



Digitization and Dissemination of Intellectual Property (IP) Information and Utilization of Effective Search Tools

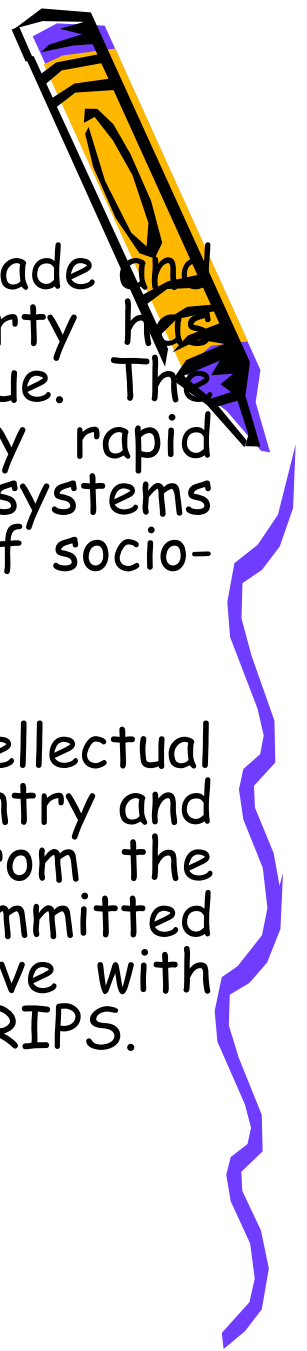


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Introduction

In today's competitive environment of free trade and globalization, the protection of Intellectual Property has become an increasingly important international issue. The emergence of a new global economy propelled by rapid technological advance and worldwide communication systems has placed intellectual property in the mainstream of socio-economic development policy in many countries.

Recognizing the significant role that the intellectual property system plays in the development of the country and the advantages to be derived by the Lao PDR from the protection of intellectual property rights, we are committed to modernizing and strengthening our system in line with international trends in particular WTO agreement a TRIPS.

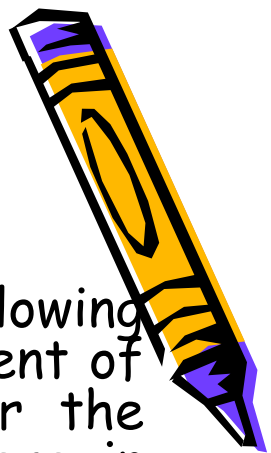


Background

The Intellectual property was established in 1990 following an executive decision by the Council Ministries. The Department of Intellectual Property, Standardization and Metrology under the National Authority for Sciences and Technology (NAST) were in charge of the intellectual property matters in Lao PDR.

Lao PDR joined WIPO in January 17, 1995, ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) in 1997, Paris Convention on protection of Industrial Property in 1998, Patent Cooperation treaty (PCT) in 2006 and assessing to be member of WTO in the near future.

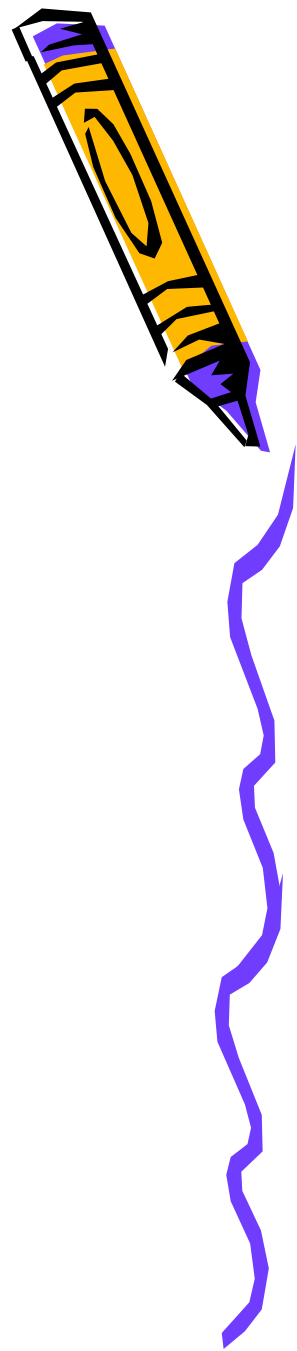
Since 1999 the Department of Intellectual property, Standardization and Metrology (DISM) is assigned by the Government to be the focal point for all Intellectual Property management including Copyright issues.



Staffs:

The Industrial Property Division has 12 persons:

- 1 Director;
- 2 Deputy Director;
- 2 Patent and Industrial Design Examiners;
- 5 Trademark Examiners;
- 2 Assistants Trademark Examiner, and
- no IT Staff.



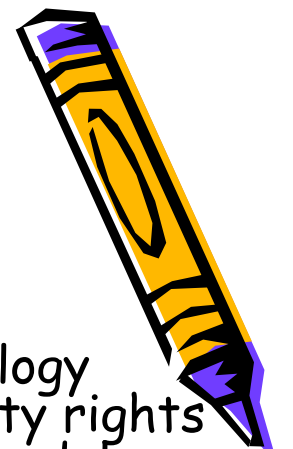
Legislation

The Department of Intellectual Property, Standardization and Metrology (DISM), National Authority for Science and Technology (NAST) is responsible for the registration of industrial property rights (IPRs) such as trademarks, patents, industrial designs, utility models, geographical indications and layout designs of integrated circuits.

Trademarks: Decree of the Prime Minister on Trademarks, January 18, 1995; expanded by Regulation No 1466/STEA-PMO, dated March 7, 2002 concerning settlement of trademark registration disputes.

Patents and Industrial Designs: The Prime Minister's Decree on Patent, Petty Patent and Industrial Design No. 01/PM dated January 17, 2002; Regulation on the Implementation of Decree of Patent, Petty Patent and Industrial Design, February 18, 2003

Law on Intellectual Property: No. 08/NA dated December 24, 2007



The present situation of the Use of Information Technology in Industrial Property Administration in Laos



- ❑ Industrial Property Division used WIPO IPAS System since September 2004 supported by WIPO within the framework of the Japanese Funds-in-Trust arrangement in the field of Industrial Property.
- ❑ The system only for the registration of trademarks, patents, petty patents and industrial designs. The system can automated reception, search/examination, registration/granting, publication, amendments/assignment, etc.
- ❑ Each PC in the Industrial Property Division can access to the internet.
- ❑ We established the Local Area Network (LAN)
- ❑ We have 1 Sever is running with the Window Server 2003 and we just received 1 Sever supported by WIPO running with Window Server 2008.
- ❑ We don't have any backlog.
- ❑ We have problem with the Lao language, because the IPAS system cant' support for the Lao language.



The future direction of the Use of Information Technology in Industrial Property Administration in Lao PDR



Modernization of IP System:

- Clear office procedures through written manuals for the administration of all Industrial Property matter.
- Enhanced automation capability of the administration system of trademarks, patents, industrial designs
- Trained examiners and officials



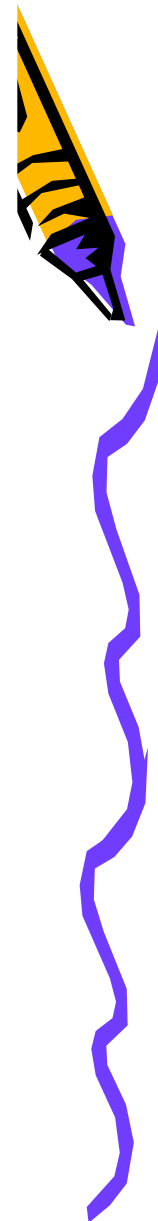


Applications:

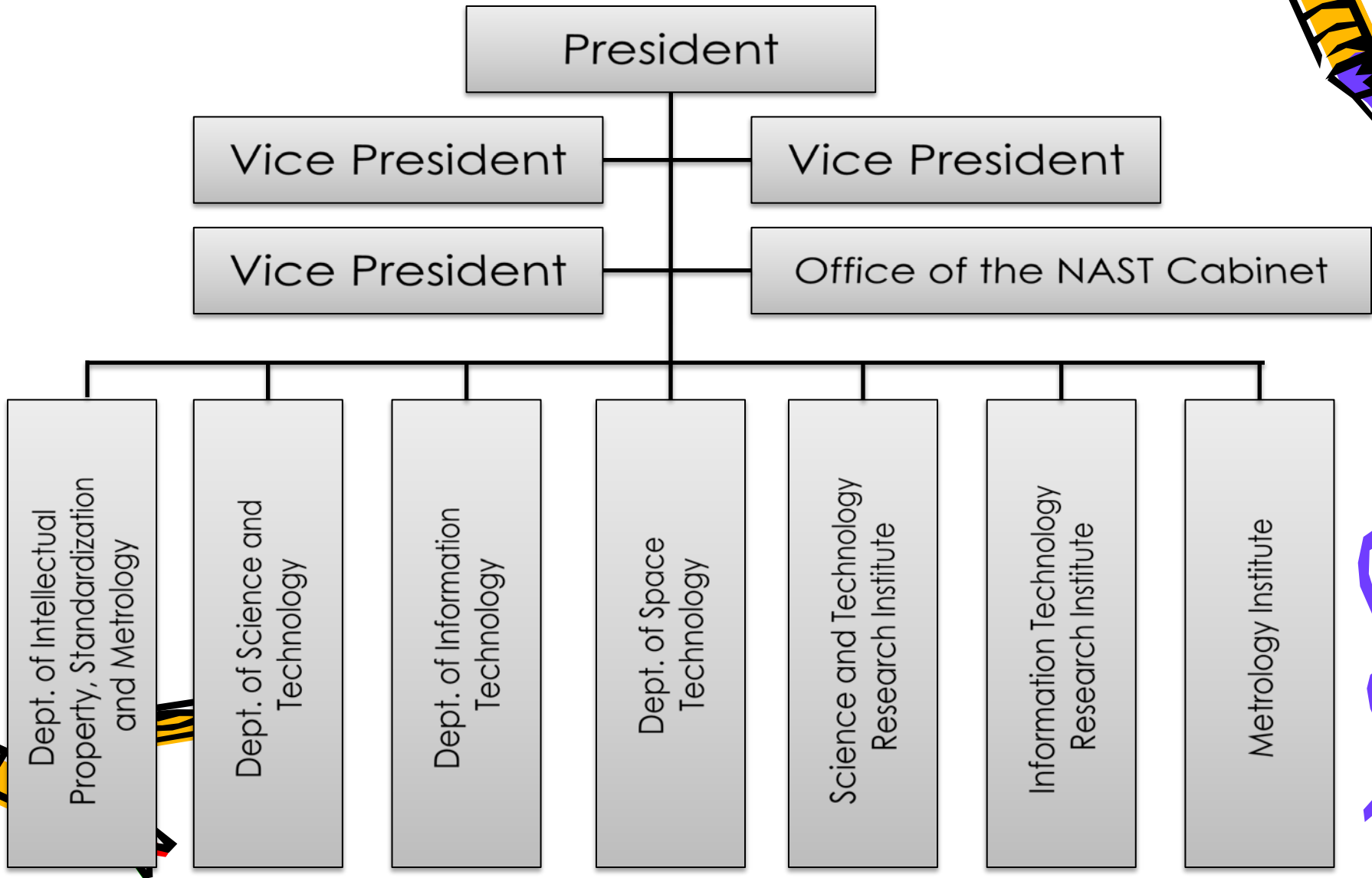
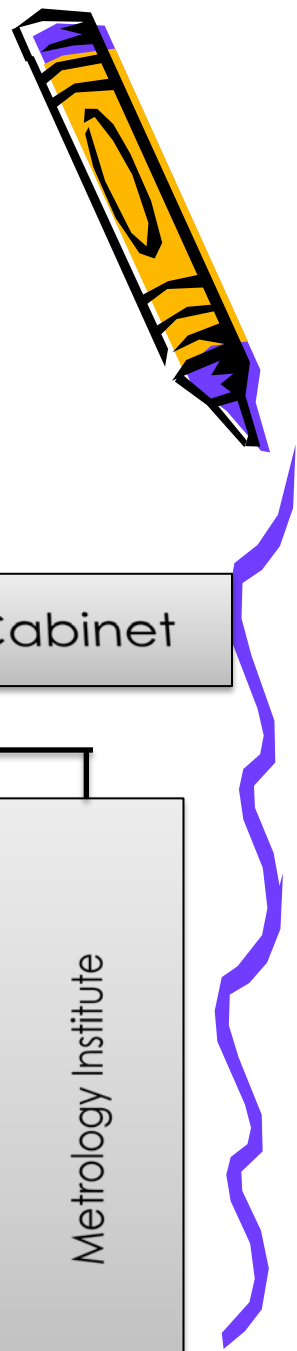
	Trademarks	Patents	Petty Patent	Industrial Design
2007	1764	23	0	27
2008	2027	38	0	19
2009	1594	19	0	19
Total:	5385	80	0	65

Registration:

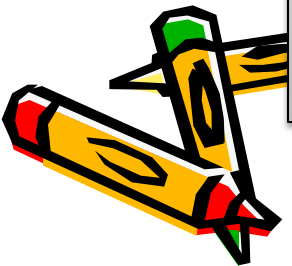
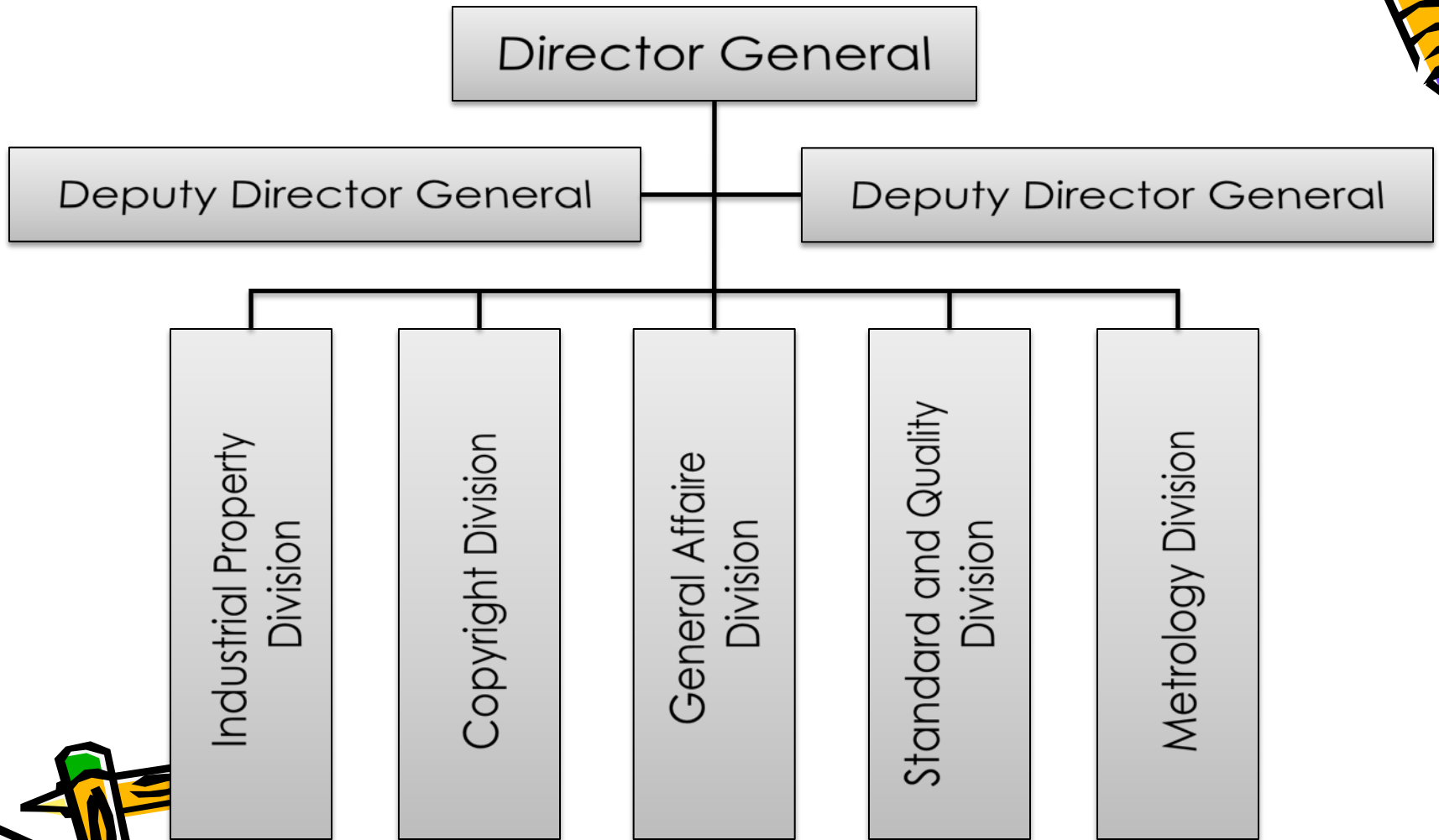
	Trademarks	Patents	Petty Patent	Industrial Design
2007	1424	0	0	11
2008	2491	0	0	03
2009	1016	0	0	35
Total:	4931	0	0	49



Organization Chart of NAST



Organization Chart DISM



Conclusion

It is an overview of current situation on Use Digitization and Dissemination of Intellectual Property Information and Utilization of Effective Search Tools in Industrial Property administration in Lao PDR. Therefore, it requires more assistance and exchange of experiences with other countries to establish the Use IT in Industrial Property system in our country.



Thank you for your kind attention

