WIPO jointly held the Advanced PCT Seminar and the Roving Seminar on the Hague Agreement, and co-organized the IP Sub-forum of the Summer Davos Forum and the Sub-forum of the World Internet Conference with the theme of Internet Innovation and Intellectual Property.

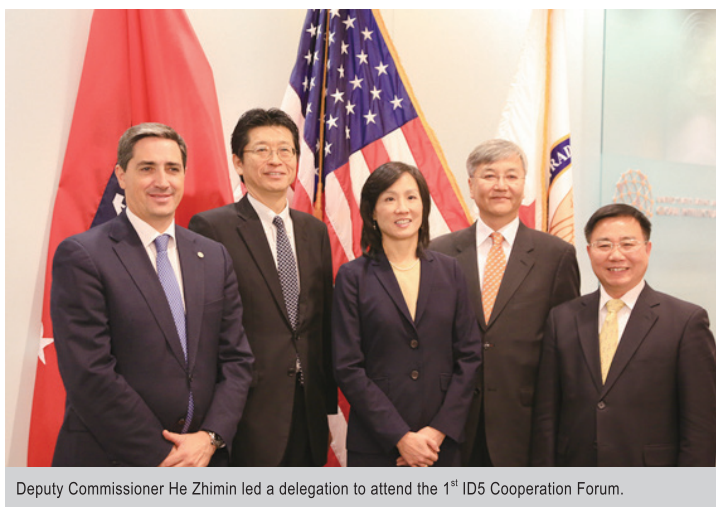
#### **4. Multilateral Cooperation**

##### **(1) IP5 Cooperation**

The cooperation of the IP5 Offices was steadily pushed forward, which increased the efficiency and quality of examination and made it more convenient for the public to acquire patent information and use the patent system. In May, the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of IP5 Heads of Office was held in Suzhou successfully. The IP5 Offices signed the Joint Statement of the IP5 Offices on the meeting. As an important guideline for the future cooperation, the Joint Statement clearly put forward that the IP5 Offices will work together to provide better services to users and the public.

In December, Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin led a delegation to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> ID5 Cooperation Forum and related activities, and signed the Agreed Statement between the ID5 Cooperation. This forum marked the formal establishment of ID5 collaboration mechanism. ID5 is a mechanism of cooperation of the five biggest IP institutions including China's State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), which is a new five-offices cooperation for industrial design following IP5 for invention patent and TM5 for trademark. With the aim of enhancing mutual understanding and in-depth cooperation, the ID5 mechanism will further improve and enhance the efficiency, quality and user-friendliness of the industrial design system.





## (2) BRICS Cooperation on Intellectual Property

In June and October, Commissioner Shen Changyu and the SIPO delegation attended the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> BRICS Heads Meetings respectively. A coordination group was set up for IP cooperation and the cooperation activities were integrated into six areas, which further improved the BRICS IP cooperation mechanism.



Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the 4<sup>th</sup> BRICS Heads Meetings.

## (3) China-ASEAN IP Cooperation

In 2015, SIPO continued to strengthen IP cooperation with ASEAN countries. In July, SIPO hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> China-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Beijing, and signed the China-ASEAN Cooperation Work Plan 2015-2016. SIPO organized the Training Seminar on Chinese Patent Documentation Knowledge



Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin attended the Global Forum on Intellectual Property held in Singapore.

and Utilization and sent experts to ASEAN member states to exchange on issues including traditional knowledge protection and development of traditional medicine database, etc.

In 2015, SIPO deepened cooperation with major ASEAN member states and national IP institutions of countries with traditional friendship. SIPO established formal bilateral cooperative relation with the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia. The Implementation Programme (2015-2017) for the Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property was signed between SIPO and the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore, and the 2015-2016 Work Plan was signed between SIPO and Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand.

#### (4) Trilateral Cooperation of SIPO-JPO-KIPO

The trilateral cooperation of SIPO-JPO-KIPO progressed smoothly and pragmatic cooperation activities were carried out in the fields of patent

examination, design, automation, work-sharing, reexamination and training institutions. In November, the 15<sup>th</sup> Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting and the 3<sup>rd</sup> China-Japan-Korea IP Symposium were held in Guangzhou. Commissioner Shen Changyu led the SIPO delegation to attend the meetings and signed the meeting minutes with JPO and KIPO Commissioners. The three offices announced the debut of the new version of TRIPO website. As a trilingual portal for trilateral cooperation, the new TRIPO website will further improve the services provided by the three offices to the public.

#### (5) Cooperation among China, Mongolia and Russia

In August, SIPO hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trilateral IP Seminar of SIPO, Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM) and the Federal Service for Intellectual Property of Russia (ROSPATENT) and the Trilateral Head-of-Office Meeting. A cooperation agreement on IP was signed by SIPO, IPOM and ROSPATENT, which marked the formal establishment of trilateral cooperation mechanism.



Deputy Commissioner He Hua visited Mongolia Intellectual Property Office.

## 5. Bilateral Cooperation

### (1) Cooperation with European Patent Office (EPO)

2015 marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formal establishment of bilateral relations between SIPO and the EPO. The two sides jointly edited and published the *Partners in Patents for 30 Years* in both Chinese and English and organized a series of activities in China and the EU, including International IP Seminar and the 9<sup>th</sup> Heads-of-Office Meeting. On November 26, China's State Councilor Wang Yong met with EPO President Benoît Battistelli and the EPO delegation. The two sides further consolidated the traditional friendship and deepened the strategic partnership.





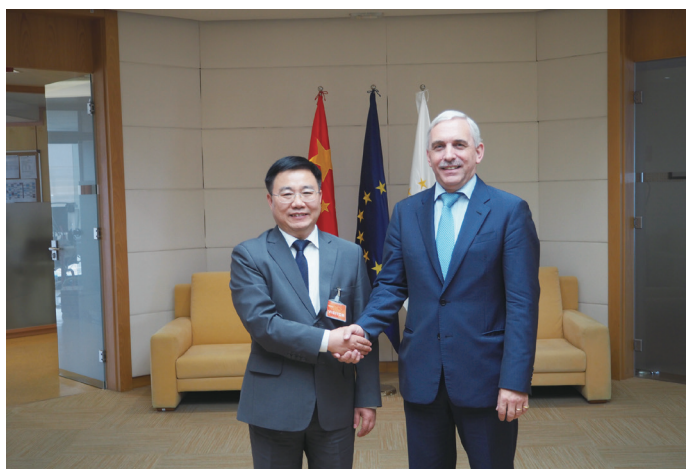
In November, Commissioner Shen Changyu and EPO President Mr. Battistelli held the annual working conference in Beijing and signed the Annual Work Programme 2016. In April and November, Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin and SIPO delegations visited the EPO headquarters in Munich and Vienna respectively. In March, May, June and November, SIPO received the visits by EPO president and vice presidents.



## (2) Cooperation with Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM)

In 2015, SIPO continued to implement the Three-Year Strategic Partnership Agreement signed with OHIM and actively promoted the successful implementation of various cooperation projects. In July, Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin led a delegation to OHIM for a working visit. In September, SIPO's design data was integrated into the OHIM Designview database.





Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin visited OHIM.

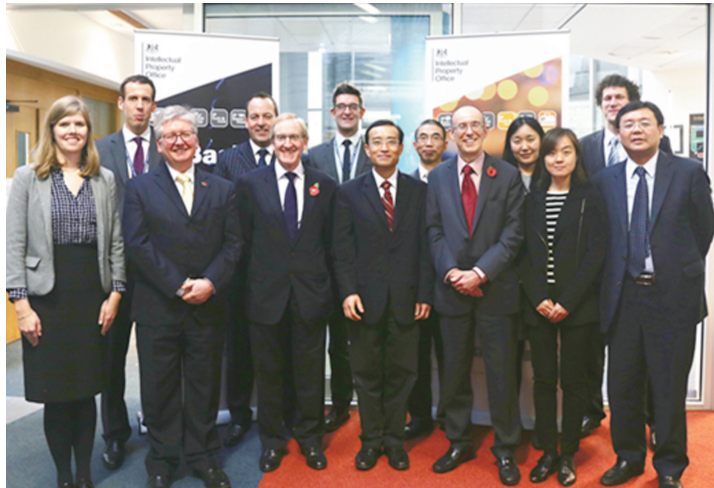
### (3) Cooperation with the European Union

In June, Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin led a SIPO delegation to attend the seminar on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of China-EU IP Dialogue Mechanism and the China-EU Innovation Dialogue at the EU headquarters, and visited the EU Directorate General for Trade. Under the framework of the new EU-China IPR Cooperation Project (IP-Key), the roving seminars on China's patent system were held in three European cities, i.e. Copenhagen, Rome and Budapest, allowing European users to better understand China' IP system.

In 2015, SIPO also strengthened exchanges with the EU Delegation to China and the EU Directorate General for Growth on IP-related issues.

### (4) Exchanges and Cooperation with European Countries

In 2015, SIPO strengthened the friendly cooperation with IP offices in European countries. High-level exchange activities were held with IP institutions of



Deputy Commissioner Liao Tao visited the Intellectual Property Office of the United Kingdom.

Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Serbia, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Spain, Malta, Moldova, Georgia and other countries. 13 bilateral cooperation agreements, work plans or records of discussion were signed with the United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Hungary, Poland, Malta, Denmark, France and Serbia. The partnership with Italian Patent and Trademark Office was restored and new partnerships were established with Malta and Serbia.

#### (5) Exchanges and Cooperation with the United States

In 2015, high-level IP officials from China and the U.S made frequent exchanges and further expanded areas of cooperation. On May 25, Vice Premier Wang Yang met with Ms. Michelle Lee, Director of USPTO. Heads of SIPO and USPTO made the first exchange visits and signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Cooperation and Work Plan for 2015-2016*. Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin visited the U.S. and attended the first China-US Innovation Dialogue in June and the 1<sup>st</sup> ID5 Forum in December. SIPO and

USPTO held two sessions of China-U.S. Joint Seminar on Patent Licensing and Technology Transfer and U.S.-China Utility Model and Design Patent Roundtable. The two offices carried out extensive exchanges in amendments to laws and regulations, patent data exchanges and other aspects.



Commissioner Shen Changyu met with Ms. Michelle K. Lee, Director of the USPTO.

## (6) Exchanges and Cooperation with Latin American Countries

In 2015, Commissioner Shen Changyu held meetings with heads of the Brazilian Industrial Property Office, the Mexican Industrial Property Office and the Peruvian National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection. SIPO signed the Memorandum of Understanding with Mexico and the Joint Action Plan on Staff Training with Peru.

## (7) Exchanges and Cooperation with Oceania Countries

Commissioner Shen Changyu met with heads of Australian Industrial Property Office and New Zealand Intellectual Property Offices in Beijing respectively, and

signed memoranda of understanding on bilateral cooperation. In April, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun led a delegation to Australian Industrial Property Office. The two sides held a working conference on patent examination work-sharing, data exchange, patent search system and other topics, and signed meeting minutes.



Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun visited the Australian Industrial Property Office.

## (8) Exchanges and Cooperation with Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

In May, Commissioner Shen Changyu held a meeting with GCC Deputy Secretary-General and head of GCC Patent Office. In September, Deputy Commissioner He Zhimin met with Deputy Director General of Saudi Patent Office and the two sides reached agreement that the Saudi Patent Office became a formal user of the Cloud Patent Examination System (CPES).



2015 Training Workshop for Patent Examiners from GCC and Member States.

## (9) Exchanges and Cooperation with Asian and African Countries

In 2015, SIPO further strengthened exchanges and cooperation with IP institutions of Asian and African countries. SIPO carried out high level exchanges with IP administrations of Malaysia, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Iran, Turkey, Mongolia, Morocco, Ethiopia and other countries. Commissioner Shen Changyu attended the 21<sup>st</sup> Heads Meeting between SIPO and KIPO and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Heads Meeting between SIPO and JPO and signed records of discussion. SIPO signed cooperation agreements with Malaysia, Iran, Morocco IP authorities and established formal bilateral cooperative relations. SIPO also signed the 2015-2016 work plans with Mongolia, Thailand and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO).



Deputy Commissioner Gan Shaoning visited Companies and Intellectual Property Commission in South Africa.

## 6. Training for Developing Countries and Cooperation with Belt and Road Countries

In 2015, SIPO made use of the training fund for developing countries to further strengthen the friendly and cooperative relations with IP offices and institutions in developing countries and the "Belt and Road" countries. SIPO organized a number of comprehensive training courses, including the 2015 SIPO Training Seminar on Intellectual Property (Spring Session) – Belt & Road IP Training Courses, the Training Seminar on Chinese Patent Documentation Knowledge and Utilization, the Patent Examination Training for GCC and its Member States and the 2015 SIPO Training Seminar on Intellectual Property (Autumn Session). More than 100 IP officials from nearly 30 countries in Asia (including Central Asia), Africa, Europe and Latin America were invited to participate in the courses.



In 2015, advanced training courses were held for IP institutions of North Korea, Mongolia and Turkey.

In November, SIPO sent an expert to GCC Patent Office as foreign aid teacher for four months.



2015 SIPO Training Seminar on Intellectual Property (Spring Session).

## 7. Cooperation on Patent Examination

In 2015, SIPO completed negotiations with Russia, Poland, Canada, Singapore, Japan, Portugal and Denmark on the extension of PPH pilot projects and reached a PPH pilot agreement with Hungary. SIPO signed 20 PPH pilot agreements, 19 of which have become operational. The PPH pilot project with Hungary will start on March 1, 2016.

SIPO continued to carry out examiner exchanges or exchange programs with Japan, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Finland, Germany, the EPO and WIPO, which further enhanced understanding and mutual trust in operational rules and practices of patent examination.

## **8. Exchanges with IP related Industry and Organizations**

In 2015, high-level officials of SIPO met with leaders of relevant agencies and corporate executives, including the Georgia Dream Alliance delegation, Senior Vice President of the U.S. China Business Council Ms. Erin Ennis, President of the Chinese American Chamber of Commerce in China Mr. Mark Duva, President of the American Intellectual Property Law Association Mr. Philip Johnson, President of International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI) Mr. Douglas Judith, IP Judge of the French Supreme Court Mr. Alain Girardet, Senior Vice President of ABB Group Mr. Bruce Schelkopf, President of France Brevets Mr. Jean-Charles Hourcade, Executive Vice President of Nokia Mr. Barry French, Vice President for Patent Development of Ericsson Ms. Gabriele Mohsler, Senior Vice President of Shell Mr. David Koris, General IP Counsel of Unilever Mr. Matthew Goodwin, Vice President of Qualcomm Mr. Donald Rosenberg, and Executive Vice President of Microsoft Mr. Lu Qi.

In 2015, SIPO hosted visitors from the International Association for Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), Japan Federation of Bar Associations, the Japanese Government and Civil Delegation, French youth Delegation, the U.S. Broad Institute, Intel, Nissan, Yamaha, Roche, Samsung Electronics, Valmet and other organizations.