

Preface to the First Issue Publication

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Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA) was founded in 1938 in order to aim at contributing to the business of its Members by endeavoring to make full utilization of intellectual property systems and to improve them, and thereby to aim at contributing to the progress of technology and development of industry. Since then, the Association has continued its activities as a largest user group in Japan, probably in the world, which uses the intellectual property system, for over sixty years.

Recently, the globalization of the economic activities in its Members is progressing, and then the importance of the intellectual property abroad increases. Therefore, the Association has been requesting a lot of improvements about the intellectual property systems in the foreign countries and their practices, and its interchange and cooperation with the various intellectual property organs and group in the world are increasing with it, too.

To date, the concise news for introducing the Association's activities have been delivered in English to the related organs and group in the various countries as "JIPA NEWS", and also have been published in its homepage. But, this time, we have decided an English PR journal to be issued with the aim of appealing more actively the opinion of the Association and its suggestion to the world.

In comparison with globalization of the economic activities, each country has respectively its own intellectual property system. Recently, it has been harmonized, but there are still many different parts in the contents and speed of the examination, the practice of the enforcement and so on.

It is a common wish for the person in the world, who makes use of an intellectual property system, that the common rule on the intellectual property will be applicable anywhere in the world, and then the rights can be acquired with the simpler procedure and at the lower cost, and that the utilization of the rights will be done more certainly and fairly

We have to express respect for the effort of European, who has measured to harmonize and unify the intellectual property system among them toward this direction for a long time.

The European Patent Office and European Trademark & Design Office have already been established, and they are active. Moreover, about the Community Patent that is more ideal, an discussion in each level is recently advanced toward the establishment of the common intellectual property system, transcending their borders, the differences of their languages, habits, histories and so on.

Supposedly, the most of these efforts will be fully made use when the world common intellectual property system will be completed, and I hope that the outline of the Community Patent with such a global patent in mind, will be completed in the near future.

An examination should be advanced about a reform of PCT, an examination on which proceeds around WIPO through, as well, with a global patent in mind and from viewpoint of a joint with the

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Community Patent in the future.

It is very important to exchange the information and the opinion with the people in the world concerned with the intellectual property and to cooperate with them toward the goal for the global patent, though it seems to be very far at present.

It is our pleasure that this English journal will make a kind of role to do this.

Moreover, the change in the business method and a remarkable development on biochemical and so on progresses with the progress of the IT revolution, and a newer technology field is developed one after another, and the contents and its way of the business in each enterprise has been changing rapidly.

An environment over intellectual property continues the change with them, too, and under the conditions not to correspond to these changes it is necessary for the people concerned with the intellectual property to take proper correspondence to the rule of intellectual property, while staring for conditions variously.

I think that it is one of the roles of this English journal to transmit a result of our examination on these problems to everyone in the world and to receive opinions from you, too.

Please expect this English journal because its quality and quantity will be enriched further from now on, though the contents, volume, issue number of times are limited to for the time being.

Lastly, I wish for the successful activity and good fortune of the people in the world to be concerned in the intellectual property.

