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Global IP Cooperation

International cooperation has been at the forefront of our endeavors to fashion a global IP community that values and rewards inventions. We have played an important role in various multilateral meetings organized by WIPO and APEC, not to mention actively participating in IP5 meetings. In 2013, we successfully hosted the TM5 Annual Meeting for harmonizing global trademark and design systems. We have also undergone FTA negotiations in order to form a stronger economic partnership. We have a deep commitment to using IP-based programs as platforms for sharing with foreign countries the success story of our cumulative economic experience.

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Collaboration



Lead role in multilateral fora

01

Multilateral meetings at WIPO

At the 51st WIPO General Assembly, which was held in Geneva from September 23 to October 2, 2013, KIPO Commissioner Kim Young-min delivered his keynote speech to introduce the Korean government’s strategies for an IP-based creative economy. He proposed the general direction for collaboration among the global IP community by highlighting the need to support developing countries, collaborate on examination, harmonize IP systems, and bolster the global economy through international cooperation.

In addition, Kim was the first KIPO commissioner to participate in the Group B+ meeting, where discussions for actual harmonization took place. There, he introduced achievements made in international patent examination cooperation, such as KIPO’s amendment of the Patent Act and expansion of international collaboration for the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) for simpler and more efficient acquisition of patents.

Meanwhile, we participated in working group meetings to expand global IP services like the PCT, Madrid, and Hague systems. We also participated in WIPO standing committees—such as the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), the Standing



Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), and the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)—to discuss global IP norm setting. Furthermore, we participated in permanent WIPO committees—including the Program and Budget Committee (PBC), the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), and the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC)—to discuss the WIPO budget, WIPO development agendas, and genetic resource protection.

02

Constructive Involvement in APEC Meeting

We have been constructively involved in IPR discussions under the APEC IPEG (Intellectual Property Rights Experts’ Group). We proposed an initiative on “IP-based Knowledge Sharing for Sustainable Development,” which was endorsed at the 36th IPEG meeting in January 2013 with the support of Chile, Mexico, Vietnam, and Papua New Guinea.

This project was aimed at enhancing APEC’s capacity for utilizing IPR strategies tailored towards developing economies and to raise awareness on the importance of developing appropriate technology in APEC economies.

FTA Negotiations on IP

The initiative was divided into the following: 1) a survey to identify and share information and experiences related to developing appropriate technology by using IP information within APEC economies; 2) case studies to demonstrate the development of the appropriate technology; and 3) a workshop to disseminate the experiences and information gained through surveys and case studies.

In accordance with the plan, we developed an oil-extractor prototype for the Philippines and a water pump for Papua New Guinea as appropriate technologies fitted to the local environment.

In addition, we proposed the “APEC Workshop on Appropriate Technology, Strategic IP Utilization for Sustainable Development,” and obtained APEC funding. We will work together with APEC and the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs to hold the workshop in Seoul in July of 2014.

Korea’s first free trade agreement (FTA) was signed with Chile (effective as of April 1, 2004), and since then further FTAs have been agreed upon with Singapore (effective as of March 2, 2006), EFTA² (effective as of September 1, 2006), ASEAN³ (effective as of June 1, 2007), the United States (signed on June 30, 2007, and effective as of March 15, 2011), the EU (effective as of July 1, 2011), Peru (effective as of August 1, 2011) and Turkey (effective as of May 1, 2013). In conjunction with India, Korea signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA⁴), which came into effect on January 1, 2010.

By signing FTAs with the EU and the United States, Korea has already reached a high level of IPR protection. Korea is expected to instigate future major FTA negotiations under the government’s FTA diversification policy.

In addition, FTAs between Korea and 3 other countries (Colombia, Australia, and Canada) are scheduled to come into effect soon.

FTAs between Korea and 6 other countries and organizations (New Zealand, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, RCEP⁵, and China-Japan) are currently under negotiation. Korea is establishing

Sharing IP

terms for resuming negotiations with 3 countries and organizations (Japan, Mexico, and the GCC⁶). In 2013, Korea also agreed on a modality with China during the 7th round of FTA negotiations.

01

Appropriate technology

Appropriate technology refers to technology tailored to the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic factors of a particular region. Often developed to help eradicate poverty or improve the quality of life for low-income groups, it is more economical and easier to implement and maintain than cutting-edge technologies.

We have provided appropriate technology to key national allies via technological information obtained from patent documents.

In 2011, in order to improve the quality of drinking water in Kountrei, Cambodia, we developed a low-maintenance water purifier with a simple design and structure that does not require electricity

2 European Free Trade Association: composed of Switzerland, Lichtenstein, Norway, and Iceland.
3 Association of Southeast Asian Nations: composed of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam.
4 Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement: term used for the agreement between Korea-India to emphasize the comprehensive nature of the economic relationship, involving economic cooperation, investment, service and trade. In actuality, it is equivalent to an FTA.
5 Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) scheme of the 10 ASEAN Member States and other countries (Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, and New Zealand).
6 Gulf Cooperation Council is a political and economic union of Arab states bordering the Persian Gulf, namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

for power.

We also expanded cooperation with two NGOs—Good Neighbors and Korea Habitat—in order to spread the benefits of the project and both advance and supply further appropriate technology throughout 2012.

In 2012, in collaboration with Good Neighbors, we developed a stove to improve home cooking facilities in Guatemala. In addition, with the help of Habitat Korea, we improved the insulation of bamboo houses in Nepal.

In 2013, we developed an oil extractor and provided it to farms in the province of Tarlac in the Philippines. We also developed and provided bicycle-operated water pumps to Pinu in Papua New Guinea.



02

Brand development project

Although there are many high quality local products in developing countries, because of a lack of attention to brand development, the majority do not receive the benefits of a proper marketing campaign. To resolve this problem, we, in collaboration with APEC in 2011 and 2012, supported brand acquisition through the One Village One Brand Project.

In 2012, we helped communities to acquire trademarks within their native Cambodia. After carrying out a demand survey, Cambodia’s Ministry of Commerce requested a brand-support project that would raise the quality and added value of its farmed goods. First, we helped them to develop brands for red rice and longan, a tropical fruit native to Southeast Asia. Then we helped them to secure the appropriate trademark rights.

In 2013, we developed a grain brand called Quinoa in Bolivia and a certified local brand in Tarlac. We also held a One Village One Brand seminar in the Philippines to share insights into brand development, as well as instances of IP utilization.



Furthermore, in April of 2013, we held, in collaboration with WIPO and the Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency, the Global Brand Strategy Conference for raising awareness of the benefits of brand development and the role of trademarks.



03

Korea Funds-in-Trust projects

In July 2004, we established a Funds-in-Trust (FIT) arrangement for Industrial Property with WIPO under the voluntary contribution of KIPO. The Korea FIT has no geographical limitation and covers all WIPO Member States.

The main objectives of the Korea Funds-in-Trust are as follows:

- To enhance cooperation between KIPO and WIPO for the strengthening of the intellectual property (IP) system for economic, social, and cultural development;
- To initiate long-term cooperation amongst countries of different regions on the use of IP as a tool for economic and technological development;
- To assist developing countries and least developed countries in enhancing their capacity for administering intellectual property rights (IPRs);
- To develop human resources and the use of IP for innovation promotion in developing countries; and
- To contribute to the promotion and utilization of global IP systems.

Over the past 10 years, the Korea FIT has made major achievements in enhancing socio-economic development, building capacities for IP offices, and increasing public awareness on IP in developing

and least developing countries.

It has also contributed to the dissemination and widespread use of PCT-ROAD—an electronic PCT application system—and IP Panorama among WIPO member countries. Projects such as IT consulting and the establishment of IP centers have provided KIPO with an opportunity to promote its advanced information technologies to the international community.

Under the goal of enhancing socio-economic development, annual appropriate technology competitions were held in a total of six nations. In 2013, the AT competitions were held in Vietnam, where a pool of 146 ideas for appropriate technologies were submitted and from which 15 were selected. About 300 people, including Vietnam’s Minister of Science and Technology, took part in the competition’s award ceremony, which was broadcast live on national public television.

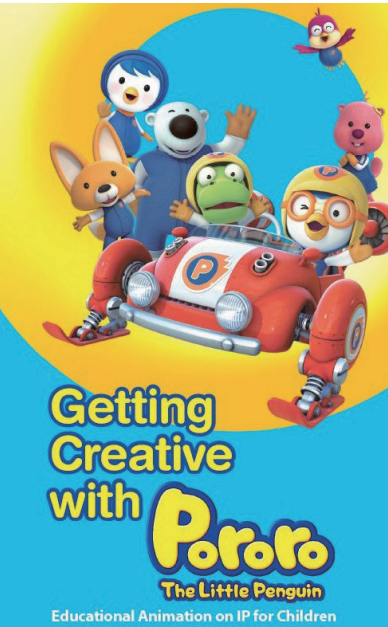
In an effort to build human resource capacity in the IP field, the ROK-FIT has performed 27 workshops, 7 study visits, and 21 expert missions to support capacity building of national IP Offices. The workshops mainly focus on the training of patent and trademark examiners, use of IP information, promotion of innovation, and technology transfer. The workshops provided the officials of IP Offices with opportunities to learn about advanced IP systems and policies. Expert delegates consulted

with IP officials and tailored their training to local needs.

With the aim of increasing the general public’s IP awareness, WIPO and KIPO jointly developed multimedia educational materials to familiarize children with the basic elements of IP. To appeal to the younger generation, an animation was created featuring the world-famous penguin character “Pororo.”

In 2013, dubbed versions were produced in French and Spanish to help children easily grasp the concept of creative IP. A guide and workbooks were also produced to support teachers in educating children on the fundamental concepts of IP.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the creation of ROK-FIT. Therefore, KIPO will hold a special ceremony



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during the WIPO General Assembly in September to commemorate ROK-FIT’s achievements over the past ten years and further promote global IP systems among WIPO member countries.



01

Bilateral cooperation

Throughout 2013, we remained actively involved in bilateral cooperation and held over 20 bilateral meetings with foreign IPR agencies.

First and foremost, we expanded the number of countries involved with the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and the PCT-PPH (Patent Cooperation Treaty-Patent Prosecution Highway). In 2013, we established PPH with Singapore

and Hungary, as well as PPH and PCT-PPH with Austria. By the end of 2013, we had established PPHs with a total of 14 countries, and PCT-PPHs with 4 countries. Agreements were also made to execute PPHs with Sweden, Israel, Portugal, and Spain beginning in 2014. This year, we plan to expand PPH to over 20 countries and PCT-PPH to over 16 countries, primarily through the Global PPH, which will involve 13 countries, and the IP5 PPH.

We held the Republic of Korea (ROK)-U.S. IP Judicial Conference in Korea in October of 2013 to broaden our understanding of each other’s IPR litigation process. In addition, we held a heads meeting between the two IP offices, during which we agreed to expand and enhance cooperation through the pilot Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) project, expert exchanges, joint development of invention education textbooks, and annual IT experts’ meetings. In conjunction with the European Patent Office (EPO), we held meetings on the timely provision of search results. This was done as a follow-up measure to our MOU on Exemptions from the Mandatory Submission of Search Result Copies according to Amendments to Article 141 of the Convention on the Grant of European Patents (EPC). We also agreed to hold joint seminars on the CPC and the unitary patent system of the EU.

We held a heads meeting with the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO)

of China in December of 2013 as part of our offices’ long-standing business partnership, and we signed an MOU on comprehensive cooperation, thereby ushering in a new era of IPR cooperation between China and Korea. With Japan, we agreed to review current cooperation in a wide range of areas, including patent examination, trademarks and designs, trial examinations, education, and IT. We also agreed to strive to further develop the relationship between our two offices.

In addition, the IP offices of Korea, China, and Japan held the 13th Policy Dialogue Meeting among the three countries. It was held in Sapporo, Japan, in November of 2013 and served to draw up measures for more effectively responding to increasing workloads. IPR user groups took part in the meeting and worked to enhance communication and information exchange with our key stakeholders.

We are also working hard to further our IPR cooperation with emerging economies in Asia and Latin America. During the Korea-Singapore IPR Heads Meeting, we agreed to joint research on IPR issues, cooperation on IPR education, and examiner exchanges. In addition, Singapore agreed to actively support the Korea-ASEAN cooperation as one of the leading countries within the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC). Singapore and Vietnam also agreed to cooperate with us in improving IPR protection and providing training to examiners. With the

United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in the Middle East, we held in-depth discussions for vitalizing IPR cooperation (including examiner training), exchanging patent publicity data, and cooperation in patent examination. In addition, we held IPR heads meetings with countries such as Chile, Israel, Australia, and Portugal to debate diverse measures for IPR cooperation as we seek to strengthen relationships with these increasingly important trade partners.



02

The IP5 framework

With examination backlog (the result of a rapid increase in patent applications) becoming a global issue, the patent offices of Europe, Japan, China, the United States, and Korea took time at the IP5 Heads Meeting held in Jeju, Korea, in 2008, to reach an agreement for the joint undertaking, through the three working-level groups of the IP5, of ten fundamental work-sharing projects.

In October of 2012, we successfully



completed the Common Application Format (CAF) project to produce one common application format for use among the five offices. At the 2012 IP5 Heads Meeting held in Corsica, France, we discussed the need for a realignment of the IP5, as five years had passed since the launch of the IP5 framework in 2007. As a result, we formed the Patent Harmonization Expert Panel (PHEP) as a platform for discussing the harmonization of patent systems and also the Global Dossier Task Force, which aims to develop the Global Dossier, an IT platform that provides patent information to the various IP offices via a single channel. There is expected to be much progress on the global examination program under the leadership of the IP5 now that they have agreed to cover global work-sharing issues, including the PCT and PPH, as discussion topics during the IP5 working group meetings.

The IP5 Patent Information Policy was adopted at the 2013 IP5 Heads Meeting held in Cupertino, California, allowing for patent information produced or

collected by the IP5 to be readily provided at low-cost to IP5 offices or third-party patent offices, thereby streamlining prior art searches among the IP5 offices. Furthermore, we agreed on a basic plan for building the Global Dossier, a platform for managing and viewing applications filed within the IP5 offices. We also agreed on an IP5 cooperation mechanism for enacting and amending international patent classification.

The next IP5 Heads Meeting, Deputy Heads Meeting, and Heads Industry Meeting are expected to be held in Korea in June of 2014.

03

The TM5 framework

As the chair office for the December 2013 TM5 Meeting, we hosted the annual event in downtown Seoul. The TM5 is an international trademark cooperation framework for the five

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leading trademark offices (KIPO, USPTO, OHIM, JPO, and SAIC). It was officially launched in May of 2012 as a cooperative effort for harmonizing various trademark systems. At the initial meeting, the five offices discussed enhancing applicant convenience and the harmonization of trademark systems via nine cooperative projects. At the 2013 TM5 meeting, we proposed a new project for comparing and analyzing examination, and it was met with the approval of the other member offices. This project is expected to enable comparisons of examination results among TM5 members when applicants

apply for the same mark in multiple offices, and it should help examiners in making the results easier to predict.

01

IT-related bilateral cooperation

At the 1st KIPO-OHIM (Office of Harmonization for the Internal Market) IT Experts’ Meeting held in Korea in January of 2013, the two offices introduced internal trademark automation systems and drew up measures for linking them together. We also agreed that continued discussion on IT is necessary, and decided to hold further meetings regularly. In September of 2013, KIPO and OHIM signed an MOU for regular bilateral exchanges of trademark information, thereby preparing the foundation for a conjoining of the two offices’ automation systems.

The KIPO-SIPO (State Intellectual Property Office of China) IT Experts’ Meeting was held in China in May of 2013. Discussions focused on each office’s role (in addition to other specific details) in pursuing the IP5 Patent Information Policy, the primary aim of which is free data exchange. In addition, we agreed as to the necessity for constructing a bilateral exchange system for right of priority documents (TDA-PDX). In December of 2013, we signed an MOU that allowed for the

electronic exchange of documents.

At the KIPO-JPO IT Experts’ Meeting, held in Japan in May of 2013, KIPO and the JPO (Japan Patent Office) discussed the current state of IT in each office and touched on future development plans. We shared information on KIPOnet III, as well as the progress of our patent administration IT Strategy Plan (ISP) and other future targets; while the JPO provided patent application updates, in addition to the revision of its office automation-optimization plan.

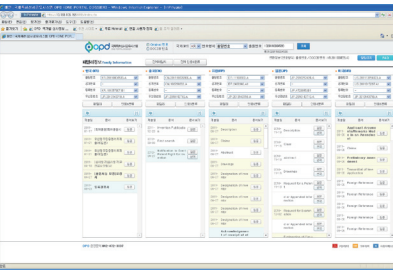


02

IT cooperation among the IP5 offices

From 2011 to 2012, in our role as lead Office of the IP5 Machine Translation Project, an IT-based IP5 project, KIPO successfully completed the error-checking and quality evaluations of the IP5 Machine Translation Project. Three of the patent Offices reached an appropriate quality level for possible utilization in prior art searches—which was the initial target of the Machine Translation Project in 2008. Furthermore, we proposed measures to integrate and link the machine translation services of each Office into an IP5 web-based service. We continue to strive to improve the quality and convenience of the IP5’s machine translation services.

In addition, we completed development on the Korean version of the One Portal Dossier (OPD) in 2013, providing examiners with simultaneous access to examination status updates from the various IP5 Offices. Pilot tests were carried out among the IP5 Offices from April to June of 2013, and our local variation of the OPD was opened to all IP5 offices later in August.



project, we built a platform for online fee payments, automated searches, and e-applications for Azerbaijan’s State Committee on Standardization, Metrology and Patents. In addition, in June of 2013, we participated in an international conference held to commemorate the 20th anniversary



03

IT-related official development assistance (ODA)

We have been using official development assistance (ODA) funds to support key national allies in developing office automation systems, thereby expanding our partnerships with those countries.

In May 2013, we completed the Azerbaijan patent informatization project, an ODA project of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) that we had been working on since February of 2011. Through the

of Azerbaijan’s patent office. There, we took the opportunity to publicize KIPOnet, which drew a great deal of interest from surrounding countries. We also held a bilateral working-level IT meeting with Azerbaijan, during which we agreed to sign an MOU for future cooperation on IPRs.

As of October 2013, we also started work on a project to improve patent informatization for the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), an organization for IP cooperation among 18 English-speaking African countries. The project is funded through a grant from KOICA and is expected to be completed within the next 2 years. Meanwhile, the KIPO-ARIPO High-Level Officers’ Meeting was held, and both organizations agreed to hold regular

working-level meetings involving designated officials for increased bilateral contact.

At the same time, through the Korea’s Ministry of Strategy and Finance’s System Consulting Project, in 2013 we consulted Vietnam and Angola as to the current state of office automation and future development plans.



understand storytelling methods and flash animation.

In 2009, IP Panorama was made available in the official UN languages, starting with the release of the Arabic version later that same year. Spanish and French versions soon followed, and the Russian version was released in 2013.

Last year, we also released international language versions of IP Panorama for Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Korea, bringing the total number of versions to 24.

In 2013, IP Panorama provided training to 600 people from 86 different countries.

The year 2013 also saw development on IP Ignite, an e-learning program based on WIPO’s DL-101 content. IP Ignite consists of 12 modules and gives an international legal perspective on IPR fundamentals, such as patents, trademarks, industrial design, copyright, etc.

Later this year, we plan to conduct a pilot test through WIPO Summer School Program, then undergo extensive feedback assessments. Our goal is to release IP Ignite to the world sometime in 2015.

We are also working to create new IP educational content for children. Game-based learning is especially effective in reaching out to today’s youth, considering how increasingly accustomed they have become to accessing digital mobile environments.

Last year, we developed a mobile game prototype for IPR instruction, and this year we plan to further refine the game in collaboration with international organizations and software developers in hopes of a 2015 launch.



International Seminars and Training Courses



In 2013, we cooperated with WIPO and KOICA to hold international seminars and provide 10 training courses customized for patent examiners at the Gulf Cooperation Council Patent Office, as well as patent and trademark examiners of such key national allies as Vietnam. A total of 152 people participated in the training courses. In addition, we successfully held 2013’s 4th Korea-China-Japan Heads of Training Centers Meeting and the 2nd Korea-China-Japan Joint Seminar, helping to increase IPR capacities in the private sector, as well as stimulate general public awareness of IPRs. We also participated in the 6th annual Global Symposium for IP Training Organization Heads, in which global IP training organizations shared experiences and drew up measures for the further development of IPR training. This led to a strengthening in our cooperation with worldwide training organizations and elevated our international status as an IP5 training organization.



< Statistics on international training courses in 2013 >

Category	Course	Main content	Dates	No. of participants
WIPO courses	WIPO Course on Patent Laws and Examination	Working-Level Training on Korea's Patent System and Examination	Mar 5-14	15
	WIPO Course on Trademark Laws and Examination	Working-Level Training on Korea's Trademark System and Examination	Apr 17-26	19
	WIPO Course on Design Laws and Examination	Working-Level Training on Korea's Design System and Examination	June 11-14	13
	WIPO IP Summer School	IPR Education for College Students and Young Professionals	July 1-12	14
	WIPO Asia-Pacific Seminar	Joint Research on Measures for IPR Development in Asia-Pacific (Income Projection and Financial Forecasting for IP Offices)	Oct 22-24	21
KOICA course	KOICA-OAPI IP System Course	Understanding Korea's IPR Policies and Visiting Industries	July 25-Aug 10	17
Customized courses	Course for GCCPO (Middle East) Patent Examiners	Introduction to Korea's Patent Laws and Examination System	Aug 26-29	9
	Course for Vietnamese Patent Examiners	Introduction to Korea's Patent Laws and Examination System	Sept 24-27	10
	Course for Vietnamese Trademark Examiners	Introduction to Korea's Trademark Examination System	Nov 5-8	25
	IP5 Joint Training Course for Patent Examiners	Introduction to Korea's Patent Laws and Examination	Dec 3-6	9
Total	10 courses	-	-	152

OAPI: Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle
GCCPO: The Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf