

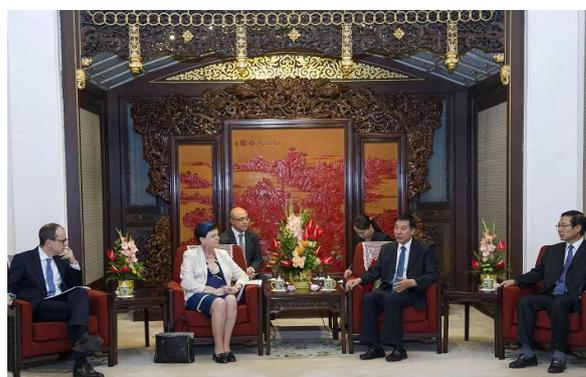
The Embassy publishes an ad-hoc newsletter to inform UK stakeholders of recent developments in the Chinese IP environment. This is a special edition to report the activities and outcomes from the UK-China IP Symposium week. Please feel free to forward this newsletter, and contact Shi.Hui@fco.gov.uk to be added to/removed from the distribution list. A pdf version (with pictures) is available on the [Embassy's IP webpage](#).



China IP Newsletter (UK-China IP Symposium Special Edition)

UK-China IP Symposium week

The 2nd UK-China IP Symposium was held on September 1 launching a week of IP activities across eight Chinese cities. Baroness Neville-Rolfe (UK Minister for IP) led a UK delegation including a high court judge, officials from the UK Intellectual Property Office (IPO) and British businesses. The Symposium, bilateral meeting with State Councillor Wang Yong and other activities were covered by mainstream media in the UK and China, including the BBC Radio 4 [Today Programme](#), the [Financial Times](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [The Times](#), [CCTV1 evening news](#), [People's Daily](#) and [Global Times](#).



The IP Symposium itself was opened by Baroness Neville-Rolfe and Commissioner Shen Changyu from the Chinese State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), and was attended by 180 British and Chinese companies. The Symposium featured presentations and discussions on IP economics & government services to business; IP in research and technology commercialisation; Patents & designs; Trade marks; and IP Enforcement. Baroness Neville-Rolfe's Symposium speech is online [here](#).

TRADE MARKS & GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS:

Bilateral trade marks workshop & public seminars

The UK IPO held a full-day bilateral workshop with the China Trademark Office (CTMO) and the Trademark Review & Adjudication Board (TRAB). UK and Chinese officials compared approaches to sound mark examinations, bad-faith in opposition and cancellation actions, and well-known trade mark determination. In Beijing, Suzhou, Nanjing and Hong Kong IPO representatives were joined by the UK Institute of Trade Marks Attorneys ([ITMA](#)) for a series of events attended by local companies and government officials.



COPYRIGHT & CREATIVE INDUSTRIES:

Bilateral agreement on copyright licensing of written works



The UK Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) and the China Written Works Copyright Society (CWWCS) signed a bilateral agreement on reprographic licensing at an evening copyright event organised as part of the IP Symposium week. The agreement foresees full reciprocal revenue exchanges and includes training and capacity building. The signing was witnessed by UK Minister for IP Baroness Neville-Rolfe and Yan Xiaohong, Vice Minister of the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC). More [here](#) (in English).

UK-China workshop on collecting societies regulation & best practice

IP Symposium week featured a workshop in Chongqing as part of a UK-China project on copyright collecting society regulation and operating best practice. The project is funded by the IPO and Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) and aims to support the development of collecting societies in China as the Chinese Copyright Law and related regulations are revised. The seminar in Chongqing ran alongside sessions on copyright management in academic libraries co-hosted with the International Publishers Copyright Protection Coalition (IPCC – an industry group of local representatives of global publishing companies).



New business factsheet on IP & Architecture in China



Dr Ros Lynch (Director of Copyright & IP Enforcement, UK IPO) attended a business roundtable meeting at the British Consulate General in Chongqing to launch our latest China IP business factsheet covering *IP and Architecture in China*. The workshop was co-hosted with the China Britain Business Council (CBBC) and attended by representatives from British architectural design companies based in southwest China. See [here](#) for the new factsheet and [here](#) for other publications in our China IP business factsheet series.

PATENTS, INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS & INNOVATION:

Extension of protection term for designs announced at UK-China IP Symposium

Further planned amendments to the Chinese Patent Law were announced by the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) at the 2nd UK-China IP Symposium. The revisions will extend the term of protection for registered designs from 10 to 15 years, in line with China's planned accession to the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. Administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Hague system facilitates applications for design protection in multiple countries and regions through a single international application. More [here](#) and [here](#) (in English).

Bilateral seminars on patents & innovation

Creating a transparent, rules-based IP system that supports cross-border research and innovation was a theme running throughout IP Symposium week. The IPO held bilateral meetings with SIPO and other counterparts on topics including implementation of the UK-China pilot Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH), global patent system efficiency and patent examination quality control. The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys ([CIPA](#)) joined activities in Beijing, Suzhou, Nanjing and Hong Kong, including a visit to a SIPO external patent examination centre in Suzhou and a UK-China IP Salon on *Patents & the Lambert Toolkit* in Nanjing.



IP ENFORCEMENT & TRADE SECRETS:

China Britain Business Council and Alibaba Group agreement on online IP protection



The China Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the Alibaba Group signed an agreement covering IP protection on the Alibaba and Taobao e-commerce platforms. The agreement includes measures to help British SMEs navigate existing Alibaba IP protection systems and creates a framework for dialogue between Alibaba and companies to develop further enhanced IP protection mechanisms. A roundtable meeting with British companies was held at Alibaba headquarters in Hangzhou. More [here](#) (in English).

UK private sector expertise advises on IP policies in Chinese Free Trade Zones

Baroness Neville-Rolfe hosted a seminar on IP policies in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone (FTZ) attended by officials from a range of local government departments and the Shanghai IP judiciary. The seminar launched a Discussion Paper on IP in FTZs covering topics such as introducing limited discovery and evidence admissibility in FTZ specialist IP courts, enforcement of court judgements and administrative enforcement. The Discussion Paper is online [here](#) (in English & Chinese) and was written by law firm Freshfields as part of a series of activities supporting FTZ policies in China led by TheCityUK.



UK-China judicial exchanges on copyright enforcement & evidence admissibility



Mr Justice Birss of the High Court of England Wales joined the IP Symposium week programme and participated in a series of judicial exchanges with his Chinese counterparts. Justice Birss held a workshop on copyright protection online and in mobile applications at the Supreme People's Court in Beijing, and participated in a seminar on evidence admissibility in civil and administrative cases alongside senior judges in Guangdong Province.

If you would like any further information on any of the above matters, please contact Tom Duke (Tom.Duke2@fco.gov.uk).