MONGOLIA'S EXPERIENCE WITH LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY WIPO IN THE AREA OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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Mongolia at a Glance





Population:

3.2 million;

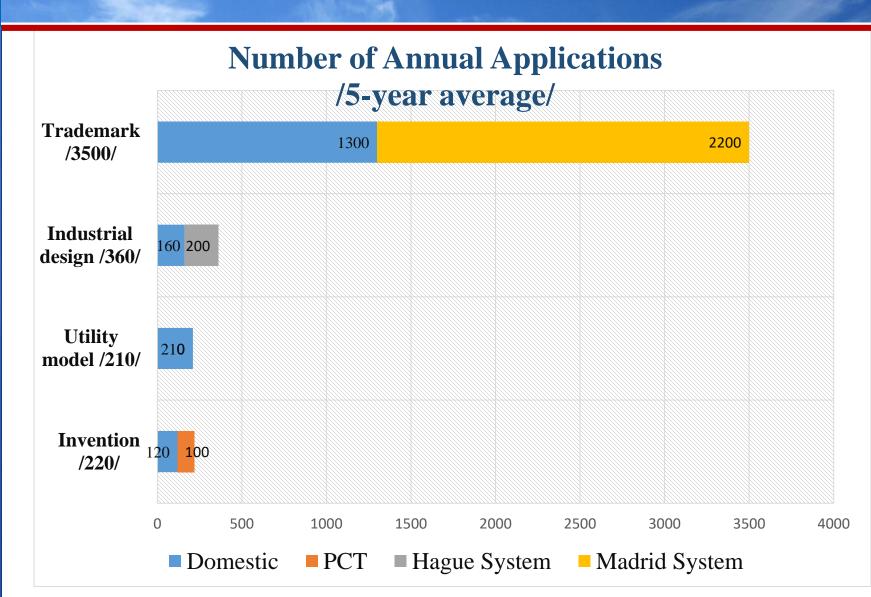
GDP per capita: USD 4009;

- 86.6% of export: mineral products;
- Civil law country;
- Legislative power: the Parliament;
- MPs, the President, the Government are entitled to propose bill;
- Mongolia joined WIPO in 1979;
- Party to 16 WIPO-administered treaties.



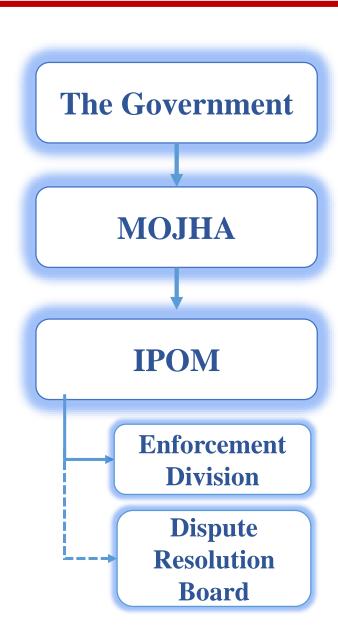
Statistics







Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia



Some roles of the IPOM are:

- Issuing patent, utility model and trademark certificates;
- Promote intellectual property rights;
- Inspect infringement;
- Resolve oppositions and disputes.



Legislations governing IP matters:



- Patent Law (2006);
- Law on Copyright and Related Rights (2006);
- Law on Trademarks and Geographical Indications (2010);
- Others.



WIPO's Legislative Assistance

Mongolia received comments by the WIPO Secretariat on:

- ➤ Draft Patent Law (2013);
- ➤ Draft Acts on Patents, Utility Models and Enforcement (2017);
- ➤ Draft Law on Industrial Designs (2017).



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Progress with the Draft Bill

- Received legislative assistance from WIPO in 2017;
- Established working group on revising the Patent Law (in the MOJHA) and prepared first draft of the Law;
- Conducted assessments according to the Law on Legislation;
- Received feedback on the Bill from government organisations, NGOs, professionals;
- Submitted the Bill to the Government;
- To submit the Patent Bill to the Parliament.



Needs to Revise the Patent Law

Legal needs:

- Eliminate conflict, gap and duplication in the law;
- Implement international treaties and agreements to which Mongolia has become party.

Practical needs:

- Describe in more detail the procedure to grant patents;
- Make patent granting timeline more accurate.



The Purpose of the Patent Bill

- "... to govern the granting of patents for inventions, utility models, industrial designs;
 - to protect exclusive rights of inventors and patent holders;
 - to regulate the exploitation of patented inventions, utility models and industrial designs;
 - and to encourage inventive activity and the development of the industry".



Extent of the Revision of the Patent Law:

- Current Law: 6 chapters and 30 articles;
- Draft Law: 9 chapters and 60 articles.

Newly added Chapters are:

- Search and substantial examination;
- Industrial designs;
- International applications.



Features of the Patent Bill

- 1. revised definitions (such as "creator", "invention", "utility model" and "industrial design");
- 2. differentiated requirements for inventions and utility models;
- 3. emphasized difference between "formality examination", "search" and "substantive examination";
- 4. substantive examination subject to request by the applicant (the applicant shall decide whether or not to proceed further after receiving a search report from IPOM);



Features of the Patent Bill

- 5. precisely defined timeline for the patent grant procedure;
- 6. separate provisions for industrial designs, inventions and utility models;
- 7. specific grounds for refusing to grant a patent and the procedure to appeal such a refusal;
- 8. possibility of amending applications and related documents during the patent grant procedure;
- 9. grace period and exhibition priority;



Features of the Patent Bill

- 10. more elaborate provisions on licensing;
- 11. extended terms of protection from the date of filing
 - 10 years for utility models (currently seven years),
 - 15 years for industrial designs (currently 10 years).



IP Enforcement

Mostly safeguarded by different laws:

- Law on Infringement (2017);
- Law on Infringement Procedure (2017);
- Law on State Inspection (2003);
- Criminal Code (2015);
- Law on Criminal Procedure (2015);
- Law on Civil Procedure (2002);
- Law on Customs (2008);
- Law on Competition (2010).



Included in the Bill:

- State Inspector /IPOM/
 - → conduct IP inspections
- Dispute resolution Board /under IPOM/
 - resolves TM and patent disputes and oppositions



State Inspectors' Rights and Responsibilities



- During the inspection process, to stop any actions that violate the Patent Law and other relevant regulations,
- to confiscate documents and infringing articles,
- to request citizens, legal entities and officials to stop infringements and enforce this request;
- to decide whether to prohibit the sale of infringing products, to destroy them or to use them, where appropriate, for other purposes;
- to pronounce sanctions in conformity with the Law on Infringement.



Major Problem

- Lack of coordinated efforts of customs, police, public prosecutors and the judiciary.
- IPOM acting on its own will not be able to eliminate IP infringements.
- Mongolia is therefore requesting WIPO's further support on building respect for IP to better enforce IP rights.



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Thank you.