

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

IP/C/W/12

11 September 1995

(95-2565)

**Council for Trade-Related Aspects
of Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS

Japan

At its meeting of 24 May 1995, the Council for TRIPS agreed to invite each developed country Member to provide information on its technical and financial cooperation programmes in the area of intellectual property relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement (IP/C/M/2, paragraph 53).

The Permanent Mission of Japan communicated in response by letters, dated 11 and 22 August 1995, information on Japan's technical and financial cooperation programmes. The information contained in these letters is reproduced in this document.

Communications from other developed country Members will be circulated as addenda to this document.

JAPAN'S TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES IN THE AREA
OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Technical and financial cooperation in the field of industrial property rights

(1) Cooperation related to WIPO

- (a) Through the WIPO Trust Fund of Japan, the Government of Japan has held round tables, seminars and workshops in the ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) region, dispatched patent experts to the region (68 patent experts by the end of Japanese fiscal year 1994) and received trainees from the region (91 trainees by the end of Japanese fiscal year 1994).
- (b) The Government of Japan provides, upon request, state-of-the-art search reports for developing countries (up to 100 reports a year).

(2) Cooperation related to JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

- (a) The Government of Japan holds a one-month seminar on industrial property rights in June every year for senior officials involved in policy-making related to industrial property rights. Participation is not restricted to particular regions. (Six persons a year)
- (b) The Government of Japan provides two-month group training on industrial property rights systems for administrative officials in industrial property rights organizations, examiners of industrial property applications and others with equivalent qualifications, starting in September every year. Participation is not restricted to particular regions. (Nine persons a year)
- (c) In July 1995, the Government of Japan started its cooperation programme to establish the Industrial Property Information Center in Thailand through JICA project-type technical cooperation. (JICA project-type technical cooperation includes three types of cooperation: dispatching of experts, receiving of trainees and donation of equipment and supplies. Project-type technical cooperation is intended to make possible technological transfer over a four to five year period, systematically and in an organized way, to developing countries by organically combining these three types of cooperation.)

For 16 years, up to Japanese fiscal year 1994, through the JICA technical cooperation, the Government of Japan has dispatched 58 patent experts to developing countries and received 349 trainees from developing countries.

(3) Cooperation executed directly by the JPO (Japan Patent Office)

- (a) In Japanese fiscal year 1994, as the Cooperation Program in the Field of Patent Search and Examination with Thailand, the JPO provided Thailand with about 200 final examination reports.
- (b) In April 1995, the JPO started providing about 80 national offices of countries and other organizations all over the world with PAJ (Patent Abstracts of Japan) CD-ROM.

- (4) Cooperation by private sector organizations (planned and administered by the Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation JIII)
- (a) In December 1994, as a special training course for managers by the AOTS (Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship), 22 private sector personnel were received as trainees from ASEAN countries for two weeks.
 - (b) In March 1995, making use of the Japanese Expert Service Abroad Program of the JODC (Japan Overseas Development Corporation), JIII dispatched an expert on a two-week assignment to Thailand.
 - (c) For three days, from 25 to 27 January 1995, the Japan-ASEAN Symposium on Intellectual Property Rights were held in Thailand on the theme of "Activities for Invention and Utilization of Intellectual Property Rights".

Technical and financial cooperation in the field of copyright

Through the WIPO Trust Fund of Japan, the Government of Japan has been carrying out "APACE Program: Asia-Pacific Copyright Systems Enhancement Program" since Japanese fiscal year 1993. The purpose of this Program is, through annual contribution to WIPO's "Development Cooperation Program in the Field of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights for Developing Countries", to provide Asia-Pacific countries with the activities which contribute to the dissemination and promotion of copyright systems.

This Program is mainly composed of the following three activities:

- (a) Annual International Seminar on Copyright and Neighbouring Rights
 - 1993 15 to 19 Nov., 100 participants from 20 countries, held in Japan
 - 1994 28 Nov. to 2 Dec., 60 participants from 20 countries, held in Thailand
 - 1995 Dec., in Indonesia (to be decided)
- (b) Annual Training Programme for Experts in Japan
 - 1994 14 to 25 Nov., 5 participants from China, India, Indonesia and Mongolia
 - 1995 13 to 24 Nov., 4 participants (to be decided)
- (c) Contribution to WIPO National Seminars (by Sending Japanese Experts)
 - 1993 in Bangladesh and China
 - 1994 in Fiji, Malaysia, Mongolia and Pakistan
 - 1995 in Thailand (to be decided) and Vietnam

Technical and financial cooperation in the field of plant variety protection

Through the UPOV Trust Fund of Japan, the Government of Japan has supported a programme called "Seminar on the Nature of and Rationale for the Protection of Plant Varieties under the UPOV Convention" since Japanese fiscal year 1991. The purpose of this programme is to provide Asian countries with the activities which contribute to the dissemination and promotion of the plant variety protection systems.

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

- 1991 12 to 15 Nov., participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, held in Japan
- 1992 17 to 19 Nov., participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, held in the Republic of Korea
- 1993 15 to 17 Sept., participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, held in China
- 1994 13 to 23 Sept., held in China
28 and 29 Nov., held in Pakistan
1 and 2 Dec., held in Malaysia
5 and 6 Dec., held in Indonesia
8 and 9 Dec., held in Philippines

Technical and financial cooperation in the field of border measures

The Government of Japan plans to hold a seminar and to conduct a training course in the field of border measures for the enforcement of intellectual property rights in collaboration with the WCO (World Customs Organization) for the WCO fiscal year 1995/1996 (from July 1995 to June 1996). The purpose of these programmes is to assist in the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement by the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The details of the programmes are to be determined later.