

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:  
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

JAPAN

The present document reproduces the updated information on Japan's technical and financial cooperation relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, which has been received from the Permanent Mission of Japan by means of a communication dated 23 October 2003.

**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). The "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 Japan Patent Office (JPO) officers and support for automation and modernization of IP offices. The voluntary fund for Japanese fiscal year (FY) 2003 accounts for ¥178.21 million.

**2. Human Resources Development**

(a) Training Programme

In order to support developing countries obligated to implement the TRIPS Agreement, Japan has been receiving trainees. Between April 1996 and March 2003, Japan received 1653 trainees in both public and private sectors mainly from 42 countries and one economy in the Asia-Pacific region. In the future, with the goal of efficient implementation of laws in mind, Japan is scheduled to proceed with human resource development activities emphasizing the area of enforcement of intellectual property rights.

(i) Training programmes for government officials

The JPO has been holding group training courses on industrial property rights for government officials. In FY 2002, the following five group training courses were held:

*For APEC member economies*

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

This training course was implemented by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in cooperation with the JPO and the Asia-Pacific Industrial Property Center (APIC) of the Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation (JIII).

*For the 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 three-week course for examiners in the field of IPR. Participants are divided into three groups according to their specialities: 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 the APIC of JIII.

(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-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 weeks.

These training courses are conducted by the APIC of 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 in FY 2002, one trainee, each from Iran and the Philippines, was invited to Japan to study intellectual property issues for a period of six months. In FY 2002, the JPO accepted one long-term trainee, each from China and Viet Nam, for about six months under an independent project.

(c) 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.

One seminar was held in China in December 2002, and the other was held in Singapore in January 2003.

(d) Expert missions

Experts and seminar instructors specializing in various areas of IPRs are dispatched by the JPO through WIPO FIT/JP and JICA mainly for periods of about two weeks. The dispatched experts mainly provide on-site instruction regarding examination practices, computerization, PCT practices and so forth.

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

In FY 2002, 9 experts were dispatched under the WIPO scheme and 17 under the JICA scheme (long-term: six persons /short-term: 11 persons).

(e) Symposia

Major symposia, etc., in FY 2002 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)	The Republic of the Philippines, December 2002	The Role of Intellectual Property Offices for Economic and Technological Development	about 40 participants from 21 Asia-Pacific countries and local participants
WIPO Asian Regional Workshop	The Kingdom of Thailand February 2003	The Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)	36 participants from 21 Asia-Pacific countries and local participants.
WIPO Asian Regional Symposium	The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka January 2003	The Promotion of Intellectual Property Awareness through Public Outreach	32 participants from 20 Asia-Pacific countries and local participants
*WIPO Asian Sub-Regional Workshop	The Republic of Indonesia FY 2003	The benefits of the Madrid and Hague Systems for Developing Countries	40 participants from 10 Asia-Pacific countries and local participants
*WIPO Asian Regional Symposium	The Republic of India FY 2003	The Protection of Geographical Indications	40 participants from 23 Asia-Pacific countries and local participants

\*) These programmes are to be implemented in FY 2003.

### **3. Computerization and Information Processing**

#### **(a) Modernization of Industrial Property Administration Project in the Philippines**

The JPO carried out technology transfer and human resource development for modernization of industrial property right administrative procedures of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines from May 1999 to May 2003, through establishing the database, the system applicable to the old law, PCT and patent administrative procedure.

#### **(b) Modernization of Industrial Property Administration Project in Viet Nam**

In April 2000, the JPO began the "Modernization of Industrial Property Administration Project in Viet Nam", a four-year project for the modernization of administrative procedure at the National Office of Industrial Property of Viet Nam. This project is aimed at developing human resources through the automation of the administrative works.

#### **(c) Industrial Property Rights Information Center (IPIC) Project in Thailand**

The JPO cooperation with JICA helped to establish the Industrial Property Information Center (IPIC) in the Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand in 1995. The JPO helped establish an industrial property right automation system and provided assistance, until June 2000, to provide and promote industrial property right information to users.

(d) Support for Utilisation of Information Technology through JICA Development Studies in Malaysia

The JPO also carries out development studies in cooperation with JICA, such as that regarding construction of an industrial design system for the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia.

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

Since 1995, the JPO has been providing about 85 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.

(f) Project for Production of CD-ROMs containing laws and regulations related to intellectual property rights

In order to assist intellectual property offices in developing countries in which domestic laws on intellectual property rights are being established, the JPO has been engaged in the "Project to Assist in Gathering Information Related to Overseas Industrial Property Right Systems." Under this programme, laws and regulations related to the industrial property rights of major developed and developing countries are translated into English, if necessary, and recorded on CD-ROM, to which a search function is added.

In fiscal year 2002, industrial property right laws (including laws and enforcement rules) from a total of 54 countries and a total of 14 international agreements were recorded on CD-ROM and provided without charge to developing countries, mainly in the APEC region. Information from the Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Viet Nam, Benelux Union, Budapest Treaty, Eurasia Patent Office, EPO, European Community, Madrid Agreement & Protocol, NAFTA, Paris Convention, PCT, Trademark Law Treaty, and TRIPS. The JPO intends to increase the number of countries and laws covered under this programme.

#### **4. Assistance in Search and Examination**

##### **WIPO/State-of-the-Art-Searches for Developing Countries**

The JPO provides search reports for which prior art search was requested by industrial property offices or research institutes of developing countries through the WIPO International Bureau.

The JPO created search reports on approximately 100 applications per year from FY 1998 and sent them to requesting developing countries through the WIPO/IB.

## **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
2001	Guangzhou, China	160 participants from 24 countries
2001	Mumbai, India	80 participants from 18 countries
2003	Jakarta, Indonesia	120 participants from 23 countries

### (b) Training Programme 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
2000	14 trainees from Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu and Viet Nam
2001	17 trainees from China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoa and Thailand
2002	10 trainees from Brunei Darussalam, China, Fiji, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam

### (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
2000	Apia, Samoa	50 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
2000	Samoa and Sri Lanka
2001	Mongolia
2002	Fiji
2003	Indonesia, Mongolia and Viet Nam

## (e) Training on Collective Management

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

Year	Country
2000	The Philippines
2001	Indonesia and Mongolia
2002	Bhutan, China, Fiji, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam

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

This programme was 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, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Indonesia
2001	Mongolia
2002	Fiji
2003	Mongolia and 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
2000	China
2002	China
2003	China

### 3. Asia-Pacific Copyright and Neighbouring 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. It was organized in cooperation with APEC in 2001.

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
2001	Tokyo, Japan	110 participants from 20 countries (APEC members)
2002	Tokyo, Japan	90 participants from 26 countries and 3 NGOs
2003	Tokyo, Japan	90 participants from 13 countries (ASEAN + 3 members)

### 4. JICA Group Training Course

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

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
2001	7 trainees from Ghana, Kenya, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Saudi Arabia and Vanuatu
2002	7 trainees from Cambodia, China, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Saudi Arabia and Viet Nam
2003	6 trainees from Bhutan, Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, Panama and Zambia

## 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. And the workshop scheme has been held since Japanese FY 1996, in order to provide some practical knowledge and technique relating to the plant variety protection. In addition, the regional technical meeting for Asian plant variety protection system has been set up since Japanese FY 2000 in order to discuss regional technical issues and to promote regional cooperation in variety testing.

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
2002	India

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, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam	
2001	China	18 participants from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam	
2002	The Republic of Korea	19 participants from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan,	

Year	Venue	Participants	Note
		the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam	
2003	The Philippines	17 participants from Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam	

#### Regional Technical Meetings

Year	Venue	Participants
2000	Japan	10 participants from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam
2001	China	18 participants from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam
2002	The Republic of Korea	19 participants from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam
2003	The Philippines	17 participants from Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam

#### **1. JICA Group Training Course**

This JICA training course was started in 2000 in cooperation with NCSS (National Center for Seed and Seedling) to contribute to the establishment of breeder's rights protection systems.

Year	Participants
2000	10 trainees from Bolivia, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
2001	10 trainees from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines (2), Thailand, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe
2002	10 trainees from Bolivia, China, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
2003	10 trainees from Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam

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

Since fiscal year 1996, the Ministry of Finance of the GOJ has provided a training course in the field of border measures for the enforcement of intellectual property rights. The main purpose of this programme is to assist in the smooth implementation of the TRIPS Agreement by customs officials in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Year	Venue	Participants
1996	Japan	14 participants from China and Indonesia.
1997	Japan	19 participants from the Philippines and Viet Nam.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Participants</b>
1998	Japan	9 participants from Peru and Thailand.
1999	Japan	10 participants from Chile and Malaysia.
2000	Japan	8 participants from Viet Nam and China.
2001	Japan	10 participants from Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines.
2002	Japan	10 participants from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

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