# WIPO

# WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**2001**

**ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**[*]

submitted by the

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

An annual series of reports on the patent information activities
of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

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[*]
  – The term "patent" covers utility models and SPCs.
  – Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in the series of documents SCIT/ATR/ID.

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON
PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

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## I. Evolution of registration activities:

- **Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year;**

Although IPR applications had begun to increase again in 1999 after Korea's financial crisis in 1998, they started to slowdown in the latter half of 2000. The number of applications filed for patents and utility models in 2001 rose by only 5%, compared to a 25% increase in the previous year.

The number of registered patents and utility models in 2001 was 78,517, showing a 2.4% increase over the previous year. The largest number of applications was 62,015 in electricity/communications, followed by machinery. LG Electronics filed the largest number of applications (7,626), and among foreign businesses Japan's Sony still topped the ranks with 881.

| Classification | Applications | | Ratio of variation | Registrations | | Ratio of variation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2000 | 2001 | | 2000 | 2001 | |
| Patents | 101,738 | 104,612 | 3% | 34,894 | 34,675 | 0.1% |
| Utility Models | 37,076 | 40,804 | 10% | 41,726 | 43,842 | 5% |

There might be a marginal error due to the unprocessed written applications.

- **Trends or areas experienced rapid changes with respect to the previous year;**

PCT applications
Since KIPO began its function as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), there has been a continuous increase in PCT applications. During 2001, KIPO received 2,314 PCT applications; it performed 1,939 international searches and 970 international preliminary examinations. These figures show increases over the previous year of 47%, 51% and 139%, respectively.

Applications filed by women
Due to KIPO's policy of encouragement, applications by women showed a 21% increase, from 2,769 to 3,355. In its encouragement policy, KIPO enticed more women interested in inventions to participate in various exhibitions, it helped them embody their creative ideas by setting up a business and it rewarded them for their results.

## II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of Patent information:

- **Publishing, printing, copying (main types of publications of the office in the field of Patent information, etc.)**

Gazette publication
Hard copy: Until April 1998 hard copies of the official gazettes (the Registered Patents Gazette, the Registered Utility Models Gazette, the Unexamined Patents Gazette, the Unexamined Utility Models Gazette), which were published two or three times a month, two or three months after the publication date, were disseminated to the general public by mail.

CD-ROM: From May 1998 to June 2001, the official gazettes were integrated into two gazettes, namely the Unexamined Patents and Utility Models Gazette, and the Registered Patents and Utility Models Gazette, and published on CD-ROM with a mixed-mode data format and a user-friendly interface utilizing Mimosa from the EPO. They were distributed inside and outside the country. The new CD-ROM gazette has been issued with SGML data PDF documents, including the additional Korean language font for foreign users; it also supports English installation for users with an English OS. The Korean language version of Adobe Acrobat Reader should be installed for the gazette inquiry.

Internet: In July 2001, KIPO began posting PDF-formatted gazettes daily on its website. This has replaced the CD-ROM version although a master CD-ROM of each publication has been archived for permanent preservation. With this IT breakthrough, KIPO can expeditiously and inexpensively provide information to its customers while cutting down publication expenses and allowing users to gain easy access to information via the Internet.

- **Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of Patent information;**

KIPO's website
On KIPO's website, applicants can find the following information:
- Subsequent notices of applications filed with KIPO, when not delivered to an

applicant due to a change of address
- Pre-notice of expiration of a patent, due to non-payment of official fees
- Other notices such as changes in laws or fees

Internet gazette search service
In July 2001, KIPO launched an Internet gazette search service at its website, _____. Applicants can freely refer to PDF-formatted data via the Internet at any time during the opposition request period from the publication date. Even after the opposition request period, they can find the information at http://www.kipris.or.kr, the website of the Korea Institute of Patent Information (KIPI), which is a specialized IPR information service founded by KIPO in 1995. The search service allows applicants to be notified about their interests through a push-mail service.

- **Mass storage media used (paper, microforms, optical storage, etc.);**

Optical disc
For easier preservation and more efficient usage, KIPO stores patent documents in electronic media such as optical discs. In 2001 optical discs were used for the original copy of priority documents with relevant translations from 1999 to 2000, as well as for paper-based applications, including PCT documents, from 1992 to 2001.

- **Word processing and office automation;**

The KIPOnet system
To establish a paperless and fully-computerized IPR-administration system, KIPO established the KIPOnet system, which realizes the vision of e-government services for handling all IPR-related administrative procedures.

Due to this system, all kinds of intellectual property can be filed online. Internal administrative processes were computerized within KIPO, enabling computerized searching and examining. In addition, filed applications were approved electronically in a more transparent manner. KIPO was also able to communicate examination results with applicants via the Internet or mobile service, to publish official gazettes via the Internet and to handle all registration procedures online.

Since its launch, the KIPOnet system has been continuously improved, and its subordinate systems have been developed. The subordinate systems, which have more than two or three sub-systems, provide better access. They also prepare electronic documents such as reports and notifications for examiners, as well as managing information and data produced during all these processes. In particular, the KIPOnet system was enhanced in 2001 by the development of the supplementary systems below.

Online Trial System
Through the development in 2001 of the Online Trial System, which is linked to the

KIPOnet system, some parts of trial administration are now conducted online. The system allows the electronic preparation and receipt of trial-related documents. It also enables electronic distribution and online routing of relevant documents for the convenience of applicants and for the purpose of improving efficiency in trials.

General Administration System

The General Administration System provides electronic approval for each form-based work process and necessary item of information. It also helps in laying a foundation to stably operate the existing systems through solving problems that arise during the operation of the system, and by introducing the Intergovernmental Department Electronic Document Distribution System. The General Administration System handles all matters in relation to the establishment of a link to the Electronic Approval System of KIPOnet.

PCT International Search & International Preliminary Examination System

Concerning PCT business, KIPO's examiners can conduct prior art searches through the PCT International Search & International Preliminary Examination System. They can prepare an international search report for an international application, and send it to the International Bureau and the applicant. This report will be utilized by the applicant to determine the prior art status of the application. The applicant may then take action such as the amendment of a claim or withdrawal of the international application.

- **(New) techniques used for the generation of Patent information (printing, recording, photo-composing, etc.).**


## III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in Patent documents:

- **Abstracting, reviewing, translating;**

Korean Patent Abstracts

In 2001, KIPO published CD-ROMs of Korean Patent Abstracts (KPA) in English patent abstracts 18 months after they were filed, and distributed them domestically and abroad. The data was extracted from Korean applications consisting of 69,481 unexamined patents and 72,144 registered patents.

- **Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Patent Classification (IPC), other classification (please indicate whether or not Patent documents are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used);**

International Patent Classification

KIPO uses the International Patent Classification (IPC) as its official classification system. The pre-classification has been outsourced to KIPI. After the pre-classification has been made, each examiner confirms which subgroup an item should be classified under. Re-classification according to the revision of the IPC is not conducted. In 2001, 157,000 patent and utility model applications were classified in accordance with the IPC.

- **Coordinate indexing (ICIREPAT-types and/or domestic deep indexing systems, keyword indexing);**

KIPO does not have its own classification indexing.

- **Hybrid system indexing;**

- **Bibliographic data and full-text processing for search purposes.**

Since KIPO began publishing gazettes on CD-ROMs in May 1998, it has used the searchable SGML format in the establishment of the search system. It has also converted data prior to that time into SGML format. Currently, KIPO's examiners can do full text searches of unexamined patents and utility models published as far back as 1983, and examined patents and utility models issued from 1947, as well as gazettes from the JPO, the EPO and the USPTO, which are mostly image-formatted.

## IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

- **File building and Updating;**

KIPO continues to construct a database that contains information from such sources as the Unexamined Patents and Utility Models Gazette, the Registered Patents and Utility Models Gazette, the JPO's Patent Gazettes, Search Master and PAJ, the EPO's FPD and IFD, and the USPTO's Patent Specifications.

SGML database of patents and utility models

In 2001, the KR (Korean patents and utility models) data published from 1983 to April 1998, when gazettes were published in hard copy, was converted into SGML

and loaded into internal search systems.

Image database of rejected applications and trial-related documents
The following documents have been scanned and loaded into search systems: rejected applications from 1997 to 2000, trial documents from 1984 to 1993, PCT applications from 1992 to 2001 and priority documents from 1999 to 2000. This process obviates the need for KIPO to keep hard copies of these documents.

Korean Patent Abstracts
In 2001 KIPO loaded into its internal search system 69,000 abstracts of unexamined patents and 72,000 abstracts of registered patents (KPA). It disseminated them on CD-ROMs inside and outside the country. In addition, it has continued to accumulate or lease foreign data such as the IFD, FPD, CA and IEL.

E-commerce database and its dissemination
The e-commerce database, which was compiled from a total of 12 sorts of relevant literature, for instance reports and journals from national research institutes or academic, industrial and economic research institutes, was installed as a searchable service on KIPO's website in December 2001.

- **Storage, including mass storage media;**

Allotment of disc storage
In 2001, by moving all existing data to a hard disc, the search speed was remarkably improved. Important data was loaded onto a high-level disc and other data onto a low-level disc. By loading all the data onto medium and low-priced discs of 10TB, instead of the high-priced discs of 1TB, the budget was reduced by 4.2 billion won.

- **Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file**

Foreign data available through KIPO's search system consists of the following:
    Bibliographies: Search Master (JP/1975~), FPD (EP/1974~), IFD (EP/1974~)
    Abstracts: Japanese Patents (JP/1975~1996), FPD (EP/1974~)
     Full Texts: Japanese Utility Models (JP/1975~), USAPat (US/1975~),
    Espace-A (EP/1978~), Espace-B (EP/1990~), Espace-world (EP/1978~)

# V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems:

- **In-house systems (online/offline);**

For the convenience of examiners and, ultimately, to shorten the examination pendency period, KIPO has integrated and improved the functions and performance

of individually separated search systems. Its aim is to be able to search all data at the same time.

Integrated search environment and elaboration of the search system
In 2001, KIPO integrated the Patent/Utility Model Search System and the Bioengineering Search System with an integrated viewer for the purpose of realizing a "knowledge business environment"; it accomplished the knowledge business environment through linking to the Non-patent Literature Search System, the Administrative Processing System, and the Knowledge Management System. The integrated search system helps in improving the maintenance level of the separate search systems through their operational unification, and it provides a high possibility of further system development. KIPO has also developed the Business Method (BM) Search System, as well as elaborating individual search systems, including the Trial Search System.

- **External databases;**

Apart from KIPO's search system, data from the CA and the IEL has been used by examiners since 1977 and 1988, respectively.

- **Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);**

With the establishment of the KIPOnet system, all IPR administrative procedures have been automated. To manage the data produced in each phase of the procedure, to deal with matters that originate in the transfer of data to the next phase, and to speed up the administration of searches, KIPO uses the following subsidiary systems of KIPOnet:

General Information Management System
The General Information Management System outputs a variety of statistical and policy data relating to industrial properties such as patents, utility models, trademarks and industrial designs through using a variety of information retained by KIPO in database form. The system operates tools to efficiently manage large-volume data, and it provides various features for end-users.

Data Management System
The Data Management System simplifies the procedure to correct input errors by users and to change data in the old systems. It maintains a history of data changes, and guarantees correct data changes to promptly meet the requests of applicants and organizations.

Applied Process Monitoring System
The Applied Process Monitoring System aims to prevent the occurrence of problems caused by delays in work processing, and to provide information on the problem-managing status, by application type and by application form. If a problem occurs,

the system analyzes the cause of the problem and establishes measures to handle it.

Quality Management System
Strengthening the function of the KIPOnet Quality Management System, which was introduced in December 2000, has provided a basis for enhancing work productivity through the establishment of standardized processes; it has made it possible to efficiently operate resources through systematic process management; it has also made it possible to maintain the balance between an individual's workload and the developer's workload through a coordinated distribution of workloads among departments. The system allows for efficient quality management, as well as process improvement, through continual inspection of the system and improvements in customer satisfaction.

In November 2001, KIPO was granted an ISO9001 Certificate by the Korean Foundation for Quality for its development, management and servicing of the KIPOnet system. This assures that KIPO will maintain the excellent reliability and credibility of the system.

Knowledge Management System
The Knowledge Management System facilitates the sharing of information among staff members through integrated management of a variety of information and intellectual properties held by KIPO. It also provides this information optionally through personalized portals. The system is dedicated to the efficient management of knowledge and information retained by KIPO. It helps to activate knowledge management by improving the productivity of IP administrative processes through the already-established evaluation and reward system for knowledge activities. In September 2001, 5,448 individual items of information were posted on the relevant website, which showed the possibility of the construction of infrastructure for knowledge management.

- **Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used;**

By improving the IT infrastructure of the KIPOnet system, such as the server, discs and common software, KIPO's business processing has been accelerated.

Hardware
Together with the development of the e-Patent Portal System, it was necessary to increase the processing capability of reception and dissemination servers. To ensure a reasonable response, these servers were upgraded to the Enterprise Server (HP V2600). Additionally, Online Proxy Servers (HP A500) were configured to provide prompt reaction.

Network
To prevent e-filing service disruption, critical network devices were redundantly

installed, and redundant Internet service providers (ISPs) such as Korea Telecom and Dacom were implemented. Duplicate network connecting devices (e.g. routers, switches and firewalls) and duplicate ISPs could create high availability and provide redundancy if one device were to fail. This duplication also provides load balancing in routing traffic.

For storage sharing among servers, a storage area network (SAN) was introduced to the KIPOnet system. The SAN improved the efficiency of the data storage and reduced the workload related to disk management.

Software
In 2001 KIPO also set up Customer Request Management software for the e-Patent Portal System and Gdomino for handling the connection with other governmental offices related to the electronic approval system.

- **Existing online thesauri; their structure, presentation and usefulness for computerized searches.**

**VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, for assisting clients on searching procedures, for obtaining official publications and registry extracts):**

- **Planning, administration, automation, security, buildings;**

- **Collecting, acquisitions, preparation;**

IP Library
The IP Library contains patent documents, such as bibliographic data, abstracts and full texts, in paper, microform or on CD-ROM, on the basis of mutual exchange from 21 countries and four international organizations. The total amount of patent documents preserved includes 16,112 CDs, 19,833 films, 261,613 microfiches and 3,201 cartridge tapes. The library also possesses non-patent documents that have been donated or purchased from other sources, including approximately 22,787 volumes and 507 periodicals related to science and technology, and CD-ROMs of annual reports and statistics.

- **Collection management, preservation;**

The above-mentioned materials are arranged by class or numerical order. All of these

materials can be searched by KIPO's examiners or by the public. An electronic database is also provided at the Internet corner of the IP Library.

- **Interlibrary lending, resource sharing, networks of Patent libraries in the country;**

Agreement on exchange of information resource
Since KIPO became a member of the Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information in 1978, it has been provided with an inter-library loan service and document delivery service for a variety of IP-related publications.

NDSL service
Last year, KIPO joined the National Digital Science Library (NDSL), a service run by the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, which provides academic theses and scientific journals in 200 domestic libraries or information centers.

- **Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and Patent information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web).**

e-Patent Portal System
KIPO established the e-Patent Portal System, which was designed for reforming KIPO's website into an online service site for the cyber community. The system provides, through a unified portal, diverse IP services including web-based online applications, specification preparation using a commercial word processor, simplification of preliminary procedures, Internet gazettes and customer relationship management. This has enabled more forms to be submitted online, as well as mutual online communication between KIPO and its customers by e-mail or mobile phone. By securing this channel for a variety of users, the limitation of one-sided notification has been overcome. As a result, KIPO can accumulate the applicants' feedback for making better policies and establishing IT strategy in the future.

IP Mart
To create opportunities for the online transfer of patented-technology and to overcome the limitation of short-lived brick and mortar technology fairs, the IP-Mart, which stands for Internet Patent Mart, was launched at http://www.patentmart.or.kr in April 2000. By November 2001, potential technology transfers and licenses reached over 42,000. The IP Mart also gives a variety of information on intellectual property to individual inventors and to small and medium sized enterprises for the purpose of promoting innovation.

Korean Patent Abstracts Search Service
Since July 2001, the KPA data search has been enabled for the general public at
KIPO's English website, http://eportal.kipo.go.kr:8581/home/portal/ehtml/index.jsp,
as well as through the KIPRIS service by KIPI. The service also provides up-to-date
information concerning the legal status of each application. Legal status information
is updated weekly, allowing applicants to determine the current status of their
application.


## VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of Patent documentation and information:

- **International or regional cooperation in the exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., bibliographic data, abstract and/or full text information;**

The 3rd and 4th Information Technology Experts Meetings between KIPO and the
JPO
In 2001 KIPO and the JPO had meetings for their IP experts, in February and
November, to deepen understanding of mutual computer systems. They exchanged
information pertaining mainly to technical matters such as the electronic filing of
applications, network and data exchange, retrieval systems and retrieval databases.
At that time, the two Offices agreed on the electronic exchange of priority documents
and free access to their respective IPR databases.

INPADOC data
Since 1978 KIPO has complied with the agreement between the EPO and KIPO to
supply free of charge bibliographic data from official gazettes to EPIDOS free of
charge for the INPADOC database in machine-readable format. Since 2001 the KPA
has replaced Registered Patents and Utility Models as the source of bibliographical
data provided to the EPO.

- **Medium used for exchange of priority documents;**

Exchange of priority documents with the JPO
According to an agreement for the exchange of priority documents with the JPO,
KIPO developed a system of managing priority documents in June 2001. Since July
2001, both Offices have exchanged CD-ROMs; this will continue until online
exchange is established.

- **Medium allowed for filing applications;**

KIPO permits applicants to file their applications online, on paper or on floppy disc.
All paper-based applications are converted into electronic format. Specifications and

drawings submitted to KIPO, as well as bibliographical data on a floppy disk, are uploaded to the KIPOnet system.

In the case of e-filing, applicants can easily prepare electronic documents in SGML format using the original e-filing software called Korean Electronic Application Preparation Software (KEAPS), and file their application via the Internet. Since the e-filing system was launched in 1999, it has been elaborated continuously in its functions. In 2001, the e-filing rate reached an average of 81.4% for all IPRs. In particular, 93.1% of patent applications were filed online. KEAPS has the following merits:

- Easier exchange of documents with other countries due to the adoption of WIPO ST.32
- An encryption algorithm and an electronic signature based on PKI
- Able to create and print out all kinds of KIPO application forms
- Prevents any syntax errors by validating each item while creating an application form
- Automatic switching between English and Korean, finding address by ZIP code, and managing an applicant's database
- Automated preparation of complementary statements while checking for document revisions.

Strengthening the e-filing service

In 2001, to improve the function of e-filing software, KIPO completed the development of a web-based editor, the so-called W-KEAPS, by applying state-of-the-art technology to form processing. Through this software, applicants can make electronic documents with commercial word processing software such as MS Word, *Hangul, or KEAPS. (*Hangul is the most popular word processor in Korea.) More than 95% of application forms can now be filed online, showing improvement in the online service for the general public. Preparation procedures for e-filing have been simplified, making it is easier to file an application through the KIPOnet system. The electronic signature has also been renewed in accordance with international standards.

Issuance of electronic signature key

To expedite the online application process, KIPO has shortened the procedure for granting electronic signature keys, enabling applicants to get them within a day of requesting their issuance.

- **Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the Changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents (please make a status report on the extent to which your Office has changed over to electronic data carriers for the exchange of Patent documents).**

KIPOnet's link to TriNet for exchanging electronic documents

In May 2001 at the Trilateral Technical Meeting held in Washington, D.C, the Trilateral Offices agreed to allow KIPOnet to be connected to the TriNet for electronic document exchange. KIPO agreed with the JPO to establish a network between both offices, which would be a basis for linking to TriNet; at the end of 2001, it finished its technical preparation for the connection.

**VIII.  Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of Patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries:**

- **Training courses for national and foreign participants, use of audiovisual means;**

Cyber International Patent Academy

The Cyber International Patent Academy is an online training course. Its contents and database were completed by the end of 2001, and the online service will be possible in 2002. Its trainees are very diverse, from elementary school students to senior citizens who are interested in IPRs and inventions. The course will be available via the Internet. Trainees can share relevant information, including basic knowledge of IPRs from experts in areas such as industry, law, administration and education.

Remote training program between Daejeon and Seoul

Through the Multimedia Training Center established in September 2000, remote training is possible for our customers between Daejeon and Seoul. KIPO's headquarters moved to Daejeon from Seoul. However, with more than 25% of Korea's population living in Seoul, it has more IPR applicants than any other city in Korea, and it is still very important to promote invention and to disseminate IPR-related information to its residents. At the Multimedia Training Center, KIPO can meet these needs by offering online training through means of remote lectures on diverse training programs, including a beginner's program on IPR, information searches and a user's guide for e-filing. This program can be extended to local users within a few years.

- **Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.);**

Technical assistance for developing countries

With the experience and know-how learned from the development of the KIPOnet system, KIPO has endeavored to provide technical assistance to developing countries that have started to develop their internal automation for IPR administration, or have faced some difficulties in conducting relevant business. In particular, in 2000 we provided a consultation service to the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) in Brazil through dispatching an engineering consulting team to their office in accordance with a formal request from their commissioner. As a result, both offices agreed in March 2001, in the Record of Discussion, that KIPO would provide the INPI with further technical cooperation for its internal automation system related to IPR administration. In addition, KIPO had a promotion tour to neighboring states Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia. KIPO is planning to expand its capacity to assist IPOs in developing countries that would like to initiate an automation plan.

On-the-job training for trainers and instructors of intellectual property
1) Objective: To provide trainers/instructors with an opportunity for exchanging information on topical and emerging issues in the field of intellectual property; to provide an opportunity for exchanging information on policies, strategies, approaches and experiences in the field of teaching and training in intellectual property.

2) Dates: Five working days from March 19 to 23, 2001.

3) Participants: Approximately 30 participants from 12 countries including Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Korea.

4) Organizers (training institute): WIPO and the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI)/KIPO.

Training course on the intellectual property system
1) Objective: To provide experience and knowledge on the intellectual property systems and industrial development strategies in both Korea and in other advanced countries; to help participants develop expertise that could maximize the efforts of their respective countries to improve their national IP system for economic and technological development; to assist participants in developing the IP system in their respective countries.
2) Date: March 29 - April 11, 2001; September 13- 26, 2001 (14 days).
3) Participants: Thirty-three participants from 14 developing countries including Bangladesh, Bulgaria and Uzbekistan.

4) Organizers: KIPO and the IIPTI, in cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

**- Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);**

Guide to the KIPOnet system
To help foreigners understand the KIPOnet system, we published a guidebook in English, entitled "Introduction of the KIPOnet system". Hard copies and CD-ROM versions have been disseminated to visitors at KIPO and to staff going abroad on business trips.

Seminar on intellectual property rights for IP-enforcement staff members
1) Objective: To promote IPR protection measures such as preventing the counterfeiting of products, reviewing the current situation and establishing the enforcement system on intellectual property rights in the Asian region.
2) Dates: June 26, 2001 - June 29, 2001.
3) Participants: 20 participants from China and Vietnam, respectively, and twenty participants from Korea and Japan, mostly government officials engaged in IP enforcement.
4) Organizers: KIPO/IIPTI and the JPO.

The APEC International Symposium on IP & IT
The APEC International Symposium on IP & IT was held under the co-sponsorship of WIPO and KIPO from 19 to 23 November 2001, with the participation of 33 governmental officials from 14 APEC member economies. Dr. Kamil Idris, Director General of WIPO, delivered a keynote speech under the title "Closing the Digital Gap in the Global Knowledge-Based Economic Era."  The symposium provided a forum for IT experts from the USPTO, the JPO and APEC's IP-related public officials to discuss possible cooperation for IPR administration and information technology. The discussion also covered the expansion of technology transfer to developing countries and the formation of a strategic partnership in the international community.

WIPO Asian Regional Seminar on IPRs
1) Objective: To examine the respective role of the governments and the user sector as well as the links and interaction between them and to explore effective means to increase and facilitate the use of the IP system by users and user organization.
2) Date: October 17-19, 2001. The duration for the seminar at the IIPTI, Daejeon, was three nights and four days.
3) Participants: Approximately a hundred participants, including speakers and IPR decision makers or experts from 22 countries including China, Indonesia, Brunei, Bhutan and the USA.
4) Organizers: Co-sponsored by WIPO and the IIPTI.

- **Studies to identify trends in new technology, e.g., by the use of Patent statistics, preparation of monographs, etc.;**

Patent Information Analysis System
KIPO has developed an upgraded version of the Patent Information Analysis System (PIAS) (version 2.0), which aims to analyze and draw up a patent map (PM). This has been disseminated to research institutes and the private sector, including small and medium enterprises or venture business, academies and individual inventors. The website http://www.patentmap.or.kr was constructed to provide a real-time service for PM results of core technologies. Furthermore, at http://www.kipo.go.kr/html/ntechnique.html, NEO-TEC, the Associate of Trends analysis of New Technology & Patents, has published the reports of 24 technology areas.

- **Assistance furnished by offices to facilitate the changing over of receiving offices to electronic data carriers for the exchange of Patent documents (see also item 4 of Chapter VI, above).**


**IX. Other relevant matters.**


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