

# I. Highlights

On January 21, SIPO and the Ministry of Public Security jointly printed and distributed the *Circular to Award Outstanding Organizations and Individuals of IP Administrations and Public Security Authorities Nationwide* for their contribution to IP enforcement. There were 57 units and 58 individuals within the IP system together with 47 units and 83 individuals within the public security system received awards.

On February 2, Commissioner Tian Lipu signed the *Framework for Action on Bilateral Cooperation in the Year 2009* between SIPO and the UKIPO with his UK counterpart Ian Fletcher in London, UK.

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On March 9, SIPO and the John Marshall Law School of the United States celebrated their 15 years of cooperation and held a ceremony for the graduations Class of 2008 at the China Intellectual Property Training Center.

On March 12 and 13, Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the 8th Policy Dialogue Meeting of the Heads of SIPO-JPO-KIPO and the 14th Meeting of the Heads of SIPO-KIPO.

On March 19, the office of the inter-ministerial committee for implementation



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of the national IP strategy printed and distributed *the National IP Strategy Implementation Plan for 2009*.

On March 22, the State Council printed and distributed *Opinions on Implementing the Allocation of Main Duties Prescribed in the Government Work Report*. Article 20 provides as follows: *the continuity of the implementation of the IP strategy, the refinement of IP legislation, the enhancement of construction of the IP public service system, the increase in the quality and efficiency of IP examination, the continuity of campaigns for IP protection, the intensification of publicity and education, the promotion of international communication and cooperation and the strengthening of IP early warning and enforcement in both external trade and in the domestic market*. SIPO was rendered the above duties.

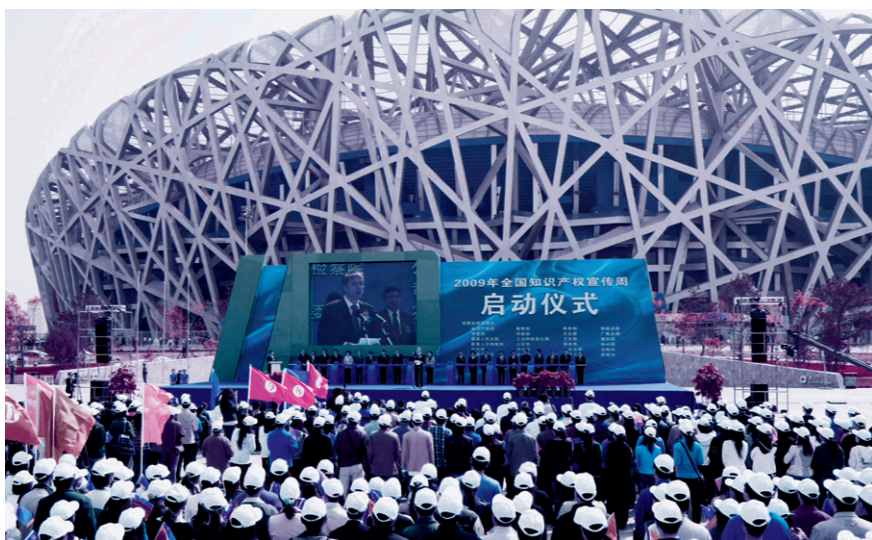
The WIPO Inter-Regional High-Level Forum on Intellectual Property was held on March 30 in Beijing. Wang Qishan, Vice Premier, and Francis Gurry, Director General of the WIPO, delivered the keynote speeches. Wang stressed dialogue and cooperation shall be enhanced to promote mutual benefit. On the same day, SIPO printed and distributed *the Action Plan on IP Enforcement Campaigns Thunderstorm and Skynet 2009*.



The WIPO Inter-Regional High-Level Forum on Intellectual Property was held on March 30 in Beijing.

On April 14, the inter-ministerial meeting for implementation of the national IP strategy printed and distributed *the Action Plan of IP Protection in China 2009*.

From April 20 to 26, 24 agencies, including SIPO and the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of CPC, jointly organized the 2009 National IP Publicity Week featuring Culture, Strategy and Development.



2009 National IP Publicity Week featuring Culture, Strategy and Development was opened on April 20.



2009 National IP Publicity Week

On April 28, China signed a free trade agreement with Peru in Beijing. Provisions regarding protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge, folklore and geographical indications, which are of common concern of developing countries, are included in the FTA.

On May 12 and 13, SIPO and the French National Institute of Industrial Property jointly organized the Seminar on Innovation and Value Creation in Shanghai.

On June 2, a conference commemorating the one year anniversary of the implementation of *Outline of the National IP Strategy* was held in Beijing.

On June 3, SIPO joined the USPTO, JPO and OHIM in organizing the International Forum on Protection of Design in Shunde, Guangdong. Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote speech.

On June 3, SIPO held a press conference to announce the Development Plan for Patent Agency (2009-2015).



On June 2, the conference commemorating the one year anniversary of the implementation of *Outline of the National IP Strategy* was held in Beijing.

On June 4, SIPO selected the second group of BaiQianWan IP Talent and identified 97 high level talent. On the same day, SIPO joined the UK IP Office in holding a Seminar on How to Promote and Encourage the Use and Understanding of the IP System in China and the UK in Guangzhou.

From June 10 to 12, the second IP5 Deputy Heads Meeting was held in Murnau, Germany.



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On June 26, 14 agencies including SIPO and the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) joined the Tianjin Municipal Government and 7 international organizations including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in *the 2009 International Bio-Economy Conference* in Tianjin. Liu Yandong, Member of Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and State Councilor, attended the conference and delivered a speech. On the same day, Tian Lipu met the visiting Paulin EDOU EDOU, Director General of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

From June 28 to July 7, SIPO, the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) and the Chinese Mission in Geneva attended the 14th Meeting of WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, and made a formal visit to WIPO and the European Patent Office (EPO).

In July, Tian Lipu was selected *50 Most Influential People in IP 2009* by *Managing IP*.



On June 29, Deputy Commissioner Xiao Xingwei attended the 14th Meeting of WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

From July 28 to 30, SIPO gathered national IP administrations in Shenyang for a conference and training course on foreign related affairs. Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang delivered the opening remarks.

From July 29 to 31, Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the Trading Ideas 2009 (TI 2009) Symposium organized by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS).

From August 12 to 15, SIPO, MOST, All-China Federation of Trade Unions, Central Committee of the Youth League, All-China Women's Federation and China Association for Science and Technology jointly organized the 18th National Invention Exhibition at the Kunming International Conference and Exhibition Center.

From September 4 to 6, SIPO and Guangdong Provincial Government jointly organized the 2nd China (Shunde) International Industrial Design Expo.

From September 12 to 13, the accreditation meeting for the 11th Chinese Patent Award was held in Beijing. From 2010, the award selection changes from once every two years to once a year.

From September 22 to October 1, the Chinese delegation



headed by Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the 47th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO.

On September 23, the third IP5 Deputy Heads Meeting was held in Geneva, Switzerland.

From September 25 to 29, upon invitation from the French National Institute of Industrial Property, a SIPO delegation headed by Commissioner Tian Lipu visited the Corsica Region in France.

In September, SIPO started a new round of three-year pilot program in IP pledging and financing.

On October 1, the amended Patent Law of the People's Republic of China took effect.

On October 10, SIPO joined the Ministry of Finance to issue *Circular on Applying Funding for Patenting Abroad*.

On October 15, SIPO organized a meeting to initiate the drafting of its own 12th Five-Year Plan.

On October 25, on behalf of the Chinese government, Commissioner Tian Lipu signed Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the Field of Intellectual Property. In the evening, Commissioner Tian Lipu met Alongkorn Ponlaboot, Vice Minister for Commerce of Thailand, to discuss future IP cooperation between the two countries.

On November 8, SIPO unveiled the results of the China Fourth Design Patent Contest, crowning 68 designs including the Red Flag HQE Parade Limousine.

From November 12 to 16, the Third China Patent Week, organized by SIPO, supported by 17 central agencies and provincial governments and 38 municipal governments, was held in 38 cities.

On November 16, the 11th China High-tech Fair, including a SIPO-sponsored



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side event of Inventions and Patents Achievements, was held in Shenzhen. On the same day, the World Innovation Forum, organized by SIPO and Shenzhen Municipal Government and sponsored by the National Development and Reform Commission, was held in Shenzhen Conference and Exhibition Center.

On November 17, SIPO held the Second Mayor Forum on IP and City Development in Hangzhou with attendance of 32 mayors.



On November 16, Deputy Commissioner Bao Hong delivered speech at the World Innovation Forum.



On November 16, Deputy Commissioner Bao Hong talked with WIPO participant at the 11th China High-tech Fair in Shenzhen.

On November 18, the All-China Association of Patent Agents and Taiwan Federation of Industries held the Second Cross-Straits Patent Forum in Hangzhou, Zhejiang.

On November 24 and 25, SIPO, the Intellectual Property Department of HKSAR and the Macao Economic Services jointly organized the 2009 Mainland, HKSAR, Macao SAR Intellectual Property Symposium in Suzhou.



On November 17, SIPO held the Second Mayor Forum on IP and City Development in Hangzhou.



On November 18, Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang attended the Second Cross-Straits Patent Forum in Hangzhou, Zhejiang.

On December 3, Commissioner Tian Lipu met the visiting EPO President Alison Brimelow. On the same day, the two offices held the Third Bilateral Heads Meeting in Beijing.

On December 5 and 6, the National Patent Bar Exam was held in 15 cities including Beijing. By the end of 2009, over 10,000 people had passed the exam, and 6,000 of them have been practicing.

By December 7, over 3 million patents had been granted in China.

On December 15, SIPO and WIPO jointly organized the Seminar for Senior Officials and Senior Examiners from African Countries in Beijing. Commissioner Tian Lipu and Herman Ntchatcho, Director of WIPO African Bureau of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Sector opened the event.

On December 21, SIPO organized a meeting on enforcement of IP administrations - Third China IP Enforcement Forum in Hangzhou, Zhejiang. On the same

day, the 9th Policy Dialogue Meeting of Heads of SIPO-JPO-KIPO was held in Xi'an, Shaanxi. Commissioner Tian Lipu and his counterpart from JPO Tetsuhiro Hosono, and from KIPO Jung-Sik Koh signed the Record of Discussion.

On December 30, Executive Meeting of the State Council approved *the Decision to Amend the Implementing Regulations of the Chinese Patent Law (Draft)* in principle after reviewing.

On December 31, SIPO and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology jointly issued *Circular on Implementing the Projects of Accelerating Development of Intellectual Property Strategies of Small and Medium-sized Enterprise*.

By the end of 2009, SIPO approved the establishment of 61 IP Rights Assistance Centers, scattered in 29 provinces, and 26 key contact bases for patent protection nationwide and formed a dialogue mechanism with 14 provinces and cities together with 3 central agencies.