

II. Legal Affairs

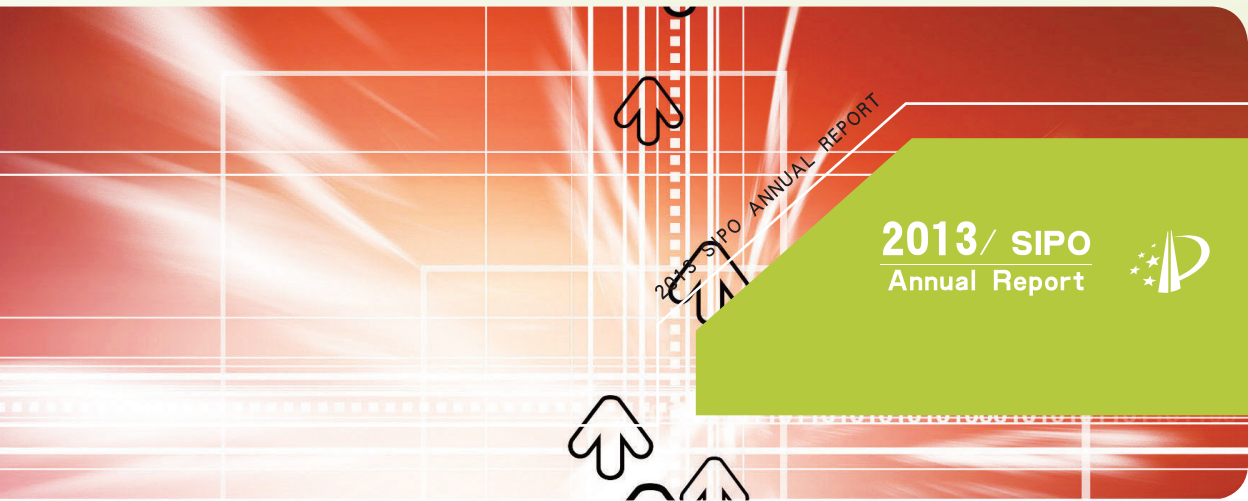
1. Legal System Construction

The Draft Amendment to the Patent Law (for deliberation) was completed and submitted to the State Council for deliberation. In cooperation with the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, SIPO made preparations for the deliberation, collect and analyze feedback opinions and suggestions from all walks of the society.

The Draft of Regulations on Service Invention (for deliberation) was completed.

Grassroots field studies were made for the revision of *the Regulation on Patent Commissioning* to assist the State Council Legislative Affairs Office to further improve the revision of the Regulation.

Evaluation over the practice of several regulative documents such as *Several Regulations on Standardizing Patent Applications, Measures on the Administration of Patent Agency, and Measures on Microbial Preservation used for Patenting Procedures*, was carried out. At the same time, SIPO also made revisions to *Measures on Patent Administrative Enforcement and Measures on Deducting Patenting Fees*.



SIPO published *the Decision on revising the Patent Examination Guideline*, completed the amendment drafting and opinion collection work for the revision of the protection of Graphical User Interface (GUI). The translation of Patent Examination Guideline into Japanese and the preparation work for publication were also completed.

SIPO also explored to establish instruction and coordination mechanism for local patent legislations. It has set up local liaison officers' team on patent legislation, and drafted the instruction and coordination framework and working plan for local patent legislation.

SIPO organized activities and held trainings for legal liaison officers to promote legal knowledge of its staffs.

2. Patent Agency

SIPO initiated the research and formulation work of the Mid and Long Term Planning of Patent Commissioning, and organized

field studies in Guizhou and Tianjin, to which a study report was formed. SIPO also actively studied to formulate relevant policies and measures to promote the accelerated development of patent commissioning, and preliminary solutions were formed as a result. The promotion project for patent commissioning in Beijing and other areas was further implemented, to help with the healthy development of the sector. The 2013 Working Plan for Training the Patent Agents on Practical Skills was formulated, and training of 1,929 patent agents and teaching staffs was completed as scheduled. The cooperation project of Excellent Patent Agents with Tongji University was officially initiated.

By the end of 2013, there were 17,886 qualified patent agents around the country, among which 8,950 were practicing in 1,002 patent agencies. Throughout the year, 97 new patent agencies were approved, increased by 125.58% compared with the previous year. SIPO processed 285 requests of changing the commissioned patent agencies. The information disclosure system for examination and approval was further improved.

Efforts were made to regulate the punishment and annual check procedure of patent agency. 14 complaints were received throughout the year, which were transferred or handled respectively. SIPO coordinated and instructed local IP offices and patent agents associations to carry out annual check and the first batch of qualified patent agencies were disclosed.

21,689 candidates applied to participate in the 2013 patent agents' qualification examination, increased by 30% compared with the previous year, among which there were 322 candidates from Hong Kong and Macau SAR and Taiwan, China. 3,812 candidates passed the examination, increased by 28.52% compared with the previous year.

3. Administrative Reconsideration

SIPO received 88 administrative reconsideration cases in 2013, and responded to 27 cases in the name of SIPO.