

12th JIPA IP Symposium

*Expectations for and potentials of IP system in
Asian countries, and desirable IP strategy
- The Singapore Approach -*

Chiam Lu Lin (Ms.)
Deputy Chief Executive
Intellectual Property Office of Singapore

Current landscape

- Growing emphasis on IP filing and protection in the new business world
 - Patent applications surpassed two million
 - Patent filings increased by 7.8% in 2011
- Asia taking center stage in IP filing
 - China overtook United States to become the top IP filer in 2011
 - Japan and Korea ranked among the top filers while IP filing activities in India and Russia seen significant growth

- **Liberalizing the patent agent regime**
 - Allows foreign qualified patent agents to undertake offshore patent agency work in Singapore
 - Aims to widen the range of international patent expertise in Singapore
 - Businesses can tap on an international pool of patent professionals
- **Building a customer-centric and integrated registry IT system**
 - Enables businesses to transact and access information through a central registry for all types of IP

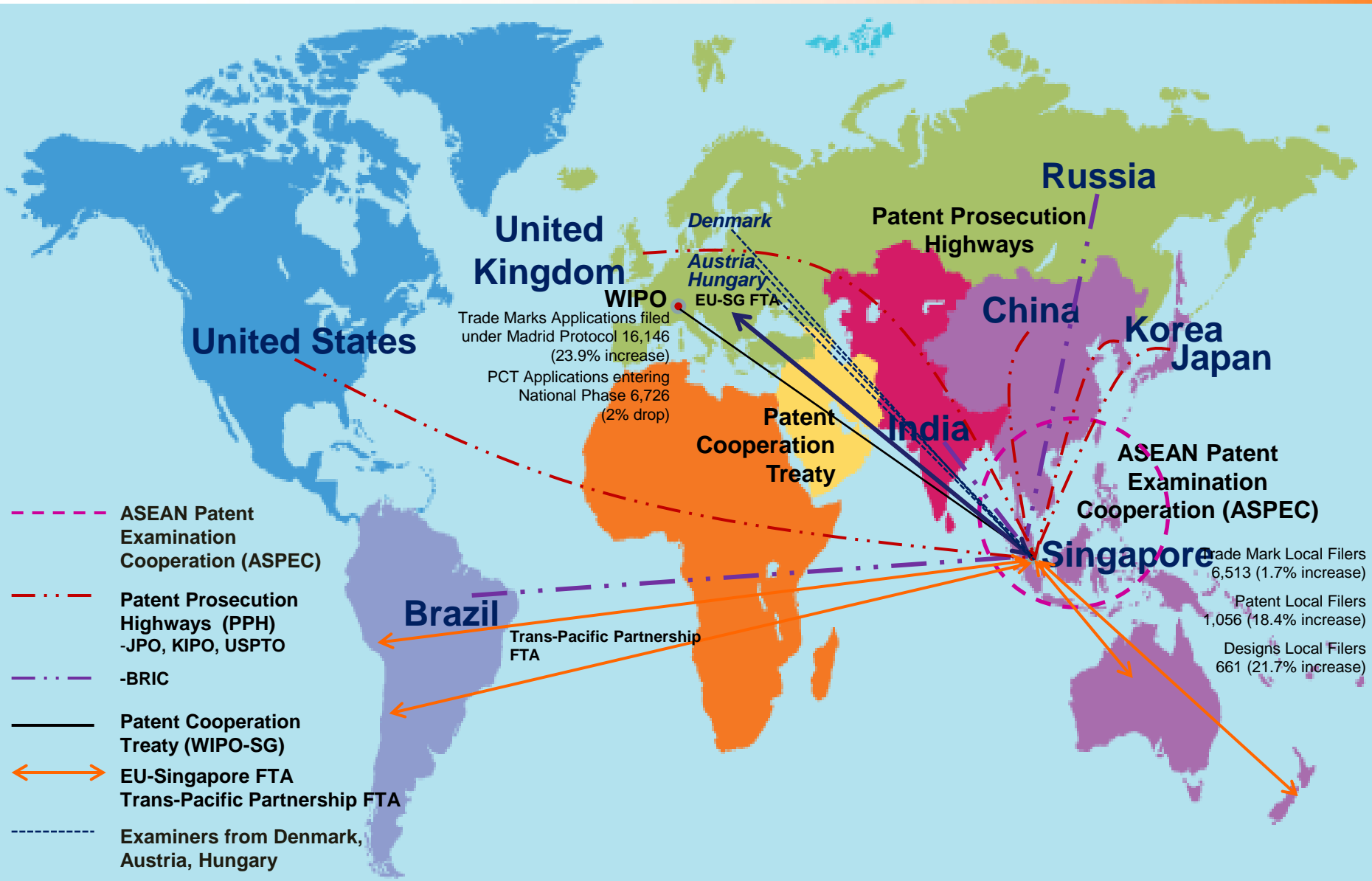
- Moving from “self-assessment” to a “positive grant” patent system
 - Aims to increase quality of patents filed in Singapore
 - IP applications granted only if they have obtained fully positive examination reports
 - Businesses can benefit from receiving top quality patent reports
 - Singapore’s patent system will be comparable with established regimes
 - Training in-house patent examiners
 - Focusing on biotechnology, ICT, semiconductor and pharmaceutical industries for a start

- **Developing IP expertise**
 - IP Academy (IPA) of Singapore became a subsidiary of IPOS in April 2012
 - To train and produce top IP talents
 - Aims to develop IP expertise and become a thought leader on IP policy and strategy
 - IPA provides executive education for IP professionals
 - Develops training programs based on a new IP Competency Framework (IPCF) designed by IPOS
 - Facilitates businesses looking to hire IP practitioners and managers or to raise the quality of IP expertise within the company

International initiatives

- Signed Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with JPO, KIPO and USPTO
 - Exploring new partners
- Working closely with ASEAN countries and dialogue partners
 - Developing ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation
 - Facilitates work sharing of search and examination efforts among ASEAN IP offices
 - Deepens cooperation in IP through Japan-ASEAN and China-ASEAN platforms
- Businesses can obtain patents faster

International initiatives



- **Strengthening capacity for resolution of IP disputes in Singapore**
 - WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center in Singapore set up in 2010
 - Facilitates mediation of IP disputes
 - Offers a time and cost efficient alternative to traditional litigation
 - Benefits international parties seeking to settle cross-border disputes in neutral jurisdictions
 - Added incentive for businesses as successful mediation can lead to faster and fairer settlement of IP disputes

- Significant growth of IP activities especially in East Asia
 - The region has overtaken North America and Western Europe in the number of PCT applications
- Singapore is strengthening its IP system to better meet challenges in the new IP landscape
- Businesses can expect to find a high quality, faster, more customer-oriented and cost-efficient IP regime in Singapore

Thank You