



DEPARTMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

WORLD  
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## SUB-REGIONAL FORUM

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# Promotion of Innovation through Effective Cooperation on Patent Examination

*organized by*  
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

*in cooperation with*  
the Department of Intellectual Property (DIP)  
Ministry of Commerce, Government of Thailand

*and with the assistance of*  
the Japan Patent Office (JPO)

**Bangkok, October 4 and 5, 2010**

LIST OF SPEAKERS

*prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO*

**AKIYOSHI IMAURA**

He is a national of Japan.

He is currently Deputy Director, International Affairs Division, General Affairs Department, Japan Patent Office (JPO).

He got his Bachelor's Degree from Engineering Osaka University in March 1998.

He joined the Japan Patent Office (JPO) in 1999 as Examiner, Nano-Physics Division, First Patent Examination Department. He became a Deputy Director, Office for Intellectual Property Right Infringement, Manufacturing Industries Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in 2004 and was Visiting Scholar at University of Michigan, Department of Geological Science in 2008. He was Examiner, Material Analysis Division, First Patent Examination Department in 2009.

**CHACHANAT THEBTARANONTH (MS.)**

Professor Thebtaranonth received her Ph.D. degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of Liverpool, England. She did post-doctoral training at Cornell University in the United States and returned to teach at Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. During 1972-1993 she published over 40 research papers in international journals as well as authored and co-authored 4 books. Her research areas covered the chemistry of natural products and organic synthesis. She became full Professor in 1989. In 1993, Professor Thebtaranonth took up a new position as the Science Park Project Director at the National Science and Technology Development Agency, NSTDA. In 1995 she became the Vice-President of NSTDA, and in 2004 added to her responsibility the Directorship of the new Technology Management Center (TMC) of NSTDA. The work of TMC focuses on developing industrial competitiveness through science and technology. TMC conducts programs in technology transfer and S&T infrastructure building. Professor Thebtaranonth played a key role in the development of Thailand Science Park and pioneered the development of SME support programs such as the Industrial Technology Assistance Program (ITAP), Intellectual Property service and Technology Licensing Office (TLO), as well as financial assistance schemes. Thailand Science Park and Software Park are both under the umbrella of TMC. Professor Thebtaranonth is the Past President (2006-2008) of the International Association of Science Parks (IASP) with over 350 members from 72 countries.

**LE HUY ANH**

He is a national of Viet Nam.

He is currently Director, Invention Division No.2, National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam.

In 1993, he graduated from Hanoi University of Pharmacy. He was Hospital pharmacist, Department of Pharmacy, Hospital No. 4, Hochiminh City and was a Medical representative, Diethelm Co., Ltd. (a Swiss company), Hanoi from 1993 to 1997.

He worked as Patent Examiner, Invention and Utility Solution Division, National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam and for Long term research fellow under WIPO-Japan Funds-in Trust Research Fellowship Program (Research on Patent Activities for the Purpose of Strengthening Patent Activities in Vietnamese Enterprises, from 1997 to 2005.

In 2006, he was Patent Examiner, Invention Division No.2, National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam. He was Acting Deputy Director, Invention Division No.2, National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam from April 2006 to May 2010.

He also participated in various IP training activities in Vietnam as trainer on patent relating issues (patent drafting, patent search and examination, relationship between pharmaceutical patent, test data protection and drug access, etc.).

#### KONRAD LUTZ MAILÄNDER

He is head of WIPO's Patent Information Section. As such he is in charge of WIPO's Patent Information Service for developing countries (WPIS) which provides support for substantive examination to IPOs in developing countries, and also provides state of the art search reports to institutions and the private sector of developing countries, NGOs and IGOs.

He also coordinates WIPO's activities related to patent landscape reports, and a study on availability and reliability of patent legal status information. Previously, he was the head of the International Patent Classification (IPC) section.

Before joining WIPO, he worked for almost ten years as a patent examiner at the German IPO (DPMA), and spent almost two years as a visiting scientist at Cornell University, New York. He holds a PhD in solid state physics from the Ludwig-Maximilians Universität, Munich, and a certificate in Management of International Organizations of the University of Geneva (IOMBA).

#### MANABU NIKI

He is a national of Japan.

Presently, he is Deputy Director, Policy Planning and Research Section, Administrative Affairs Division, First Patent Examination Department, Japan Patent Office.

He did his Bachelor of Engineering from The University of Tokyo in 1999 and Master of Engineering in 2001. He completed his Master in Law from University of Washington in 2009.

He is working with the Japan Patent Office since 2001.

Presently, in addition to Deputy Director, Administrative Affairs Division, he is working as Patent Examiner in the field of (i) Vehicle wheels; casters; axles; increasing wheel adhesion; (ii) Vehicle suspension arrangements.

He was working in the University of Washington School Of Law (2008-2010).

From 2006-2007, he was Assistant Director, the Policy Planning and Research Division. He formulated and published the "Case Examples for strategic Intellectual Property Management" and Edited and published Japan Patent Office Annual Report 2006, 2007.

As Patent Examiner (2005-2006), he worked for: (i) Transport or storage devices, (ii) Cranes; load-engaging elements or devices for cranes, capstans, winches, or tackles (iii) Hoisting, lifting, hauling, or pushing, not otherwise provided for; (iv) Business methods for logistics and inventory control. He also worked as Assistant Patent Examiner (2001-2004).

#### MICHITAKA OHATA

At present, he is Director Intellectual Property Department JETRO Bangkok from 2008.

He is holding Bachelor Degree in Hydrocarbon Chemistry Engineering Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan.

In 1994, he joined the Japan Patent Office (JPO), Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). From 1998 to 2000, he was Patent Examiner Metal Processing Division, Fourth Examination Department. He became an Assistant Director Examination Research Office Fourth Examination Department in 2000. He was Deputy Director Policy Planning and Research Section Administrative Affairs Division in January 2003 and later he was Deputy Director Patent Strategy Planning Section General Affairs Division (2005). In 2007 he was Deputy Director Patent Strategy Planning Section Policy Planning and Research Division.

#### NAOTO KUJI

He is a national of Japan.

In 1977, he completed his LL.M.

He joined the Honda Motor Co., Ltd. in 1977 and later was Division Manager, Intellectual Property Division and he became a General Manager, Intellectual Property Division in 2010.

He was President, the Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA) in 2005 and from 2004 to 2010, was Chairperson for planning committee of International Intellectual Property Protection Forum (IIPPF). He was Deputy Chairperson for IP committee of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, Inc.(JAMA) from 2008 to 2009. He was Director, the Licensing Executives Society Japan (LESJ) and was also Chairperson for planning committee of JIPA (2008). He is Director, Intellectual Property Association of Japan (IPAJ).

#### RANGANATH SUBBARAYAN

He is a Senior Examiner of Patents. He has over 23 years experience in different areas of IP Australia, including Patent Examination, Patent Oppositions and Hearings, Examiner Training Centre and Business Process Improvement.

He has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and extensive patent examination experience in the mechanical technologies. As a Hearing Officer for Patent Oppositions he has conducted several Substantive and Procedural Hearings.

Until recently, he was an Assistant Director in the Business Process Improvement Section and in this capacity was intimately involved in the development of the business requirements for the Vancouver Group Mutual Exploitation Initiative. He also manages the interim Infrastructure Solution for the Vancouver Group pending development of the CASE platform by WIPO.

#### SANDRA LYNN MERINDA (MS.)

Ms. Merinda is a Senior Assistant Director with the Registry of Patents, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS). She joined the organization in 2000 after obtaining her Bachelor of Commerce at the Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia in 1999.

Her duties involve overseeing matters arising after the grant of a patent and since 2007 has also taken on overseeing IPOS' function as a receiving Office for international

applications filed under the Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT). Ms. Merinda is also involved in giving talks to government officials, members of the public and the business community, as well as students, on the Singapore patent system. She also assists in reviews of the Singapore's patent legislation and in the administrative preparations arising out of changes made to the patent system. Ms. Merinda was involved in the setting up of the computerized patent system at IPOS which, among other services, allows for the filing of patent applications online.

#### TAKUYA SUGIYAMA

He is a Program Officer of the Bureau for Asia and the Pacific of WIPO, engaged in planning and implementing assistance activities under the Funds-in-Trust Japan (Industrial Property).

He joined the Japan Patent Office (JPO) in 1995. From 1995 to 1999, he worked as an administrative officer in the Patent Information Division of the JPO. After 8-month study in U.K as a research fellowship, he worked in Technology Research Division in the JPO until March 2002. In April 2002, he was seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work for the Embassy of Japan to Athens, Greece, as Chief of Economic Section. He worked in the International Affairs Division in the JPO as an assistant director engaged in bilateral issues between Japan and Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei, and Latin American countries, as well as in coordination for APEC Intellectual Property Experts' Group (IPEG). Since April 2009, he has been working in the current position.