AIPPI Japanese Group Activity Report FY 2018
(From 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019)

A. Members and Group Leadership

1. Members
   As of 31 March 2018 : 923 (761 Individuals, 148 Companies, 12 NPOs, 2 Universities)
   As of 31 March 2019 : 867 (708 Individuals, 145 Companies, 12 NPOs, 2 Universities)

2. Group Leaderships
   *As of 19 June 2018, the Group’s management consists of:*
   - 46 Directors (2-year term); including the President, two Vice Presidents, one Executive Director and nine
     Senior Directors; consist of 8 Lawyers, 11 Patent Attorneys, 20 Companies, 7 NPOs.
     President: Kenichi NAGASAWA (Co)
     Vice Presidents: Shoichi OKUYAMA (PA), Koichi TSUJII (L)
     Executive Director: Koichi MINAMI (N)
     Senior Directors: Osamu IKEMURA (Co), Kenji KONDO (Co), Yuzuru OKABE (PA),
                     Hirohito KATSUNUMA (PA), Masaya TSUNO (PA), Hirokazu HONDARA (L),
                     Eiichiro KUBOTA (L), Kozo YABE (L), Masatoshi ABE(N)
   - 2 auditors (4-year term): Shinjiro ONO(PA), Kenji YOSHIDA(PA)

   *As of 20 December 2018, the Group’s management consists of:*
   - 45 Directors (2-year term); including the President, two Vice Presidents, one Executive Director and ten
     Senior Directors; consist of 8 Lawyers, 10 Patent Attorneys, 20 Companies, 7 NPOs.
     President: Kenichi NAGASAWA (Co)
     Vice Presidents: Koichi TSUJII (L), Yuzuru OKABE (PA)
     Executive Director: Koichi MINAMI (N)
     Senior Directors: Osamu IKEMURA (Co), Kenji KONDO (Co), Ikuko SHIMOGAWARA (Co),
                     Hirokazu HONDARA (L), Eiichiro KUBOTA (L), Kozo YABE (L),
                     Hirohito KATSUNUMA (PA), Masaru NAKAJIMA (PA), Masaya TSUNO (PA)
                     Masatoshi ABE(N)
   - 2 auditors (4-year term): Shinjiro ONO(PA), Kenji YOSHIDA(PA)

3. Annual General Assembly Meeting

Date: 19 June 2018
- Attendees: 59
- Letters of proxy (for voting): 437

* Each year, we invite the Commissioner of the Japan Patent Office (JPO) as a speaker. The speaker of this year was Mr. Kunihiro SHIMANO, Deputy Commissioner, and title of the speech was “Global activity of JPO”.

After the annual meeting, we hold a reception with the participation of JPO executives, judges from the IP High Court and the Tokyo District Court.

4. Board of Directors Meetings

(1) Date: 28 May 2018: - Attendees: 33

* Each year, we invite a speaker from private company to hear the presentation on hot technological topic at the beginning of the meeting. The speaker of this year was Mr. Yuji TODA from HITACHI Corporation and title of the presentation was “IP activities in HITACHI which support the social innovation businesses”.

(2) Date: 19 June 2018: - Attendees: 38

(3) Date: 20 December 2019: - Attendees: 31

(4) Date: 25 March 2019: - Attendees: 32

* Each year, we invite a speaker from the JPO to hear the presentation on hot administrative topic at the beginning of the meeting. The speaker of this year was Mr. Tomoki SAWAI.

5. Senior Directors Meetings

Held monthly except in August (11 meetings in total).

Attendees: President, Vice Presidents, Executive Director and Senior Directors

6. Collection of Membership Fees

We assign two Secretariat staffers for the membership management. For 2019, we sent invoices to our members at the beginning of December 2018, asking them to pay their annual subscriptions by the end of January 2019. At this time of the year, the number of the members who express their intention not to renew their membership was increased. The raise of the membership fee seems to trigger them to review it and not to renew the membership. We sent a reminder to those who failed to make their payment by the due date.

B. Membership Services

1. Case Study Group

In our Case Study Group sessions, lively discussions were conducted with the participation of scholars, people engaged in the JPO's services, the Court Judges and the Academias, as well as the members of
AIPPI Japanese Group. This year, we held 11 Case Study Group sessions and the number of participants in total was 610.

2. Foreign Intellectual Property Seminars

This year, we invited patent attorneys and lawyers from the USA, the EU and other countries and held 14 seminars. The number of participants in total was 392.

3. Post of the articles and Translation of e-News

We contributed six articles to AIPPI e-News from Japanese Group. We made provisional Japanese translations of introduction part of AIPPI e-News to be sent out to members of the AIPPI Japanese Group and to be posted on AIPPI JAPAN's website.

4. Publications

(1) "A.I.P.P.I." Monthly Journal for Members of AIPPI Japanese Group

Intended to provide members of the Japanese Group with IP-related information, the monthly issues of our Japanese journal carry articles on latest changes to the laws, regulations, and/or examination guidelines in other countries, as well as commentaries by foreign contributors on court decisions or other developments in the IP fields. In A.I.P.P.I., we also publish the Group's opinions on Study Questions of AIPPI World Congress, the adopted Resolutions, and reports on the Case Study Group sessions mentioned above.

(2) "A.I.P.P.I." Bi-Monthly Journal in English for Foreigners

Intended to disseminate IP-related information in Japan to foreign countries, the bimonthly issues of our English journal carry articles on revisions to the Examination Guidelines, decisions by the IP High Court, an overview of the IP-related cases decided by the Japanese courts in the year, how to efficiently access information on Japanese patents, the Group's opinions on Study Questions of AIPPI World Congress, etc.

(3) Publication of Japanese IP Laws in English

We update and publish English translations of the following Japanese IP laws in a timely manner: the Patent Act, the Utility Model Act, the Design Act, the Trademark Act, the Act on the International Applications under the PCT, the Unfair Competition Prevention Act, and the Intellectual Property Basic Act.

5. Submission of Opinions to Public Consultations

We submitted our comments to nine public consultations from Japan, US and China Patent Offices, etc.

6. Software Patent Study Group

Members participated in this study group to discuss developments in the field of software-related inventions in Japan and other countries, based on the examination guidelines/handbooks for patents and utility models. They held ten study sessions last year and published part of their study results in the monthly
They also invited lecturers from abroad to learn about the actual situations and practices in their countries.

7. AIPPI NAKAMATSU Memorial Scholarship

In the 23rd year (FY 2018), there were nine applicants from five universities. After the selection from application documents in the selection committee, we awarded scholarships to two students from overseas.

C. International Activities

1. AIPPI World Congress

(1) AIPPI World Congress in CANCUN, MEXICO (22 to 26 September 2018)
Recruiting members from AIPPI Japanese Group, we set up four working committees to discuss their respective questions and submitted Group reports in May. In total, 34 people participated in the committees (2 from companies, 2 from universities, 1 from NPO and 1 from JPO). In September, 96 Japanese members attended to the World Congress and contributed to the discussion and adoption of the Resolutions.
We also set up working committees to respond to the two questionnaires from AIPPI Standing Committees. In total, 10 peoples participated in the committees (1 from company, 1 from university and 1 from JPO).

(2) AIPPI World Congress in LONDON, ENGLAND (14 to 18 September 2019)
Upon receipt of the Study Guidelines, we started working on our Group reports in January 2019 by publicly recruiting members from AIPPI Japanese Group to set up four working committees for their respective questions. In total, 35 people participated in the committees (4 from companies, 1 from university).

2. Japan-China-Korea AIPPI Trilateral Meeting

The Trilateral Meeting of the Japanese, the Chinese and the Korean Groups of AIPPI took place in NAGOYA, JAPAN, from 1 to 3 June 2018. In total, 124 attendees from three countries, including 48 members from the Japanese Group.
Keynote Speeches were presented by Mr. Kunihiho SHIMANO, Deputy Commissioner of JPO, with presentation title “JPO’s recent developments”, and Mr. Misao SHIMIZU, Former Chief Judge of IP High Court, with presentation title “Internationalization of IP Litigation & Current Status of IP High Court”.
The topics discussed at the meeting were as follows:
1) Updates on IP systems in each country
2) Partial Designs (Study Question of AIPPI World Congress in CANCUN)
3) Updates on Standard Essential Patents (SEP) in each country

3. Meetings with AIPLA

For the three meetings with AIPLA shown below, the Overseas Exchange Committee consisting of members of the Japanese Group (40 members in total: 2 from corporate members) selected topics and speakers:
(a) AIPLA/JFBA/AIPPI JAPAN Joint Meeting
   Held on 16 April 2018 in Tokyo (11:30 - 14:00). 26 Japanese Group members participated.
(b) Pre-Meeting held prior to the AIPLA Annual Meeting
   Held on 23 October 2018 in Washington DC.
(c) Pre-Meeting held prior to the AIPLA Mid-Winter Institute
   Held on 29 and 30 January 2019 in California. 7 Japanese Group members participated.

D. Research Activities in the Fields of Intellectual Property

1. Comparative Studies on Foreign Industrial Property Systems (contract project from the JPO)
   Carried out research activities on three topics.
2. Data Collection/Updating on Foreign Industrial Property Systems (contract project from the JPO)
   Checked for any amendments to treaties and laws/regulations in major countries, and made their
   Japanese translations.
3. Data Collection/Updating on IP related Information of Emerging Countries (contract project from INPIT)

End