JPO’s Experience in Promoting Intellectual Property (IP) and Cooperative Activities with African Countries

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Director General
Patent Examination Department
Japan Patent Office
About Japan
1. Overview of JPO

2. National IP Policy in Japan


4. JPO’s Cooperative Activities with Africa
1. Overview of JPO
1-1. Location and Organization

Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry

Japan Patent Office

Agency of Natural Resources and Energy

Small and Medium Enterprise Agency
1-2. JPO Building
1-3. Inside the JPO

Japan Patent Office
- General Affairs Dept.
- Trademark and Customer Relations Dept.
- Patent and Design Examination Dept.
- Trial and Appeal Dept.
1-4. Role of the JPO

1. Granting industrial property rights
2. Establishing initiatives on industrial property
3. Promoting international harmonization and assistance to developing countries
4. Reviewing the industrial property rights system
5. Supporting SMEs and universities
6. Providing information and services involving industrial property
1-5. Personnel in the JPO

Total: 2,837 employees (FY2014)

- Patent Examiners: 1,702
- Judges: 387
- Trademark Examiners: 142
- Design Examiners: 49
- Office workers: 557
2. National IP Policy in Japan
Development of Japan’s IP system

1884 Enacted Trademark Law
1885 Enacted Patent Law
   (Established the Patent Office)
1888 Enacted Design Law
2-2. Improvement of IP and Development of Economy

- Positive correlation between Number of Patent Applications and GDP
In the late 1990s, there was growing concern about the decline in the international competitiveness of Japanese industries.

Sources: IMD “World Competitiveness Yearbook 2001”, etc
“As one of our national goals, I will ensure that the results of research activities and creative endeavors are translated into intellectual properties that are strategically protected and utilized so that we can enhance the international competitiveness of Japanese industries.”

* Strategic Council on Intellectual Property: formed February 2002 and consisted of relevant ministers and senior figures from industry and academia
2-5. National IP Strategy

Intellectual Property Strategy Headquarters
(Head: Prime Minister  Established: 2003)

Intellectual Property Strategic Program

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
JPO
Customs

... and all other institutions involved in IP
2-6. National IP Strategy - Actions

IP High Court

- Established in April 2005
- Specialized in intellectual property cases

Number of New Civil Cases Received and Average Time Needed from Commencement to Final Decision
2-7. National IP Strategy - Actions

Strengthening IP Management at SMEs

- Sending IP experts to SMEs and universities
- Offering consultations and advice to SMEs at local offices
Design Rights: Protector of Originality

Design Rights: To Know is to Benefit
(Basic Version)
### Japanese Exports to Africa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4.6 US $billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>9.3 US $billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2-fold growth in 14 years*

(Source) Ministry of Finance
3-2. Japanese Industries’ Interest in Africa is Growing…

Japanese FDI to Africa

(US$ billion)

12-fold growth in 15 years

(Source) JETRO
3-3. Japanese Industries’ Interest in Africa is Growing…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2006</th>
<th>Year 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>336</strong></td>
<td><strong>584</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source) Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Japanese Companies Operating in Africa (Automobile Sector)

Nigeria
Honda, Mitsubishi, Suzuki

South Africa
Bridgestone, Denso, Hino, Isuzu, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Toyota, etc.

Zimbabwe
Mazda

Kenya
Isuzu, Hino, Honda, Nissan

Morocco
Sumitomo, Yazaki

Tunisia
Sumitomo, Yazaki

Egypt
Isuzu, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Suzuki, Toyota, etc

(Source) African Development Bank, June 2014

3-4. Japanese Industries’ Interest in Africa is Growing…
3-5. ...But Some Problems Remain in Doing Business

Examples of Counterfeit Honda Auto Parts Found in Africa

(Piston Clutch, Head light)
3-6. …But Some Problems Remain in Doing Business

Examples of Counterfeit Auto Parts Found in Africa

Clutch disc (Aisin)

Genuine

Counterfeit
3-7. …But Some Problems Remain in Doing Business

Counterfeit auto parts can cause fatal accidents

http://stopfakebearings.com/
3-8. Requests from Japanese Industries

Examples of Requests from Japanese Industries on IP in Africa

1. Easier access to intellectual-property information and data

2. Prompt & reliable examination on and registration of industrial property filings

3. Accession by more countries to regional IP protection systems such as ARIPO and OAPI (or establishment of greater regional IP Office)

4. Easier access to legal professionals (patent attorneys) and improvement in their legal skills

5. Greater enforcement of customs measures to combat against counterfeit/pirated goods
4. JPO’s Cooperative Activities with Africa
4-1. Overview

- In order to assist African countries to improve their IP systems, the JPO has initiated various activities under the following frameworks:

  - WIPO Japan Funds-in-Trust

  - Support programs implemented under the JPO’s own budget
4-2. WIPO Japan Funds-In-Trust

- Established in 1987
- Voluntary contributions for improving, enforcing and computerizing system in the field of industrial property in developing countries

**Main Objectives**

- Build awareness on the importance of the industrial property system
- Give assistance to countries in establishing/strengthening their industrial property laws and institutions
- Develop human resources

**In FY 2008, the JPO made a new contribution to setting up a New Japan Fund for African countries**

**Self-sustained Economic Development in Africa through Intellectual Property**
4-3. Activities under Japan Funds-in-Trust

- Workshops & Seminars
- Expert Advisory Missions
- IP Education and Training
- Producing/providing public outreach materials
### Workshops and Seminars under Japan Funds-in-Trust (FY2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE &amp; VENUE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal, April 9 to 11, 2014</td>
<td>Training of trainers about Effective Intellectual Property Asset Management by Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Portuguese-Speaking African Countries (PALOP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Tome, Sao Tome and Principe, May 19 to 21, 2014</td>
<td>Seminar on the Effective Utilization of the Technical and Scientific Information and Enhanced Trainers’ Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lome, Togo, June 10 &amp; 11, 2014</td>
<td>High-level Sub-regional Meeting for Parliamentarians on the Contribution Intellectual Property System Makes to Economic, Cultural, Social and Technological Development of States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Workshops and Seminars under Japan Funds-in-Trust (FY2014)

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<th>DATE &amp; VENUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dakar, Bambey, and Thiès, Senegal, June 10 to 14, 2014</td>
<td>Seminar on the effective use of technical and scientific information, enhanced training of trainers, and official TISC Launch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lusaka, Zambia July 16-18, 2014</td>
<td>Meeting on Developing the TISC Project: Innovation Support Seminar, Training of Trainers Workshop and TISC Project Planning Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dar es Salaam &amp; Zanzibar, Tanzania September 4 &amp; 5 and 8 &amp; 9, 2014</td>
<td>Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) Seminar on the Effective Use of Technical and Scientific Information</td>
</tr>
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### Workshops and Seminars under Japan Funds-in-Trust (FY2014)

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<tr>
<td>Casablanca, Morocco</td>
<td>Regional Policy Dialogue on the Importance of the Elaboration and Implementation of National Policies relating to Intellectual Property and the Promotion of Research and Innovation for Competitiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21-23, 2014</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harare, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Workshop on Human Resource Development of IP Experts for ARIPO member states and observer States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27 &amp; 28, 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pretoria, South Africa</td>
<td>Regional Colloquium on Building Respect for IP for Members of the Judiciary of the Common Law English-speaking countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 29 &amp; 30, 2014</td>
<td></td>
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## Workshops and Seminars under Japan Funds-in-Trust (FY2014)

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<th>SUBJECT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accra, Ghana February 23 to 25, 2015</td>
<td>WIPO Meeting on Developing the TISC Project: Second Workshop on the Effective Use of Technical and Scientific Information, Training of Trainers and TISC Project Planning Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouagadougou, March 23 &amp; 24, 2015</td>
<td>Project for Establishing the TISC: Seminar on the Effective Use of Technical and Scientific Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobo-Dioulasso, March 26 &amp; 27, 2015</td>
<td></td>
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4-8. JPO’s Cooperative Activities with Africa

Training Courses in Tokyo (1996 – 2014)

- Subjects include:
  IP Administration, IP Examination Practice, IP Enforcement, ICT, etc.

- Total of 81 trainees invited from countries in Africa
Masters Degree in Intellectual Property (MIP)

- About **10 students** have been provided with scholarships each year since 2010, to enroll in WIPO’s MIP programs at:

- **Africa University (Mutare, Zimbabwe)**
  (in cooperation with ARIPO)

- **Yaoundé II University (Yaoundé, Cameroon)**
  (in cooperation with OAPI)
Thank you

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