

Regional Intellectual Property Trading Centre

Extracts from the National 14th Five-Year Plan

National Development Strategy

“Implement a strategy to make China a leading nation in intellectual property rights, enforce a stringent regime for protection of intellectual property rights, enhance laws and regulations related to intellectual property rights, and expedite legislative work relating to intellectual property rights in emerging fields and new forms of business... optimise the patent subsidy and incentive policies and evaluation mechanisms to better protect and encourage high-value patents and develop patent-intensive industries...”

(Section 2, Chapter 7)

Central Government's Support for Hong Kong

“...support Hong Kong to develop into a regional intellectual property trading centre, promote service industries for high-end and high value-added development...”

(Section 1, Chapter 61)

Hong Kong's Strengths

- Ranked 7th globally on the criterion of “Intellectual Property (“IP”) Rights” in the 2021 World Competitiveness Yearbook published by the International Institute for Management Development in Lausanne, Switzerland, a jump from 12th place in 2020.
- Strong IP protection regime, sound legal and judicial systems, and highly developed service industries.
- Important IP trading platform to help Mainland and Hong Kong enterprises enter the international market, and overseas investors develop business opportunities in the Mainland including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (“GBA”).

Present Situation

- Recent years have seen steady growth in IP trading. Total exports and imports of IP-related services in 2019 amounted to \$5.9 billion and \$15.5 billion, up 13% and 6% respectively as compared with 2016.
- Profits tax deductions for capital expenditure incurred by enterprises for purchase of IP rights increased by 58% to \$1.7 billion and number of corporations claiming tax concessions increased by 54% to 430 in 2019/20, as compared with 2016/17.
- Over 3 300 persons engaged in IP intermediary services (over 80% of whom in legal services) and another 21 600 persons engaged in IP trading and management work (over 50% of whom were professionals, managers or administrators), demonstrating high-end, high value-added IP-related services are involved in a wide range of Hong Kong's business activities.

Business of IP Asia Forum 2020



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Strategy and Measures

- Revive the Copyright Ordinance amendment exercise by consulting the public on how to modernise the copyright regime in the light of the digital environment. Target to introduce an amendment bill in the next term of the Legislative Council.
- Further promote and develop the “original grant patent” (“OGP”) system by boosting the substantive examination capability of the Intellectual Property Department.
- Complete the preparatory work to implement in Hong Kong the international registration system under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.
- Explore with the Mainland authorities on broadening the scope of application of the Patent Cooperation Treaty to cover the OGP system and extending other major international IP treaties to Hong Kong.
- Explore with the Mainland authorities on facilitation measures for cross-boundary IP protection.
- Enhance the free IP Consultation Service, IP Manager Scheme PLUS and other training programmes.
- Work with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (“HKTDC”) to promote its Asia IP Exchange portal.
- Collaborate with the Department of Justice and other stakeholders to promote IP arbitration and mediation.
- Work with HKTDC and relevant stakeholders to promote Hong Kong’s competitive advantages in IP trading and professional services to Mainland and overseas enterprises through trade missions, seminars, publicity programmes and the annual Business of IP Asia Forum.
- Intensify collaboration with IP authorities of the Mainland and Macao on IP trading, protection, management and commercialisation in the GBA and beyond.
- Collaborate with overseas IP offices to promote IP commercialisation.
- Organise local campaigns to promote IP literacy in society.

Asia IP Exchange



Asian Licensing Conference 2020



Hong Kong International Licensing Show 2020



Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government October 2021



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