



## VIII. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2007, a large number of diverse IPR international cooperation activities were held. Some of the highlights are, attending activities of international organizations such as WIPO, participating in norm setting activities, discussing solutions on common challenges, such as examination backlog, training and IT during multilateral forums with JPO, KIPO, USPTO and EPO. Many issues of common concern were discussed during talks with WTO Director General, WIPO Deputy Director General, US–China Business Council Chair, Japan government–business high–level delegation, EU Commissioner and DG of Internal Market, President of EU Chamber of Commerce in China. The meetings facilitated international community's understanding of the situation in China and promoted international cooperation and development.

### ① Participate in activities of international organizations and norm setting

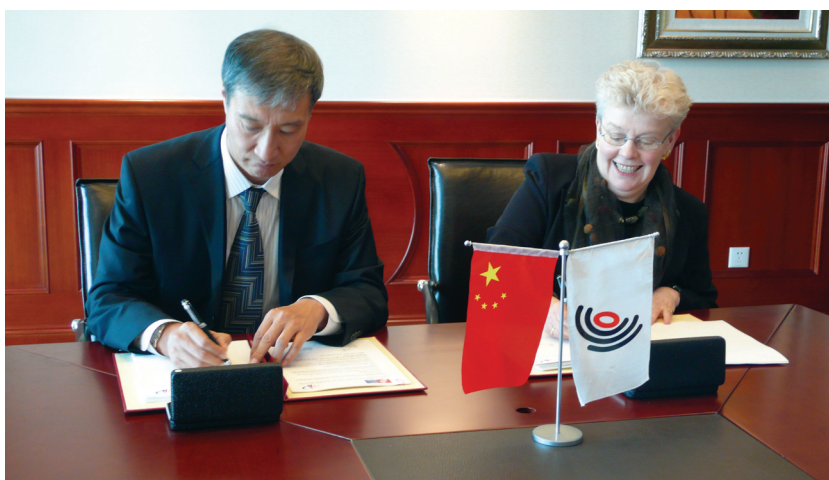
While coordinating the Trademark Office of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, National Copyright Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and State Forestry Administration, SIPO participated in norm setting activities in WIPO, including meetings of Intergovernmental Committee of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions, PCT, Development Agenda, International Patent Classification, CBD and Patent Disclosure, making proposals on international classification of plant pesticide, electronic search of PCT priority documents and design classification under Locarno Convention.

Other multilateral activities attended were G8+5 Summit, APEC IPR Group, WTO, World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), CBD, UNESCO and UPOV. Proposal was made to the WHO's discussion on public health, innovation and IP.

## ② Cooperation with European countries and organizations

### 1) European Patent Office (EPO)

Commissioner Tian Lipu concluded an agreement with President Alain Pompidou on the two offices' formal formation of strategic partnership, marking the cooperation entering a strategic cooperation phase. Cooperation would tend to emphasize mutual benefit and development. EPO new president Alison Brimelow made her first visit to China and attended the first meeting between the heads of the two offices under the framework of strategic partnership. Minutes on cooperation in 2008 and a memorandum of understanding on machine translation were concluded. SIPO granted Alain Pompidou Award for Outstanding Contribution to International Cooperation on Intellectual Property during his visit in China. This was the first time SIPO granted a reward to foreign nationals.



Commissioner Tian Lipu and EPO new president Alison Brimelow concluded a memorandum of understanding on Chinese-English machine translation.

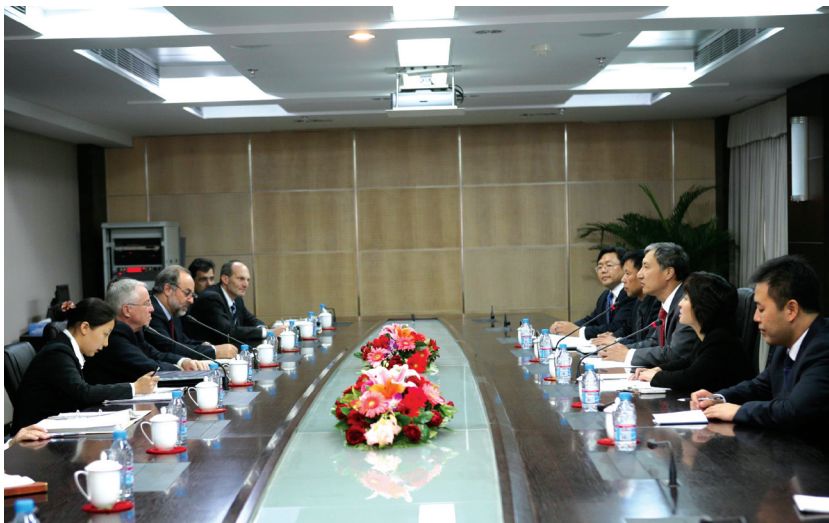


SIPO granted Alain Pompidou Award for Outstanding Contribution to International Cooperation on Intellectual Property.



Deputy Commissioner Xing Shengcai met with EPO President Alain Pompidou.





November 2, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Swiss Justice Minister Christoph Blocher.

Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun visited EPO and discussed cooperation on automation, data exchange and information service. Deputy Commissioner Xing Shengcai attended the ceremony of Europe Inventor of Year and European patent forum. Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang visited the EPO and exchanged opinions on strategic cooperation.

## **2) New developments in bilateral cooperation**

New cooperative ties were formed with Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO), Turkish Patent Institute, Ukrainian Intellectual Property Office and Office of Harmonization for the Internal Market (OHIM). EAPO vice president visited SIPO. The two sides reached many consensuses and established formal cooperative ties. Deputy Commissioner He Hua visited OHIM and concluded a record of discussion on cooperation in 2008. This was the first formal visit to OHIM by a SIPO commissioner. Deputy Director of the Ukrainian office visited SIPO and discussed the details on the cooperation program between the two offices under the two countries' IPR cooperation agreement.



December 4, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with Deputy Director Valentin Chebotaryov of Ukrainian office and held talks on bilateral cooperation.

Swiss Justice Minister Christoph Blocker and Deputy Director of Institute of Intellectual Property visited SIPO on two separated occasions and exchanged bilateral cooperation issues.

SIPO also signed agreements on patent documentation exchange with patent offices of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and EAPO.

### **3) Established bilateral cooperation strengthened**

Ties with Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria and United Kingdom were strengthened. New subjects of cooperation were created with them. Italian State Secretary for Economic Development Alfonso Gianni and Patent and Trademark Office Director Maria Argò attended the second joint meeting and signed 2007–2008 bilateral cooperation agreement.



January 30, Commissioner Tian Lipu held the second joint meeting with Italian State Secretary for Economic Development Alfonso Gianni and Patent and Trademark Office Director Maria Argò and signed bilateral cooperation agreement.



May 15, China-Germany Intellectual Property Forum and German Patent System Seminar.



June 14, Commissioner Tian Lipu and Director General Benoit Battistelli of French National Institute of Intellectual Property (INPI) held the 21st SIPO-INPI patent joint meeting.

SIPO and German Patent and Trademark Office (GPTO) signed a bilateral agreement on partnership towards the future, marking a new stage of the cooperation between the two offices. GPTO President Juergen Schade visited SIPO twice, signed the agreement and attended China–Germany Intellectual Property Forum and German Patent System Seminar.

Director General Benoit Battistelli of French National Institute of Intellectual Property (INPI) visited China twice. The 21st SIPO–INPI patent joint meeting was held in Beijing. The two sides reached consensus on cooperation in 2008. Kostadin Manev, Director General of Bulgarian Patent Office attended the bilateral meeting in Beijing and signed the 2008–2009 cooperation plan.



October 30, Deputy Commissioner He Hua visited the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office and joined Spanish Deputy State Secretary for Industry, Tourism and Trade María Teresa Gómez Condado in the 4th bilateral meeting and signed the record of discussion on cooperation in 2008.

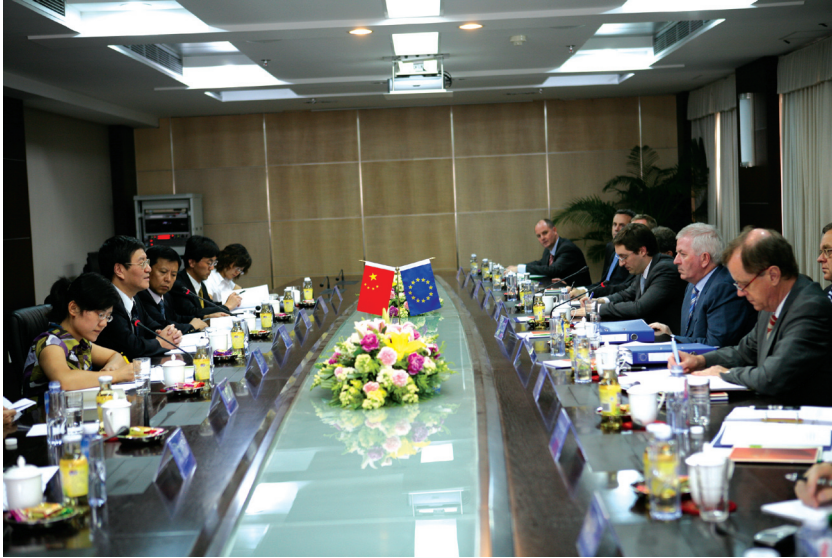


Rospatent Director General Boris Simonov led a IPR delegation to Shanghai. Deputy Commissioner He Hua visited the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office to attend the bilateral meeting between the two offices. A record of discussion on cooperation in 2008 was signed.

SIPO also strengthened communication with EU and actively attended the EU–China IP II activities. Charlie McCreevy, Commissioner for Internal Market and Service, David O'Sullivan, DG Trade, Serge Abou, EU Ambassador in China and Joerg Wuttke, President of EU Chamber of Commerce in China visited SIPO and shared comments on IPR issues of mutual concern.



November 12, Commissioner Tian Lipu met Kostadin Manev, Director General of Bulgarian Patent Office at the bilateral meeting in Beijing and signed the 2008–2009 cooperation plan.



June 11, Deputy Commissioner He Hua met with Charlie McCreevy, Commissioner for Internal Market and Service of European Commission.



November 15, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with David O'Sullivan, DG Trade of European Commission.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Joerg Wuttke, President of EU Chamber of Commerce in China.

### ③ Cooperation with American and Oceanian countries

Frequent contacts between the managements of USPTO and SIPO led to smooth implementation of strategic cooperation work plan. Commissioner Tian Lipu and USPTO Director Jon Dudas met twice during this year and agreed more substantive items which was later added to the strategic cooperation work plan. Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun visited USPTO to start an automation expert meeting between the two offices. Deputy Commissioner Zhang Qin led a fact-finding mission on IPR evaluation to the United States. USPTO and SIPO organized for the second time, Seminar on Traditional Knowledge/Genetic Resources/Folklore: from Public Policy to Practical Solutions, discussing the policy and practice and international developments in the area. SIPO selected 4 examiners to take an eight-month training at the USPTO. USPTO sent experts to SIPO for discussion on recruitment, training, examination quality control, procedure, examination criteria and practice in the biotech area.

Commissioner Tian Lipu discussed with Mary Carman, new Commissioner of the Canadian Intellectual Property Office on future cooperation framework of the two offices and shared comments on international IPR issues of common concern.





March 29, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with USPTO Director Jon Dudas.



November 26, Commissioner Tian Lipu visited Australia and held the annual meeting with IP Australia Director Ian Heath.

Commissioner Tian Lipu held the annual meeting with IP Australia Director Ian Heath, discussing further cooperative steps and shared comments on the development trend of international IPR system. Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended an APEC meeting and visited IP Australia and New Zealand Intellectual Property Office to explore further cooperation.

Deputy Commissioner Lin Binghui visited Brazil and Peru to study legislation and practice on traditional knowledge and genetic resources there. Further discussion was conducted on cooperation in these and other fields. Consensus was reached with Brazil on several international IPR issues. Advisor to the formulation of national IPR strategy and former SIPO Commissioner Wang Jingchuan visited IP offices in Mexico and Brazil to discuss IPR strategy formulation and protection.



July, Deputy Commissioner Lin Binghui visited Peru and met with an executive of the National Institute of Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection.



November 15, Advisor to the formulation of national IPR strategy and former SIPO Commissioner Wang Jingchuan visited IP office in Mexico.

In 2007, scores of delegations from United States government, law firms, industry associations and multinational companies visited SIPO. Some of them were American Chamber of Commerce, American Chamber of Commerce in China, Business Software Alliance (BSA), Intellectual Property Owners Organization (IPO), International Trade Commission (ITC), IBM and HP.

Commissioner Tian Lipu delivered a keynote speech on development and policy of the Chinese intellectual property system at the Global Forum on Intellectual Property Right Protection and Innovation, jointly organized by American Chamber of Commerce and China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT).

In 2007, SIPO sent five groups of 78 officials to study at four US law schools, John Marshall Law School, Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University, Franklin Pierce Law Center and Law School of University of Washington. Commissioner Tian Lipu and John Marshall Law School Dean John E. Corkery graduated those who attended the school's fall 2006 program.



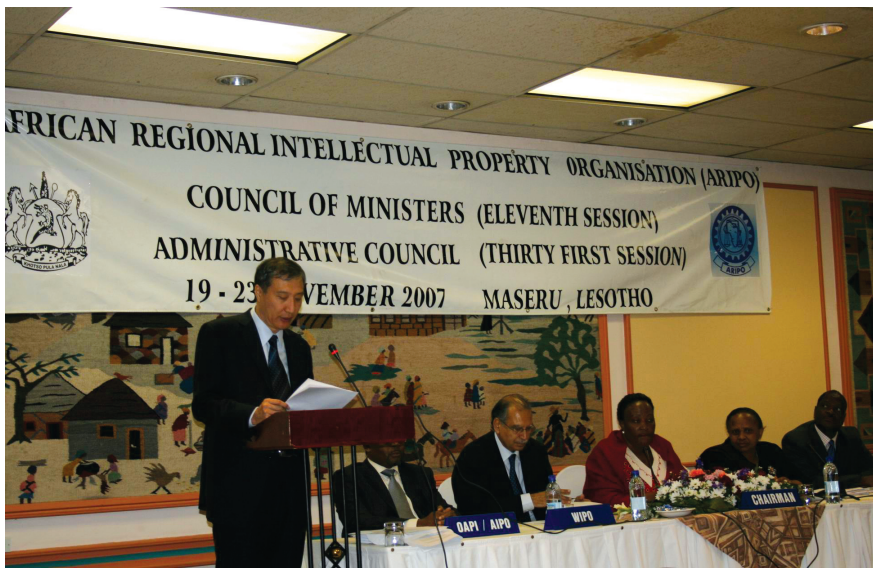
## 4 Cooperation with Asian and African countries

### 1) SIPO-JPO-KIPO

Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the Seventh Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Commissioners of SIPO, JPO and KIPO in Tokyo. The three offices presented their latest developments and agreed to organize a seminar for SMEs in Japan in 2008. A road map on mutual use of search and examination results to lessen workload was concluded in a meeting memo.

### 2) New developments in bilateral cooperation

Commissioner Tian Lipu signed a cooperation agreement on visits of senior officials, traditional knowledge and training with the visiting Director General of African Regional Intellectual Property Office (ARIPO) Gift Sibanda. The agreement was viewed as a landmark for cooperation in science, technology, trade and commerce between China and African countries. Commissioner Tian Lipu then visited ARIPO for the first time and affirmed the cooperative measures on training before talking on the Chinese intellectual property system at the 11th Session of the Council of Ministers of ARIPO.



November 22, Commissioner Tian Lipu delivered a speech on the Chinese intellectual property system at the 11th Session of the Council of Ministers of ARIPO in Lesotho.



June 11, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun visited the Egyptian Patent Office and discussed with Director Nadia Abdallah.

Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun visited the Egyptian Patent Office, South African Department of Trade and Industry, of Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office. Memorandum of Understanding between SIPO and the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research was concluded.

SIPO started searching prior art for patent applications from the Patent Office of the Gulf Cooperation Council. This was the first time SIPO conducted prior art search for foreign patent office.

### **3) Established bilateral cooperation strengthened**

Commissioner Tian Lipu presided the Fourteenth SIPO–JPO Meeting of Commissioners with JPO Commissioner Koezuka Masahiro in Beijing.



November 16, Commissioner Tian Lipu and JPO Commissioner Koezuka Masahiro concluded a memorandum, applauding cooperation in procedure streamlining, design and patent database development, automation and training and making suggestions for cooperation in 2008.



December 13, Commissioner Tian Lipu joined host KIPO Commissioner Jun Sang Woo at the Thirteenth SIPO-KIPO Meeting of Commissioners.



Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang visited JPO and discussed cooperation in training. Heads of patent examination departments from SIPO and JPO discussed an array of issues, examination in pharmaceuticals, Chinese patent system, revision of examination guideline, examination quality control system, JPO's patentability requirements for business method, e-commerce and computer software.

The Thirteenth SIPO-KIPO Meeting of Commissioners was held in Muju, Republic of Korea.

Commissioner Tian Lipu met with the visiting Puangrat Asavapisit, Director General of Thailand Department of Intellectual Property. Both sides updated each other and shared comments on major international IPR issues.

Deputy Commissioner He Hua attended the Invention Exhibition celebrating the 80th birthday of the Thai King and discussed Thailand Department of Intellectual Property on the extension of the cooperation program.

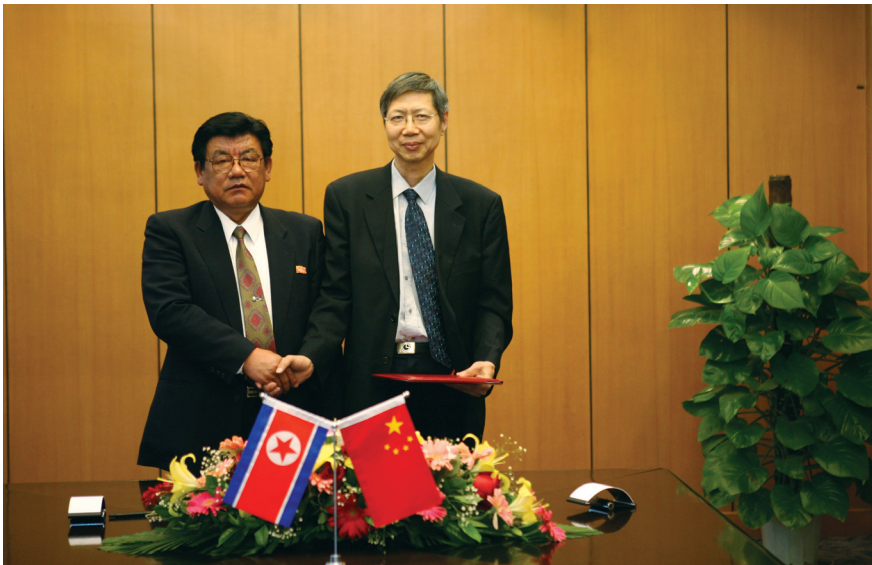
Commissioner Tian Lipu met several Singaporean dignitaries on separate occasions including Chan Lai Fung, Permanent Secretary of Singapore's Law Ministry, Ho Peng Kee, Senior Minister of State Ministry of Law & Ministry of Home Affairs and Liew Woon Yin, Director of the Singapore IP Office who attended the 2nd China-Singapore Intellectual Property Conference. The two sides updated each other and exchanged ideas on how to expand cooperation between them including China's cooperation with ASEAN countries in general.

Commissioner Tian Lipu reached consensus with Director Tran Viet Hung of the Viet Nam National Intellectual Property Office on further implementation of the bilateral cooperation plan.

Deputy Commissioner Lin Binghui met the visiting Deputy Director O Pak of the DPRK Invention Office and signed a supplementary agreement to record of discussion on patent. SIPO would offer CDs of Chinese patent documentation to the DPRK office free of charge.



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June 13, Deputy Commissioner Lin Binghui concluded a supplementary agreement to record of discussion on patent with Deputy Director O Pak of the DPRK Invention Office.



September 17, Commissioner Tian Lipu met a Japanese IPR delegation consisting of government officials and business executives.

Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended the second SIPO–IPOM seminar on IPR legal system in Mongolia. Chinese Ambassador Gao Shumao spoke at the opening ceremony. A bilateral meeting was held during the seminar. A supplementary agreement to record of discussion on automation between the two offices was concluded.

As many as 218 persons of 27 delegations from government, academic institutes, civil societies and companies from countries including Japan, Republic of Korea and India visited SIPO, discussing issues such as IPR strategy formulation, patent law amendment, design protection, examination practice and training. SIPO joined International Intellectual Property Protection Forum (IIPPF), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and Japan Automobile Tire Manufacturers Association (JATMA) in organizing a technology presentation of tire manufacture technique.



## 5 Conferences

In 2007, SIPO held scores of international conferences covering an extensive range of topics. Some of the key events were: Asian Regional Intellectual Property Seminar under the Asian Regional Co-op Fund; PCT Roving Seminars in Beijing, Hangzhou, Xi'an, Changchun and Xiamen; WIPO Worldwide Academy High-Level Seminar for Heads of Intellectual Property Offices from Eastern China in Tianjin, Geneva (CH) and Munich (DE); PCT-China in Beijing; WIPO Asia and the Pacific Sub-Regional Workshop on Effective Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights; Hong Kong Culture Exhibition during WIPO Assembly. Roving Seminar on Amendment of Chinese Patent Law in Germany,



March 20, Asian Regional Intellectual Property Seminar.



September 7, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Mpazi Sinjela, Head of WIPO Worldwide Academy.



December 13, WIPO Regional Workshop on Effective Enforcement of IPR.



Second China-Singapore Intellectual Property Conference.

Britain, Italy, France and Belgium; EPO-China Seminar on Intellectual Property and Outer Space; China-Germany Intellectual Property Forum; German Patent System Seminar; Implications of TRIPS on Asian Countries. Second China-Singapore Intellectual Property Conference. Second China-Mongolia Intellectual Property Legal System Conference; The seminars drew attendance of several thousands Chinese and overseas representatives and facilitated communication among them.