Commissioner's Summary



Tian Lipu, Commissioner State Intellectual Property Office

In 2007, the position and role of IPR in Chinese national economy were greatly enhanced. General Secretary of CPC Hu Jintao highlighted "the implementation of IPR strategy" in his report at the CPC 17th Congress. Premier Wen Jiabao said "hasten formulation and implementation of national IPR strategy and protect IPR with authority" in his report of the work of government. The decision of the central economic work meeting stressed "moblize great effort in implementing IPR strategy".

With the deployment of the CPC Central Committee, the national IPR strategy will evolve into implementation from formulation, marking the entry of the work of IPR in China into an all-new stage. Implementation of IPR strategy is responsive to the need of improving socialist market economy, strengthening innovation capacity and promote the development of national economy in healthy and fast manner. It is a general guideline for the country to perform the scientific development outlook and build an innovative country. Important achievements were fulfilled in formulation of national IP strategy in 2007.

In 2007, great developments took place across the IPR community in China. China received over 4 million patent applications. It took us only a year and six months to climb to 4 million from 3 million. Trademark registrations reached a record high of 3 million. Notable achievement was also reflected in copyright, new varieties of plants and other fields.

IPR system in China develops at a fast speed and even better, at a healthy rate. If we take a look at the structure of patent filings, domestic filings have been growing very fast with steady increase of invention patents and service filings. Filings of the fields listed in the state mid-long term science and technology development plan and those relating to resource saving and environment-friendly keep emerging. All these demonstrate growth and level of innovation capacity of China, more crucial role played by patent system in innovative activities, elevation of public awareness and companies' increasing roles in innovation.

With constant growth of patent applications, SIPO establishes a dynamic mechanism linking four aspects relating to patent examination, quality control, standard setting, academic research and training. Patent examination guickens as examination quality monitored. SIPO finished its share of the third amendment of the Chinese Patent Law and submitted a draft to the State Council. IPR administration made new progresses. IPR policy research was enhanced. IPR public education and training achieved notable results. IPR Culture Year reaped great fruits with the idea of respecting knowledge, preaching innovation, being honest and faithful, insisting the law being recognized by the society. Assistance to right enforcing by IPR holders made substantial progresses. IPR pilot, model programs and national patent industrialization programs were being promoted steadily. Patent administrative enforcement system was improved with several special enforcement campaigns. Patent related frauds were effectively curbed. IT projects including China patent electronic examination system made new progress. Construction of local patent information service and local sites were under way. International cooperation and communication went great length. China is more confident to participate in international IPR affairs.

The year 2008 marks the 30th birthday of the reform and opening up policy. SIPO makes 2008 its Year of IT. We are embracing a series of event of the century including the Beijing Olympics. Meanwhile, we have to stay calm to know the heavy tasks on our shoulder and responsibility accompanying them. In the new year, by keeping abreast of the two major tasks, IPR strategy implementation and construction of an IPR powerhouse, we will train more talents, improve patent legal system, elevate the all-around capacity of patent work, propel IT construction, promote development of IPR in a healthy and rapid manner and contribute more to the construction of innovation country and prosperous society.

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