

# **A 30 Years History of APAA (1969-1999)**

## **A 30 Years History of The Asian Patent Attorneys Association**

### **March 1969**

Mr. Kiyoshi Asamura, Mr. Masao Okabe and Mr. Nobuyuki Matsubara attended the International Meetings for preparation of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) held in Geneva under the sponsorship of the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI, the predecessor Organization of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)), as representatives of the Japan Patent Attorneys Association. After the meeting BIRPI informed them that any non-governmental organization in which membership is limited to only one country may not be invited to the Diplomatic Conferences held under the sponsorship of BIRPI in the future, and suggested to them to form an international non-governmental organization in Asia.

### **June 1969**

Mr. Kiyoshi Asamura, Mr. Mitsuya Ikenaga, Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata, Mr. Takashi Ishihara, Mr. Nobuyuki Matsubara, Mr. Fumiaki Ohtsuka, Mr. Masao Okabe, Ms. Sumiko Shimosaka and Dr. Kyozo Yuasa started to study and deliberate the particulars relating to the structure, name and statutes of the international non-governmental organization to be formed.

The name of the organization was tentatively "the Asian Patent Attorneys Association"(APAA) on the basis that such organization should cover the Asian region.

BIRPI advised them that it was necessary to form such international non-governmental organization by the end of 1969 at latest in order to be invited to the Diplomatic Conference for the PCT to be held in Spring, 1970.

Dr. Kyozo Yuasa unofficially sent letters to Mr. Yin-Chen Lee of the then Republic of China and Mr. Suh-II Kim of the Republic of Korea, in order to sound out their opinions on the forming of APAA.

### **September 1969**

The Preparatory Committee for Establishment of APAA was formed in Japan and Dr. Kyozo Yuasa was elected as the Chairman of the Committee. A Headquarter office was set up in the office of Messrs Yuasa and Hara.

### **December 16, 1969**

The Korean Group of APAA was established.

### **December 26, 1969**

The Meetings of the Promoters and Inaugural Assembly of APAA were held at the Marunouchi Hall in Tokyo, Japan. 19 patent attorneys including 17 Japanese, one from Republic of China and one from Korea attended the Meetings. The Inaugural Assembly selected "The Asian Patent Attorneys Association"(APAA) as the official name and adopted the Statutes of APAA. The following six persons were appointed as tentative Councilors of APAA;

Republic of China: Mr. Yin-Chen Lee, Mr. Min-Sheng Lin

Japan: Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata, Dr. Kyozo Yuasa

Republic of Korea: Mr. Byong-Ho Lee, Mr. Jae-Kwan Yang

The 1st Council Meeting following the Assembly appointed Dr. Kyozo Yuasa (Japan) as the President and Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata (Japan), Mr. Yin-Chen Lee (Republic of China) and Mr. Byong-Ho Lee (Republic of Korea) as the Vice Presidents, respectively.

### **March 30, 1970**

The Japan Group of APAA was established.

### **July 25 - 27, 1970**

The 1st General Assembly and 2nd Council Meeting were held at the Tokyo Hilton Hotel in Tokyo, Japan.

### **November 10 - 11, 1970**

The 3rd Council Meeting was held at the Chosun Hotel in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

### **February 1971**

A Member List "APAA MEMBERS 1971", introducing 36 members from the Republic of China, 332 members from Japan and 39 members from the Republic of Korea as of October 31, 1970, was published.

### **July 10, 1971**

The Republic of China Group of APAA was established.

### **November 12, 1971**

The 4th Council Meeting was held at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan.

### **April 8 - 10, 1972**

The 2nd General Assembly and 5th and 6th Council Meetings were held at the

Ambassador Hotel in Taipei, the Republic of China.

At the 6th Council Meeting following the Assembly, Dr. Kyozo Yuasa was re-elected as the President of APAA.

### **August 1972**

The Minutes of the Tokyo Council Meeting in 1971 were published.

### **April 8 - 9, 1973**

The 7th Council Meeting was held at the Mandarin Hotel in Hong Kong.  
Australia and New Zealand were approved as member countries of APAA.

### **February 1974**

The Hong Kong Group of APAA was approved as the 4th National Group of APAA.

### **April 21 - 24, 1974**

The 3rd General Assembly and the 8th to 10th Council Meetings were held at the Chosun Hotel in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

The Australian Group was approved as the 5th National Group of APAA.

At the 9th Council Meeting, the Thailand Group was approved as the 6th National Group of APAA.

At the 10th Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata was elected as the President of APAA.

### **February 1975**

The Association's Headquarters Office was moved to Kyowa Patent and Law Office.

### **October 20 - 21, 1975**

The 11th Council Meeting was held at the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne, Australia.

### **May 16 - 18, 1976**

The 4th General Assembly and the 12th and 13th Council Meetings were held at the Royal Hotel and the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Building in Osaka, Japan.

The 4th General Assembly was held on May 17.

At the 13th Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata of Japan was re-elected as the President of APAA.

### **December 1976**

APAA NEWS NO. 1 was published.

### **November 22 - 24, 1977**

The 14th Council Meeting was held at the President Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand.  
The Philippines Group was formally approved as the 7th National Group of APAA.

**November 11 - 13, 1978**

The 15th Council Meeting was held at the Yokohama International Conference Center in Yokohama, Japan.

**October 29 - 31, 1979**

The 5th General Assembly and the 16th and 17th Council Meetings were held at the Excelsior Hotel and the Plaza Hotel in Hong Kong.

The New Zealand Group was approved as the 8th National Group of APAA.

The Assembly decided to formally adopt the Symbol Mark of APAA.

At the 17th Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. Kiyoshi Inomata was re-elected as the President of APAA.

**May 18 - 20, 1980**

The 18th Council Meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Manila, Philippines.  
It was agreed that patent attorneys or agents practising not in the Asian region but in Europe, U.S.A. or Middle East regions could attend the APAA meetings as observers.

**April 22 - 25, 1981**

The 19th Council Meeting was held at the Travelodge Hotel in Queenstown, New Zealand.

**March 1, 1982**

Due to the change in the secretariat, Headquarters of APAA moved from Kyowa Patent and Law Office to Asamura Patent Office.

**October 22 - 24, 1982**

The 6th General Assembly and the 20th and 21st Council Meetings were held at the Royal Cliff Beach Hotel in Pattaya, Thailand.

At the 21st Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. Masao Okabe was elected as the President of APAA.

**November 20 - 22, 1983**

The 22nd Council Meeting was held at the Lai Lai Hotel in Taipei, the Republic of China.

**July 29 - 31, 1984**

The 23rd Council Meeting was held at the Rasa Sayang Hotel in Penang, Malaysia.  
First time a member from Bangladesh attended.

**March 27 - 29, 1985**

The 7th General Assembly and the 24th and 25th Council Meetings were held at the Hotel New Otani in Tokyo, Japan.

In order for the People's Republic of China to be able to become an APAA member, an amendment of Article 5 of the APAA Statutes was proposed. The Council decided to recommend an amendment of the Statutes to change "National" Group to "Recognized" Group and to form a Statutes Revision Committee to study and revise the entire Statutes.

Mr. Masao Okabe was re-elected as the President of APAA.

#### **October 19 - 22, 1986**

The 26th Council Meeting was held at the Conrad International Hotel at Broadbeach in Queensland, Australia.

#### **November 14 - 17, 1987**

The 27th Council Meeting was held at the Westin Plaza Hotel in Singapore. India joined as the 14th member country of APAA.

#### **October 14 - 18, 1988**

The 8th General Assembly and the 28th and 29th Council Meetings were held at the Hotel Lotte in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

The revision of the Statutes of APAA was approved, and accordingly, the naming of a member Group was changed from a "National Group" to a "Recognized Group".

The determining criteria of a Recognized Group was a separate and distinct body for intellectual property law.

The Regulations for APAA were adopted.

At the 29th Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. William D. Howie was elected as the President of APAA.

#### **November 8 - 10, 1989**

The 30th Council Meeting was held at the Kobe International Conference Center in Kobe, Japan.

The Republic of China Group changed its name to the "Taiwan Group" at the occasion of the 30th Council Meeting, according to the 1988 amendments of the Statutes of APAA.

#### **November 7 - 9, 1990**

The 31st Council Meeting was held at the Manila Hotel, Manila, Philippines.

The Malaysia Group was approved as the 9th Recognized Group of APAA.

A Patent Agent from the People's Republic of China attended as an observer for the first time.

#### **November 9 - 12, 1991**

The 9th General Assembly and the 32nd and 33rd Council Meetings were held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Auckland, New Zealand.

At the 33rd Council Meeting following the Assembly, Mr. William D. Howie was re-elected as the President of APAA.

**October 23 - 26, 1992**

The 34th Council Meeting was held at the Chiangmai Plaza Hotel in Chiangmai, Thailand. First time a member from Vietnam attended.

**March 1, 1993**

The Singapore Group was approved as the 10th Recognized Group of APAA.

**October 15 - 18, 1993**

The 35th Council Meeting was held at the Hotel Istana in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. First time a member from Nepal attended.

**October 28, 1994**

APAA and FICPI held a Joint Seminar at the Okura Hotel in Niigata, Japan.

**October 28 - 31, 1994**

The 10th General Assembly and the 36th and 37th Council Meetings were held at the Okura Hotel in Niigata, Japan.

India, Indonesia and Pakistan Groups were approved as the 11th, 12th and 13<sup>th</sup> Recognized Groups of APAA. Bangladesh was approved as the 14th Recognized Group of APAA subject to the President of APAA confirming its Constitution was in order.

First time a member from Sri Lanka attended.

Dr. Kyozo Yuasa, the first President of APAA, was elected unanimously as the Honorary President of the Association.

At the 37th Council Meeting held following the Assembly, Mr. Kiyoshi Asamura was elected as the 5th President of APAA.

**November 11 - 14, 1995**

The 38th Council Meeting was held at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Hong Kong. The Bangladesh Group was formally approved as the 14th Recognized Group of APAA.

**November 9 - 12, 1996**

The 39th Council Meeting was held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Taipei, Taiwan. A new member from Brunei joined APAA.

**November 13 - 16, 1997**

The 11th General Assembly and the 40th and 41st Council Meetings were held at the Sydney Convention Center in Sydney, Australia.

At the 41st Council Meeting held following the Assembly, Mr. Kiyoshi Asamura was re-

elected as the President of APAA.

### **October 31- November 3, 1998**

The 42nd Council Meeting was held at the Raffles City Convention Center in Singapore. Mr. Myung-Shin Kim was appointed as Chairperson of the Editorial Committee for publication of Commemorative Book of the 30th Anniversary of APAA. The Vietnam Group was approved as the 15th Recognized Group of APAA.

### **October 2 - 5, 1999**

The 43rd Council Meeting was held at the Hotel Hyundai in Kyongju, the Republic of Korea.

### **February 11-13, 2000**

The APAA-FICPI Joint Forum was held in New Delhi, India. 360 persons participated from 50 nations.

### **October, 2000**

The Commemorative Book of the 30th Anniversary of APAA was published and distributed to APAA members.

### **November 10 - 14, 2000**

The 12th General Assembly and the 44th & 45th Council Meetings were held at the Cebu International Convention Center, Cebu in the Philippines.

At the 44th Council Meeting, it was decided to continue with the Homepage Project Group, led by Dato V.L. Kandan. Mr. Philip Thoreau, Mr. Pravin Anand and Mr. Chew Phye Keat were coopted to be the Group. The Group reserved the domain name "APAAOnline.org"

At the 45th Council Meeting following General Assembly, Mr. Myung-Shin Kim was elected as the President of APAA.

It was decided that the posts of Senior Vice-Presidents of APAA be introduced and the number of the Senior Vice-Presidents should be three. The first three Senior Vice-Presidents nominated by the President and approved by the Council were Mr. Ichio Shamoto (Chairman of the Business Study Group), Mr. Alonzo Q. Ancheta (Chairman of the Financial Study Group) and Dato V.L. Kandan (Chairman of the Planning Study Group).

The name of "International Cooperation Committee" was changed to "Advisory Board" reflecting the characteristic role of the ICC.

A new member each from Mongolia and Myanmar joined APAA.

## **June , 2001**

APAA NEWS NO. 28 and Minutes of the 12th General Assembly and the 44th & 45th Council Meetings in Cebu, Philippines were published.

## **October 20 - 23, 2001**

The 46th Council Meeting was held at Laguna Complex at Phuket, Thailand.

The following items were decided at the Council Meeting;

- (1) The APAA/FICPI Joint Symposium will be held in Newport Beach, California, U.S.A. from March 15 - 17, 2002.
- (2) The 47th Council Meeting of APAA will be held in Wellington, New Zealand from November 3 - 6, 2002.
- (3) The Workshops will be annually held at Council and General Meetings to provide more colorful and professional information to members and observers and the Workshop Committee will be established to review the topics, speakers, moderators and operational method, etc.
- (4) The APAA Executive Meeting will be annually held to discuss administrative and financial matters and the future of the Association.
- (5) The APAA Financial Group will be established to review membership fee, bank interest and donation, etc.
- (6) The External Relations Group will be established to cope with invitations and requests from WIPO, sister organizations and foreign governments.
- (7) The Ad-Hoc Committee on New Intellectual Property Rights will be established to deal with subjects such as folklore, e-commerce, traditional resource and traditional knowledge, etc.
- (8) Mr. Masao Okabe and Mr. William D. Howie will be appointed as Honorary Presidents of the Association.
- (9) The 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and the 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> Council Meetings of APAA will be held in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia from October 10-16, 2003.
- (10) The 50th Council Meeting of APAA will be held in Kyusyu, Japan in 2004.
- (11) A new member each from Laos and Macao joined APAA.

\* There are now 16 Recognised Groups:

Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia,  
Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan,  
Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam

\* There are Individual Members from

Nepal, Brunei, Mongolia, Myanmar, Laos, Macao

\* There are about 2000 members from 22 Jurisdictions.



## OFFICERS OF APAA (2000 - 2003)

### President:

Myung-Shin Kim

### Honorary Presidents:

Masao Okabe (Japan)

William D. Howie (New Zealand)

### Past President:

Kiyoshi Asamura (Japan)

### Senior Vice-Presidents:

Ichio Shamoto (Japan)

Alonzo Q. Ancheta (Philippines)

Dato V.L. Kandan (Malaysia)

### Vice Presidents:

Robert Cross (Australia)

Salahuddin Abdullah (Bangladesh)

Henry Wheare (Hong Kong)

K.T.S. Tulsi (India)

Amalia Roosseno (Indonesia)

Kazuo Sato (Japan)

Tae-Won Kim (Republic of Korea)

Philip A.B. Thoreau (New Zealand)

Syed A. Ali Shah (Pakistan)

Tee Jim Tan (Singapore)

Kingson C. Lai (Taiwan)

Suchart Thammapiatagkul (Thailand)

Do Thuong Ngai (Vietnam)

### Treasurer:

Kenji Yoshida (Japan)

### Councillors:

Leon Allen, Robert Cross, Greg Munt, Colin Oberin,

Chris Owens, Lee Pippard (Australia)

Salahuddin Abdullah, M. Hafizullah (Bangladesh)

Anne Choi, T.J. Hancock, Chi K. Kwong, Rebecca Lo, Henry Wheare  
(Hong Kong)

Pravin Anand, Francis Groser, K.T.S. Tulsi, H. Subramaniam (India)

Augustaaf B. Rikin, Amalia Roosseno (Indonesia)

Kiyoshi Asamura, Fumiaki Ohtsuka, Masao Okabe,

Kazuhiko Kido, Yoshio Kumakura, Masashi Kurose,

Fujio Sasajima, Kazuo Sato, Tetsuo Shimizu,

Sumiko Shimosaka, Ichio Shamoto, Yasuo Tamura,

Yoshiro Hashimoto, Mikio Hatta, Fumihiko Hirose,

Motohiko Fujimura, Nobuyuki Matsubara, Kiyoshi Muraki,

Kenji Yoshida (Japan)

Duk-Yeul Baek, Tae-Yeon Cho, Dall-Ryong Choi, Tae-Ryoun Chung,  
Chul-Soo Kim, Myung-Shin Kim, Seong-Ki Kim, Tae-Won Kim,  
Yong-Ho Kim, Yoon-Bae Kim, Byung-Chang Park (Republic of Korea)  
Chew Phye Keat , Dato V.L. Kandan, T. Kuhanandan (Malaysia)  
Frank Callus, Andrew Collins, Philip A.B. Thoreau (NewZealand)  
Yawar I. Khan, Syed A. Ali Shah, Sultan A. Sheikh (Pakistan)  
Alonzo Q. Ancheta, Manuel Cases, Jr., Lorna Patajo-Kapunan,  
Rogelio Vinluan (Philippines)  
Alban Kang, Jo-Ann See, Kee Leng Tan, Tee Jim Tan (Singapore)  
John C. Chen, Ta-Chung Chiang, Wu-Shung Houng, Kingson C. Lai,  
J.K. Lin, Jennifer Lin, Thomas Q.T. Tsai, Patrick I.C. Yun (Taiwan)  
Boonma Tejavaniya, Suchart Thammapiatagkul, Chavalit Uttasart  
(Thailand)  
Do Thuong Ngai, Pham N.X. Bac, Dang Hong Thuy (Vietnam)

\* Note: Dato V.L. Kandan and Mr. Alonzo Q. Ancheta, Senior Vice-Presidents,  
also hold the title of Vice-President.

#### RECOGNIZED GROUPS AND GROUP PRESIDENTS

Australia Group: Greg Munt  
Bangladesh Group: Salahuddin Abdullah  
Hong Kong Group: Chi K. Kwong  
India Group: Pravin Anand  
Indonesia Group: Amalia Roosseno  
Japan Group: Kenji Yoshida  
Korea Group: Tae-Won Kim  
Malaysia Group: T. Kuhanandan  
New Zealand Group: Andrew Collins  
Pakistan Group: Yawar I. Khan  
Philippines Group: Lorna Patajo-Kapunan  
Singapore Group: Alban Kang  
Taiwan Group: Patrick I.C. Yun  
Thailand Group: Boonma Tejavaniya  
Vietnam Group: Do Thuong Ngai

#### CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF COMMITTEES

Trademark Committee: Andrew Collins (New Zealand), Fumihiko Hirose (Japan)  
Anti-Counterfeiting Committee: Yoon-Bae Kim (Korea), Masashi Kurose (Japan)  
Patents Committee: Motohiko Fujimura (Japan), Tae-Ryoun Chung (Korea)  
Copyright Committee: Geoffrey Pryor (Australia), Thomas Q.T. Tsai (Taiwan)  
Design Committee: Tetsuo Shimizu (Japan), Philip Thoreau (New Zealand)  
Website Group: Dato V.L. Kandan (Malaysia)  
Workshop Group: Henry J.H. Wheare (Hong Kong)