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**Our President Xia Zheng Once Again Elected as Standing Director of Beijing Patent Attorneys Association**

On July 20, 2017, Beijing Patent Attorneys Association (BPAA) held the second member convention, the second sessions of the standing committee and the board of supervisors.

The general assembly elected the new leading body of the Association, including the president, supervisors, vice president, standing directors, secretary general, and deputy secretary general. Our president, Xia Zheng, was re-elected as a standing director.

<http://afdip.com/index.php?ac=article&at=read&did=3045>

**Understanding the New Practice regarding Prioritized Examination of Patent Applications**

In order to improve patent examination system and accelerate the examination on particular cases, the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of China released the Administrative Measures for Prioritized Examination of Patent Applications (the Measures) on June 27, 2017; the Measures have come into effect on August 1, 2017.

Foreign companies having research and development institutions in China and foreign companies manufacturing and selling product in China also can be eligible for priority examination through the Measures.

Please see the supplement or go to

[http://afdip.com/upfile/2017/08/20170804104934\\_788.pdf](http://afdip.com/upfile/2017/08/20170804104934_788.pdf)

**IPR Financing Models such as Patent Pledge Promoted by State Council**

Last month the State Council held an executive meeting to discuss the Opinions on Strengthening the Implementation of Innovation-driven Development Strategy to Further Promote a Deep Development of Mass Entrepreneurship and Innovation (Opinions).

According to the meeting, the Opinions introduce the following five steps that may affect future IP practices:

- ✚ to explore to build a system for the transformation of scientific and technological results in a given period;
- ✚ to simplify the filing procedure for intangible assets such as patents;
- ✚ to set the pricing of agreement, listing and auction;
- ✚ to promote the pilot application of the first set of major technological equipment;
- ✚ to improve the IPR utilization and coordinated protection system;
- ✚ to push forward patent-pledge financing, welcome insurance companies to provide related insurance services, encourage local government to provide risk compensation or premium subsidies;
- ✚ to advance nationally financed fund to set up VC fund for middle and early- stage or start-up innovative enterprises; and to explore to give political support to VC incubators as per technical and scientific incubators.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/article/centralgovernment/201707/1908638.html>

### **31.8 Billion Yuan of Patent Pledge Fuels Entrepreneurship**

According to the latest data from the SIPO, in the first half of 2017, 31.8 billion yuan of patent pledge was added in China, with a year-on-year growth of 92%. 1,493 patent pledge projects were confirmed, with a year-on-year growth of 41%. Liaoning, Jiangsu, Shandong, Beijing and Tianjin led all provinces in amount granted while Shandong, Shaanxi, Anhui, Jiangsu and Guangdong were the top five in number of projects.

In May 2017, SIPO published some key points of promoting patent pledge in 2017, including building a market-driven system of IP pledge, insurance and guarantee, motivating financial institutions, service agencies and enterprises in IP pledge, promoting IP pledge into market-driven and large-scale development.

In the near future, SIPO will strengthen communication with the People's Bank of China and China Banking Regulatory Commission, to build an examination mechanism in IP pledge, motivating banks in granting IP pledge loan.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201708/t20170816\\_1317288.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201708/t20170816_1317288.html)

### **China Moves Higher in Global Innovation Index**

China is steadily working its way toward a higher position on the world's innovation index ranking, as a report released on August 18th placed it 17th on the index measuring innovation capability out of 40 major ranked countries.

The national innovation index report 2016-2017 by the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development shows the top five countries as the United States, Japan, Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, and Denmark.

China moved one place higher in 2016, surpassing Belgium. It is the only developing country among the top 20 on the index.

Data showed China's research and development expenditure accounted for 15.6 percent of the world total, ranking second only next to the United States.

Moreover, the number of Chinese Science Citation Index (SCI) papers reached 281,000, about 968,000 applications for invention patents have been filed in the country and 263,000 invention patents have been issued, all ranking the first globally, according to the report.

China has set the goal of lifting its overall national innovation capability to 15th or above by 2020.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201708/t20170821\\_1317716.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201708/t20170821_1317716.html)

### **MOFCOM Boosts "Yunjian Alliance" to Combat IPR Infringement and Counterfeiting**

The Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) recently introduced China's efforts to push forward the "Yunjian (Cloud Sword) Alliance" action to combat IPR infringement and counterfeiting.

Yunjian Alliance action would accelerate the establishment of joint work mechanisms including clue notification, evidence transfer, case assistance and joint case handling, etc. Also, the relevant departments will improve the cooperation mechanism between regulators and large e-commerce enterprises, utilize the resources of e-commerce big data and to screen, integrate and analyze the information about online transaction, so as to enhance the capabilities of discovery, distinction identification and precise crackdown regarding the act of IPR infringement and counterfeiting.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/article/centralgovernment/201708/1909729.html>