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# Annual Report 2000

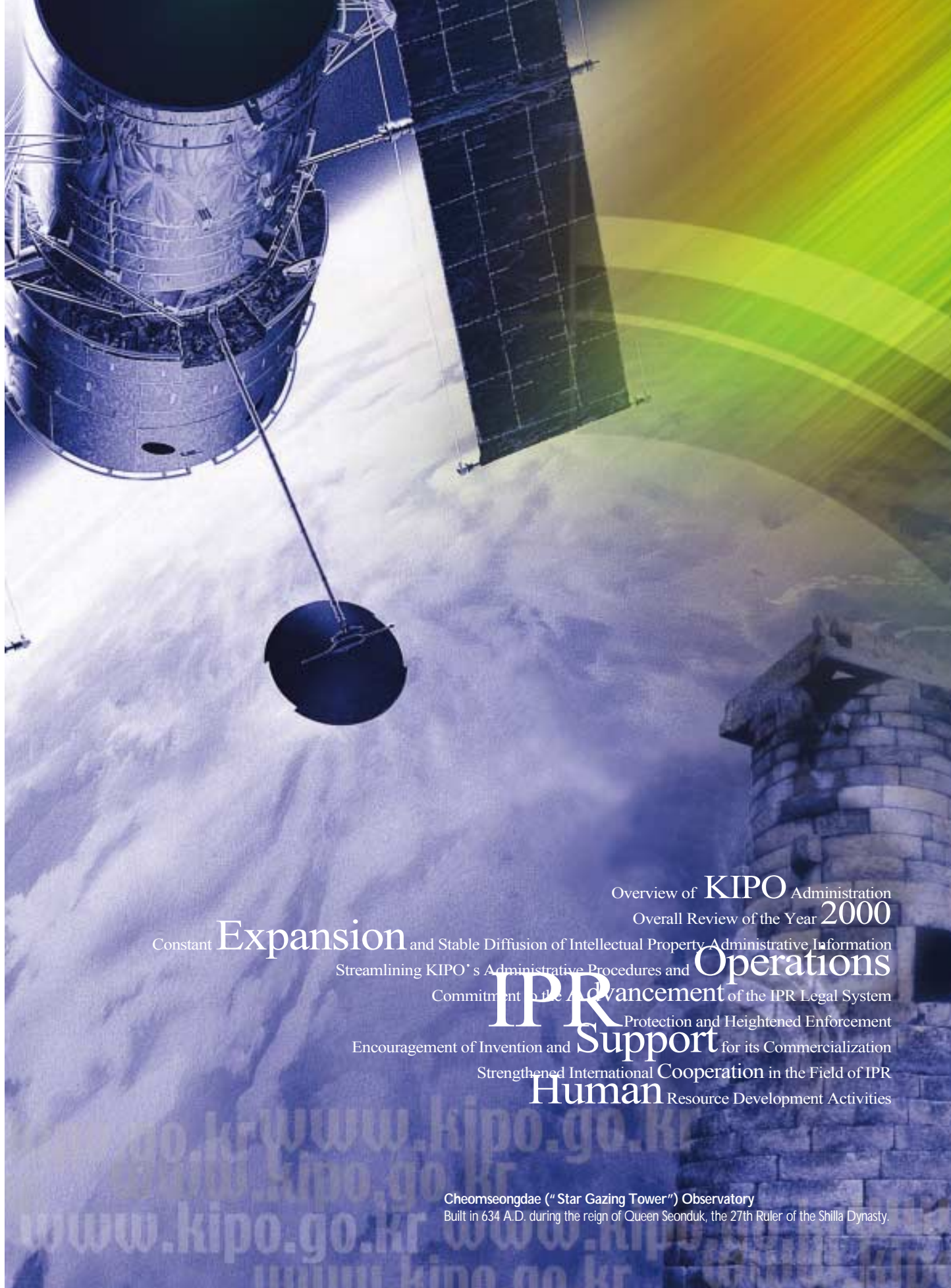
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The Korean Intellectual Property Office

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Overview of **KIPO** Administration  
Overall Review of the Year **2000**

Constant **Expansion** and Stable Diffusion of Intellectual Property Administrative Information  
Streamlining **Operations** of KIPO's Administrative Procedures and  
Commitment to the **IPR** Advancement of the IPR Legal System  
Protection and Heightened Enforcement  
Encouragement of Invention and **Support** for its Commercialization  
Strengthened International Cooperation in the Field of IPR  
**Human** Resource Development Activities

Cheomseongdae ("Star Gazing Tower") Observatory  
Built in 634 A.D. during the reign of Queen Seondeok, the 27th Ruler of the Shilla Dynasty.



# Foreword



LEEM, Laegue  
Commissioner

In today's economic environment, often called a knowledge-based economy, knowledge and information function as sources of value-added creation and the crucial element of competitiveness. The enormous wave of metamorphoses led by the information technology revolution and further integration of the global economy has shattered the territorial separation of national boundaries and the world economic system has entered into an era of infinite borderless competition.

In such a knowledge-based-economic society, it is acknowledged that IPRs, such as patent and trademark, are indispensable for economic management and development in the 21st century from the view point of providing incentives for consistent technological innovation. In addition, protection and nurturing of such intellectual properties have emerged as vital tasks for the continuous advancement of the national economy.

The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), which is responsible for managing the institutional infrastructure for the support of IPR creation, acquisition, and utilization, has continued in the last year to make every effort to aggressively cope with the demand of today's changing innovation environment.

To this end, KIPO has employed an open-door policy for more efficient IPR administration corresponding to international harmonization trends and for the improved convenience of customers. At the same time, KIPO has consistently maintained its policy to deliver a superior quality of examination and trial examination through fostering the expertise of examiners and trial examiners as well as improving various procedures and practices. In addition, KIPO has realized the accurate and prompt handling of overall administrative procedures through systematically enhancing the computerized office environment.

For the effective implementation of the above missions, KIPO has proposed three primary visions that intellectual property administration should abide by in the 21st-century knowledge-based-economy: IPR administration endeavoring to be the world's best, IPR administration leading social transformation into a knowledge-based economy, and IPR administration rooted in the public's daily life. Under these three visions, KIPO has set up and implemented 67 key directives and 468 detailed action plans.

KIPO's efforts, represented by the Combined IPR Administration Innovation Project, were enhanced by the adoption of Total Quality Management System (TQM) and Knowledge Management System principles, widely used by private enterprise management, for the heightened productivity of IPR administration and significant advancement of the IPR system. KIPO's efforts, which are based upon the entire staff's voluntary participation and experimental spirit, have aimed at the expansion of customer satisfaction and begun to offer IPR administrative services of a higher quality.

With the foundation of efficient organizational operation via internal innovation, KIPO will actively participate in the various international activities and the process of establishing new standards in the IPR field. Also, KIPO will keep pace with the world's efforts for harmonization and advancement of IPR administration.

I hope this Annual Report helps you to better understand the IPR system and the current status of IPR-related issues in Korea.

Sincerely,

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Haesikye  
A traditional Korean sun dial.



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