

Seminar on the Cooperation for facility Patent Grant (CPG)



On 9 July 2019, HBS Law attended a Seminar on Cooperation for facilitating Patent Grant between Cambodia and Japan, organized by the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft (“**MIH**”) in cooperation with Japan Patent Office (“**JPO**”) and Japan External Trade Organization (“**JETRO**”). The seminar was held at the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft and was led by His Excellency Soem Nara, Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft and Mr. Norihisa KATO, Director of IP Department, JETRO Bangkok in the opening of the Seminar together with participation from relevant IP practitioners in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The purpose of the seminar was to disseminate information about Cooperation for facilitating Patent Grant (“**CPG**”) in Cambodia. CPG is a program that help to accelerate the decisions on patents in Cambodia for patent applications that have filed with the Department of Industrial Property of the General Department of Industry of the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft of Cambodia. On 4 May 2016, the MIH senior minister

and the JPO Commissioner signed the joint statement of intent on CPG program and from 1 July 2016 the CPG program has been launched successfully.

In order to request for CPG in Cambodia, there must be a Japanese patent which has the same earliest data (whether this be a priority date or a filling date), which is the same as the MIH patent application on which the CPG is requested. Additionally, the corresponding Japanese patent must be granted and shall have the same claims as those of the MIH patent.

Up to date, according to the statistic from the MIH, there are a total of 24 CPG applications, 19 of which have been granted. Aside from the CPG program, the MIH has also entered into a memorandum of understanding on the registration of patent of the People's Republic of China, memorandum of understanding on the co-operation in industrial property with the Intellectual Property office of Singapore and also memorandum of understanding on bilateral cooperation with the European Patent Office.

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The information provided is for information purposes only, and is not intended to constitute legal advice.

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Ms SOPHORN is fluent in Khmer and English.