

## **Advisory Committee on Enforcement**

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**DRAWING INNOVATION FROM THE HERITAGE OF THE QIN AND HAN  
DYNASTIES, AND PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THROUGH THE  
RULE OF LAW FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WORLD: THE PRACTICE AND  
COMMITMENT OF SHAANXI PROVINCE, CHINA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Shaanxi Province, China, drawing on its strengths as both a cradle of Chinese civilization and an educational and scientific hub, has put strict enforcement and full-chain protection at the core of its intellectual property (IP) policy efforts. Shaanxi has deepened cooperation between enforcement authorities and the criminal justice system, advanced standardized administrative adjudication, and promoted more diversified and convenient dispute resolution mechanisms. With its focus on such areas as geographical indications, copyright, and patents in emerging industries, Shaanxi has adopted professional, law-based and internationally oriented practices to provide Chinese and foreign innovators alike with a fair, stable and predictable environment for IP protection, while contributing to the improvement of global IP governance.

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\* The views expressed in this document are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Secretariat or of the Member States of WIPO.

## I. A TIGHT FULL-CHAIN NETWORK FOR IP PROTECTION

1. Guided by the principle of the rule of law and having deepened cross-departmental and cross-sector enforcement synergies, we have worked to improve the protection environment for intellectual property rights (IPRs) and thereby safeguard the interests of enterprises.

2. **Judicial-administrative synergies.** The link between the administrative enforcement of IPRs and the criminal justice system has been strengthened. The Shaanxi Provincial IP Office (SPIPO), together with the public security authorities, courts, prosecutors' offices, and market supervision and regulation departments, has established a mechanism for sharing data, expediting the transfer of cases and promoting joint enforcement efforts. The SPIPO has also issued dedicated guidelines, consolidating enforcement, rights confirmation, administrative adjudication, mediation and litigation in a unified system. In 2023, the Qinchuangyuan IP Circuit Tribunal was established to conduct hearings, provide legal advice, guide enterprises in matters of IPR enforcement, and mediate disputes. That has made it possible to seamlessly connect and coordinate the administrative and judicial aspects of IP protection.

3. **Diversified dispute resolution mechanisms.** We have standardized administrative adjudication procedures for patent infringement disputes, introduced the Technical Investigation Officer (TIO) system and improved the accuracy and efficiency of infringement determinations. All businesses investing and operating in Shaanxi benefit from non-discriminatory and high-standard IP enforcement and protection. We have improved diversified channels for dispute resolution, including arbitration and mediation, to provide efficient and convenient solutions for IP disputes, thereby cutting the time and cost involved for businesses in protecting their IPRs.

4. **Special enforcement campaigns.** In key areas such as patents, trademarks, geographical indications and copyright, we conduct year-round campaigns against infringement and counterfeiting. In 2025, a total of nearly 10,000 law enforcement officers were deployed to crack down on counterfeiting and infringement and create a strong deterrent effect.

## II. SAFEGUARDING INNOVATION-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT IN KEY SECTORS

5. Shaanxi is an important base for advanced manufacturing and a source of scientific and technological innovation in China. It has developed 34 key industrial chains, and its cross-border trade has grown year by year. Bearing in mind the province's industrial profile and resources, we have taken targeted and innovative protection measures to promote better and faster socioeconomic development.

6. **Safeguarding emerging industries and cultural heritage.** With a focus on competitive emerging industries, such as commercial aerospace and new energy, Shaanxi Province has established national-level IP operation centers and built industrial patent pools, promoting collaborative innovation among enterprises, universities, research institutes and service providers, and supporting the clustered, high-end and international development of industries through full-chain IP protection. Mindful of iconic cultural treasures such as the Terracotta Warriors of Emperor Qinshihuang, the Xi'an Beilin (stone steles) Museum and the Ming Dynasty City Wall, we have strengthened copyright regulation and enforcement, standardized copyright operations in new business forms, including virtual/augmented reality (VR/AR) digital cultural and creative products, and immersive cultural tourism experiences.

7. **Protecting geographical indications and traditional knowledge (TK).** We have integrated GI protection with the protection of intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge. We have established a front-loaded IP protection mechanism that operates across the entire chain of creation, inheritance, use and industrialization. We have proactively aligned with the China-European Union agreement on geographical indications and strictly fulfilled our

mutual protection obligations. To date, 11 products from Shaanxi, including Mei County kiwifruit and Fuping dried persimmons, have been included in the China-EU list for mutual recognition and protection. Through strict enforcement and standardized management, the brand value of the province's 161 geographical indication products and 158 geographical indication trademarks has continued to grow, helping to drive the output value of these specialty industries above RMB 60 billion (US\$8.8 billion) in 2025.

8. **IP security and cross-border trade.** We have embedded IP protection into the entire process of cross-border trade and built a full-chain foreign-related protection system covering *ex ante* compliance, in-process risk prevention and control, and *ex post* rights protection. With regard to the open trade corridor associated with the China-Europe (Chang'an) Express Railway freight service, we have implemented a three-in-one management model with mechanisms for IP compliance, facilitated customs clearance and risk detection. The cross-border goods IP traceability system covers all stages of cargo collection, transport, customs clearance, warehousing and sales. We maintain a risk list and early-warning mechanism for export products and regularly screen goods crossing the border for possible infringement. The system ensures that sources can be traced, destinations tracked and perpetrators pursued.

### III. ENHANCING THE STANDARD OF IP ENFORCEMENT AND PROTECTION

9. We continue to strengthen support in terms of institutions, platforms and talent, providing solid guarantees for IP enforcement and protection.

10. **Local regulatory framework.** We have implemented the "Regulations of Shaanxi Province on the Protection and Promotion of IP Rights"; formulated guidelines on administrative protection for key trademarks, and on IP protection in the cultural tourism industry and other emerging fields; and accelerated legislative efforts on geographical indications and trademarks, thereby forming a systematic and practical local regulatory framework.

11. **National-level protection platforms.** We operate high-standard, national-level IP protection centers, which form a one-stop protection hub for rapid pre-examination, rights confirmation and enforcement. Under the IP commissioner system, we dispatch teams to the Qinchuangyuan innovation-driven platform and to key enterprises, universities and research institutes to provide targeted pairing assistance and full-cycle IP services. We have also established local standards and public service platforms for pre-application patent assessment, reviewing patent value in advance and improving patent application quality at source.

12. **Multidisciplinary talent.** We cultivate professionals in IP commercial legal services, cross-border legal affairs and international arbitration. Our IP legal service teams serve Chinese and foreign enterprises in areas like cross-border rights protection, compliance and dispute handling. We also provide training on administrative IP enforcement, administrative adjudication, arbitration and mediation. With more than 5,000 participants to date, we are building a professional, internationally-minded and multidisciplinary IP team.

### IV. CONCLUSION

13. Against a backdrop of the civilizational legacy of the Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang dynasties, Shaanxi Province in the new era has nurtured a strong IP sector. It regards strict IP protection as a key to stimulating innovation, ensuring openness and promoting development, and thereby safeguarding the shared fruits of innovation for all humankind.

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