

Message from the Commissioner



Tian Lipu, Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office

2011 is the first year of the 12th Five-Year Plan. It is also an important year in promoting the implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy. SIPO pushed forward the implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy, made progress in intellectual property development, and made a good start in the 12th Five-Year Plan period.

In 2011, more innovative technologies emerged in aeronautics & astronautics, next-generation communication, ultra-large-scale computer and etc with independent intellectual property. The volume of domestic invention patents exceeded the volume of foreign invention patents for the first time. The first Special Plan for IP Development in China was issued and implemented. The Special Campaign against IP Infringement maintained a high-handed policy and took more powerful measures. The quick response mechanism for IP protection made steady progress. And services for the public became more convenient and effective.

The 12th Five-Year Plan system has been basically established. The index of invention patents per 10,000 persons was adopted in the Outline of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development. The Outline stated that the number of invention patent per 10,000 heads shall be raised to 3.3. The index had also been brought into the



Comprehensive Appraisal Index System for National Economic and Social Development. SIPO and other 9 government departments including National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Science and Technology jointly formulated and issued China's first Twelfth Five-Year Plan for China's Intellectual Property Development. Twenty-three provinces (autonomous regions/municipalities) across China and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps also issued local plans for IP development.

The implementation of the National IP Strategy made solid progress. SIPO led the formulation and publication of the Promotion Plan for Implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy 2011 in collaboration with the 28 member departments of the Inter-Ministerial Joint Meeting for the Implementation of the National IP Strategy. SIPO organized the initial evaluation of the implementation of the Outline of National Intellectual Property Strategy, drafted the Several Opinions on Strengthening the Work of Intellectual Property for Strategic Emerging Industries, participated in the formulation of industrial IP policies such as Implementation Program for National Defense Intellectual Property Strategy and Opinions on Guiding the Enhancement of the Work of Intellectual Property of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and issued Several Opinions on the Implementation of Intellectual Property Strategy and accelerating Intellectual Property Development in the Western Area. SIPO promoted the overall implementation of IP Strategy at local level. So far 26 provinces (autonomous regions/municipalities) across China and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps have issued their local plans for IP development or carried out the Opinions on the Implementation of National Intellectual Property Strategy. 16 provinces (autonomous regions/municipalities) have formulated their annual promotion plans for the implementation of National IP Strategy. SIPO established the Leading Group for the Implementation of IP Strategy, issued the Promotion Plan for the National Patent Development Strategy in 2012, and established



China's first National Patent Strategy Promotion and Service Center in Taizhou, Jiangsu Province. The pilot work for National Patent Strategy had been officially launched.

IP protection made remarkable achievements. SIPO pushed forward the Special Campaign against Intellectual Property Infringement and the Production and Sales of Counterfeiting and Forged Commodities, which had effectively contained violations of law in the field of IP and played an important role in creating a good environment for innovation and development. All IP-related departments and agencies in different regions of China made a concerted effort in IP protection. The coordination of IP protection organizations at all levels was enhanced remarkably. The mechanism for coordinating IP enforcement across regions and departments has been increasingly smooth. The construction of IP enforcement system and team has been continuously improved. The influence of IPR Assistance Centers and IPR public hot-line 12330 for report IPR infringement and complaints was dismounting. The construction of the legal system for IPR protection kept enhancing. In 2011, 175,000 staff in national IP system engaged in enforcement activities with more than 2.51 million pieces of commodities inspected and 3017 cases involving patent infringement investigated, a 65.5% increase than last year.

SIPO made steady progress in patent legal construction. SIPO submitted the Draft Amendment to the Regulation on Patent Agency (for review), completed the formulation of the Regulation on Service Invention (for discussion), revised the Administrative Measures on Filing Patent License Contracts, started the draft and revision of a number of regulations such as Measures for Compulsory Licensing on Patent Implementation, Rules on the Methods for Labeling Patent Marks, Administrative Measures on Prioritized Examination of Patent Applications, and Regulations on Administrative Review of SIPO, modified the Administrative Measures on Patent Agency, and issued the Implementation Plan for the

Training Patent Agents About Practical Skills (2011-2015). The Qualification Examination for Patent Agents was open to Taiwan residents for the first time. SIPO also conducted foresight researches on the legislation and amendments on development trends of patent system.

Patent applications maintained a high growth speed and the examination capacity kept increasing. Throughout the year, SIPO received 1.633 million patent applications, increasing 33.6% than last year, among which applications for invention patent, utility model and industrial design reached 526,000, 585,000 and 522,000 respectively, each with an increase of 34.5%, 42.7% and 24% than last year. SIPO also received 17,473 applications via Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), increasing 35.3% than last year. SIPO received 15,695 requests for patent reexamination and invalidation, growing 6.2% year on year. SIPO granted 961,000 patents, increasing 17.9% than last year, including 172,000 invention patents, 408,000 utility model and 381,000 industrial design patents, increasing 27.4%, 18.6% and 13.7% respectively. SIPO settled 12,683 requests for patent reexamination and invalidation, an increase of 15.8% year on year. SIPO received 1,464 applications for IC layout design registration, issued 1,329 certificates. Patent pendencies for invention patent, utility model and industrial design were 22.9 months, 4.7 months and 2.6 months respectively. As of the end of 2011, invention patents per 10,000 persons in China reached 2.37, increasing 39.4% than last year. Valid domestic invention patents reached 351,000, accounting for 50.4% of the total valid invention patent in China. In December 2011, the rate of electronic application reached 77.81%. SIPO launched the pilot work of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with Japan, South Korea and the United States. SIPO established Patent Examination Cooperation Centers in Jiangsu and Guangdong, which contributed to new progress in building patent examination capacity.

Patent information public service rose to a new level. The Patent Search and Service System (for the public) kicked off. SIPO also finished the deployment



and promotion of the Online Patent Analysis System, basically completed the building of the core system of National Patent Data Center, forged ahead steadily the preparatory work for the establishment of patent service centers in Guangdong, Shanghai, Jiangsu, Shandong and Chongqing, and launched the evaluation for the establishment of 47 local patent information service centers. SIPO built China's first Patent Information Dissemination and Utilization Base in Guangdong. Chinese patent documentation was incorporated in PCT minimum documentation, marking an important step for China's patent documentation towards the international recognition.

A square box containing the Chinese characters '田力普' written in a bold, expressive cursive calligraphic style.

Tian Lipu