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Since the 1980s, China has made significant progress in the development of its intellectual property legal system. It has successively formulated and enacted laws and regulations such as the Trademark Law, the Patent Law, and the Copyright Law, thereby establishing a comprehensive intellectual property legal framework that aligns with international standards. This system covers a broad range of intellectual property categories and has been continually revised and improved in practice. Up to June 2024, China had acceded to several international intellectual property treaties, such as the *Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property*, the *Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks*, the *Patent Cooperation Treaty* (PCT), and the *Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs* (Geneva Act of July 2, 1999) (hereinafter referred to as the *Hague Agreement*). These developments provide robust legal support for the comprehensive enhancement of intellectual property protection efforts in China.



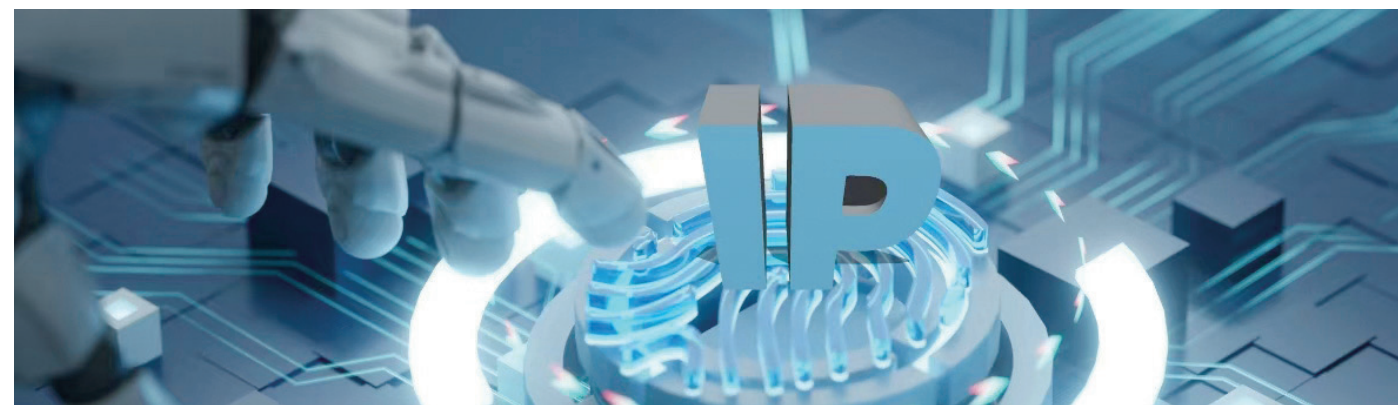
# Main Contents of China's Intellectual Property Legal System

## Patent Legal System

China's current patent legal system was gradually formed and improved alongside the process of reform and opening-up. The *Patent Law of the People's Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as the *Patent Law*) came into effect on April 1, 1985. It defines the basic framework of the patent system in China, which includes the protection of three types of patents: inventions, utility models, and designs; it adopts the first-to-file system, mandates early publication and deferred examination for invention patent applications, provides preliminary examination for utility model and design patent applications, and integrates a dual-track protection model combining judicial and administrative enforcement. This law is designed to align with both China's national conditions and international standards. Since its implementation, the *Patent Law* had undergone three amendments in 1992, 2000, and 2008, which had played a significant role in encouraging invention-creation, promoting the exploitation of invention-creation, enhancing innovation capability, and fostering the advancement of science and technology, as well as the development of economy and society. To further refine the patent legal system, effectively protect the legitimate rights and interests of patent holders, boost the confidence of inventors in patent protection, and fully stimulate the innovation potential of society, the fourth amendment to the *Patent Law* had been undertaken in recent years. The decision on this amendment took effect on June 1, 2021. This amendment involved extensive consultations with the public through the combination of online and offline discussions and surveys. By broadly gathering opinions, the amendment to the *Patent Law* ensures that the revisions fully reflect objective realities, thereby enhancing the pertinence and operability of the legislative work. The specific changes in the amendment include

the following three aspects: (1) Strengthening the protection of the legitimate rights and interests of patent holders. This includes the introduction of punitive damages, an increase in statutory compensation amounts, the improvement in the burden of proof, the enhancement of administrative protection for patents, the addition of the principle of good faith, and the establishment of a patent term compensation system, and the early settlement mechanism of drug patent disputes. (2) Promoting patent implementation and utilization. This includes the improvement of the service invention system, the introduction of an open licensing system for patents, and the enhancement of patent commercialization services. (3) Refining the patent examination and approval system. This involves further improving the design protection system, expanding the circumstances under which a grace period for novelty is applicable, and refining the system for patent evaluation reports. Additionally, certain provisions have been refined and adjusted for better alignment.

To better implement the *Patent Law*, accompanying administrative regulations were formulated, namely the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*), along with more detailed and operable *Guidelines for Patent Examination*. Furthermore, in the patent domain, the administrative regulation known as the *Regulations on Patent Agency* was also amended.



## Trademark Legal System

China's current trademark legal system has also been continually improved in parallel with the process of reform and opening-up. The *Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as the *Trademark Law*) was implemented on March 1, 1983. It instituted a legislative framework that emphasizes both the protection of the exclusive rights of registered trademarks and the protection of consumer interests, incorporating a dual-track protection system combining administrative enforcement and judicial adjudication. The *Trademark Law* has undergone four amendments in 1993, 2001, 2013, and 2019.

To ensure the implementation of the *Trademark Law*, several regulations have been enacted, including the *Regulations for the Implementation of the Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as the *Regulations for the Implementation of the Trademark Law*), the *Measures for Registration and Administration of Collective Marks and Certification Marks*, the *Provisions on Determination and Protection of Well-known Trademarks*, and the *Rules on Trademark Review and Adjudication*, which provide specific provisions on related matters. The *Guidelines for Trademark Examination and Adjudication* has been formulated and issued to refine various trademark business processes and unify examination standards.

In recent years, China's trademark legal system has been further improved and refined. The fourth amendment to the *Trademark Law* in 2019 introduced a provision that "A bad

faith application for trademark registration for a purpose other than use shall be rejected". This provision serves as grounds for trademark opposition and invalidation of registered trademarks, thereby achieving full-process regulation of bad-faith applications and hoarding of registrations. At the same time, on the basis of the established punitive damages system, the calculation multiple for damages due to malicious infringement of exclusive trademark rights has been increased from no less than one time but no more than three times to no less more than one time but no more less than five times, and the upper limit of statutory damages has been raised from RMB 3 million to RMB 5 million. Additionally, the disposal of goods bearing counterfeit registered trademarks, as well as materials and tools primarily used for manufacturing such counterfeit goods, has been intensified. In the same year, the *Several Provisions on Regulating Trademark Application and Registration Activities* was issued to further detail the relevant provisions of the fourth amendment to the *Trademark Law* in 2019 from an implementation perspective. In 2022, the *Provisions on Supervision and Administration of Trademark Agency* was issued to regulate the trademark agency industry.





## Geographical Indication Legal System

Over several decades of development, China has established a dual system for the protection of geographical indications (GIs) encompassing both trademark protection and *sui generis* protection. The primary means of protection are geographical indication trademarks and geographical indication products.

Geographical indication trademarks are protected under the *Trademark Law* by granting exclusive rights to registered trademarks, with the aim of preventing consumer confusion or misunderstanding about the origin of goods due to rights conflicts. The protection of geographical indication trademarks has evolved from initial administrative protection to the establishment of a trademark legal system that safeguards GIs, with continuous development and improvement over time. In 1985, China formally acceded to the *Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property*, thereby assuming the obligation to prevent misleading indications of product origin and to protect appellations of origin through administrative measures. The second amendment to the *Trademark Law* in 2001 included provisions for GIs, further clarified in the *Regulations on the Implementation of the Trademark Law* that GIs could be registered as certification trademarks or collective trademarks. In 2003, the former State Administration for Industry and Commerce issued the departmental regulation *Measures for the Registration and Administration of Collective Trademarks and Certification Trademarks*, which provided detailed procedures and management rules for registering GIs as trademarks. In 2023, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) released the *Provisions on the Registration and Administration of Collective Trademarks and Certification Trademarks*, further refining the requirements for registering and using GIs as collective trademarks and certification trademarks.

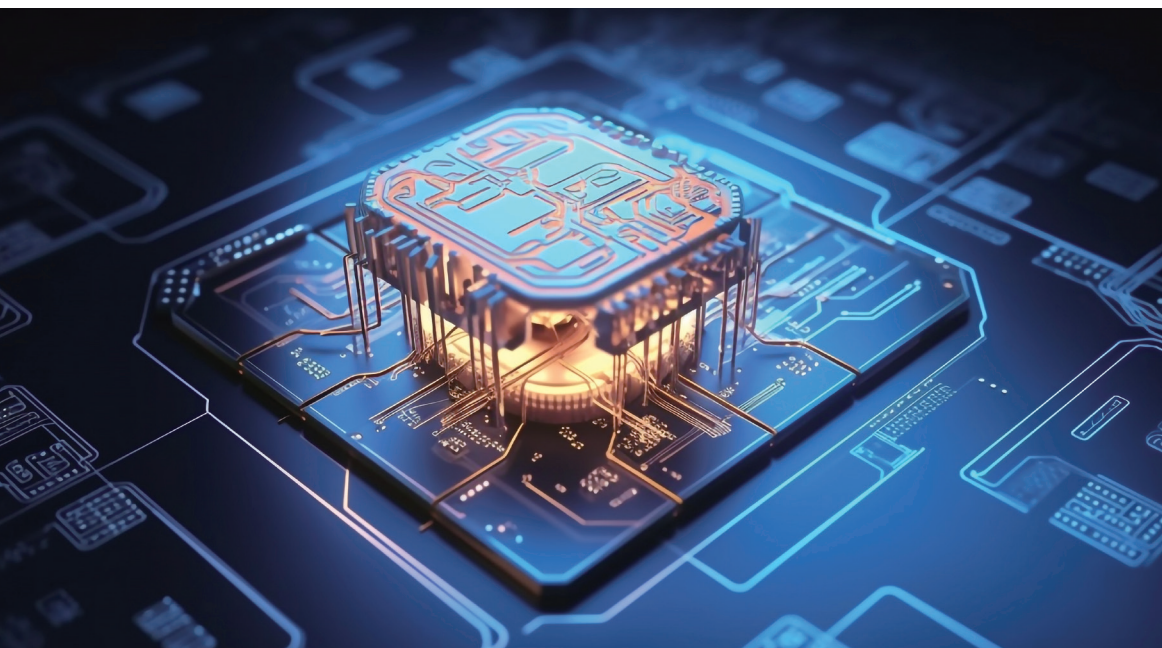
*Sui generis* protection focuses on protecting geographical indication products from the perspective of enhancing product quality supervision and accurately labeling product origins. To this end, the former General Administration of

Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) issued the *Regulations on Protection of Geographical Indication Products* in 2005, which set forth specific provisions for the application, acceptance, examination, approval, protection, and supervision of geographical indication products. In 2023, the CNIPA issued the departmental regulation *Measures for Protection of Geographical Indication Products*, which improved the recognition, management, and protection mechanisms for geographical indication products. Additionally, to effectively protect foreign geographical indication products sold in China and regulate the use of foreign geographical indication product names and exclusive symbols, the former AQSIQ developed the *Measures for Protection of Foreign Geographical Indication Products* in 2016, which was revised by the CNIPA in 2019.



## Integrated Circuit Layout-Design Legal System

In April 2001, the State Council promulgated the *Regulations on Protection of Integrated Circuit Layout-Designs*, establishing a specialized system to grant intellectual property protection for integrated circuit layout-designs. The *Regulations* systematically defines the exclusive right associated with integrated circuit layout-designs, and its registration, exercise, and legal liabilities in cases of infringement. Furthermore, in 2001, the CNIPA formulated two supporting departmental regulations: the *Rules for Implementing the Regulations on Protection of Integrated Circuit Layout-Designs* and the *Measures for Administrative Law Enforcement of Integrated Circuit Layout-Designs*.



## Patent and Trademark Examination Policies

China's patent and trademark examination policies are integral components of the intellectual property legal system. The continuous refinement of these policies not only guides the implementation of patent and trademark legal systems but also provides practical guidance for specific examination activities.

In recent years, patent and trademark examination policies have been continuously refined. The *Guidelines for Trademark Examination and Adjudication* came into effect in 2022, and the newly revised *Guidelines for Patent Examination* came into effect in 2024. The quality of patent and trademark examinations has consistently improved. Systems have been established and gradually perfected for ensuring patent examination quality, guiding patent examination business, managing trademark examination and adjudication quality, and facilitating collaborative mechanisms for trademark examination and adjudication. Additionally, patent and trademark examination models have become more diversified, encompassing various examination modes, including prioritized examination, deferred examination, and centralized examination for patents, as well as fast-track examination, deferred examination, and dedicated examination for trademarks.





## A Brief Introduction of China's Intellectual Property Legal System

## Recent Developments in China's Intellectual Property Legal System

### Recent Developments in the Patent Legal System

The *Decision on Amending the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China* was deliberated and adopted by the 22nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Thirteenth National People's Congress on October 17, 2020. On June 1, 2021, the Decision came into effect. On February 5, 2022, China submitted its instrument and declaration of accession to the *Hague Agreement* to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and this treaty became officially effective in China on May 5, 2022. To ensure the effective implementation of the newly amended *Patent Law*, meet the requirements of accession to relevant international treaties, and address issues encountered in practice, it is necessary to amend the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*.

To ensure the seamless integration of the *Patent Law* and the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*, and to ensure the implementation of new and amended systems introduced by the *Patent Law*, the CNIPA initiated a study to amend the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*. This involved conducting field research and in-depth studies in several cities, including Beijing, Hangzhou, Tianjin, and Zhengzhou and so on, leading to the formation of the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China (Draft Amendment)* [hereinafter referred to as the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law (Draft Amendment)*]. The CNIPA publicly solicited opinions on the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law (Draft Amendment)* in November 2020.

Following the legislative procedures stipulated by the *Legislative Law of the People's Republic of China*, and after multiple rounds of public consultation and legal reviews, the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law (Draft Amendment)* was submitted to the State Council for review. On November 3, 2023, the State Council Executive Meeting deliberated and adopted the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law (Draft Amendment)*. On December 11, 2023, the *Decision on Amending the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China* was promulgated by the State Council, which came into effect on January 20, 2024.

The amendment to the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law* involves a substantial number of provisions and covers various aspects. The specific changes can be categorized into five key aspects.





### 1. Improvements of the Patent Application System for the Convenience of Applicants and Inventors.

(1) The provisions concerning the electronic submission and delivery of documents have been clarified and improved. (2) Explicit requirements have been defined for applications pertaining to partial designs. (3) The circumstances under which a grace period for novelty is applicable have been expanded. Invention-creations first disclosed at academic or technical conferences held by international organizations and recognized by relevant government departments of the State Council will not lose novelty if filed within six months. (4) Enhancements have been made to the priority system. The domestic priority system for designs has been improved. New provisions have been established for the restoration, addition, and correction of priority rights for inventions and utility models, as well as related provisions for restoring priority rights for international applications. Furthermore, a new system has been introduced to allow invention and utility model applications to reference prior applications. If claims, descriptions, or parts of them are missing or incorrectly submitted on the filing date while priority is claimed, applicants may supplement the missing content by referencing prior applications within a specified period.

### 2. Improvements of the Patent Examination System to Enhance Examination Quality.

(1) Setting a definitive requirement that all patent applications shall be complied with the principle of good faith. Patent applications shall be based on genuine inventive and creative activities, and falsification is prohibited. (2) A deferred examination system has been introduced. Applicants can request a delay in the examination of patent applications. (3) Enhancements have been made to the reexamination system for *ex officio* examinations. The reexamination conducted by the patent administration department under the State Council not only encompasses the request for reexamination but also addresses other apparent violations of the *Patent Law* and the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law* in the patent application.

### 3. Enhancements of Patent Protection to Safeguard Patentees' Legitimate Rights and Interests.

(1) A special chapter on patent term compensation has been added. This includes compensating for unreasonable deferment in granting invention patents and for the time taken in the review and approval process for new drugs. It clearly defines the conditions and timing for compensation requests, the method of calculating the compensation period, and the scope of compensation. (2) Improvements have been made to the administrative protection. The administrative hierarchy for handling and mediating patent disputes is clarified. The criteria for delineating patent infringement disputes of considerable national significance, which are handled by the patent administration department under the State Council, have been formally established. There is also an addition of rules for administrative penalties for violations of the principle of good faith.





#### 4. Enhancements of Patent Public Services to Facilitate Patent Commercialization and Utilization.

(1) Patent public services have been improved. The patent administration department under the State Council shall enhance public service capabilities for patent information to achieve open sharing of fundamental patent data. (2) Provisions on the exceptions to compulsory representation have been added. Applicants or patentees may handle certain matters themselves, such as submitting copies of prior application documents and paying fees. (3) The open license system has been refined. The requirements for making an open license declaration are clarified, and circumstances under which open licensing is not permitted are specified. It is prohibited to make an open license declaration or obtain patent annual fee reductions during the open license period by submitting false materials or concealing facts. (4) In order to reduce the burden on innovators, the regulations concerning the formal requirements for patent application documents have been streamlined, and provisions related to the patent evaluation reports are optimized. (5) The service invention-creation system has been improved. The concept of "the material and technical conditions of an employer" is redefined, and incentive measures for inventors are optimized.

#### 5. Introduction of Special Provisions for International Design Applications in Accordance with the *Hague Agreement*.

China has acceded to the *Hague Agreement*. International design applications filed under the *Hague Agreement* differ from domestic design patent applications in terms of requirements for application documents and examination procedures. Therefore, it is necessary to introduce a new chapter to the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*, similar to the chapter on PCT international applications, to address the unique features of international design applications under the *Hague Agreement*. This is essential for effectively fulfilling international obligations following China's accession to the *Hague Agreement* and ensuring its implementation within China. Accordingly, the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law* has been amended to include a new chapter with the following specific provisions. (1) Clear



legal status has been established for international design applications. An international design application filed under the *Hague Agreement*, with an established international registration date and China designated for protection, is deemed to be a design patent application filed with the patent administration department under the State Council. The international registration date is considered the filing date as defined by the *Patent Law*. (2) Provisions have been set up to facilitate coordination between international and domestic design patent application systems concerning the claim of the right of priority, the grace period for novelty, and the filing of divisional applications. (3) Well-defined examination procedures have been put in place for international design applications. The examination procedures for international design applications stipulate that after the International Bureau publishes the application, the patent administration department under the State Council will conduct the examination. If no grounds for rejection are found, a decision to grant protection will be made and communicated to the International Bureau.

In summary, the amendments to the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law* not only detail new systems such as open licensing and patent term compensation introduced in the *Patent Law* but also improve related systems like patent administrative protection in line with China's national circumstances. These amendments are significant for further improving the legal framework of intellectual property work, enhancing China's capacity for patent creation, utilization, protection, management, and services, effectively safeguarding patentees' legitimate rights and interests, boosting the confidence of innovators in patent protection, fully stimulating societal innovation, and promoting high-quality development. Additionally, by actively aligning with international patent rules like the *Hague Agreement*, these amendments foster a higher level of opening-up and create a better business environment.

To ensure the smooth implementation of the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*, the CNIPA has simultaneously completed the amendment and formulation of four supporting departmental regulations and normative documents, including the *Guidelines for Patent Examination* and the *Transitional Measures for Handling Examination Business Related to the Amended Patent Law and the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*. These regulations and documents took effect on the same day as the *State Council's Decision on Amending the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China*.

## Recent Developments in the Trademark Legal System

In 2018, the CNIPA initiated preparations to amend the *Trademark Law*. In early 2023, the CNIPA released the *Draft Amendment to the Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China (Draft for comments)*, inviting public comments. A total of 3,418 comments were received from 405 domestic and international entities. Simultaneously, the CNIPA conducted surveys and research, organized over 30 seminars and discussions, and invited 167 organizations for opinion exchanges. There was widespread acknowledgment of the necessity, urgency, and targeted nature of the proposed amendment to the *Trademark Law*.

This amendment to the *Trademark Law* mainly covers six aspects. (1) Aiming to adapt to technological advancements and economic and social development, support high-quality economic and social development, and create a more open, inclusive, balanced, and mutually beneficial modern trademark legal system. This includes opening up elements of trademark registration, optimizing the structure of the *Trademark Law*, and enhancing public service levels. (2) Aiming to maintain social justice and fair market competition, and better balance rights protection with public interests, social effects, and prior rights, address the issue of insufficient public interest protection. This includes combating malicious trademark registration and registrations with negative impacts, improving prohibitive provisions, strengthening integrity and honesty in trademark practices, regulating the exercise of rights, setting entry barriers for trademark agencies, and enhancing industry supervision. (3) Aiming to improve trademark authorization and confirmation procedures, and promote efficient collaboration among various stages of trademark examination, management, administrative enforcement, and judicial adjudication. This includes optimizing acceptance and opposition procedures, adding provisions for the withdrawal of applications, and related trademark cancellation provisions. (4) Aiming to strengthen obligations for trademark use, and, while maintaining the registration system, seek to address its shortcomings by guiding trademark registration back to its fundamental purpose "registration for the sake of use". This includes improving the concept of trademark use, adding requirements for use or a commitment to use during the application stage, and monitoring the usage of registered trademarks through cancellation mechanisms. (5) Aiming to enhance protection of exclusive trademark rights, and combat trademark infringement. This includes improving diversified

mechanisms for resolving trademark disputes, enhancing the connection between administrative enforcement and criminal judicial procedures, improving enforcement measures, and strengthening the protection of well-known trademarks. (6) Aiming to enhance trademark supervision and administration, and regulate trademark violations. This includes clarifying such trademark violations and their legal consequences, and strengthening responsibilities for the management of collective trademarks and certification trademark registrants.

The amendment to the *Trademark Law* has been included in the *Legislative Plan of the Standing Committee of the 14th National People's Congress* and the *Legislative Work Plan of the State Council for the Year 2024*. Based on a comprehensive review of various opinions, the CNIPA has further revised the amendment, and formulated the *Draft Amendment to the Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China (Draft for review)*, which was submitted to the State Council at the end of 2023. The CNIPA will actively cooperate with the Ministry of Justice in reviewing the draft, carefully considering all opinions, further improving the draft and pushing forward legislative progress. Concurrently, the amendment work for the *Regulations on the Implementation of the Trademark Law* is being carried out in an orderly manner.



## Recent Developments in the GIs Legal System

China places great importance on the protection of GIs. The *Outline to Boost China's Competitiveness in the Area of Intellectual Property (2021—2035)* clearly calls for "We will explore the development of specialized laws and regulations on GIs and design. We will improve the unified system for the protection of GIs in which special protection is coordinated with trademark protection".

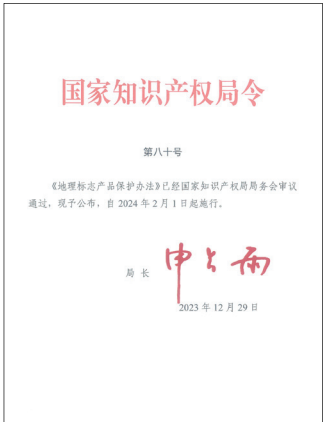
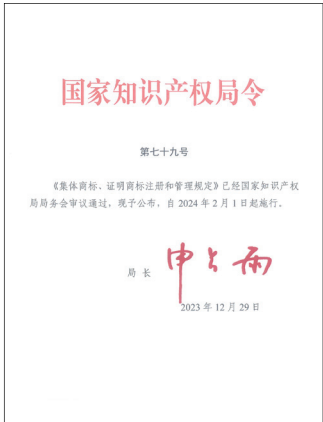
Guided by the principles of addressing urgent needs and solving prominent issues in practice, the CNIPA issued the departmental regulations *Measures for Protection of Geographical Indication Products* and the *Provisions on Registration and Administration of Collective Trademarks and Certification Trademarks* on December 29, 2023, both became effective on February 1, 2024.

The *Measures for Protection of Geographical Indication Products* enhances the standards and procedures for examining geographical indication products, increases protection, and promotes high-standard protection. Specifically, it includes the following four aspects. (1) Clarifying departmental responsibilities, implementing the requirements of institutional reform, and aligning with the functional adjustments of the reform. (2) Improving examination procedures, optimizing the examination and recognition process, and introducing procedures for revocation and modification. (3) Strengthening management of geographical

indication products, and clarifying the obligations of producers and the routine supervisory responsibilities of local intellectual property management departments. (4) Enhancing protection of geographical indication products, and clarifying infringement behaviors.

The *Provisions on Registration and Administration of Collective Trademarks and Certification Trademarks* regulates the registration and use of collective trademarks and certification trademarks, promotes the use of trademarks, and creates a sound business environment. Specifically, it includes the following four aspects. (1) Clarifying legislative purpose to highlight the significant role of collective trademarks and certification trademarks in promoting the development of specialized industries. (2) Strengthening management requirements for registrants and users to maintain good trademark registration and usage order. (3) Introducing provisions for the registration and legitimate use of marks containing geographic names to meet the development needs of specialized industrial clusters and maintain a fair competitive market order. (4) Promoting trademark utilization to upgrade public services, enhancing trademark value, and maintaining business reputation.

Currently, the CNIPA is conducting in-depth research and analysis to build a unified geographical indication system that coordinates *sui generis* protection with trademark protection. The legislative approach aims to respect the history, consider current realities, and refer to international practices, allowing geographical indication trademark protection and *sui generis* protection to complement each other while giving applicants the right to choose, and actively promoting research on specialized legislation. The CNIPA is actively advancing research into specialized legislation and conducting in-depth studies of the geographical indication protection systems in major countries and regions worldwide. The goal is to draw on mature experiences and practices to provide better and more inclusive institutional support for promoting international economic and trade cooperation.





## Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Examination Policies

To continuously improve China's intellectual property examination policies, on December 21, 2023, the CNIPA released the revised *Guidelines for Patent Examination*, which further clarified the patent examination rules. The updates include: (1) Amendments of complementing new systems in the *Patent Law* and the *Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law*. These include new rules for applying the principle of good faith in various examination stages, requirements and standards for examining partial design applications, new chapters on open licenses, and rules for handling patent term compensation. (2) Amendments of responding to the demands of innovators. These include improving examination standards for patent applications in emerging fields and new industries such as artificial intelligence and big data and clarifying examination standards for invention patent applications related to traditional Chinese medicine. (3) Amendments of optimizing examination procedures for the convenience of applicants. These involve streamlining materials, simplifying procedures, optimizing timelines, clarifying fee standards, and improving case hearing methods and dealing workflows.

Measures have been implemented to ensure quality control at the source. On the one hand, the CNIPA has strengthened patent examination quality assurance and business guidance, improving both internal and external supervision and evaluation mechanisms, thereby continuously enhancing examination capabilities. The user satisfaction index of patent examination quality was raised to 86.3 in 2023. On the other hand, multiple measures have been adopted to continually improve examination efficiency. By the end of 2023, the average pendency for invention patents in China had been reduced to 16 months, ranking China among the world leaders in the comparability of international examination pendency.

Adhering to a people-centered approach and ensuring thorough interpretation and guidance of examination policies. The CNIPA has developed patent and trademark instructions for policies and newly established systems that are of general concern to innovation entities. To date, the CNIPA has issued a total of 12 instructions on patents and trademarks, which have received positive social feedback.

Future Actions: (1) Continuous improvement of examination standards. Strengthening the promotion and interpretation of the *Guidelines for Patent Examination* to unify examination standards. Continuing to improve protection rules and examination standards in new fields and new industries such as big data, artificial intelligence, and genetic technology, thereby supporting the development of these new areas. (2) Continuous enhancement of examination quality and efficiency. Focusing on quality orientation and enhancing examination capacity building. Optimizing the allocation of examination resources and improving various examination models to further meet the diverse needs of innovators.

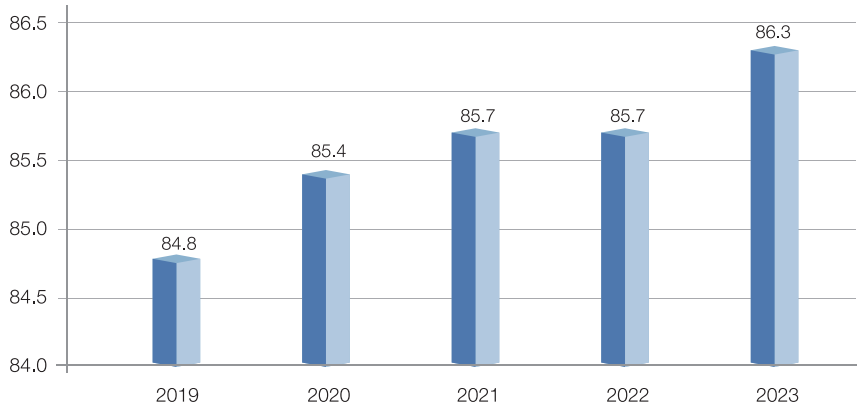


Figure 1 User satisfaction index of patent examination quality from 2019 to 2023 (100-mark system)

Table 1 China's Accession to International Intellectual Property Treaties

| Serial Number | Name of Treaty                                                                                                                    | Date of Entry into Force in China  | China's Accession Text                 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1             | Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization                                                              | June 3, 1980                       | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 2             | Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property                                                                        | March 19, 1985                     | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 3             | Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks                                                               | October 4, 1989                    | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 4             | Washington Treaty on Intellectual Property in Respect of Integrated Circuits                                                      | May 1, 1990<br>(Date of Signature) | This treaty has not entered into force |
| 5             | Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works                                                                | October 15, 1992                   | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 6             | Universal Copyright Convention                                                                                                    | October 30, 1992                   | Text of July 24, 1971                  |
| 7             | Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms                     | April 30, 1993                     | Text of October 29, 1971               |
| 8             | Convention on Biological Diversity                                                                                                | December 29, 1993                  | Text of June 5, 1992                   |
| 9             | Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)                                                                                                   | January 1, 1994                    | Text of October 3, 2001                |
| 10            | Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks    | August 9, 1994                     | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 11            | Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure            | July 1, 1995                       | Text of September 26, 1980             |
| 12            | Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks                                      | December 1, 1995                   | Text of November 12, 2007              |
| 13            | Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs                                             | September 19, 1996                 | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 14            | Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification                                                           | June 19, 1997                      | Text of September 28, 1979             |
| 15            | International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants                                                            | April 23, 1999                     | Text of October 23, 1978               |
| 16            | Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)                                                        | December 11, 2001                  | Text of January 23, 2017               |
| 17            | Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage                                                               | April 20, 2006                     | Text of October 17, 2003               |
| 18            | Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions                                               | April 30, 2007                     | Text of October 20, 2005               |
| 19            | WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT)                                                                                                       | June 9, 2007                       | Text of December 20, 1996              |
| 20            | WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)                                                                                    | June 9, 2007                       | Text of December 20, 1996              |
| 21            | Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances                                                                                        | April 28, 2020                     | Text of June 24, 2012                  |
| 22            | Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs                                                   | May 5, 2022                        | Geneva Text of July 2, 1999            |
| 23            | Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled | May 5, 2022                        | Text of June 27, 2013                  |

Table 2 Patent and Trademark Instructions Issued by the CNIPA

| Serial Number | Name                                                                                                       | Date of Issue      |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1             | Instruction on the Determination of the Protection Object of Utility Model Patent                          | November 2, 2023   |
| 2             | Instruction on International Registration Applications for Designs                                         | November 2, 2023   |
| 3             | Instruction on the Application, Registration, and Use of Catering Industry Trademarks (Trial)              | April 27, 2022     |
| 4             | Instruction on the Application, Registration, and Use of Class 35 Service Trademarks                       | December 7, 2022   |
| 5             | Instruction on Avoiding Conflicts with Prior Rights in Trademark Applications, Registrations and Use       | December 7, 2022   |
| 6             | Instruction on Signs Prohibited from Being Used as Trademarks                                              | January 19, 2023   |
| 7             | Instruction on the Application, Registration, and Use of Geographic Name Trademarks                        | January 19, 2023   |
| 8             | Instruction on the Proper Understanding of Classification of Goods and Services for Trademark Registration | December 28, 2023  |
| 9             | Instruction on Non-Traditional Trademarks Having Distinctive Characteristics                               | December 28, 2023  |
| 10            | Instruction on the Same-Day Application Procedures for Trademark Registration                              | September 20, 2023 |
| 11            | Instruction on the Trademark Transfer Procedure                                                            | September 20, 2023 |
| 12            | Instruction on Restoration of the Right of Priority and Correction or Addition of Priority Claim           | August 22, 2024    |