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■ Current Status and Challenges of Protection of Intellectual Properties pertaining to Genetic Resources or Traditional Knowledge..... 5

Miho IKEGAMI

In connection with access to genetic resources or traditional knowledge and benefit sharing arising from their use on CBD, intellectual properties, mainly patent rights and registered trademarks, sometimes becomes targets of groups in countries providing resources. In this paper, two past famous opposition and invalidation cases of patent and recent trend in cases of multinational companies are introduced, and some measures are proposed for the future proper protection of the intellectual properties with the circumstances of countries providing resources.

■ The Development of International Discussions on Geographical Indications and Future Tasks 14

Tetsuya IMAMURA

This paper reviews the progress of discussions on the issues of geographical indications that has been made in WIPO, WTO and RTAs as forums of the international debate. It then argues future tasks of Japan.

■ European Patent with Unitary Effect and Unified Patent Court 31

Hiroshi KAWAMATA, Toshinao YAMAZAKI & Atsuya TAKESHITA

The long-awaited legal framework to establish the European Patent with Unitary Effect and Unified Patent Court was concluded in February, 2013. The backgrounds of the discussion and overview of Unitary Patent package as well as the procedures from filing application to litigation and the possible IP strategies under the new system are illustrated in this article.

■ Declining of amendments and Due process71

Hiroshi YOSHIDA

When the examiner declines an amendment, he does not need to give the applicant an Office Action (Japanese Patent Law Art.53). However, this system involves a problem of a Due process of Law. This paper studies the problem about Declining of amendments and Due process.

■ **Activities of Association of Intellectual Property Education for cultivation of intellectual property human resources, centering on “Intellectual Property Management Skills Test”** 84

Association of Intellectual Property Education

We, the Association of Intellectual Property Education (AIPE), implement the national examination “Intellectual Property Management Skills Test”(IPMST) as the appointed test agency of the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare to produce the Certified Specialist of Intellectual Property Management(CSIPM). We also hold the seminars specialized for CSIPM to maintain and improve their knowledge and skills, and issue the Journals, which provide the latest information about the intellectual property management in cooperation with CSIPM. Through these activities, we promote the qualities and abilities of the human resources working in the intellectual property field. In 2012, we started the seminar to train and certify Intellectual Property Analysts. In this paper, we introduce our activities for the development of human resources working in the intellectual property field.