

Current Status and Future Perspectives on National IP Education and Training Programs in Myanmar

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Outlines

- **Introduction (IPRs)**
- **Current IP system in Myanmar**
- **Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar**
- **Future works for IP in Myanmar**
- **Conclusions**

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Myanmar and International Organizations

- World Trade Organization (WTO) - 16 Nov 1994
- ASEAN - 3 July 1997
- WIPO - 15 May 2001

Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), 1994

ASEAN Framework Agreement on Intellectual Property Co-operation, 15 Dec 1995

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Relevant Laws Related to IP in Myanmar

- The Code of Civil Procedure, 1808
- The Penal Code, 1860
- The Specific Relief Act, 1877
- The Sea Customs Act, 1878
- The Myanmar Merchandise Marks Act, 1889
- The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898
- The Registration Act, 1908
- The Myanmar Copyright Act, 1914
- The Land Customs Act; 1924
- The Myanmar Patents and Designs (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1946

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Relevant Laws Related to IP in Myanmar

- The Science and Technology Development Law
- The Computer Science Development Law
- The Television and Video Law
- Motion Picture Law
- National Drug Law
- Traditional Drug Law
- Electronic Transaction Law

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IP and Myanmar

The new draft laws of IPRs

- Patents
- Industrial design
- Trademarks
- Copyright
- under process of **legislation.**

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IP and Myanmar

- Ministry of Science and Technology, the focal point Ministry for WIPO, and Attorney General Office worked together for drafting the IP laws of Myanmar based on the WIPO Model Law as well as Laws of other IP developed countries.

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IP and Myanmar

- Myanmar had done several discussions on these **drafted IP laws** with Prime Minister, Ministers, IP Lawyers, IP related organizations including NGO, Private Enterprises, Industrial Zones and the concerned from different sectors.
- The drafted IP Laws were sent to **WIPO** to get the **legislative advices** on them.
- WIPO offered Myanmar IP Lawyers to come to Geneva for discussion on those laws in **May, 2005**.
- In August, 2005, WIPO also sent **an expert mission for legislative advices** on the drafted Myanmar IP laws.

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IP and Myanmar

- **Offer** technical know-how and investments to raise up the economy
- **Need** effective and valid protection of IPRs for encouragement in promoting investment and economic development
- **Enacted** Foreign investment Law and the Myanmar Citizens Investment Law

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IP and Myanmar

- No specific law for **IPRs**
- **Existing laws** relating to IP do not cope with the current economic trend and developments in the field of IP
- Need to be **reviewed and redrafted** the existing law in order to ensure compliance with international and inter-governmental obligations of Myanmar.
- Ministry of **Science and Technology**, Ministry of **Commerce** and **Office of the attorney general** have to work together to emerge the comprehensive, transparent and also effective protection of IPRs to be in line with the International conventions and agreements including TRIPS agreement.

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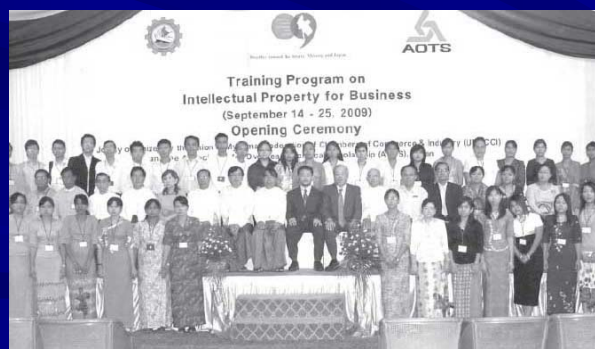
Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar

- Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) urged community participation in efforts to develop intellectual property (IP) laws in the national interest.
- The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) offered the course, and UMFCCI's Education Affairs Committee arranged to offer it free of charge to promote understanding and IP knowledge.

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Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar

- UMFCCI has organized the training programs on **Intellectual Property for Business** since 2003.
- The **trainees** from UMFCCI and brother associations, other organizations, member companies, universities, Institute of Economic, and Cooperative Degree Colleges, attended the courses.



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Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar

- The General Course on **International Property Rights DL 101**, sponsored by WIPO under the arrangement of UMFCCI was conducted through Internet.
- Those who have completed the course were presented with certificates.
- UMFCCI Education Work Committee presented the certificates of WIPO to the trainees.
- A Talk about the Intellectual Property was held at UMFCCI on June 6, 2009.
- The title of talk named **Intellectual Property Beyond 2010** and any interested person were welcome there.
- UMFCCI also plans to arrange more advanced courses for learning about IP in depth.

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Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar

- The **First International Conference on Science and Engineering (ICSE 2009)**, under the supervision of Ministry of Science and Technology, was held in Yangon, Myanmar from 4 to 5 December, 2009.
- **Prof. Dr. Jose Luis Herce-Vigil, Duputy Director and Head of the Information Services Section (WIPO), Singapore**, was invited to the conference as a keynote speaker.
- He **presented and discussed about the IP knowledge** to the conference participants and observers such as scientists, leading engineers, industry researchers and candidates from postgraduated courses.

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Education and Training Activities for IP in Myanmar

- Myanmar government are making seminars and training programs for IP in local and sending the officials and staffs mission to the international conferences and symposia, seminars, workshops, trainings and meetings outside of the country, collaboration with WIPO, to practise the IP system.
- Patent Information and Patent Searching Training Courses delivered by Dr. Herce-Vigil (WIPO), was held in Yangon, Myanmar from 25 to 29 2005.

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TANTATIVE PROGRAM FOR PATENT INFORMATION AND PATENT SEARCHING TRAINING COURSES DELIVERED BY DR. HERCE-VIGIL (WIPO), APRIL 25-29, 2005, YANGON, MYANMAR

DATE	VENUE	PARTICIPANTS	COURSES	REMARKS
25-4-05 (MONDAY)	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	-Researchers from S&T -Professors -Researchers from Ministries -Union Of Myanmar Federation Chamber of Commerce & Industries -Myanma Industrial Association -Myanmar Engineering Societies -Myanmar Computer Association -Industrial Zones	Lecture on Patent Documents & Patent Information Services	About 150 participants attended altogether. (Doctors here gave lectures related to Patent information for the whole day)
26-4-05 (TUESDAY)	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	-Professors -Researchers form S&T -Researchers from Ministries -Union Of Myanmar Federation Chamber of Commerce Industries -Myanma Industrial Association -Myanmar Engineering Societies -Industrial Zones	Practical Training	
27-4-05 (WEDNESDAY)	Myan-Info Tech	Union Of Myanmar Federation Chamber of Commerce Industries -Myanma Industrial Association -Myanmar Engineering Societies --Myanmar Computer Association	Lecture & Practical Training	These NGO groups gave lectures in morning session & training in afternoon session
28-4-05 (THURSDAY)	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	-Researchers from S&T -Ph.D Engineering Students -Master Engineering Students -Professors -Staff (Ph.D Holder)	Lectures	
29-4-05 (FRIDAY)	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	Researchers from S&T -Ph.D Engineering Students -Master Engineering Students -Professors -Staff (Ph.D Holder)	Training	

Future works for IP in Myanmar

- **To Establish** necessary infrastructure
- **To train** officials and staffs
- **To educate** the public
- **To close co-operation** with WIPO

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Future works for IP in Myanmar

- According to the WTO Press no. 424, all Least-Developed Countries have been given an extension until **1 July 2013** to provide protection for Intellectual Property Rights under **TRIPS agreement**.
- Enactment alone is not enough to practise IP system.
- Its byelaws such as rules, regulations, procedures and other necessary measures (establishing necessary infrastructures (IP office), training officials and staffs, educating the public who will deal with or related to the subject matter etc.,) have to be followed up.

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Conclusions

- Myanmar needs **comprehensive and effective IP protection** to promote foreign investment and technology transfer as well as for boosting industrial development.
- It is important to set up an appropriate legal **IPRs** system and also need to upgrade system practices.

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Thank You Very Much !

Mr. Zay Oo Maung

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