

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION  
FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS**

**JAPAN**

Addendum

The present document reproduces the updated information on Japan's technical and financial cooperation activities relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, which has been received from the Permanent Mission of Japan by means of a communication, dated 8 September 2000.

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**I. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL  
PROPERTY RIGHTS**

**1. Voluntary contributions for WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan**

Since 1987, the Government of Japan (GOJ) has been providing voluntary contributions in the field of industrial property to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). "WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan" (FIT/JP) in the field of industrial property was established with these voluntary funds and is used annually to finance various projects for WIPO member countries in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), such as the holding of IP office conferences or symposia, acceptance of trainees and IPR research students, dispatch of Japanese Patent Office (JPO) officers and support for automation and modernization of IP offices. The voluntary fund for Japanese fiscal year (FY) 2000 accounts for ¥178.21 million.

**2. Human Resources Development**

**(a) 1,000 Trainee Programme**

Since April 1996, the JPO has been carrying out a cooperative undertaking, called the "1,000 Trainee Programme", in order to assist the development of human resources in the field of industrial property rights in developing countries. The programme targeted to invite a total of 1,000 people from the government and private sectors mainly in the Asia-Pacific region to training courses in Japan by the year 2000, when developing countries were obliged to comply with the TRIPS Agreement.

By March 2000, a total of 974 participants were accepted from 38 countries and one economy, and the programme had reached the goal of 1,000 participants in June 2000. After the completion of "1,000 Trainee Programme", the JPO is continuously inviting trainees from the public and private sectors in developing countries.

(i) Training programmes for government officials

The JPO has been holding the group training courses on industrial property rights for government officials. In FY 1999, the following six group training courses were held.

*For APEC member economies*

- "Group Training Course in Intellectual Property for APEC Economies" is a two-month course for administrative officials working in areas related to IPR and examiners of IPR. Participants are divided into four groups according to their specialties: administration, patents and utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks.

*For non-APEC economies*

- "Group Training Course in Administration of Industrial Property" is a one-month course focusing more specifically on administrative aspects for the benefit of government officials in the area of IPR.

These two training courses are managed by the JPO in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Asia-Pacific Industrial Property Center (APIC) of the Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation (JIII).

*For ESCAP region*

- "Training course on the Enforcement of IPR under WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan" is a two-week course for senior officials engaged in the enforcement of IPR in enforcement-related government agencies.
- "Training course on the Use of Information Technology in IP Administration under WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan" is a two-week course for senior officials of IP offices responsible for information technology matters.
- "Training course on the Examination Practices of Industrial Property under WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan" is a two-week course for examiners in the field of IPR. Participants are divided into three groups according to their specialties: patents and utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks.
- "Training course on Industrial Property Administration under WIPO Funds-in-Trust/Japan" is a two-week course for senior officials in IP offices in charge of general administration and policy planning.

These four training courses are managed by the JPO and organized by the WIPO in cooperation with JIII APIC.

(ii) Training programmes for the private sector

The JPO has also been holding the following group training courses on industrial property rights for trainees from the private sector.

*For APEC member economies*

## - "Industrial Property Rights Training Course for Management"

Participants of this two-week course occupy middle and senior management personnel positions or their equivalent in private companies, law firms, research institutes and educational organizations.

## - "Industrial Property Rights Training Course for Operational Staff"

Participants of the course are operational staff in private companies, law firms, research institutes and educational organizations. This three-to-four-week course is held five times a year.

## - "Industrial Property Rights Training Course for Lawyers"

Participants of this three-week course are law staff or lawyers in law firms and specialists of industrial property law in educational organizations.

*For non-APEC economies*

## - "Training Programme on Industrial Property Management"

The participants occupy middle and senior management positions or their equivalent in private companies, law firms, research institutes and educational organizations. The course is for two and a half weeks.

These training courses are conducted by APIC and JIII with the assistance of the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS).

## (b) Long-term fellowship

Under the long-term fellowship project funded by WIPO FIT/JP, a professor from Indonesia and a government official from Viet Nam (National Office of Industrial Property of Viet Nam) were invited to Japan to study intellectual property issues for a period of six months respectively.

## (c) The APEC/PFP Project (Overseas Training Programme)

"Partners for Progress" (PFP) is a mechanism to further promote economic and technical cooperation on the basis of mutual assistance and volunteerism in APEC. This APEC/PFP course aims to foster a deeper understanding of the establishment and management of industrial property systems by developing human resources to meet international obligations with respect to industrial property protection.

In February and March 1997, the Government of Thailand conducted the first course in collaboration with the GOJ through JICA. The course was also held in Thailand in November and December 1997, October and November 1998 and August and September 1999.

## (d) Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights for IP-Enforcement Staff Members

The JPO has held an enforcement seminar as a third country training programme aimed at developing human resources engaged in IPR enforcement and supporting relevant enlightenment and dissemination of IPR systems in the Asia-Pacific region. The seminar programme included basic

lectures on IPRs, presentations by participant countries on the present status of enforcement in their respective countries, and information exchanges.

This fiscal year one seminar was held in the Republic of Korea in June, and another is under arrangement.

(e) Expert missions

The JPO is dispatching officials to developing countries as experts and seminar instructors specializing in various areas of IPRs mainly for periods of about two weeks through WIPO FIT/JP and a dispatch scheme of the JICA. The dispatched experts mainly provide on-site instruction regarding examination practices, computerization, PCT practices and so forth.

The JPO also dispatches its officials as JICA long-term experts in order to engage in JICA project-type technical cooperation being implemented in the IP office of the respective recipient countries and as individual experts on industrial property right administration.

In FY 1999, 12 experts were dispatched under the WIPO scheme and 19 under the JICA scheme (long-term: 3 persons /short-term: 16 persons).

(f) Symposia

Major symposia, etc. in FY 1999 funded by the WIPO FIT/JP are as shown below.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Venue/Date</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Participants</b>
WIPO Asian Regional Forum (Director-General level talks on regional IP policies)	Malaysia, January 2000	The Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights with particular reference to the TRIPS Agreement	40 participants from 21 Asia-Pacific countries and approximately 100 local participants
WIPO Asian Regional Symposium	Bangladesh, November 1999	Role of the Intellectual Property System in Augmenting Enterprise Competitiveness	26 participants from 14 Asia-Pacific countries and approximately 15 local participants representing the Government and the Bangladeshi private sector
WIPO Asian Regional Workshop	Singapore, February 2000	Role of the Intellectual Property System in Augmenting Enterprise Competitiveness	37 participants from 21 Asia-Pacific countries and 37 local participants from the IP Office as well as the business and legal sectors in Singapore

### 3. Computerization and Information Processing

(a) Development of information searching system in Thailand

Since July 1995, the GOJ has been carrying out a cooperation programme to establish the Industrial Property Information Center (IPIC) in Thailand under JICA project-type technical cooperation.

Under this cooperation project, patent information and office automation know-how of the JPO is provided to Thailand. For smooth technical transfer, the GOJ has been comprehensively providing necessary equipment, dispatching experts, and offering training programmes in Japan for Thai trainees.

With the above cooperation, the efficiency of patent examination in the Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand is expected to be improved and technological information is available to the public through the Internet. Thereby, the programme will contribute to modernization of the industrial property administration and development of Thai industry as a whole.

(b) Modernization of Industrial Property Administration Project in the Philippines

JICA project-type technical cooperation for modernization of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPO) was launched in May 1999. This project is aimed at establishing administrative processing systems for patents, utility models and industrial designs in four years, and four Japanese experts (including two experts from the JPO) were under dispatch as JICA long-term experts for the implementation of the project. Also, the GOJ accepted one IPO official for counterpart training last year.

The JPO also dispatched its officials as JICA long-term experts to the IPO from March 1995 to April 2000 to establish trademark related systems, i.e., a word search system and an administration system.

(c) Modernization of Industrial Property Administration in Viet Nam

The GOJ dispatched an implementation study team to Vietnam in December 1999. Based on the findings of the study team, the GOJ launched the project in April 2000. This project aims at establishing in four years administrative processing systems for patents, utility solutions, industrial designs and trademarks.

(d) Provision of the "Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ)" on CD-ROM

Since 1995, the JPO has been providing about 80 national offices and other organizations all over the world with the PAJ, which is a collection of abstracts of Japanese patent applications translated into English, on CD-ROM.

(e) Electronic Data Processing Project for IP Information

The JPO has collected industrial property right laws and regulations of the world's major countries including the APEC economies, and published both English and Japanese legislative text in CD-ROM form with search function.

The 1999 version of the CD-ROM includes laws and regulations of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, the European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Viet Nam. 150 copies have been distributed free of charge.

#### 4. Assistance in Search and Examination

##### (a) Cooperation in patent examination

Since 1994, the JPO has been carrying out a cooperation programme in the field of patent search and examination with Thailand and Indonesia, in which the JPO sends final examination reports on patent applications filed both in Japan and in Thailand or Indonesia respectively by Japanese applicants.

##### (b) WIPO/State-of-the-Art-Searches for Developing Countries

The JPO provides search reports on patent applications for which prior art search was requested by industrial property offices or research institutes of developing countries through the WIPO International Bureau. Delivered search reports account for 80 in FY 1997, 85 in FY 1998 and 94 in FY 1999.

## II. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COPYRIGHT

The Japan Copyright Office (JCO) has been planning and carrying out the following programmes with a view to contributing to the development of copyright systems in developing countries as well as to strengthening regional cooperation among Asia-Pacific countries.

### 1. APACE Programme

This programme, which is called "APACE (Asia-Pacific Copyright Systems Enhancement) Programme," was started in 1993 in cooperation with WIPO, targeting Asia-Pacific countries. The APACE Programme consists of the following six activities.

#### (a) Annual Regional Symposium (since 1993)

Year	Venue	Participants
1993	Tokyo, Japan	100 participants from 19 countries
1994	Phuket, Thailand	60 participants from 22 countries
1995	Denpasar, Indonesia	100 participants from 17 countries
1996	Chiang Mai, Thailand	60 participants from 23 countries
1997	Manila, the Philippines	100 participants from 27 countries
1998	Islamabad, Pakistan	70 participants from 24 countries
1999	New Delhi, India	80 participants from 21 countries

#### (b) Training Program in Tokyo, Japan (since 1994)

Year	Participants
1994	5 trainees from China, India, Indonesia and Mongolia
1995	4 trainees from the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam
1996	5 trainees from Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Tonga
1997	8 trainees from Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea
1998	8 trainees from Cambodia, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Samoa, Thailand, and Viet Nam
1999	12 trainees from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore and Sri Lanka

## (c) Sub-Regional Seminar (since 1995)

Year	Venue	Participants
1995	Suva, Fiji	30 participants from 12 countries
1997	Nuku'alofa, Tonga	30 participants from 10 countries
1998	Apia, Samoa	80 participants from 13 countries

## (d) Experts Missions (since 1999)

This programme was started in 1999, in order to assist the countries in developing and strengthening infrastructure for the protection and management of copyright and neighbouring rights.

Year	Venue
1999	The Philippines and Viet Nam

## (e) Training on Collective Management

This programme is started in 2000, which is on-the-job training for staffs of collective management organizations or government officials in developing countries.

## (f) National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights

This programme is started in 2000, in order to promote awareness of the protection of copyright and neighbouring rights and the role it can play in cultural and economic development of developing countries.

Year	Venue
2000	Nepal

**2. Asian Copyright Experts Invitation Programme**

This programme was started in 1996 to invite each year a high official in charge of copyright from governments of Asian countries. Lecture and discussion meetings are organized, inviting Japanese experts, to share information and learn from each other. The guests have been invited from the following countries.

Year	Country
1996	Thailand
1997	The Republic of Korea
1998	Hong Kong, China
1999	Singapore

**3. Asia-Pacific Copyright and Neighboring Rights Seminar**

This programme was started in 1997, to provide participating copyright experts of Asia-Pacific countries with opportunities to exchange information and viewpoints as well as to discuss possible regional common positions and/or actions in the future.

Year	Venue	Participants
1997	Yokohama, Japan	40 participants from 7 countries
1998	Tokyo, Japan	80 participants from 14 countries and 3 NGOs
1999	Tokyo, Japan	80 participants from 26 countries and 3 NGOs
2000	Tokyo, Japan	100 participants from 25 countries and 3 NGOs

#### 4. JICA Group Training Course

This training course was started in 1999 in cooperation with JICA, to contribute to the development of copyright systems.

Year	Participants
1999	7 trainees from Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Zambia
1999	7 trainees from Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea (2) and Tonga
2000	7 trainees from Colombia, Kenya, Moldova, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Saudi Arabia and Solomon Islands

### III. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

Through the UPOV Trust Fund of Japan, the GOJ has supported a programme which provides Asian countries with seminars and workshops on plant variety protection systems.

The seminars have been held since FY 1991 for the purpose of contributing to the promotion and establishment of the plant variety protection systems. In addition, the workshop scheme has been set up since FY 1996, in order to provide some practical knowledge and technique relating to the plant variety protection.

Details of the seminars and the workshops which have been held are as follows:

#### International Seminars

Year	Venue	Participants
1996	Kyrgyz Republic	10 participants from Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan
1999	China	10 participants from Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam



Regional Seminars

Year	Venue	Participants
1991	Japan	14 participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand
1992	The Republic of Korea	13 participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand
1993	China	18 participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and the Republic of Korea
1995	Indonesia	16 participants from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam
1996	Viet Nam	7 participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand

National Seminars

Year	Venue
1994	China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines
1996	India and Bangladesh
2000	The Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia

Workshops

Year	Venue	Participants	Note
1997	Australia	64 participants from Asia-Pacific countries	In cooperation with Asia Pacific Seed Association (APSA)
1998	The United Kingdom	14 participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam	In cooperation with WIPO
1999	The United Kingdom	7 participants from Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand	In cooperation with WIPO
2000	Japan	10 participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam	

**IV. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF BORDER MEASURES**

In 1997, the Ministry of Finance, the GOJ started a training course in the field of border measures for the enforcement of intellectual property rights. The purpose of this programme is to assist in the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement by developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Date	Venue	Participants
5-14 March 1997	Japan	China and Indonesia
5-14 November 1997	Japan	The Philippines and Viet Nam
11-20 November 1998	Japan	Peru and Thailand
9-19 November 1999	Japan	Chile and Malaysia