

# INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In 2008, SIPO actively conducted IP international cooperation and achieved tangible results including extensively participating in various activities of WIPO and other international organizations, actively attending cooperation of IP5 and SIPO-JPO-KIPO, expanding realm of bilateral cooperation and building mutual trust, making advancement in cooperation with African countries and providing training for other developing countries in IP. Frequent meetings with foreign IP leaders facilitated international cooperation and development in the IP field.

## **1 Multilateral Cooperation**

In 2008, while strengthening communication and coordination with other domestic departments, SIPO participated extensively in a series of activities in WIPO such as norm setting consultations and negotiations on IP rulemaking and adjustment, including meetings of Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), Patent Cooperation Treaty reform, Substantive Patent Law Coordination, International Patent Classification, Convention on Biodiversity, Intergovernmental Committee of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, etc.

Extensive participation in discussions with constructive attitude at G8+5 Leaders' meeting regarding IP issue, and meetings of International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), World Health Organization, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, World Trade Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, Convention on Biodiversity, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

In February, May, October and November, SIPO attended the eighth to

eleventh sessions of the WIPO Audit Committee in Geneva.

From May 8 to 9, SIPO and WIPO jointly organized the Second Symposium for Heads of Intellectual Property Academies in Beijing. Twenty-nine representatives from 17 countries, regions and international organizations including WIPO, USPTO, JPO and EPO attended the symposium. The symposium approved Beijing Action Plan, solidifying the communication platform of Worldwide Academy Net.



The Second Symposium for Heads of Intellectual Property Academies.

From May 13 to 14, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang led a delegation to the WIPO Coordination Committee Meeting, during which Mr. Francis Gurry was elected as new Director General of WIPO. From September 22 to 30, Commissioner Tian Lipu led the Chinese government delegation to attend the 45th Series of Meetings of the WIPO Assembly, during which Commissioner Tian Lipu met with the new Director General Francis Gurry. From November 26 to 27, Deputy Commissioner Zhang Qin led a delegation to attend WIPO Inter-Regional Forum on Role of Intellectual Property in Innovative Economy in India, delivering speeches in two panels on role of IP in knowledge/innovative economy and strategic use of traditional knowledge and genetic resources. From December 1 to 6, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang led new heads of local IP offices to visit WIPO and attended an advanced training course designed for them by the WIPO Worldwide Academy.

Under the principles set among SIPO, USPTO, EPO, JPO and KIPO at the meeting in Hawaii, SIPO continued to participate in IP5 projects. From May 19 to 23, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun led a delegation to attend the working level meeting of deputy heads from the five offices. From October 27 to 28, Commissioner Tian Lipu led a delegation to attend the second meeting of the heads from the five offices. A record of discussion reflecting the consensus of the IP5 was formed.

Cooperation among SIPO, JPO and KIPO continued smoothly. In March, an IP seminar on SMEs in China, Japan and the Republic of Korea was held in Tokyo with some 40 participants. In October, the Sixth Joint Experts Group for Automation (JEGA) meeting was held.

## **2 Bilateral Cooperation**

### **( 1 ) Cooperation with European Countries**

Heads of SIPO and EPO met four times within the year, exchanging information on important international IP issues to ensure the smooth development of the strategic partnership. From December 2 to 6, Commissioner Tian Lipu visited the EPO and signed Minutes of the Discussion and Bilateral Cooperation Plan for 2009 with President Alison Brimelow in their Second Heads of Offices meeting. Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang visited the EPO three times in May, September and December and paved ground for the 2009 cooperative activities. On October 24, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Joerg Wuttke, Chairman of EU Chamber of Commerce in China, who presented the European Business in China Position Paper. On November 25, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Jorgen Holmquist, Director-



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



Deputy Commissioner He Hua met with Head of EPO Patent Academy.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Jorgen Holmquist, Director General of EU Internal Market and Service.

General of EU Internal Market and Service, exchanging comments on China-EU IP cooperation and other IP issues. On May 7, Deputy Commissioner He Hua met with Helge Rasmussen, Head of EPO Patent Academy and discussed cooperation in the field of training. On September 22, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with Miranda de Sousa, Director of General Affairs and External Relations Department, Office of Harmonization for the Internal Market (OHIM) of the European Union and shared comments on cooperation in the framework of China-EU IPR II program and SIPO-OHIM bilateral cooperation.

Further strengthened traditional friendship with Germany. From April 15 to 24, Commissioner Tian Lipu visited German Patent and Trademark Office and attended an International Seminar on Intellectual Property and Economy in Riga, Latvia. In September, Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the China-Germany IP Seminar on Patent System/Economy and Traditional PCT/New Mode of Cooperation. On October 24, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with members of Germany Parliament Internal Affairs Committee led by Kristina Kohler. From February 25 to March 1, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended an IP seminar in Germany held by Bavarian State Government. On April 11, Deputy Commissioner He Hua met with Chief IP Counsel of German company Bayer.



In April, Commissioner Tian Lipu visited DPMA.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with members of Germany Parliament Internal Affairs Committee.



Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun met with Director General of ROSPATENT.

Friendship with cooperative partners from United Kingdom, France, Russia, Spain, Bulgaria and Denmark was further developed. On January 22, Deputy Commissioner He Hua met María Teresa Gómez Condado, Under-Secretary of Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade and Chairman for Well-Known Brand Forum Society of Spain. On July 17, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun met with Boris Simonov, Director General of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks of Russia (ROSPATENT), exchanging views on cooperation and issues of mutual concerns.

In 2008, SIPO signed documentation exchange agreement with Eurasian Patent Organization and Belarus Patent Office; and signed bilateral cooperation agreement with Slovenian Intellectual Property Office and Turkish Patent Office to establish formal cooperative relations; and prepared for formal cooperation agreement with Ukrainian Intellectual Property Office.

## **( 2 ) Cooperation with American and Oceanic Countries**

Frequent contacts continued between heads of SIPO and USPTO. On July 9, USPTO Patent Commissioner John Doll led IT experts to SIPO and met with Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun. On October 25, Commissioner Tian Lipu signed Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with Director Jon Dudas of USPTO. The two offices also held Seminars on Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Folklore and Patent Filing and Examination. From October 31 to November 3, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with visiting IP

Australia Deputy Director General and Canadian Intellectual Property Office Director General to devise future cooperation framework.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Canadian Intellectual Property Office Director General.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with IP Australia Deputy Director General.



SIPO continued communication with central and south American countries Cuba, Brazil, Mexico and Peru. On May 9, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with visiting Cuban Intellectual Property Office Director General María de los Angeles Sánchez Torres, expressing intent to further bilateral cooperation. On December 16, Deputy Commissioner Xing Shengcai visited IMPI for its 15th anniversary and the Cuban Industrial Property Office for discussion of future cooperation.

### **( 3 ) Cooperation with Asian and African Countries**

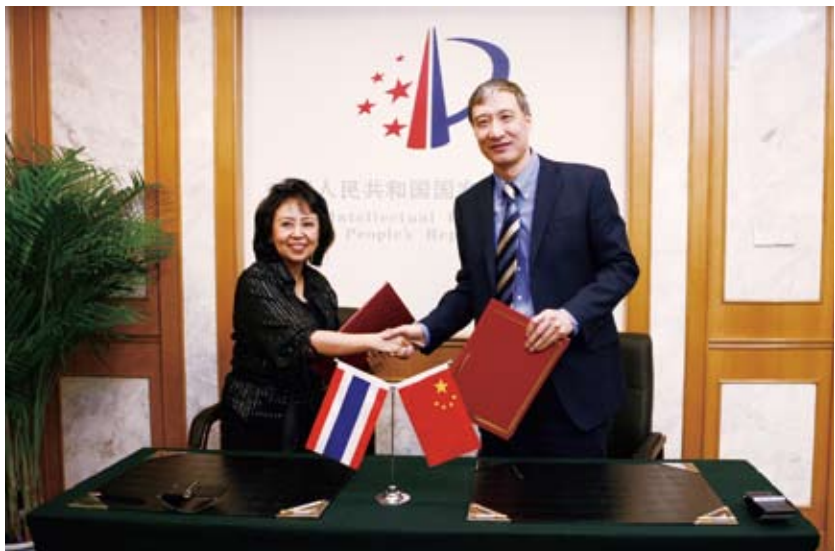
Year 2008 marked the 30th anniversary of cooperation in the filed of IP between China and Japan. The two offices established a mechanism of meeting between automation experts and held the first expert meeting in Japan. Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the 15th SIPO-JPO heads of offices meeting and signed record of discussion with JPO Commissioner Takashi SUZUKI. In the meantime, SIPO published a book commemorating the 30th anniversary of cooperation in the field of IP between China and Japan and held a speech roundtable and conference to commemorate the anniversary.

In 2008, SIPO and KIPO intensified cooperation. The two offices held the first patent examination expert meeting. Deputy Commissioner Xing Shengcai visited International Patent Assistance Center (IPAC) of the Korea Electronics Association. SIPO sent four batches of liaison officers to KIPO, exploring a brand new mode of cooperation.

From January 22 to 27, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang visited Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM) and signed a record of discussion for 2008. In 2008, IPOM Director General Chinbat Namjil visited SIPO twice. In April, SIPO and IPOM signed a memorandum of understanding on IP experts posting in China. In May, SIPO and IPOM jointly organized the China-Mongolia Intellectual Property Enforcement Seminar in Nanjing, during which the photo exhibition titled Mongolia-A Country of Dream was also held. On March 20, Commissioner Tian Lipu and Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met Puangrat Asavapisit, Director General of Intellectual Property Department of Thailand and signed a record of discussion. In December, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with Deputy Director General Wiboonlasana of Intellectual Property Department of Thailand. In May, the helpdesk of SIPO and Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) formally started operation in Singapore. In November and December, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended the Third China-Singapore IP Conference in Singapore and China-Vietnam IP Seminar in Ho Chi Minh City, and visited the National Office of Industrial Property of Vietnam.



Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang at the Third China–Singapore IP Conference.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with Puangrat Asavapisit, Director General of Intellectual Property Department of Thailand.



Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met Keith W. Sendwe, Head of the Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office (CIPRO) of South Africa.

Many achievements were made in cooperation with Africa in 2008. In June, SIPO, African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and WIPO jointly organized the first Workshop for Heads of Intellectual Property Offices in Beijing. WIPO Assistant Director General Wang Binying, ARIPO Director General G. H. Sibanda and heads or representatives of IP offices from 16 ARIPO members attended. The meeting was a gathering of Chinese and African senior officials and offering a platform for mutual understanding between China and African countries. In 2008, SIPO also expanded cooperation with the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). From November 3 to 7, Deputy Commissioner He Hua led a delegation to Senegal to attend Conference Internationale Sur La Propriete Intellectuelle Et Le Developpement Economique Et Social Des Etats Members De L'OAPI and visited OAPI headquarters, signing a cooperation agreement with OAPI Director General Paulin EDOU EDOU. In October, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with Keith W. Sendwe, Head of the Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office (CIPRO) of South Africa.

In 2008, SIPO established a special fund for training of IP talents in developing countries for the first time, conducting multiple training activities towards developing countries including examiners from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Patent Office, NOIP and DPRK Invention Office. SIPO also used Asia Regional Cooperation Fund and China-ASEAN Cooperation Fund

to train more than 40 representatives from Asian countries and organizations.

### **3 Other Cooperative Activities**

In 2008, US Chamber of Commerce, American Chamber of Commerce in China, United States International Trade Commission, Intellectual Property Owners Organization of the United States, American Bar Association, IBM, Microsoft, Apple, Intel and many other delegations visited the office to exchange views on relevant IP issues. Five technical presentation seminars were held with Nissan, Olympus, EPSON (China), Battery R&D Association of Korea and LG Display Inc. respectively, updating SIPO examiners with latest developments in technical fields, which would refresh their knowledge and increase examination quality. In March, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang and Dean John Corkery of John Marshall Law School (JMLS) graduated the SIPO officials attending JMLS fall 2007 classes.

On March 28, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with Professor Giuseppe Scellato of Politecnico di Torino of Italy. On April 17, Deputy Commissioner He Hua met with Lawrence T. Welch and members of INTERPAT. From April



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29 to May 3, Deputy Commissioner Xing Shengcai led the China Inventions Association to attend the France Inventions Exposition in Paris, France. On October 17, Deputy Commissioner Zhang Qin met with Alan C. Drewsen, Executive Director of International Trademark Association (INTA). On November 4, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun met with Toshimichi Moriya of Japan Patent Information Organization.



Deputy Commissioner Zhang Qin met with Alan C. Drewsen, Executive Director of International Trademark Association (INTA).

In 2008, the international seminars and relevant activities held by SIPO also included the followings. SIPO, EPO, OHIM and local governments jointly organized the International Seminar on European IP System-Design and Patent in Chongqing and Shunde. SIPO and EPO co-organized the International Seminar on Automatic Machine Translation in Beijing. SIPO and EPO jointly organized the International Seminar on Traditional Medicine in Chengdu. The Seminar on EPO-SIPO new examiners and senior examiners were held. The Sixth Shanghai International IP Forum was held. Fourteen officials from Thailand, Mongolia, Pakistan and Vietnam attended joint training course on human resources and examination practice in Beijing. SIPO and German Patent and Trademark Office jointly organized the China-Germany Intellectual Property Seminar in Munich, Germany. Thousands of Chinese and foreign participants attended the above programs, which promoted international cooperation and exchange in the IP field.