

# Kingdom of Cambodia

## Nation-Religion-King



### COUNTRY REPORT

On

## STATUS OF ON-GOING IPO INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION PROJECTS IN IPOS AND FUTURE PLANS

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# Introduction

- The Kingdom of Cambodia attaches high respect to the policies and laws on protecting Intellectual Property Rights and consider them as an important instruments in the economic, social, scientific and technological short and long-term development strategy of the country.
- The Intellectual Property Department was established on Sept 22, 1997 under Sub-Decree of the Royal Government of Cambodia had undertaken the role of registering and protecting trademarks.
- More than eight years, the IPD has made itself known to the public both at domestic and international levels through the registrations and protections of 33,000 trademarks and through the promotion of public awareness, enforcement actions and cooperation with other domestic enforcement bodies and international intellectual property agencies.

# IPD Organization Chart

Director

Deputy Director

Deputy Director

Deputy Director

Deputy Director

Mark Registration Bureau

Information & Adm. Bureau

Post Registration Bureau

GIs & Trade Secret Bureau

Litigation & Legal Affairs Bureau

Cooperation Bureau

- Formality Check
- Substantive Examination-1
- Substantive Examination-2
- Certificate Issuance
- Mark Search
- Opposition
- Appeal
- Mark Evaluation

- Administration
- Finance
- Official Gazette
- Information Center
- IT
- Customer Relation
- Information Center
- Database Maintenance
- Delivery of Certs.

- Formality Check
- Renewal
- Affidavit
- Change Name/Add
- Assignment
- Mark Amendment
- Licensing
- Franchising
- Exclusivity

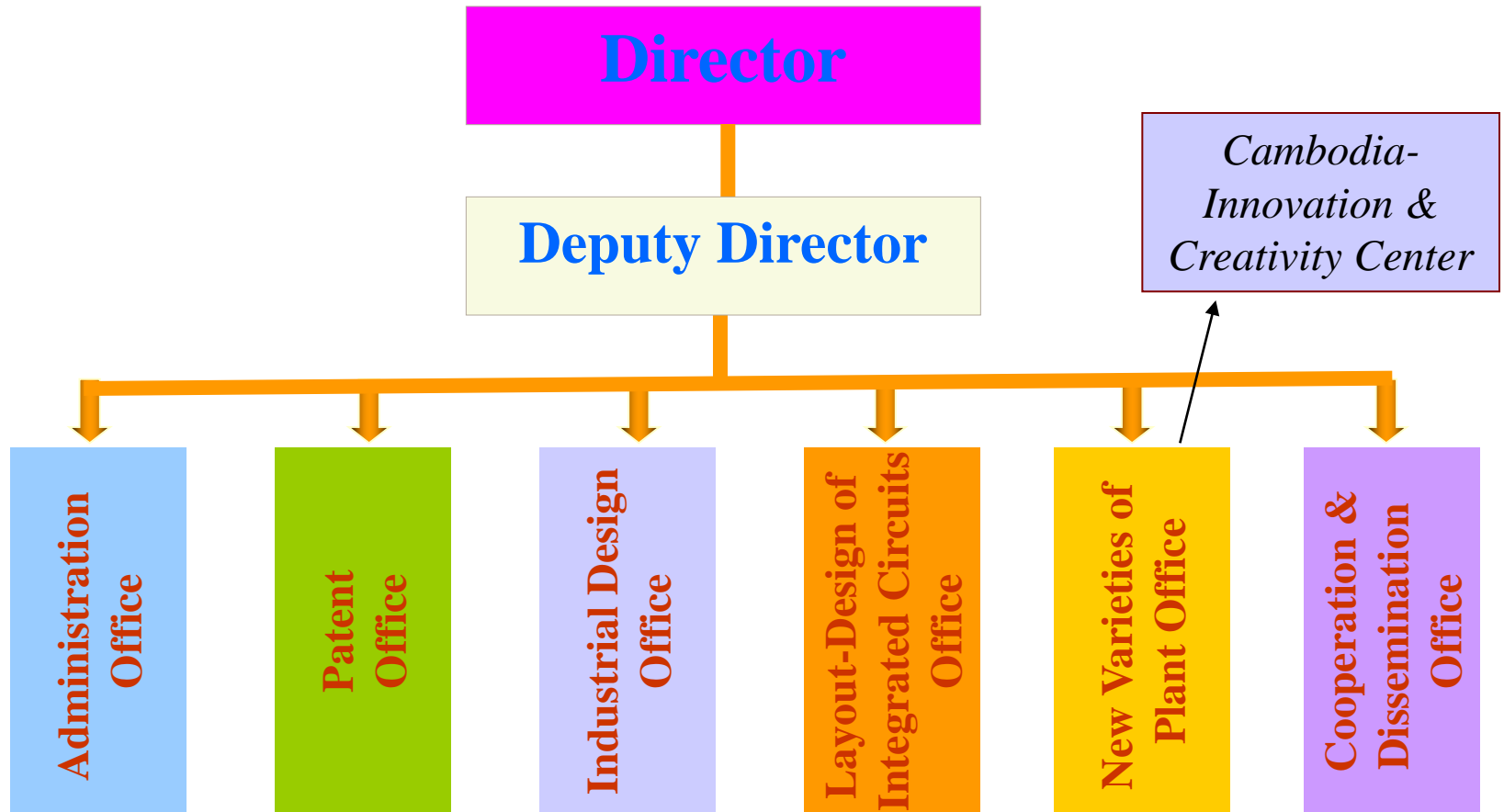
- Formality Check
- Site treips
- Substantive Exam.
- GIs control
- Certificate issuing
- GIs invalidation
- Gis maintenance
- Trade Secret
- Traditional knowledge & Folklore protection

- Market survey
- Reg. mark invalidation
- Adm. Dispute Settlement
- Other IP dispute
- Court attendance

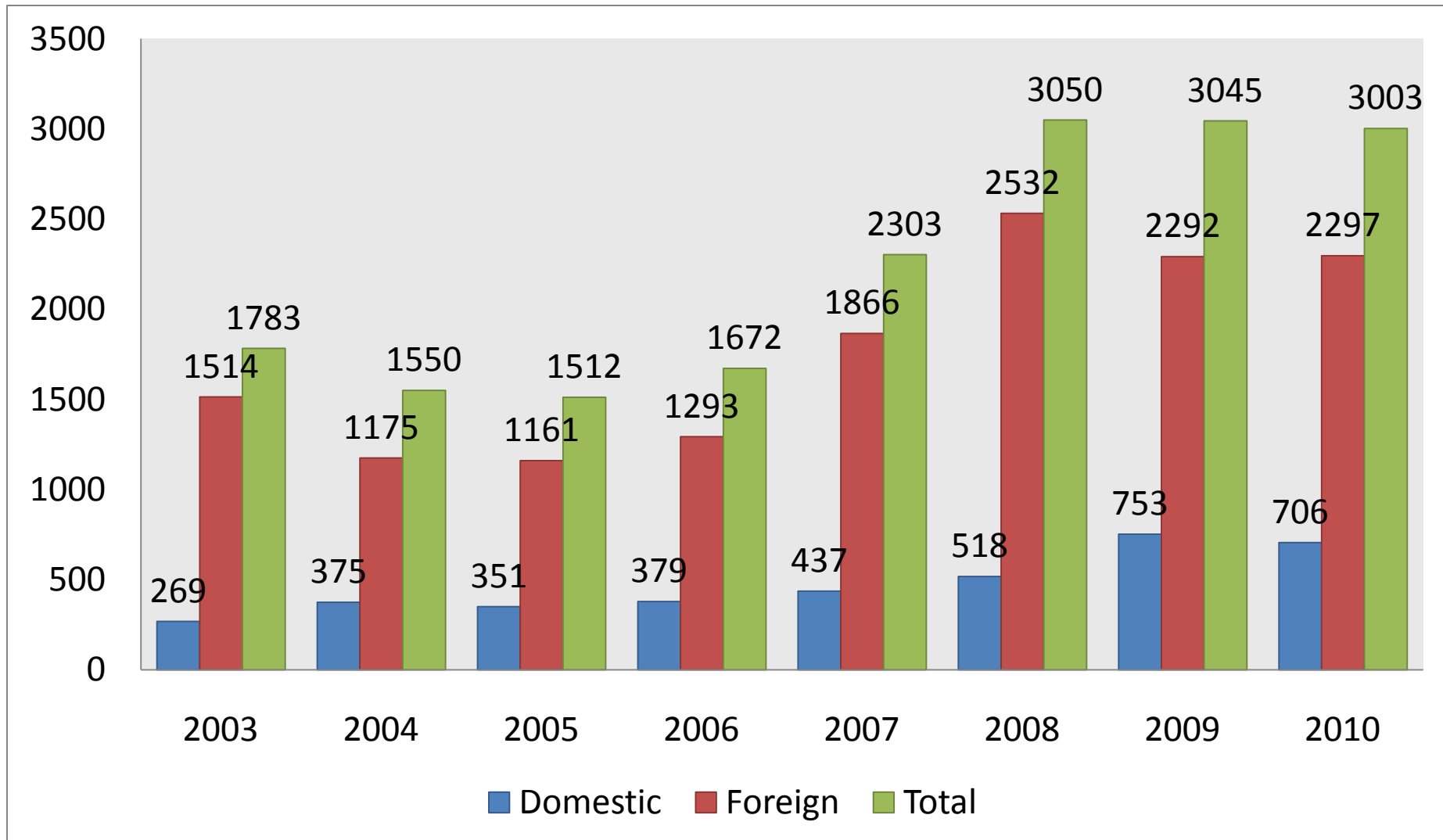
- IP Secretariat
- Dissemination
- Inter. Cooperation
- TA & financial gathering
- ASEAN – IP
- TIFA-US
- Legal Affairs
- TRIPs
- Membership of International Convention



# Organization Chart of Department of Industrial Property



# Cambodian Trademark Registered from 2003 - Nov.2010

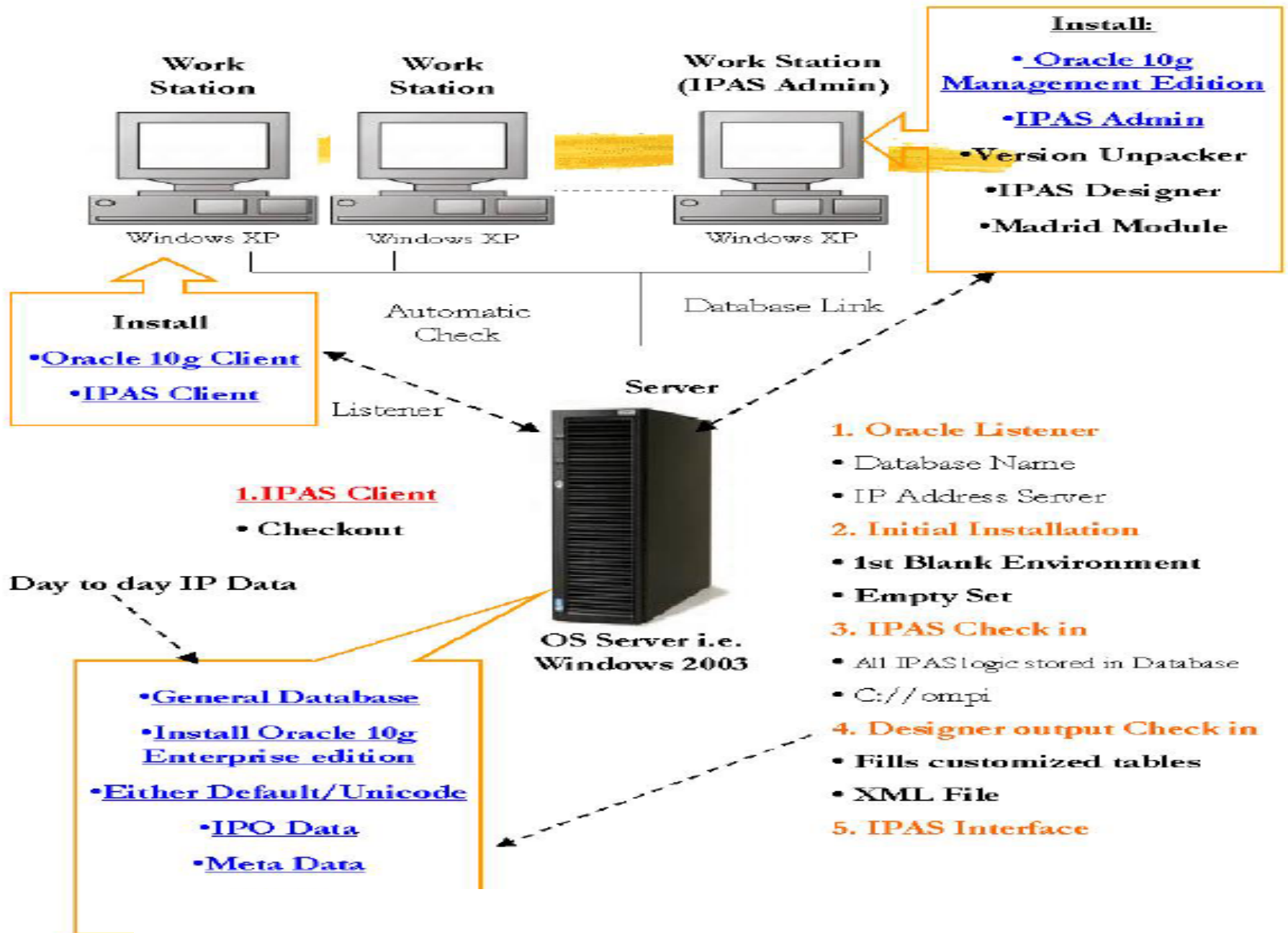


# Office Automation System

- World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) has donated the Industrial Property Automated Software (IPAS) for trade marks to Cambodia since around 2007.
- The software is designed to assist the IP Office in processing and managing trade marks through out their entire life-cycle.
- Processes cover reception of documents, data capture, examination, publication, registration of marks and changes to the register.

# Office Automation System

- IPO official documents are also generated, such as correspondence with agents and applicants, renewal certificates, notices for the journal, registration certificates and gazette publication. A specialized similarity search module for marks, offers the examiner the possibility to find prior similar trade marks, based on either phonetic or logo similarities. Statistics are easily obtained as well as management productivity reports.





# Current status and challenging

- The automation project in IPD has achieved a very encouraging level of progress. All the daily activities related to trademarks application processing as well as all the post registration activities are carried out using IPAS. About 85% of the backlog related to data validation and tuning was achieved. All the missing figurative elements (logos) were scanned and integrated within the database. About 60% of these logos still need to be coded according to the Vienna classification rules.

## Current status and challenging (cont)

- IPD has made a choice to produce its publications not using the proper IPAS journal features, but using some other IPAS tools like process groups and IPAS reporting functions. This is due to the fact that IPD publishes some information which is not related to the automated processes like certificate signature date for example.

## Current status and challenging (cont)

- The IPAS Administrator and two other IT assistants belong to different sections of IPD and have tasks and duties other than the training and maintenance of IPAS. It was noticed that the PCs and other IT equipment need regular maintenance to ensure their smooth functionality. Due to their other responsibilities the designated IT staff is not able to provide technical support required by the office.

# Future Automation Plans

- Establish IT office
- E-Filing and E-Query
- The possibility of IPAS java version
- Improve the capacity building for IPD's staff
- Re-check the flowchart of IPD
- Work with the WIPO technical expert to solve the remaining issues that office already raised.

# Future Automation Plans (cont)

- Possibility of creating the digital library
- Scan the archived files, to prevent the lose or low management
- Though the level of automation is fairly decent, IPD still needs assistance and close monitoring in order to achieve the automation project objectives.
- Upload the Official Gazette on the web.

# Conclusion

Cambodia now is getting peace through out the country. We have intensively and continuously improved and strengthened IP laws, regulations, enforcement as well as automation system. The enforcement bodies have been involved closely in the IP enforcement activities. The economic growth of Cambodia has been increased continuously. Cambodian people are very innovative and creative. We also have had good cooperation with many countries, international communities. IPD has actively conducted its duties and responsibilities. So that, we strongly hope that, step-by-step, Cambodia would have the effective IP laws, regulations and a strong enforcement of Information Technology system.