



Message from the Commissioner



Today intellectual property is recognized not only as a driving force in the creation of national wealth but also as a key factor in coping with global issues, such as climate change and food shortage. Intellectual property is therefore essential for securing the welfare and prosperity of humankind.

The Korean Intellectual Property Office upholds the value of intellectual property rights and pursues a vision of being a world-class intellectual property office for the sustainable growth of the knowledge-based economy. We are endeavoring to realize that vision through diverse activities in the intellectual property field.



Domestically, we have hired highly qualified examiners and implemented a world-renowned automation system of intellectual property administration to provide high-quality examination services. In addition, for the commercialization of

intellectual property rights, we encourage the creation and utilization of excellent intellectual property and strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights at home and abroad.

Internationally, we have actively engaged in efforts to raise the efficiency of examinations and to harmonize the world's various systems of intellectual property rights. We do that by collaborating closely with other patent offices and with international organizations such as the World Intellectual Property Organization and APEC.

To facilitate the industrial innovation and growth of the national economy in the future, we will promote the intellectual property cycle by embodying the pragmatism and down-to-earth approach of the new government that came into office in February 2008.

Furthermore, multilateral cooperation will remain at the forefront of our efforts to develop a global system of intellectual property. At present we are committed to sharing our intellectual property experience with developing countries; we are also pursuing efforts to raise the quality of examinations and to reduce the examination workload by sharing examination results with other intellectual property offices.

Finally, I hope this annual report gives you a better understanding of our aims and activities as well as insight into our intellectual property systems, policies, and future direction.

Handwritten signature of Jung-Sik Koh in black ink.

Jung-Sik Koh
Commissioner