

## AIPPI Singapore

1. The Group has grown to 42 members - one up from the previous year which also saw a similar "singular" increase. The slow but steady rise is a positive sign that the Group remains valid and relevant in the Singapore IP scene. The Group is also financially sound with a healthy bank balance, ensuring that we would be able to fulfil our role internationally and domestically and undertake independently any reasonably-sized IP event.

### International Activities

2. We continue to be involved in and support the activities of our parent organisation. Our members participated in the AIPPI Forum & Exco meeting held in Hyderabad in October last year and submitted reports in response to the IP topics reviewed at the convention.

3. AIPPI International's on-going project to garner the support of IP officials and governments to establish a uniform code for better privilege protection for communication among IP professionals and their clients has also seen us being continually engaged with IPOS. The report of the Working Committee of AIPPI International which collated feedback from member groups and delivered to WIPO for consideration, was also forward to IPOS by us on behalf on the the Working Committee.

4. Our parent organisation's next international meeting is the Seoul Congress in October and I urge members to attend not only to raise our profile but also to strengthen their networking with members of the international community and foster better business relationships.

### Domestic Activities

5. We continue to work closely with and to support IPOS related/sponsored events that impact on our professional lives and activities. In this context we were identified as a sponsor of the Europe Asia Patent Information Conference jointly conducted by the EPO and IPOS in November last year.

6. Gilbert Leong and Gerald Koh collated members views, at the request of the Exco, on the IPOS triggered Revision of Patent Agents Regime , which the Exco then submitted to IPOS last July.

7. IPOS' Annual Dialogue Session was one event that saw particularly spirited involvement of members. A dozen members participated as the Group's representatives and tabled questions on the trademark, patent and design practices and procedures of IPOS for the latter's clarification. IPOS had allocated eight to ten seats per IP organisation for the event but graciously accommodated our request for our increased participation pursuant to our request.

8. Susanna Leong and Tony Yeo presented their respective incisive paper on the Interplay Between Design And Copyright Protection For Industrial Property and Infringement of Trademarks by Goods in Transit and led the discussion at the Group's Round Table Meeting on the two topics last August. Their papers were submitted by the Exco to AIPPI International as part of the Group's contribution for the review of the two topics at the forthcoming Seoul conference.

9. The Group was also fortunate to have Mr. Yoon Bae Kim, President of AIPPI International, pay us a courtesy visit last month and provided members an opportunity to exchange views and hear from him on the activities of our parent organisation and the Seoul conference. Mr. Kim also paid a courtesy visit to IPOS where he was received IPOS' CEO and his team. Mr. Kim's visit was arranged by the Exco.

10. I thank the Exco, particularly our overworked Secretary Esther Seow and our industrious Treasurer Gilbert Leong and all members who have participated in our domestic and international events, especially those whose names I have overlooked in this report and to whom I sincerely apologise, for their sterling efforts in promoting the well being and good work of the Group. I also welcome members suggestions on what the Group can and should do to better serve their needs.

Morris John

President AIPPI Singapore Group.