

Table of Contents

CNIPA and Italy's Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry Sign MoU on Geographical Indications 1
China Expands IP Protection Network to 73 Centers Nationwide 1
CNIPA holds Bilateral Meetings with IP Agencies from Multiple Countries and Regions 1
China's IP Progress Contributes to Economic Growth, International Cooperation 3

CNIPA and Italy's Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry Sign MoU on Geographical Indications

On the afternoon of July 28, under the witness of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, the Memorandum of Understanding Between the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry of the Italian Republic was signed at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Shen Changyu, Commissioner of the China National Intellectual Property Administration, and Italian Ambassador to China Massimo Ambrosetti signed the MoU on behalf of their respective administrations.

Both China and Italy agreed to cooperate in areas including the exchange of laws and policies on geographical indications, product promotion, and organization of activities, thereby enhancing economic and trade relations between the two countries.

https://english.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2024/8/2/art_1340_194080.html

China Expands IP Protection Network to 73 Centers Nationwide

The number of intellectual property protection centers under construction and in operation in China has reached 73, according to data released by the country's top IP regulator on Thursday.

These protection centers are distributed across 28 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, including two in South China's Hainan province, according to the CNIPA.

The CNIPA recently approved the construction of a national IP protection center in Haikou, the capital of Hainan. In the future, it will carry out rapid and coordinated IP protection work for the equipment manufacturing and biopharmaceutical industries.

Haikou's strategic attraction of research institutions and high-tech enterprises has propelled robust growth, with the combined output value of these two industries having exceeded 40 billion yuan (about \$5.6 billion) in Haikou in 2023.

"The IP protection center will further support the characteristic industries of Haikou in enhancing market competitiveness at home and abroad," said an official at the CNIPA.

<http://chinaipr.mofcom.gov.cn/article/centralgovernment/202408/1987371.html>

CNIPA holds Bilateral Meetings with IP Agencies from Multiple Countries and Regions

From July 9 to 10, during the Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland, the CNIPA held bilateral meetings with intellectual property (IP) agencies from Japan, Russia, Iran, South Africa, Spain, Saudi Arabia, and the African Intellectual Property Organization. The meetings facilitated in-depth exchanges on issues of mutual concerns, and reached a series of consensuses.

During the meetings, CNIPA Commissioner Shen Changyu provided updates on China's latest progress in IP. He emphasized that the Chinese government has attached great importance to IP work, and approved the establishment of an inter-ministerial joint conference system aimed at building an IP powerhouse, thereby enhancing top-level IP design. He highlighted the continuous improvements in IP creation, utilization, protection, management, and services, and the ongoing optimization of the innovation environment. Shen expressed willingness to work closely with all parties to strengthen communication and cooperation, providing better services for users worldwide.

The attendees expressed their desire to deepen IP cooperation with China, and advance exchanges in areas including IP finance, patent quality improvement, trademark protection, geographical indication cooperation, application of artificial intelligence in examinations, talent training, and services for small and medium-sized enterprises, to jointly support innovation and development.

https://english.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2024/7/26/art_1340_193975.html

SUPPLEMENTARY ISSUE

China's IP Progress Contributes to Economic Growth, International Cooperation

Just like many other fields, intellectual property (IP) development in China is currently undergoing a transition, seeing a greater focus on quality rather than a simple scale expansion. The latest efforts from China's top IP regulator were presented at a press conference on Monday, highlighting how this significant shift contributes to economic growth and international engagement.

Innovative growth

Shen Changyu, head of the CNIPA, noted the progress China has made in generating high-value IP, a key indicator of a country's innovation performance. With a population of 1.4 billion, China's ownership of high-value invention patents had climbed to 12.9 patents per 10,000 people by June this year, surpassing the national target set for the end of 2025.

Certain high-value patents produced by universities and research institutions have already been utilized in advanced, smart and green industries. And the contributions that patent-intensive sectors have made to China's GDP have risen to 12.7 percent, Shen said, citing the latest data and stressing the role of IP in driving innovative growth.

To support the development of emerging industries, China has continuously improved its patent examination efficiency for big data, artificial intelligence (AI) and gene technologies.

And the impact is particularly evident in the field of AI. According to the CNIPA, there were 378,000 effective AI invention patents in China by the end of 2023, representing a year-on-year growth rate of over 40 percent, which is 1.4 times higher than the global average.

China has also taken the global lead in number of generative AI patent applications, the WIPO reported earlier this month.

The surge in invention patents from industries such as AI has demonstrated strong innovation in the digital economy, which has been a crucial engine driving China's economic growth, senior CNIPA official Ge Shu said at the press conference.

International engagement

The term "international engagement" was heard frequently on Monday. Officials repeatedly emphasized the importance of emerging industries' participation in international IP governance, the implementation of strict punitive measures according to the highest global standards for IP protection, and enhanced IP cooperation with the rest of the world.

Shen said that China has signed agreements and established bilateral IP cooperation deals with 57 Belt and Road Initiative partner countries. Over the past decade, it has provided training to more than 1,200 IP officials and practitioners from those countries. And China's patent authorizations in the 57 countries have been growing at an average annual rate of 20 percent, with invention patents related to digital and green technologies experiencing even faster growth.

And, without a doubt, China's IP has also gained international recognition.

The number of foreigners applying for patent protection in China has been increasing. In the first half of this year, foreign applicants filed 78,000 invention patent applications in China, with that

figure seeing year-on-year growth of 13.1 percent. Japan accounted for the highest number of applications, followed by the United States and the Republic of Korea.

Committed to creating a fair business environment and ensuring strong IP protection for foreign enterprises, China has intensified its efforts to enhance legislation, implement efficient dispute resolution mechanisms, and establish regular communication channels to support foreign enterprises.

"Over the past year, we resolved several IP disputes involving companies from the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Thailand and Denmark. Our efforts have received high praise from foreign companies," said Hu Wenhui, deputy commissioner of the CNIPA.

China will enhance international IP cooperation further and align high-standard international economic and trade rules proactively, enabling foreign companies to benefit from the country's development in an improved manner, Hu added.

<http://chinaipr.mofcom.gov.cn/article/centralgovernment/202407/1987110.html>