

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS EXPERTS GROUP (IPEG)

Report for the

CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

For AMM's information

(a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2024

- Given the difficulty obtaining APEC funding for IPEG Projects, several IPEG member economies proactively implemented self-funded projects to advance APEC's various deliverables and even IPEG's Work Plan for 2023-2024. These include:
 - The Philippines' self-funded project, entitled: *IP Financing Dialogue with Industry Partners*;
 - The United States self-funded project, entitled: *Enhancing Innovation with More Efficient Patent Systems: Tools, Resources, and Worksharing*;
 - Chile's self-funded project, entitled: *Trends and Developments in IP Protection of Software-Related Inventions in the APEC Region*; and
 - Russia's self-funded project, entitled: *Using Emerging Technologies in IP Offices' Workflows*.
- Peru was able to successfully start the implementation of its APEC-funded project, entitled: *Guidebook on digital enforcement to improve fight trademark counterfeiting*
- To further collaboration with stakeholders IPEG Chair served as a speaker in the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) and Asia-Pacific Financial Forum (APFF) roundtable with the theme: *Setting the Stage for IP Financing: The Connection between MSME Financing, Innovation and Sustainability*

(b) Work undertaken by fora in pursuit of the [Putrajaya Vision 2040](#), including through the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\)](#)

Various activities undertaken by the fora directly implement APA Collective Action: *"Promote adequate and effective protection and enforcement of intellectual property, including by providing capacity building, particularly to spur economic development and innovation"*

- Hong Kong, China shared its plan on how to use IP as a driver for economic growth. In particular, Hong Kong, China shared its strategies such as being a regional IP trading center and its positioning as an international innovation and technology (I&T) center and an East-meets-West center for international cultural exchange, to give a synergistic effect to its development as a regional IP trading center.
- Indonesia outlined how various ministries work together to build awareness of the importance of IP protection. For IP protection and enforcement, Indonesia has established a task force consisting of law enforcement agencies that expedite the resolution of IP cases. To promote IP protection to spur economic development, Indonesia strengthens the capacity building of women, indigenous people, students,

academics, law enforcement officials, MSMEs, and businesses on the importance of IP protection to support a healthy climate of innovation and creation in the economy.

- Canada presented an update on the Canadian Intellectual Property Office's (CIPO) latest developments and highlighted CIPO's ongoing work in the Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Accessibility arena to advance the implementation of the Aotearoa Plan of Action and the Putrajaya Vision.
- Chinese Taipei outlined its Latest Advances in Promoting the Digital Economy and Innovation in the context of APA actions: In 2016, Chinese Taipei launched the DIGI+ program to drive comprehensive digital transformation and innovation across the environment, society, and industry. In the realm of IP, to support the growth of digital startups, Chinese Taipei is currently working on particular sectors including smart cockpits, digital medicine, and AI medical materials. This effort includes providing patent analysis, research reports, and customized consulting services to assist these industries with patent protection and portfolio development strategies. Additionally, Chinese Taipei promotes IP concepts such as patent application, search practices, and protection through activities such as the From IP to IPO, FITI, and the Patent Drafting Workshop.

For Individual Actions, below are all the initiatives showcased by member economies during the two IPEG meetings in 2024:

Contribution to Bangkok Goals on BCG and the 2023 San Francisco Principles.

- Chile outlined how its Institute of Industrial Property's (INAPI) experience in the WIPOGREEN Latin American acceleration project has advanced through Phases 1, 2, and 3 and provided lessons learned to date. The project deals with climate-smart agriculture in Latin American economies including Chile and Peru. The chosen approach is focused on directing activities on specific crops and regions, connecting producers seeking technologies with providers of green solutions, searching for funding sources, and providing technical assistance on technology.
- In 2022, China issued the Green and Low-Carbon Technology Patent Classification System, which clarifies the basis for statistical monitoring of green and low-carbon technology patents. In 2023, China set up a Green Intellectual Property Promotion Center in Zhejiang Province to provide operational services in the areas of database construction, patent navigation, integration of patents and standards, intellectual property transactions, open licensing, and patent industrialization, focusing on the inclusive sharing of green and low-carbon technologies.
- Indonesia described how its IP application process has become paperless, benefitting the environment and the IP applicants who register their IP from anywhere and at any time. The economy's 33 Regional Offices throughout the territory continue to provide in-person guidance and expertise. Furthermore, through Geographical Indications (GI), Indonesia has contributed to the green economy through environmental preservation, pursued by the community that manages the current 138 GI-registered products through the Geographical Indication Protection Society.

- Japan shared with the group about the introduction of the Green Transformation Technologies Inventory (GXTI), which is an inventory published by the Japan Patent Office (JPO) in June 2022 that gives a bird’s-eye view of technologies related to Green Transformation (GX) and provides the patent search formulae for analyzing patent trends that correspond to individual technology categories. The presentation also included an overview of WIPO GREEN and the Latin American Acceleration Project in Argentina; Brazil; Chile; and Peru connecting green tech providers and seekers and supporting the development and diffusion of environmental innovation. Over 129,000 technologies, needs, and experts have been registered, and more than 2,500 users have utilized them across the world.
- Singapore shared that it has embarked on an internal study to enable a better understanding of the trends in green trademarks in Singapore and the frequency with which goods and services specifications of Singapore trademarks reflect issues related to sustainability. The preliminary results will be shared on World IP Day in April 2024.
- Chinese Taipei presented an introduction to the Accelerated Examination Program (AEP) for invention patents as part of its initiatives in the field of green technology. In addition, Chinese Taipei conducts the report for patent technologies related to environmental management in the semiconductor industry based on ESG reports and industry interviews. It analyzes the current landscape and trends, offering insights for the semiconductor industry and supply chain as they transition to green manufacturing, guiding their research and development endeavors in this domain
- Chile presented on the strategic use of patent technological information of Patents in the Context of the Sustainable Productive Development Program “Raising Patent’s Technological Information for a Sustainable Productive Development Model”. The main topics covered referred to the sustainable productive development model (SPDM), the role of the INAPI, and the 2024 focus of work.
- Singapore provided an intervention and informed the meeting on cooperation between the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO), who would be co-organizing an associated event themed “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) X IP” in conjunction with IPOS’ flagship event, IP Week@SG 2024.
- Chinese Taipei outlined the economy’s Updated Measures for Promoting Green Intellectual Property Initiatives. In March 2022, Chinese Taipei announced its Pathway to Net-Zero Emissions in 2050 to align with the global net-zero trend. In the realm of IP, Chinese Taipei has actively increased awareness and attention to sustainable technology development and IP protection through the following measures:
 - Expanding the qualifications for the Accelerated Examination Program to include "green technology."
 - Engaging with industries such as semiconductors, offshore wind power, and electric vehicles, and using the GPSS to conduct searches and analysis on green patents.
 - Planning future collaborations with industries to address issues related to green energy distributed power supply.

Contribution to the La Serena Roadmap

- Canada highlighted the internal and external initiatives at the CIPO to provide strategic support to underrepresented groups. It provides an in-depth overview of CIPO's People Management Framework and the recent work to deliver on CIPO's 2023-2028 Equity, Diversity (including gender diversity), Inclusion, and Accessibility plan. Externally, the presentation briefly highlights IP awareness and education outreach activities to reach, inform, and actively engage with stakeholders from underrepresented communities across Canada.
- Chile addressed the Gender Agenda of the Institute of Industrial Property of Chile, referring to the actions envisioned to close the gender gap as well as several reports from its database and the Gender Network.
- Japan presented JPO's team that is dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion (D&I) and participates in various international initiatives aimed at improving the DEIA situation among IP offices. Some of the initiatives JPO supports include the Global Mentoring Program (GMP) and WIPO's Community Enterprises Program (WEP), which provides support to community enterprises from IPLCs in Peru; Bolivia; Colombia; and Ecuador. JPO also conducts research on how gender and inventor diversity can promote innovation and affect patent quality and quantity. Additionally, they interview IP professionals to discover role models and create tools to design their own career visions.
- Korea's presentation focused on the current status, challenges, and impact of career breaks on women's inventing activities and their utilization of IP. Korea recommends launching customized support programs by stages for women to prioritize gender equality and boost support for new inventors. The survey conducted for the presentation identifies the need for specialized support during a career break for women inventors.
- Peru shared some of the activities carried out during 2023 to bring women closer to IP, which allows the economy to continue the fight to reduce the gender gap and create better opportunities to empower women through IP. These include strategic alliances, contests, exhibitions, IP publications, events, workshops, seminars, and social networks, among others. And Peru shared IP statistics to show how women's participation in IP has increased.
- Russia is committed to promoting women's participation in high-tech industries, creative industries, and technical professions. Women's role in the business sector in Russia has improved significantly, with one-third of leading positions held by women and many women entrepreneurs stating that conditions for starting a business have improved. Women are increasingly involved in innovation work in Russia and are responsible for a significant number of patented inventions.
- Canada provided an intervention outlining its ongoing work to promote full and equal access for women's participation in the intellectual property system. This includes our ongoing commitment to the Global Trade and Gender Arrangement (GTAGA), CIPO's IP Awareness and Education programs, and FemTech-IP

Management Clinic program with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Israel Patent Office.

- Chile presented the INAPI Gender Agenda's advancements regarding gender data collection and analysis, showing recent gender-disaggregated data and assessment.
- Korea presented its Empowering Women Initiatives for IP, including the 2024 Korea International Women Inventors' Expo (KIWI), which featured over 400 inventions from 20 foreign economies. Korea also expressed gratitude to KIPO's partner IP offices that participated in KIWI. Additionally, Korea highlighted the launch of the Advisory Council for IP Support for Women, aimed at enhancing support policies through collaboration with industry, academia, and legal experts. These initiatives reflect KIPO's commitment to empowering female innovators and fostering global collaboration.
- Peru shared an update of its activities carried out to bring women closer to IP from a patents perspective, which allows the economy to continue the fight to reduce the gender gap and create better opportunities to empower women through the patent system. These include strategic alliances, contests, exhibitions, publications, events, workshops, seminars, and social networks, among others. And Peru shared statistics to show how local women's participation in the patent system has steadily increased since 2015.
- Peru presented Activities Focusing on Empowering Women through the Use of Distinctive Signs. For this, Peru updated members on initiatives carried out during 2024 by the Distinctive Signs Directorate to strengthen women's business skills through the use of Distinctive Signs, including the creation of new gender-based indicators to measure female engagement on IP collective tools, as well as training activities destined to female inmates and entrepreneurs.

Support for the Multilateral Trading System

- Indonesia noted that it joined the Madrid Protocol and is currently increasing the terms of protection of Industrial Design to align with the Geneva Act 1999 (Hague System) to 15 years. The economy also continues to push for articles recognizing genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions (GRTKTCE) in every international negotiation as well as bilateral and regional negotiations.
- Russia shared the experience of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) with regard to concluding Free Trade Agreements. Within the Union, IP falls under coordinated policies. Despite the fact that there are extensive provisions in IP in the EAEU, domestic regulations remain crucial for regulation and thus targeted integration initiatives are being done to develop a harmonized approach towards the promotion and protection of IP rights.
- Canada; Chile; and China presented their experience in negotiating IP Chapters in Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). The main topics covered were the role of IP in these agreements and the negotiation process of IP chapters.

Genetic Resource, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (GRTKF) / Traditional Cultural Expression (GRTKTCE)

- China shared that it gives great importance to both domestic regulations (passage of the Administration of Human Genetic Resources and amended rules on patents to cover materials containing genetic functioning units) and international cooperation (WIPO legal instrument) with regard to GRTKTCE.
- Indonesia continues developing its GRTKTCE database to make an inventory of Indonesian GRTKTCE assets. Indonesia also lent its support to the Regional Meeting on the Diplomatic Conference on Intellectual Property, GR, and TK associated with GR in Bali last year and will participate in the next Diplomatic Conference in Geneva in 2024.
- Peru outlined its implementation efforts of a law that establishes the protection regime for the collective knowledge of Indigenous Peoples related to biological resources; specifically, the development of intercultural guides to promote the regime among Indigenous Peoples.
- Russia continues to focus on education campaigns, especially for indigenous groups who are unaware that the results of their intellectual activities could and should be protected as IP rights. In 2023, Rospatent and WIPO Russia held a workshop on IP and the protection of TKTCE aimed at increasing awareness about the IP system and how it can serve the needs of the indigenous peoples.
- Peru provided an intervention on Traditional Knowledge protection. Peru recognizes the rights of Indigenous Peoples to dispose of their collective knowledge, understood as Traditional Knowledge, as they see fit, as they are part of its intellectual property. An example of this work is the development of various intercultural guides, the last of which is on the protection of the collective knowledge of indigenous peoples through records, in Spanish and translated into 4 indigenous languages: Quechua, Aymara, Asháninka and Awajún. This guide promotes the registration of collective knowledge by Indigenous peoples themselves, to contribute to safeguarding and preservation, and explains in detail the steps that indigenous peoples must follow to register their collective knowledge in Indecopi, and also at the local level with their Local Registries.
- The Philippines presented Article 3 of the WIPO Treaty on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (GRATK) concerning disclosure requirements in patent applications. It was shared that the Philippines' patent, utility model, industrial design, and copyright forms now include a section requiring applicants to declare whether their submission involves GRTKTCE. If the application does contain GRTKTCE, the applicant must also provide a corresponding Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) from the relevant Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Cultural Community as an additional required document.

Geographical Indications (GIs)

- Peru shared their recent declaration of protection of their 11th appellation of origin (AO): “Orégano de Tacna”. In doing so, they described how the protection procedure was carried out and outlined the main challenges during the processing of the application, as well as the next steps to promote this new Peruvian AO domestically and abroad.
- Russia put into force the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement and has been receiving international applications for the registration of AOs and GIs since August 2023. Furthermore, Rospatent promotes the Lisbon system by a) publishing a guide for the registration of GIs and AOs, b) creating "Regional brands of Russia" on the official Rospatent website, and c) organizing training seminars in Russian regions.
- The United States highlighted the importance of substantive examination, adversarial use of experts and evidence in opposition proceedings, and illustrative recent caselaw relating to geographical indications.
- Indonesia outlined that in Indonesia, the year 2024 has been designated as the Year of GIs by the Directorate General of Intellectual Property (DGIP), Ministry of Law and Human Rights. This means that GIs will be designed to receive special attention from DGIP and GI-related stakeholders. DGIP has developed policies to support the implementation of various programs in order to succeed in the GI Year. In addition, we will also update the number of registered GIs in Indonesia.
- Korea presented its GI protection mechanisms, with a specific focus on the example of Naju Pear. The presentation covered the dual protection system under the Trademark Act and the Agricultural Products Quality Control Act. Korea explained the substantive, subjective, and procedural requirements for registering a GI Collective Mark under the Trademark Act, emphasizing the geographical connection and the unique qualities attributed to the region.
- Mexico presented its recent experience in the development of a new GI.
- Peru presented an update on its AOs – Café Villa Rica and Cacao Amazonas Perú. In the case of Café Villa Rica, Peru outlined recent modification of its Regulation of Use and the main impacts of it; and in the case of Cacao Amazonas Perú, they shared information regarding the recent issuance of the resolution that authorizes the operation of its Regulatory Council.
- Papua New Guinea provided an intervention as an update on the Protection of Geographical Indications.
- Russia presented “Specifics of Legal Protection of Regional Brands in the Russian Federation. Practice of Applying New Legislation” - The presentation is devoted to the specifics of the GIs and AOs' legal protection in the Russian Federation. In 2020 a new IP rights object - GI - was introduced into the Russian legislation. The presentation contains information about the current legal practice and Rospatent’s

activities on GI promotion in the Russian regions as well as recent statistics.

- The United States presented disclaimer practices in the United States and how disclaimers provide transparency and public notice.

Protection of Design

- Indonesia shared that recent amendments to their Industrial Design (ID) law are to increase its effectiveness, harmonize it with international developments, create a conducive environment, and strengthen the law. ID protection includes recordation and registration, where maximum protection is 5 years counted since the product was first commercialized in Indonesia and can be extended for another 5 years, twice.
- Japan introduced recent developments of design law domestically to protect a wider variety of designs including designs for graphical user interfaces (GUI), interiors, and buildings. Japan also implemented new border measures in 2022.
- Korea shared about their recently amended design protection law to improve the protection of related designs. This system aims to lessen the proliferation of counterfeit products.
- Russia shared that there was an increase in design applications and emphasized the importance of protecting new types of designs such as GUI. Russia also reiterated the development of a uniform approach to design protection consistent with WIPO.
- United States presented on “Industrial Design Policies and Initiatives” and other recent developments in industrial design policies and initiatives in the United States and at the WIPO.

Supporting the IP needs of Micro-, Small-, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

- Canada shared different IP initiatives for MSMEs such as its participation in a survey to understand better the needs of MSMEs and youth with the main objective of plugging knowledge gaps currently not addressed by other sources of information. Canada also shared the IP Village initiative – an industry-wide collaboration to help businesses and entrepreneurs better understand how to effectively utilize IPs.
- China created a guide on intellectual property for MSMEs that tackles IPR protection. China also strengthened IPR protection on online platforms and set up a total of 112 IP Protection Centres, a one-stop rapid collaborative protection for IPRs.
- Indonesia outlined activities and engagement programs it offers to involve its 6.4 million MSMEs in annual IP programs and also maintain creative programs to improve their business and bring IP services/ information closer to the public.
- Korea recognizes that supporting SMEs, which make up 99% of Korean enterprises, is crucial for domestic economic prosperity. In this regard, it actively promotes SMEs by a) supporting SMEs’ activities to develop and manage intellectual property through providing patent big data analysis in their competitive field; b) offering specialized examination services to ensure swift and secure intellectual property

protection for SMEs' innovative and emerging technologies; c) endeavoring to provide essential funding through IP finance and patent technology commercialization funds, thereby enabling SMEs to continue innovating and maintain competitiveness in the global market. Actively incorporating feedback from SMEs into policy-making, Korea is committed to addressing the challenges faced by these businesses and promoting their sustainable growth.

- The Philippines shared about the different initiatives such as the (1) SciTech Superhighway – designed to facilitate the filing of applications for the registration/grant and protection of IP rights particularly inventions, utility models (UMs), IDs and trademarks (TMs) resulting from the Department of Science and Technology's (DOST)-supported researches, studies and innovations, including those from MSMEs; (2) Copyright Plus Program – aimed at educating creators, particularly the underrepresented sectors, on the economic and cultural benefits of protecting their copyright; (3) “Juana Make a Mark” – a trademark registration incentive program that allows eligible women-led MSMEs to have their trademarks registered at a reduced cost; (4) Juan for the World – aims to help Philippine MSMEs' advance globally by protecting their trademarks under the Madrid Protocol; (5) WIPO Committee on the Development of IP (CDIP) Projects to address technology creators (e.g., academic and research institutions, enterprises) and technology intermediaries, including Technology Transfer Offices (TTO), and Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and build their capacity to engage in, and support innovation collaboration; and (6) various activities engaging other potential GI products involving MSMEs.
- Russia offers state registration services and paid services. Such services are offered to every type of company and person, not specifically to SMEs. Russia has developed several IP support programs aimed at facilitating technology development and alleviating particular issues for SMEs, including loans to SMEs with IP as collateral, tax-free inventory, patent box, tax exemptions, coordination with the Russian Export Center, R&D cost coefficient of 1.5, and the registration of trademarks by self-employed workers.
- Korea presented updates on two APEC-funded projects for 2025. First, "A Practical Guide to Safeguard Trade Secrets for MSMEs in APEC Economies" is a cross-forum project with the Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG). This project, currently under APEC Secretariat review, aims to enhance the capacity of SMEs by providing a guide on managing key assets and protecting confidential information. Second, Korea reported on the progress of the "Invention Education for Young Innovators" project, highlighting amendments made based on APEC Secretariat feedback. The key change involved excluding youth participation elements due to APEC regulations, while retaining the core objective of promoting Invention Education to develop future talents with IP literacy and innovative thinking skills.
- China presented its experience in meeting the IP needs of MSMEs.
- Indonesia presented an update on Indonesia's Strategy to Meet the IP Needs of MSMEs, which involves creative programs to improve their business and bring IP services/ information closer to the public. The latest MSME activity was showcasing

their products, including GI products to an international exhibition. Taking place in Geneva, Switzerland, Indonesia as part of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Booth, displayed more than 100 Geographical Indication products and exhibited at the WIPO General Assembly. The Indonesian Booth received a positive response from the meeting participants and the international community.

- The Philippines shared about the first-ever Philippine Trademark Conference (TMCon), a three-day conference that offered plenary and breakout sessions on trademark protection, enforcement, valuation, and commercialization, and featured an exhibit of selected brands, product identification seminars for law enforcement, and a consultation and registration booth for walk-in filers. TMCon also provided a platform for sharing best practices and success stories from prominent trademark owners, inspiring more business owners, particularly MSMEs, to prioritize trademark protection and leverage it for business success.

Creative Economy

- The Philippines shared that for the implementation of the ASEAN Copyright Information Network (ACIN), a centralized page for copyright-related information in ASEAN, the compilation of ASEAN Member States' (AMS) Copyright Laws, Policies, and Strategies is being updated in light of the amendments on the copyright-related laws of AMS such as the Philippines; Thailand; and Viet Nam. Once the compilation is updated, it will be uploaded to the ASEAN IP Portal for information and reference of all stakeholders.
- Chinese Taipei shared the experience of organizing competition on patent portfolio analysis to promote IP utilization and develop patent portfolio professionals. The competition is conducted on the GPSS (Global Patent Search System) platform, where competitors can search for patents, analyze statistics and charts, and even build advanced technology functionality matrices directly on the platform to identify technology evolution and development trends and other important information. Besides, the role of "Guidance Coaches" and complimentary pre-competition training courses are set in the competition. Since 2023, Chinese Taipei has invited corporations to contribute to themes of the competition, designed to cater to practical needs and forefront focus areas within the industry, ensuring the challenges presented are aligned with the ever-evolving trends in the industry. This motivates businesses to actively participate in in-depth industry analysis, build patent portfolios and develop competitive strategies.
- The Philippines reported its recent policy direction committing to become the top creative economy in ASEAN by 2030. IP was emphasized to play a crucial role in protecting and commercializing the creativity and innovation driving the industry. The Philippine Creative Industries Development Council (PCIDC) recently embarked on a trade mission to forge partnerships and develop strategies that will unlock the potential of the creative sector. The Philippines emphasized that a robust IP framework is essential for fostering innovation and creativity, which are key to achieving its goal.

IP Financing and Commercialization

- Canada discussed the challenges facing IP-backed financing including valuation and lack of understanding of intangibles. There are ongoing initiatives such as the Business Development Bank of Canada's (BDC) IP-backed fund to make funding accessible to IP-rich SMEs. CIPO plays a key role in supporting IP-backed financing by conducting research, increasing awareness, and engaging in dialogue with stakeholders. The potential benefits of IP ownership for SMEs include increased business value, revenues, and better business prospects. The global value of intangibles has increased tenfold over the last 25 years, making it important for policymakers to support IP-backed financing.
- Singapore launched the Intangibles Disclosure Framework (IDF) in September 2023 as part of the Singapore IP Strategy 2030. Jointly developed with the industry/private sector, the IDF enables enterprises to disclose and communicate the value of intangibles to stakeholders in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Singapore is also working with industry, including with the Institute of Valuers and Appraisers Singapore (IVAS) to develop IA/IP valuation guidelines that are interoperable across jurisdictions.
- Canada provided an intervention updating member economies on Canada's stance on IP-backed financing referring to a number of initiatives taken by Canada to address the challenges around IP-backed financing, such as IP Village, Elevate IP, Business Development BCD IP Backed Financing Fund program. As well as the coming publication of a joint Canada-WIPO report on Canada's IP-backed financing journey.
- China presented an update on its IP financing and commercialization efforts.
- Hong Kong, China provided an update on the recent implementation of the "patent box" tax incentive in Hong Kong, China for encouraging the industrial and research and development sectors, creative industries, and IP users to engage in more IP creation and exploitation for IP trading activities. The tax incentive provides tax concessions for profits sourced in Hong Kong, China, and derived from eligible IP assets generated through research and development (R&D) activities. The concessionary tax rate is set at 5%, which is substantially lower than the prevailing normal profits tax rate in Hong Kong, China (i.e. 16.5%).
- Japan presented an update on the IP Business Report for IP financing which aims to help SMEs achieve sustainable growth that will increase their corporate value over the medium to long term by providing a management strategy that accurately represents their corporate value and future potential.

Innovative ways to enhance IP systems and emerging issues/evolving technologies

- Canada outlined its IT Modernization Initiative (ITM). ITM is a CIPO-wide effort to leverage new technologies to modernize, harmonize, and integrate IP services across various lines of business. IT Modernization at CIPO comprises two distinct portfolios to implement front and back-of-office solutions. The presentation also

provided an overview of the Next Generation Patents (NGP) system and the timeline for delivery.

- Chile presented a proposal for a self-funded project on “Trends and Developments in IP protection of Software-Related Inventions in the APEC region.” The study aims to analyze trends in IP Protection of software-related inventions to promote innovation and connectivity in a global economy, gathering information on the Industrial Property Office’s criteria, administrative guidelines and any notable case law on the matter, among others. The analysis and insights gained from this self-funded project by Chile will be used to provide valuable data and constructive dialogue among APEC Industrial Property Offices, businesses, and researchers.
- China attaches great importance to the development of artificial intelligence and other technologies, as well as the risks and challenges they pose. First, China has built a smarter, more convenient, accurate, and efficient intellectual property protection system, and promoted the widespread application of scientific and technological means such as "intelligent trademark identification" and "non-intrusive inspection" in the fight against infringement and counterfeiting. Secondly, China has strengthened the monitoring of the dissemination of AI-generated content and paid attention to complaints and reports of AI-generated content in the crackdown on online infringement. Thirdly, given the difficulty of the traditional "licensing model" to match the development speed of artificial intelligence, combined with the revision of the supporting regulations of China's copyright law, China focuses on the issue of "text and data mining exceptions".
- Japan presented an update on JPO’s recent experience, including an Action Plan for Utilizing AI technology in the areas of patent classification, concept search, advanced search, application of LLM, prior graphic trademark search, designated goods/services search, prior character trademark search, and similar image retrieval system. JPO also introduced AI examination support team and examination case examples on AI/ Internet of Things (IoT) -related technologies. The Manga Patent Examination Guidelines by JPO for AI/Internet of Things (IoT) fields are available in multiple languages and provide easy-to-understand, comprehensive guidance on patent eligibility, novelty, inventive step, and description requirements.
- Korea outlined a) the main elements of a recent government-published guide on copyright issues concerning artificial intelligence as well as b) the main features of the recently-opened Copyright Museum of Korea.
- Russia explained that in 2023, Rospatent was part of an experiment to optimize and automate the processes of government functions, which allowed it to significantly reduce time to provide a number of services. The speeding up processes associated with a) the creation of new systems and services that speed up and simplify communicating with applicants, and b) the use of AI in systems. Russia therefore outlined the development of new information retrieval systems of Rospatent, the implementation of WIPO standards in the process of developing systems, and the implementation of AI in the overall workflow processes.
- Singapore shared about IPOS’ flagship annual event, IP Week@SG, which has become the world’s premier innovation conference for the sharing of insights on IP

and innovation matters while bringing the government, business, tech, and legal communities together to foster new and energize existing partnerships. Stakeholders can expect a 2-day Global Forum on IP (GFIP) Conference; a 2-day exhibition and associated events plus the WIPO-IPOS IP Innovation Awards. Past event program discussion on key issues such as “Navigating IP Challenges in Generative AI”. IP Week@SG 2024 will be held on 27-28 Aug 2024. Singapore looks forward to member economies’ support and participation in the event and would discuss intersessionally with the Chair, secretariat, and host economy to deconflict with the 59th IPEG meeting dates.

- Canada presented an update on CIPO’s Digital Modernization – namely on its Next Generation Patents (NGP), as well as ongoing work around artificial intelligence and the right to repair under the purview of copyright legislation.
- Chile presented findings from a self-funded project on “Trends and Developments in IP protection of Software-Related Inventions in the APEC region.” The study analyzed trends in IP Protection for software-related inventions, a key element in promoting innovation and connectivity in a global economy. The insights gained from this self-funded project by Chile will provide valuable findings for constructive dialogue among APEC policymakers, businesses, and researchers. The project examined the legal basis for software-related inventions’ protection in various economies, as well as recent developments in the criteria applied by the economies’ Patent Offices for patent requests, and administrative guidelines, amongst others.
- Hong Kong, China gave a presentation concerning the public consultation conducted in Hong Kong, China on copyright and AI, which sought to enhance the Copyright Ordinance regarding the protection of AI technology development and ensure that the copyright system of Hong Kong, China encourages creation and investment in creativity while supporting innovation.
- Korea outlined the government's policy efforts to address copyright issues in the era of generative AI, including the work of the AI-Copyright Working Group in 2023-2024. It also highlights the Seoul Copyright Forum's role in fostering international dialogue on these issues, with contributions from experts from various economies.
- Korea outlined the current status and achievements of Korea's cooperative ties with APEC economies in the field of copyright and shared plans for the expansion of future cooperation. The ultimate goal is to propose the establishment of copyright networks with APEC economies.
- Russia provided information about a Project Proposal “Using Emerging Technologies in IP Offices' Workflows”, which aims to study the use of emerging information technologies by the IP Offices of the APEC economies in their workflows. The project steps include the distribution of the questionnaire and analyses of the APEC IP Offices’ trends in using such technologies resulting in the report that can be used by both IP Offices and other stakeholders within the APEC economies.
- Singapore presented an update on the IPOS event: IP Week@SG 2024 - Following the earlier presentation at the 58th IPEG meeting. Singapore informed that the 2024

Global Innovation Index (GII) Science and Technology (S&T) Cluster Ranking would be launched during IP Week@SG on 27 Aug 2024. The yearly WIPO's GII ranks the global top-100 S&T Clusters to pinpoint the metropolitan areas that show the most vibrant scientific and inventive activity around the world. For the first time, an event is specifically dedicated to unveiling the 2024 S&T cluster ranking. The program will also include high-level statements from top-performing clusters and an expert panel on what makes innovation thrive in cities.

- In addition, IPOS in close collaboration with the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) will be co-organising an event on “SDGs and IP” on 28 Aug 2024. Increasingly, Governments and businesses are leveraging IP as a strategic tool to advance critical SDGs. IP, encompassing patents, trademarks, copyrights, and other intangible assets, plays a pivotal role in driving innovation, fostering economic growth, and addressing global sustainability challenges.
- In this session, a leading food tech company and a prestigious university will showcase their sustainable business practices and impactful research initiatives. In addition, a Singapore-based company will unveil an innovative AI-driven patent analysis tool. This tool provides in-depth insights into the intersection of IP, Green Transformation, and SDGs.
- JETRO, JPO, and IPOS would highlight their respective initiatives and programs aimed at aligning IP strategies with the SDGs, demonstrating the commitment of domestic IP offices to support green transformation and drive meaningful contributions in achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Noting that the launch of 2024 WIPO GII S&T Cluster Ranking and SDGs X IP events would be held in a hybrid format, this provides a good opportunity for APEC members who would not be able to attend IP Week in person to be able to participate online instead. Singapore shared that they would circulate the registration link for both events following the meeting to be circulated to APEC members.
- Chinese Taipei outlined recent initiatives for Patent System Enhancement: Sharing Chinese Taipei's 3 initiatives for enhancing the patent system, including (1) two new expedited examination programs: AEPDe and AEPRe, (2) a new patent examination mechanism for emerging technologies: collaborative examination, and (3) a patent innovation promotional activity “Patent Go.”
- Chinese Taipei also presented updates on trademark-related legislations. The Trademark Act and related regulations, including the Regulations Governing TM Agent Registration and Management and the Operational Procedures for Accelerated Examination of Trademark Registration Applications, have been amended/enacted and took effect on 1 May 2024.
- Chinese Taipei shared an update from a 2016 DIGI+ program to drive comprehensive digital transformation and innovation across the environment, society, and industry. In the realm of IP, to support the growth of digital startups,

Chinese Taipei is currently conducting interviews and exchanges with sectors including smart cockpits, digital medicine, and AI medical materials. This effort includes providing patent analysis, research reports, and customized consulting services to assist these industries with patent protection and portfolio development strategies. Additionally, Chinese Taipei promotes IP concepts such as patent application, search practices, and protection through activities such as the From IP to IPO, FITI, and the Patent Drafting Workshop.

- The United States presented “U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Guidance, Reports, and Initiatives Related to Artificial Intelligence” in which the economy highlighted guidance, reports, and initiatives related to artificial intelligence (AI), including guidance on inventorship, patent eligibility, and AI-based tools for practitioners.
- The United States provided a summary from the 15 August workshop “Enhancing Innovation with More Efficient Patent Systems: Tools, Resources, and Worksharing” and previewed a second workshop in 2025. The first panel provided an overview of the patent landscape and trends related to the global growth in patenting and the volume of information available as prior art. The second panel provided an overview of the benefits and challenges of leveraging the work products of other offices. The third panel discussed the importance of identifying prior art, including through the use of artificial intelligence tools, and examples of leveraging work products from other offices. In the fourth panel, the speakers highlighted formal worksharing arrangements between IP offices. The United States plans to host a second workshop next year to explore this topic in further depth, including how worksharing programs operate to alleviate resource and process burdens.

Anti-Counterfeiting and other Enforcement-related Activities

- China paid attention to the key areas, markets, sectors, and products vulnerable to IPR infringement and counterfeiting, carried out overall plans and targeted actions, realized effective rectification and deterrence, and thus further purified the market environment. First, rectification in key areas was deepened. Through the "Sword Network 2023" special action, 1,513 cases of online infringement and piracy were investigated, 2,390 infringing and pirated websites were closed, and more than 2.44 million infringing and pirated links were deleted. Through the 2023 special action to crack down on theatrical film piracy and dissemination, more than 53,000 links to infringement and piracy of theatrical films have been deleted, and 224 illegal websites (APPs) have been closed. China launched the 2023 "Iron Fist" campaign to investigate and prosecute cases in the field of people's livelihood, investigating and prosecuting 44,000 cases of trademark infringement, counterfeiting of patents, and other illegal cases. Secondly, further strengthen the remediation of key products. In 2023, China destroyed more than 200 varieties of counterfeit and shoddy anti-epidemic materials, food and drugs, clothing, shoes and hats, tobacco and alcohol, cosmetics, and pirated publications, weighing 4,734.2 tons and worth CNY 830 million. Thirdly, rectification involving key processes was deepened. In 2023, China carried out the “Longteng” campaign to comprehensively strengthen IPR protection, the “Blue Net” campaign to protect the IPR in delivery channels, and the “Clean Net” campaign to protect the IPR of export transshipment goods, detaining 62,000 batches of suspected import and export infringing goods, involving 82,889,000 pieces of goods.

- Japan introduced law amendments on new border measures and prevention of conduct of imitation of forms in digital space, and shared experiences in cooperating with police and customs and contributing to the crackdown on counterfeit goods. The presentation included a counterfeit goods identification seminar at overseas offices and anti-counterfeiting campaigns including lessons at high schools and raising awareness through manga movie.
- Korea introduced the Korea Copyright Protection Agency (KCOPA). KCOPA engages in various activities to promote and protect copyright in Korea, including copyright awareness campaigns, response systems against copyright infringement, and international cooperation. KCOPA is involved in fact-finding surveys and the production of statistics on copyright infringement, research and development of technology for copyright enforcement, and provision of support to investigate and regulate copyright infringements. KCOPA is committed to strengthening cooperative ties with investigation agencies from other jurisdictions and promoting digital copyright infringement forensics to ensure proper enforcement of copyright laws.
- Peru gave an update on their APEC-funded project for a “Guidebook on Digital Enforcement to Improve Fight Trademark Counterfeiting”. In January, the Letter of Acceptance (LOA) was received and signed for APEC funding by APEC. On June, the implementation of the project begun with the selection of the contractor. Currently, the contractor is carrying out the research and data collection activities for the drafting of the guidebook.
- Peru also outlined activities on IP protection in the digital market. Knowing that commercial agents have adapted to the digital market after the pandemic, it has been important for the fight against counterfeiting to adapt. INDECOPI summarized the principal challenges local authorities face in dealing with counterfeiting on the digital market, as well as the measures adopted through modification of domestic laws and signing collaborative agreements.
- The Philippines provided various updates on efforts to improve IP enforcement in the economy which include: (1) Rules on Voluntary Administrative Site Blocking or the Supplemental Rules to Memorandum Circular No. 2020-049 known as the “Revised Rules of Procedure on Administrative Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR); (2) Conduct of the IP Enforcement Summit (IPES 2023) of November 2023; (3) Soft launching of the IPTracker system; and (4) introduction of IPOPHL’s new Anti-Piracy Ambassador in partnership with WIPO “Matteo Guidicelli.”
- The United States presented the INFORM Consumers Act, which requires online marketplaces to verify and share information on high-volume transaction third-party sellers in an effort to deter bad actors from selling stolen or harmful goods.
- China presented an update on its anti-pirate enforcement efforts.
- Korea presented its efforts in IP protection conducted by the KIPO IP Police, which include anti-counterfeit enforcement in offline markets, cooperation with INTERPOL, and the IP Respect Campaign during the MLB Seoul Tours.

- Peru provided an intervention on Digital Enforcement including Website and Mobile App Blocking Measures and Training Activities. INDECOPI has ordered precautionary blocking measures to prevent access to piracy websites in Peruvian territory. To do so, it has taken into account that the investigated sites meet a series of factors such as the existence of multiple authors and affected owners, among others. The blocking measures are ordered on the basis of the evidence gathered on the mode of operation of the pirate websites and are ordered to be complied with by the Internet service providers. As a result of INDECOPI investigations in 2020 and 2021, an order was issued to block 147 web pages that infringed copyrights by allowing unauthorized access to works through acts of Streaming (accessing works without the need for permanent downloading); Stream-ripping (allowing permanent downloading of music and video from streaming platforms such as YouTube and various social networks); Linking (access to lists of links that allow access to works through external sites). The blocked sites allowed access to works such as movies, series, record productions, graphic novels (Japanese manga), etc. Similarly, in 2022, INDECOPI ordered a blocking measure that included a set of 51 sites that streamed television broadcasts containing sporting events including the Qatar 2022 World Cup. INDECOPI has also blocked 328 web pages that infringe copyrights. In 2024, INDECOPI managed for the first time to achieve the goal of pursuing acts of piracy carried out through mobile applications.
- Peru communicated a summary of the 16 August workshop “Digital Enforcement to Improve Fight Trademark Counterfeiting”, which is part of the development of the APEC-funded project “Guidebook on Digital Enforcement to Improve Fight Trademark Counterfeiting”. The morning session of the workshop had three panels. In the first one, APEC officials addressed the main problems identified in their economies regarding trademark counterfeiting in the digital environment, as well as some of the public policies implemented to combat it. In the second panel, private sector representatives addressed IP strategies to combat trademark counterfeiting in the digital environment, as well as some of the public policies implemented to combat it. The third panel addressed the collaboration between the public and private sectors on digital enforcement to improve the fight against trademark counterfeiting. During the afternoon session, there were working groups that discussed challenges faced by digital trademark counterfeiting, as well as proposals for potential strategies, initiatives, and public policies to combat trademark counterfeiting in the digital environment. Also, Peru provided information on the project’s next steps.
- The Philippines shared key developments on anti-counterfeiting and piracy initiatives such as the enactment of Republic Act No. 11967 (Internet Transactions Act), the creation of more advocacy videos with the Anti-Piracy Ambassador, the expansion of the Philippine MOU on eCommerce initiative, and the launching of the "Pirated Inferno," an Anti-Piracy Comic Book. Additionally, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) issued its first site-blocking request under Memorandum Circular 23-025, known as the "Rules on Voluntary Administrative Site Blocking," targeting the notorious piracy site YTS, including its 11 mirror sites, to combat online copyright infringement.
- United States presented “Public Awareness and Outreach to Address Trademark Scams.” The United States presented public awareness and outreach to address

trademark scams, including a description of the problem and efforts to build awareness of scams.

IP Education

- Canada outlined its approach to IP awareness and education services. Seeking to reach as many target audiences as possible, Canada presented the current state of IP awareness in Canada and its priorities under this mandate. The presentation provided an overview of the tools it has developed to inform about IP rights, including e-learning modules, the Canadian IP Voices podcast, and economy-wide webinars on various IP topics.
- Hong Kong, China presented the results of a study on the IP-intensive industries in Hong Kong, China. The study aimed to educate the public and the stakeholders about the economic contributions of the IP-intensive industries of Hong Kong, China in relation to GDP, employment, and wages.
- Japan shared latest activities to promote IP utilization by entrepreneurs including Push-type Assistance Service for Startups (PASS), IP Acceleration program for Startups (IPAS), VC-IPAS, IP Knowledge BASE for Startup (IP BASE), and new agreement with WIPO on strengthen cooperation in supporting SMEs. Japan also presented JPO's I-OPEN Project which integrates IP rights in solving social issues, providing continuous support and mentoring for startups, NGOs, and individuals. JPO also held seminars and other events in six cities throughout Japan to raise public awareness of IP, especially among SMEs and mid-sized companies that are unaware of its importance.
- Korea presented its IP education and capacity building efforts as well as a proposal for an APEC-funded project on "IP & Education for young innovators." The project entails gathering practices in youth invention education programs, assessing them through literature review and questionnaire-based studies, identifying best practices, and discussing policy development with APEC participants and experts. The project aims to foster creativity and expand the culture of invention and IP education among youth by providing an education that teaches respect for intellectual property, creativity, convergence, collaboration, and problem-identifying/solving skills, and integrating them into entrepreneurial contexts.
- Russia talked about several Rospatent initiatives carried out to promote IP education in Russia, including large-scale educational activities and the establishment of competency centers. Despite the high demand for certified IP professionals in the Russian economy, the supply of relevant educational programs and graduates is limited. The Federal Institute of Industrial Property (FIPS) Scientific and Educational Center has become the leader in additional education in the field of IP in Russia and has also established a master's degree program.
- The United States presented updates on their Go For Real Anti-Counterfeiting Campaign, a joint initiative by the USPTO and the Non-profit Organization called the "National Crime Prevention Council" (NCPC) aimed at educating teens, caregivers, educators, and law enforcement about safe buying behavior and how to spot fake products. The campaign features various resources such as online games,

<p>activity kits, printable handouts, Public Service Announcements (PSAs), and social media graphics that discourage the use of fake beauty, electronic, health, and safety products, among others. The US also showcased several infomercials starring their Anti-counterfeit mascot: McGruff the Crime Dog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The United States provided an intervention on Inclusive Approaches. ● The United States presented an update on its Go For Real Anti-Counterfeiting Campaign, which educates teens and tweens about safe buying behavior and the importance of decreasing the demand for counterfeit goods.
<p>(c) Work Undertaken by the fora in response to Ministerial, SOM and CTI direction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All aforementioned proposed APEC-funded and concluded self-funded projects of the IPEG align with the priorities of the Ministerial, SOM, and CTI. These projects took into consideration how their output and outcome will eventually contribute to the overarching goal of various APEC documents.
<p>(d) Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IPEG has continuously discussed how the fora can deepen the engagement of economies to significantly contribute to the various deliverables highlighted in the various APEC documents such as the Aotearoa Plan of Action, the Putrajaya Vision, the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth, the Bangkok Goals on BCG Economy, and the San Francisco Principles on Integrating Inclusivity and Sustainability into Trade and Investment Policy, among others. ● Apart from the usual topics discussed in IPEG, the forum has continuously incorporated new agenda items such as IP Financing and Commercialization, as well as innovative ways to enhance IP systems and address emerging issues and evolving technologies, which were previously not discussed in IPEG. This will ensure that the discussion in IPEG remains relevant and responsive to the developments and ever-evolving nature of the field of intellectual property.
<p>(e) Private sector / Stakeholder engagement and cross-fora collaboration in 2024 (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ABAC ● APFF ● WIPO ● International Trademark Association (INTA)
<p>(f) Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers (if applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nil