



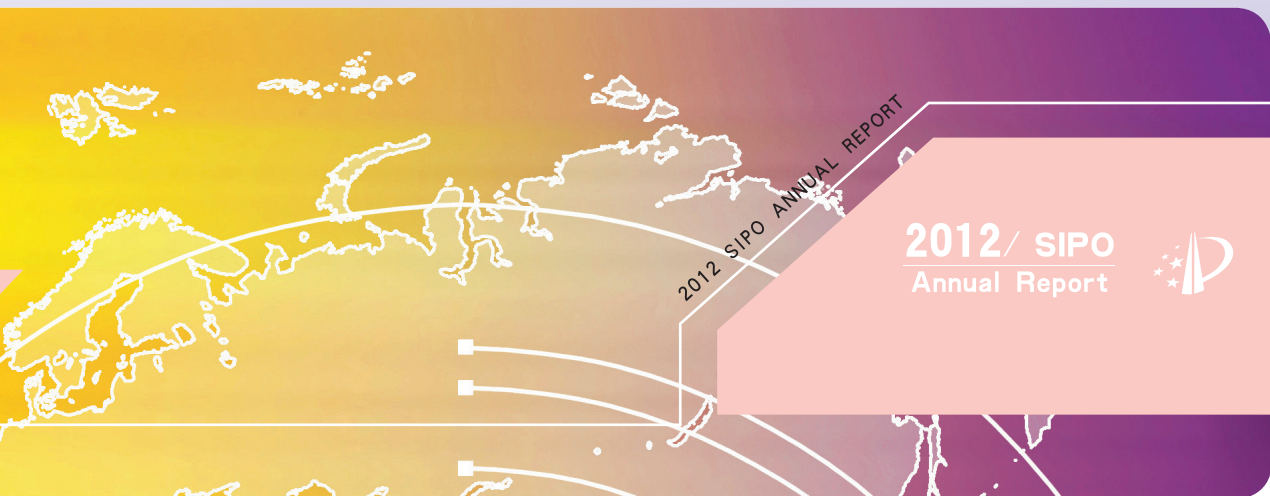
## VIII. International Cooperation

In 2012, SIPO continued to actively participate in international IP affairs, successfully organized several major international cooperation events, broadly publicized China's IP policies and achievements, and deepened cooperation relations with various IP institutions and organizations. The cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was further promoted. The IP5 cooperation among SIPO, USPTO, EPO, JPO and KIPO, as well as the Trilateral Cooperation among SIPO, JPO and KIPO were deepened. At the same time, exchanges with the developing countries increased remarkably, and IP cooperation with the African countries was further consolidated.

### 1. Multilateral Cooperation

#### (1) WIPO—related activities

In May, SIPO signed with the International Bureau of WIPO *Memorandum of Understanding on Relevant Issues Regarding the Accession of the People's Republic of China to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs*, which accelerated China's process to accede to the Hague Agreement. In October, Commissioner Tian Lipu headed the Chinese governmental delegation to attend the WIPO General Assembly, during which he met with the Director General of WIPO Dr. Gurry, and signed the *MOU on Further Strengthening the Bilateral Cooperation Between SIPO and WIPO*.



Commissioner Tian Lipu signed the *MOU on Further Strengthening the Bilateral Cooperation Between SIPO and WIPO* with the Director General of WIPO Dr. Gurry.

In June, Director General Dr. Gurry visited Beijing to attend the Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Visual-Audio Performances, during which he also met with SIPO officials. Ms. Wang Binying, deputy Director General of WIPO visited SIPO in July and November respectively, and held meetings with the heads and officials from relevant departments of SIPO. Deputy Director General Wichard visited SIPO in November, met with the heads of SIPO, and exchanged views on issues of common interest.

SIPO has also strengthened cooperation with WIPO in the area of PCT and automation, and has become the pilot office of the development of WIPO EPCT system.

In 2012, SIPO also organized delegations including members from relevant departments to attend various meetings under the framework of WIPO and UPOV, including policy meetings like the meeting of Inter-governmental Committee on IP and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

## **(2) Cooperation of the IP5**

The Heads of SIPO attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of IP5 Offices, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of Meeting of Deputy Heads of IP5 Offices, and the first IP5 meeting of industries. The heads of IP5 Offices have reached consensus on the progress and future development of cooperation projects of the IP5 Offices.

SIPO hosted the English Workshop of Chinese IP System, and the 4<sup>th</sup> IP5 Examiners Workshop.

## **2. Bilateral Cooperation**

### **(1) Cooperation with European countries and regional organizations**

SIPO carried out high level exchanges with EPO, OHIM, and

IP Administrative agencies and regional organizations from 14 countries including Germany, France, Austria, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Poland, Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Russia, Moldova and Kyrgyzstan, among which the bilateral cooperation relations with the Finland National Patent and Registration Committee, the Iceland Patent Office, the Swiss Federal IP Office and the Moldova IP Office, were newly developed.

SIPO signed 17 bilateral cooperation agreements, memorandum of understandings, and work plans with regional organizations including EPO, OHIM, as well as countries including Germany, France, Austria,



Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with the president of Polish Patent Office.

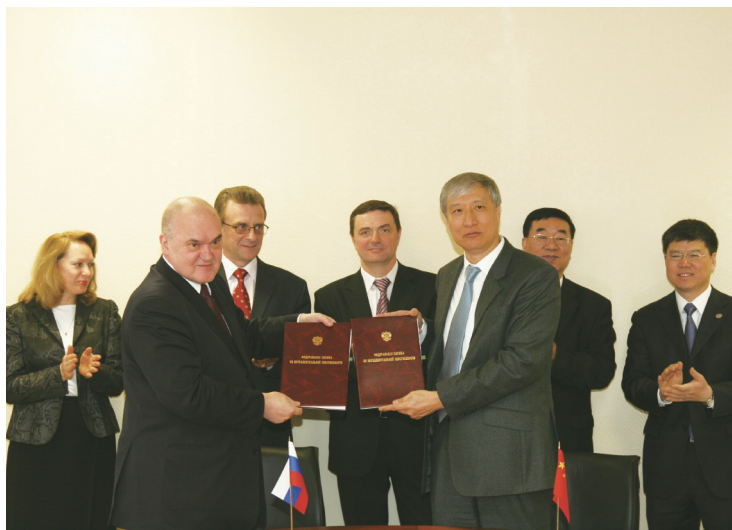
Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Russia, Moldova and Kyrgyzstan, among which the MOU signed with OHIM has elevated bilateral cooperation relation to Strategic Cooperative Partnership.



The Joint Committee Conference between SIPO and the Austrian Patent Office

The agreement on the electronic exchange of priority documents with EPO came into force, and the China-European machine translation service was launched, which reduced the cost of Chinese and European IP users and provided more convenience for them to access Chinese IP information.

SIPO signed Cooperation Agreements on Patent Prosecution Highway respectively with IP offices of Russia, Denmark, Finland, and Austria.



SIPO signed Cooperation Agreements on Patent Prosecution Highway with Federal Service for Intellectual Property of Russia Federation.

SIPO jointly organized with EPO the Roving Seminar on European Patent System, and the Seminar on European Patent Information and Patterns of Service.

## **(2) Cooperation with the American and Oceanian countries**

Bilateral high-level exchanges were carried out with the IP administrative organizations in Brazil, Peru, Chile, US, Mexico, Argentina and Cuba. Besides, SIPO signed cooperation MOUs or Work Plans with the Brazil Industrial Property Office, the Peru Competition, Defense, and IP Protection Center, the Chile Industrial Property Office, and Mexico Industrial Property Office.

SIPO also carried out in-depth exchanges with USPTO and other cooperation partners on utility models, graphic user interface, industrial designs, biological patents and relevant topics inter alia.

### **(3) Cooperation with the Asian and African countries**

High-level exchanges were carried out with the IP administrative organizations in Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Mongolia, Singapore, Ethiopia, Angola, Nigeria, and Indonesia. The Commissioner of SIPO attended the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting for Heads of SIPO and JPO, the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting for Heads of SIPO and KIPO, the Meeting for Heads of SIPO and Thailand IP Office, and the Meeting for Heads of SIPO and Singapore IP Office. The 12<sup>th</sup> Policy Dialogue Meeting among SIPO, JPO and KIPO Commissioners was held in Wuxi, Jiangsu Province. Nine MOUs or Work Plans were signed respectively with Japan, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Angola, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia. SIPO initiated the bilateral cooperation relations with Angola and Nigeria, and further expanded the scope of cooperation with African countries.



SIPO hosted the Trilateral Meeting of the Joint Experts Group Meeting on Patent Examination, and the Trilateral Meeting of the Joint Experts Group on Automation among SIPO, JPO and KIPO. Besides, SIPO actively participated in other bilateral and trilateral exchanges, further promoted information sharing and communications among experts from SIPO, JPO and KIPO in the areas of patent examination, automation, etc.

SIPO jointly organized China-Mongolia IP Strategy Seminar with Mongolia, organized Seminar on Japanese Legal System, Introduction Session on Korean Intellectual Property, and China-ASEAN Seminar on the Protection of IP and Traditional



Knowledge and Genetic Resources, as well as four technical briefings in the fields of machinery, optical electronics and telecommunication at the request of relevant Japanese companies and enterprises.

SIPO organized the first inter regional IP training seminar for IP officials from Cambodia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Pakistan and Thailand in Beijing and Chongqing, which promoted the exchanges and friendship among IP departments of different countries, and strengthened the IP cooperation between China and developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

To meet the development needs of African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), SIPO organized the Training Seminar on Chinese Patent Documentation and Utilization for 9 IP officials from member countries of OAPI and its Liaison Office. Besides, SIPO also provided trainings for delegations from Mongolia, Angola and Ethiopia, etc. on IP strategy, local IP Administration, PPH, etc..

SIPO also organized the IP Training Seminar (Autumn) for Developing Countries that lasted 13 days in Beijing and Qingdao, to which 32 officials from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea attended.



The Training Seminar on Chinese Patent Documentation and Utilization



Deputy Commissioner Li Yuguang met with the delegation from Mongolia on PPH.

### **3. Other Cooperation Activities**

To coordinate with other Ministries and Departments, SIPO also attended relevant meetings of the World Trade Organization (WTO), The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), etc. and continued its cooperation and communication with International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI).

In 2012, the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners of SIPO also met respectively with foreign guests including the EU Internal Market and Service Commissioner, EU Trade Commissioner and Minister Counselor of the EU Delegation in China. SIPO received the visit of IP Attaches from UK and EU, as well as relevant officials from France, Austria and Italy. The SIPO officials introduced China's IP system as well as the latest development to the visiting President of Japan External Trade Organization, the Political Officer of Japanese Ministry of Economy and Industry, and the high-level Japanese Official-Civilian delegation on IP protection, etc., and also exchanged views with them on commonly interested IP issues.

In 2012, SIPO also received the visits of many foreign enterprises and associations including Microsoft, Boeing, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers of USA and the American IP Law Association, etc..



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with the President of Japan External Trade Organization.



Commissioner Tian Lipu met with the high-level Japanese Official-Civilian delegation on IP protection.