

STRENGTHENING THE IP SYSTEM: A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST PIRACY AND COUNTERFEITING

(Comment of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines submitted to the United States Trade Representative's Office in relation to the annual Special 301 OCR: Philippines)

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INTRODUCTION

In its 2005 report, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) cited the “significant progress in 2004” made by the Philippines that “could lead, if continued, to the elimination of optical media piracy” in the country.¹ Among the important improvements as reported by the USTR are the passage of the Optical Media Act in February 2004 (and its implementation in early 2005), the creation of the Optical Media Board, accession to the WIPO Internet Treaties, improved coordination of the groups responsible for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) enforcement, and an increased number of raids of production facilities and retail establishments. The Philippines, however, was retained in the Priority Watch List, but with an out-of-cycle review to monitor progress and reassess its position on the Special 301 list.

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) prepared a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the intellectual property (IP) regime in the country and an Action Plan for 2005-2006, which included the proposals of the United States Government (USG) presented in the videoconference of 29 June 2005. Implementation of this Action Plan started immediately after the conference, in July. Since then the GRP has made highly significant gains in establishing institutional linkages, strengthening inter-agency coordination, sustaining enforcement, improving prosecution and adjudication, and enhancing public education. After only five months of implementing the Action Plan, concrete results have set the momentum for a more successful campaign against piracy and counterfeiting.

No less than President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has expressed the government’s political will and determination to eradicate IP theft in the country: “Intellectual piracy is dishonesty and is, therefore, immoral. It is an affront to individual and national integrity and inimical to our revenue collection activities, investment promotions and to overall economic progress. It has no place in a civilized society.” In another occasion, the President said: “I am ordering the Optical Media Board and the new chief of the Intellectual Property Office to strengthen the campaign against anti-intellectual property piracy through strategic raids on points of entry and storage centers of pirated material,” President Macapagal-Arroyo said. ([Annex: PGMA’s Speeches](#))

This Comment provides a summary of the GOP’s IPR strategy, describes the progress made in the implementation of the 2005 Action Plan, some of the constraints the government faces and the other work that needs to be done in the short and medium term. More important, this Comment describes solid accomplishments of the GRP that show a momentum on the ground that merits the country’s de-listing from USTR’s Watch List.

¹ “The Philippines made significant progress in 2004 which the U.S. copyright industry noted could lead, if continued, to the elimination of optical media piracy in the Philippines. These important improvements included the passage of the Optical Media Act in February 2004, the creation of the Optical Media Board, accession to the WIPO Internet Treaties, improved coordination of the groups responsible for IPR enforcement, and an increased number of raids of production facilities and retail establishments. The Philippines also implemented the Optical Media Act in early 2005, which should enable Philippine authorities to take decisive action against pirate optical media production facilities. We are encouraged by the notable single seizure of optical discs (over \$8 million worth of optical discs) in December 2004).

A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN THE IP REGIME

The Context

The GOP treated the USTR 2005 report as a challenge to strengthen further the country's IP regime. Improving the legislative and regulatory framework for IPR in the country was top of the list three years ago; but today, the legal and regulatory infrastructure is in place. Similarly, enforcement of IPR violations was a major factor three years ago; today, enforcement is sustained and more focused. While improving further the policy environment and sustained enforcement should continue without let-up, the bigger challenges in 2005 are in strengthening institutions, inter-agency coordination, improve prosecution, and intensifying public information and education. Thus a more strategic and comprehensive approach was needed to address the problem of piracy and counterfeiting.

In a series of meetings from May to June 2005 with government agencies and representatives of the private sector, the GOP crafted a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the IP regime. The Strategy first identified the major challenges in protecting and promoting IPR, laid down specific objectives, and enumerated specific strategies to achieve each objective.

Major Challenges

The GOP's inter-agency meetings and consultations with the IP holders and practitioners identified the following major challenges that have to be confronted:

1. Dispersed mandates for strengthening the IP system is among different government agencies resulting in lack of cohesiveness in government actions;
2. Absence of retrievable data and information about IPR matters, particularly on enforcement and prosecution, resulting in lack of transparency in operations, weak follow through and inadequate facts to guide strategic and tactical operations and policy making;
3. Low public awareness and lack of knowledge of IP's importance in the national economy and in people's daily lives resulting in a lack of respect for IPR; and
4. Lack of institutional and personnel capacities of IP community (practitioners, enforcers, prosecutors, judges, etc.), resulting in difficulties in implementing IP Code and related laws.

Objectives and Strategies

From the major challenges identified the following are the objectives and strategies for each objective:

1. To strengthen institutional linkages and inter-agency coordination by:

- a. Establishing a more proactive Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IP Philippines) as the coordinator of inter-agency efforts in strengthening the IP regime;
- b. Setting up an active Secretariat in IP Philippines that will drive the inter-agency coordination;
- c. Forging firm agreements with government agencies on roles, jurisdictions and responsibilities; and
- d. Forging public-private partnerships with IP owners associations, business chambers and industry associations for advocacy, education and monitoring work.

2. To establish a central repository of data and information for strategic and tactical decisions, monitoring and transparency in government operations by:

- a. Putting up a web-based interactive management information system that ensures the flow of data and information from other agencies into a database at the IP Philippines accessible to all stakeholders and the public, and
- b. Regularly publish data and information gathered in different media and disseminates these to IP stakeholders.

3. To intensify public outreach and advocacy for key players on the IP community through:

- a. Seminars, workshops and events for different stakeholders;
- b. Active engagement with media in information campaigns about the importance of IP to national development;
- c. Enhancing the IP Philippines website to disseminate information about IP and adding enforcement data, events and news articles; and
- d. Mainstreaming IPR education in public elementary and high schools and universities.

4. To improve institutional and personnel capability for IPR implementation by:

- a. Implementing a systematic HRD program for the different inter-agency IP units (enforcement operations, evidence gathering, prosecution, judicial decision-making); and
 - b. Institutionalize IP education modules for IP community in the PNP through the PNP Academy and Philippines Public Safety Colleges, the Local Government Academy and the Philippine Judicial Academy.
- 5. To continue enhancing the legal and policy environment for IPR by:**
- a. Lobbying vigorously for amendments to the IP Code to include obligations under the WIPO Internet Treaties, cybercrime.
 - b. Actively promote the enactment and implementation of local government ordinances, taking advantage of the police power of local governments.

THE 2005-06 ACTION PLAN AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION

Guided by a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the IP regime in the country, the GRP crafted an Action Plan for 2005-06 ([Annex: GRP Action Plan](#)). This Action Plan includes the proposals of the USG presented in the 29 June 2005 RP-US Trade Investment Council (TIC) Videoconference on IPR by the USG delegation headed by USTR Director David Katz ([Annex: USG Proposed Action Plan](#)).

Below is a description of the progress made so far in the implementation of the Action Plan.

Strengthened Institutional Linkages and Inter-Agency Coordination

The lack of leadership, systems and procedures in the inter-agency task force led to weak coordination, gaps in enforcement and prosecution, lack of retrieval data and information for effective decision-making, transparency of operations and monitoring execution of policies. Clearly, strengthening linkages and inter-agency coordination was the priority in the Action Plan.

1. A more proactive role of IP Philippines in inter-agency coordination. IP Philippines has embraced its role as lead coordinator of the inter-agency body for strengthening the IP regime.² The Director General convenes and presides over the inter-agency body regularly to monitor the progress of the action plan and gather information on IPR enforcement, prosecution, capacity building efforts and other matters. The inter-agency has met thirteen times since March this year.

² Section 5. *Functions of the Intellectual Property Office.* - 5.1 To administer and implement the State policies declared in this Act, there is hereby created the Intellectual Property Office which shall have the following functions: (g) – Coordinate with other government agencies and the private sector efforts to formulate and implement plans and policies to strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights in the country.

The Director General also makes public statements on behalf of the inter-agency body, thus informing the public that the government has a united front against piracy.

2. A full time Secretariat driving the inter-agency body. IP Philippines formed a Secretariat for inter-agency coordination that is under the direct supervision of the Director General ([Annex: Office Order No. 64, series of 2005 dated 15 June 2005](#)). The Secretariat has a full time Executive Director, a lawyer of IP Philippines, who is supported by two administrative staff and one communications staff. A team of computer programmers from the IP Philippines' Management and Information Service (MIS) is also detailed to the Secretariat to develop the software to be used for the IPR enforcement database. In terms of actual hours, the Secretariat put in a total of 12,608 manhours with a budget of P1,470,481.68.³ The Secretariat has been performing the following functions:

- a. Organizing inter-agency meetings at least once a month, preparing the minutes of these meetings and monitoring the follow through actions of different agencies (13 inter-agency meetings have been convened since March 2005).
- b. Setting up and managing the data and information retrieval system that collates data from different agencies and populating the database.
- c. Assisted in coordinating the participation of the various government agencies in the RP-US Trade Investment Council (TIC) Videoconference on IPR held last 29 June 2005, wherein the GRP's IPR Enforcement Action Plan for 2005 was one of the main items on the agenda.
- d. Processes, synthesizes and consolidates reports from the various agencies for the inter-agency body.
- e. Arranged and documented the meetings of the Director General with the heads of other agencies, such as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (SC), the secretaries of Justice (DOJ), Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Chairman of the Optical Media Board (OMB), the Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs (BOC), the Commissioner of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), and heads or senior officials of other government agencies.
- f. Facilitated and documented meetings with IP associations, private investigators, and other IP owners.
- g. Drafted Agreements between and among government agencies in relation to inter-agency cooperation and coordination.

3. Agreements on Institutional Linkages. The lack of coordination among agencies in the past was mainly due to the absence of clearly defined roles, jurisdiction and responsibilities. Strengthening linkages and coordination would

³ March-December 2005.

mean agreeing on terms of reference. Thus, IP Philippines, as coordinator, forged agreements with different agencies. These agreements were arrived at with the heads of agencies and, except for matters that require time to do, were immediately implemented.

- a) *Optical Media Board (OMB)*. Strong linkage was established with the Chairman of OMB, Mr. Eduardo Manzano. There are regular meetings and communication between the IP Philippines' Director General and the Chairman of OMB. All reports of the OMB are sent to the IP Philippines secretariat. The Chairman himself, or if unavailable, his Executive Director attends the inter-agency meetings. Monthly accomplishment reports are being submitted by the OMB to the IP Philippines inter-agency secretariat. The OMB is also an active participant in the TIFA process.
- b) *National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)*. Strong linkage with the NBI was also established by the IP Philippines. Regular communication lines have been established between the NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco and the Director General. The NBI submits regular operations and post-operations report to the IP Philippines Secretariat and is an active participant in the TIFA process.
- c) *Department of Justice*. The Director General met with Justice Secretary Raul M. Gonzales on 30 May 2005 and obtained the commitment of the Secretary to fully support the government's anti-piracy drive. He agreed to strengthen the special IP prosecutors unit in the DOJ, monitor the status and progress of cases being prosecuted nationwide and have his deputy, an Undersecretary, head the special unit. Secretary Gonzales was quoted as saying "I assure you of our cooperation and our support. It is one of the areas we are looking into and the DOJ has a special unit called the Task Force on Anti-Intellectual Property Piracy headed by Assistant Chief State Prosecutor Leah Tanodra-Armamento. The NBI is on top of the many cases we are pursuing and they assist our prosecutors in several IPR cases." ([Annex: DOJ and IPO war on intellectual property piracy](#))

On 09 June 2005, Secretary Gonzales issued a Memorandum Order directing Regional State, Provincial and City Prosecutors to submit a list of all cases pending before their respective offices and before the courts involving violation of Republic Act No. 8293 otherwise known as the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines ([Annex: DOJ Memorandum Order dated 09 June 2005](#)). Recently, Secretary Gonzales issued Department Order No. 657 reconstituting the Task Force on Anti-Intellectual Property Piracy.⁴ The Task Force is under the supervision of Undersecretary Ernesto L. Pineda. It is composed of one (1) Chairperson and five (5) members. As of this writing, however, Undersecretary Pineda is considering adding more experienced prosecutors to the Task Force. ([Annex: Department Order No. 657 dated 21 November 2005](#))

In addition, the DOJ agreed to have regular "case conferences" with IP Philippines and law enforcement agencies to ensure cohesive and effective

⁴ 21 November 2005.

prosecution of IP violations. There have been three case conferences so far, but had to be suspended by the pending reconstitution of the DOJ's IP unit.

- d) *Department of the Interior and Local Government*. The Director General had a conference with DILG Undersecretary Melchor P. Rosales and Assistant Secretary Benito R. Catindig on 20 September 2005 and reached an understanding that a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be executed wherein the latter, through the Philippine National Police, agreed to institutionalize within the PNP monitoring and apprehension of IPR violators. A Letter of Instruction (LOI) from the Director General of the PNP will be issued to institutionalize IPR violations monitoring through regular "environmental scanning" and post-raid activities such as "beat patrols" as deterrence at the local/district PNP level.

In addition, it was agreed that IP education modules will be mainstreamed in the training program of the PNP Central Command, the Philippine National Academy (PNPA) and the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC). The Handbook for IP investigation will be one of the materials used for this purpose.

Moreover, the DILG also reiterated its commitment to the implementation of Memorandum Circular No. 2003-229 dated 08 December 2003 enjoining all provincial governors, city and municipal mayors, and others concerned to help in the enforcement of IPR. [\(Annex: IPO proposes IPR protection measures to DILG\)](#)

- e) *National Telecommunications Commission (NTC)*. The Director General discussed IPR concerns with Commissioner Ronald O. Solis in a teleconference and among the proposals mentioned was an agreement regarding jurisdiction and ensuring smooth flow of cases. On 18 October 2005, Deputy Director General Ireneo M. Galicia and Atty. Louie Andrew C. Calvario of IP Philippines met with Atty. Abigail S. Santillan, Head of the Legal Department of the NTC to discuss the draft Memorandum Circular on the Creation of an Intellectual Property Unit.

On 19 October 2005, IP Philippines forwarded its proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to NTC. The main component of the proposed MOA is that the NTC will beef up its IP Unit with the technical assistance of IP Philippines. More significant is the proposal that complaints or cases filed with the NTC alleging IP violations will be referred to IP Philippines for adjudication and the results will be referred back to NTC for execution. Comments from both parties have been integrated into the MOA and the expectation is for the signing to take place in the month of December 2005 or January 2006.

- f) *Bureau of Customs (BOC)*. The Director General met with former Customs Commissioner Alberto D. Lina, and his successor, Mr. Alexander M. Arevalo. As a practitioner of ICT, Commissioner Arevalo is keenly aware of the importance of IPR to the economy and is thus committed in the fight against piracy. Institutional linkage between the BOC and the inter-agency secretariat has been strengthened considerably. Not only is there a smooth flow of

information among the agencies, the BOC is now an active participant in the TIFA dialogue. Atty. Eden F. Dandal, who heads the IP Unit in BOC, was part of the GRP delegation in the RP-US TIC Videoconference on IPR last 29 June 2005. He was also present in the “Roundtable 2 Discussions on IPR in the Philippines: Partnership, Progress and Prosperity” organized by, and held at, the U.S. Embassy on 13 September 2005. Atty. Dandal and a few of his staff have also attended eight (8) inter-agency meetings and report regularly its accomplishments to the inter-agency secretariat.

Commissioner Arevalo has also begun the process of making the IP unit a permanent unit within the Bureau with its own plantilla positions to be placed under the Legal Affairs Unit or the Enforcement Unit. The operation of the IP Unit covers major ports in the Philippines including out-ports.

The IP Unit of the BOC is closely monitoring the suspected shipments with IPR violations through the Automated Customs Operational System (ACOS) selectivity screen. It is also currently establishing a risk assessment program and a management system where all relevant data for the effective enforcement of the IP Code shall be gathered, stored and utilized to monitor, screen out, and interdict infringing goods at the border and on a post entry basis.

The BOC also has several big-ticket items that will enhance tremendously its institutional capability to enforce customs law in general, and IPR in particular.

g) Public-Private Partnerships. The Director General signed on 17 November 2005, on behalf of IP Philippines, a Memorandum of Agreement with the Intellectual Property Coalition (IPC).⁵ The MOA provides for joint projects on IP education and advocacy, such as promoting the “IP Seal” of good housekeeping and promoting passage and implementation of local ordinances to protect IPR. [\(Annex: MOA\).](#)

The partnership continued to enjoin the adoption (enactment) by the local government units of the Ordinance Template (To Curtail the Sale, Rental, Transfer, Distribution, Manufacture and/or Production of Pirated, Counterfeit or Fake Goods, Articles or Services), which imposes strict

⁵ The IPC is composed of the following: Class A Members [Representative Stakeholder Organizations] – Asosasyon ng Musikong Pilipino Foundation (AMP), Association of Video Distributors of the Philippines (AVIDPHIL), Brand Protection Association (BPA), Business Software Alliance (BSA), Council to Combat Counterfeiting and Piracy of Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks (COMPACT), Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (FILSCAP), Organization of Filipino Composers (KATHA), Motion Picture Association (MPA), Movie Producers Distributors Association of the Philippines (MPDAP), Philippine Association of Recording Industries, Inc. (PARI), Philippine Software Industry Association (PSIA), Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCCI), American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (AMCHAM), and Philippine Internet Commerce Society (PICS). Class B Members [Individuals and Corporations] – Mr. John Lesaca, Mr. Nathan C. Zulueta, Mr. Gregorio M. Lainez, Ms. Katrina R. Belamide, Mr. Eduardo D. Sazon, Mr. Raphael T. Manalaysay, Atty. Teodoro Kalaw, Ms. Flordeliza Pinlac, Atty. Numeriano F. Rodriguez, Jr., Mr. John S. Suarez, Mr. Juan Martin S. Barredo, Mr. John Benedict A. Sacriz and Microsoft Corporation.

adherence to the Philippine IP law as a condition before municipality or city government issues business permits. The activity, which started in 2003, resulted in the passage of IP ordinance in the cities of Iloilo, Cebu, Baguio, Naga, Balanga, and Davao and the municipality of Tuba, in Benguet.

In 2005, Muntinlupa City passed its IP Ordinance based on the Ordinance Template. Recently, the Quezon City Council passed the ordinance filed by Councilor Ariel Inton, Majority Floor Leader. According to Mayor Feliciano Belmonte, the ordinance is very timely since it will protect legitimate businessmen and establishment from unscrupulous manufacturers and vendors of fake and pirated products. ([Annex: Quezon City bans pirated products](#))

Recognizing its importance, the DILG supported the move through the issuance of a policy directive to all local government units to pass IPR ordinances.

Among the other private associations with whom the IP secretariat has established linkages are the different IP associations of practitioners, SME associations, universities, and regional associations, such as the Business Software Alliance, and Cable Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia, among others.

Establishing a Central Database for Anti-Piracy and Counterfeiting

Although members of the inter-agency task force shared information in the past, there was no central repository of data and information that can be used for strategic and tactical decision making. Moreover, the lack of reliable data and information made communicating to the public about the seriousness of intellectual property theft and deterring criminality was difficult to sustain. Establishing a central database of relevant data and information was and remains a fundamental task for the anti-piracy campaign.

Since July 2005 the IP Philippines has been developing an interactive website database that will be fully operational by the second semester of 2006. The software program is near completion, but populating the database will take more time. The database, which will be housed in IP Philippines, consists of verified or confirmed post-operation reports (enforcement actions, i.e. raids, seizures, arrests, etc.), including detailed information on seized articles or goods, persons arrested, cases filed with complete information and other pertinent. ⁶ ([Annex: Intellectual Property Cases Monitoring System](#)).

⁶ Number of raids against factories producing and vendors selling IP infringing goods, statistics on seizures of production equipment used to produce IP infringing goods, pirated optical discs seized in raids in factories, warehouses and retail vendors, what is done with seized production equipment and pirated optical discs, number of arrestees in raids and information on charges filed, number of cases taken to trial, number of cases settled out of court, number cases that reached a final decision by a judge and the outcome, and the sentences handed out to convicted pirates.

In the meantime, IP Philippines has set up the system of data retrieval from the different law enforcement agencies, prosecution arm and the courts. Daily monitoring of media reports is also part of the information system. The Director General also established linkages with several private investigation agencies hired by IP owners in an effort to include them in the information loop. However, only two firms have been cooperative.

This database, which will be accessible to the public via the internet, will help ensure transparency in the operations of government agencies and greatly assist in monitoring of cases in court. Currently, IP Philippines has utilized its website to carry database on enforcement actions collected via the monthly submission of reports by the enforcement agencies, post-operation reports, and media monitoring. The information capture at present enables the GOP to provide data and information cited in this report. ([Annex: IP Philippines website](#))

Sustained and Focused Enforcement

For the past several years, there have been sustained operations by the different law enforcement agencies; however, closer coordination is needed towards common strategic objectives. With improved coordination, enforcement operations this year took a noticeable emphasis towards focused enforcement in strategic areas of “notoriety” and production centers. A better information retrieval system also helped the inter-agency assess its performance and adjust its plans accordingly.

The combined enforcement efforts of the BOC, OMB, NBI and PNP from January to October 2005 yielded a total of **4,623,960 pieces of fake goods with an estimated value of P1,084,466,010.00.** However, this figure still does not include the results of operations conducted by the local police forces due to the difficulty for now in setting up the information retrieval mechanism nationwide. The good seized range from cleaning agents to optical media to replicating machines ([Annex: Table](#)).

There were a total of **2,414 reported enforcement operations conducted in 280 areas around the country** ([Annex: Table](#)). Of these activities, **1,370 were inspections of retail outlets and production areas while 1,044 were by search warrants.** This expansion in geographical coverage, however, did not preclude strategic and focused operations in identified “notorious” places. From January to October 2005, the OMB, the NBI, and the PNP conducted persistent raids and arrests in the following areas: **Quiapo (24 raids); Binondo (33), and Makati Cinema Square (11).** The series of focused operations and the post operations monitoring has resulted in visible reduction of retailing of pirated goods in notorious areas ([Annex: Table](#)). Moreover, enforcement operations were not limited to retail outlets and vendors, but also strategically aimed against production plants and equipment, **resulting in seizure of 11 replicating machines.**

More data about the campaign of each law enforcement agency are specified in the sections below.

Bureau of Customs (January-October 2005)

The BOC issued 26 alert/hold-orders and confiscated 3,145,560 items with an estimated value of P 392,722,480.00. The bulk of the confiscated goods were clothing/footwear of well-known trademarks with an estimated value of P 374,421,000.00. This shows a 50% increase of goods seized compared to last year's haul, a significant improvement. [\(Annex: Table\)](#)

Optical Media Board (January-October 2005)

From January to October 2005, the OMB conducted **1,591 operations and seized 3,145,560 items valued at P 540,189,550.00.** [\(Annex: Table\)](#) A major accomplishment is OMB's seizure of **11 replicating machines worth P 390,000,000.00** [\(Annex: Table\).](#)

Several huge operations were conducted this year and were publicly lauded by IP owners.

On 14 April 2005, the Motion Picture Association (MPA) and Optical Media Board (OMB), with backup from the PNP, raided the notorious Bartertrade Mall in Quiapo, Manila, serving 96 warrants and seizing a **record 1,080,000 pirated optical discs valued at an estimated Php108 million (US\$2 million).** Over 550 people and 34 vehicles were involved in the operation, which netted a **record seizure** for the Philippines of pirated DVDs, VCDs, CDs and CD-Rs, far surpassing the result of last year's December 8 raid, also in Quiapo, which netted **635,000 pirated DVDs and VCDs.**

According to Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association, **"the seizure of over one million pirated discs is the largest in the world this year in operations the MPA has been involved with,** and represents a huge financial loss to pirate syndicates. Under the determined leadership of Edu Manzano, the continued pressure the OMB is placing on pirates in Quiapo **sends a clear message that the Philippines is committed to the fight against intellectual property theft."** [\(Annex: Over 1 Million Pirated Optical Discs Seized in Record Philippines Raid\)](#)

On 29 and 30 July 2005, the MPA and OMB, with backup from PNP and with representatives from IFPI, raided the Ansari & Nasser Building and a nearby traders market in Quiapo, Manila, **-serving 123 search warrants and seizing 524,350 pirated optical discs.** The seized discs and equipment represent a loss of nearly US\$1 million to the pirates. Including last weekend's operations, **the piracy stronghold of Quiapo has seen three major raids over the past eight months, resulting in total seizures of over 2.2 million pirated optical discs.** The raids were conducted by 440 law enforcement officers and support personnel, including 100 Special Action Force troops on hand to assure

the security of the raiding team. Enforcement personnel conducting raids in Quiapo are frequently subject to violent attacks from pirate traders and last weekend's operations were no exception, but no injuries were recorded.

According to Mike Ellis, "in seizing more than two million pirated optical discs in eight months, the Optical Media Board has cost Quiapo's pirate syndicates millions of dollars, and has unequivocally raised the cost of conducting this business in the Philippines." ([Annex: Over 500,000 Pirated Optical Discs Seized in Manila Shopping Mall Raid](#))

Again, on August 18, officers of the OMB, with support from police, raided an unlicensed replicating facility in the Quezon City area of Metro Manila, seizing three replicating machines, a brand new DVD bonding machine and 15 tons of the polycarbonate used to make optical discs. OMB officials estimated that the operation had produced **more than 10 million** pirated DVDs, CDs and VCDs over the past year and had been producing pirated optical discs for over four years. The polycarbonate would have produced around five million pirated DVDs and CDs with a street value of \$2 million.

Also seized in the raid were approximately 2,000 stampers, most of which were infringing Motion Picture Association (MPA) member company titles. **The total value of seized equipment and materials is estimated at over \$4.6 million, the largest ever seizure of equipment and materials from optical discs pirates in the Philippines.**

Mr. Ellis lauded the OMB: "The seizure of \$4.6 million worth of equipment and materials shows clearly what enormous sums are being made through the illegal business of piracy and we congratulate the Optical Media Board on successfully **landing a heavy blow against piracy in the Philippines.**"⁷

On 19 September 2005, officers from the OMB, with support from BOC, raided an unlicensed replicating facility in Bulacan province, just north of Manila, **seizing four new replicating machines, 2 new DVD bonding machines and a new CD/DVD offset printer.** The raid followed an investigation by the OMB with support from the MPA and IFPI, which represents the music industry worldwide.

The replicating and bonding machines were worth an **estimated US\$3 million** and were capable of producing DVD-5 and DVD-9 optical discs. OMB officials estimated that the operation was **capable of producing as many as 14 million pirate DVDs per year, worth an estimated \$25 million.**

⁷ According to Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association.

“The seizure of \$7.6 million worth of replicating machinery in one month has dealt a heavy blow to optical disc piracy in the Philippines. The OMB is significantly raising the cost of doing business for criminals who believe that optical disc piracy is easy money,” according to Mike Ellis. [\(Annex: Four New Optical Disc Replicating Machines Worth \\$1 Million Seized in Manila Factory Raid\)](#)

Philippine National Police (January-October 2005):

The PNP-CIDG, the designated IP unit, conducted **143 operations and arrested 120 persons**. It seized a **total of 24,519 goods worth P 13,631,900.00**. [\(Annex: Table\)](#) This figure is just from the IP unit of the PNP and does not include the operations conducted by field units. There is still difficult obtaining field reports from the PNP’s local operational forces, but this will be remedied in the near future after firm agreements have been reached signed with the DILG and PNP.

As part of the inter-agency experiment on methods for cracking down on book piracy, the IP unit of the PNP-CIDG, which is headed by Police Senior Superintendent Noel delos Reyes, raided a bookshop in Quezon City after a “buy-bust” operation revealed that the bookshop was publishing and selling books without the copyright authorizations of their international publishers. The raiding team carted a total of 241 pieces of medical books valued at a separate amount of P 500,000. The bookstore owners, couple Bruce and Catherine Marquez, were arrested and charged with two counts of copyright infringement.⁸ This “experiment” was a success and there are plans to conduct more of this “buy-bust” type of enforcement against book piracy.

National Bureau of Investigation (January-October 2005)

The NBI received 128 complaints and filed 238 cases. It has **served 727 search warrants and seized a total of 1,385,406 goods with an estimated value of P 137,922,080.00** [\(Annex: Table\)](#).

Significantly, one of the cases filed by the NBI has resulted in a Joint Decision dated 08 August 2005 in Criminal Cases Nos. 03-2400 and 03-2401 entitled “People vs. Fu Lin Gutierrez” and “People vs. Simon Chan,” filed with the Regional Trial court, Makati City, Branch 138. Both accused were convicted of the offense of Trademark Infringement under Section 155 of the IP Code, for selling counterfeit copies of PlayStation computer games software, in violation of Sony Computer Entertainment, Inc.’s intellectual property rights to the said products. He accused were sentenced to suffer the **penalty of 2 to 5 years imprisonment and to pay a fine of P 100,000.00 each**.

Moreover, The Business Software Alliance lauded the IPR Division of the NBI for its successful operation in Cebu against Kevin Wayne

⁸ The raid at their owned Multi-Links Bookshop located in Quezon City was covered by two search warrants issued by Manila Regional Trial Court, Branch 24 Judge Antonio M. Eugenio.

Cunningham, an American citizen, and Mr. Romel Ocarisa for violation of the IP Code of the Philippines and Estafa as defined and penalized under Article 315 of the Revised Penal Code. ([Annex: 2 nabbed in Cebu for software piracy](#)) The NBI operatives were able to seize from subjects 129 pieces of installation disks containing unauthorized reproductions of Microsoft Windows XP Home operating system, a vehicle, the marked money with fluorescent powder and various commercial documents, with an estimated commercial value of P2.5 million. On 19 October 2005, finding probable cause of the crime charged, Criminal Informations for Trademark Infringement, Unfair Competition and Copyright Infringement were filed against the subjects with the Regional Trial Court of Cebu City.

Special Sectoral Campaigns:

Software Piracy

The NBI, the OMB and the PNP, together with the IP Coalition, have banded together to launch the “Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team”, a campaign that aims to curb software piracy in the Philippines. BSA, the foremost organization promoting the use of original and licensed software, is supporting the campaign. At the launch, the five organizations signed a memorandum of understanding that spelled out the objectives and action plans of the campaign.

The Pilipinas Anti-Piracy team started with a 30-day countdown that began on 16 August 2005.⁹ ([Annex: Anti-piracy gains](#))

The BSA lauded the government for taking the lead in going after violators of software copyright. According to Jeffrey Hardee, BSA Vice President and Regional Director for Asia, “we are proud to support this government-driven campaign against the use of pirated and unlicensed software. We laud the agencies leading this initiative for recognizing the need to reduce, and consequently eliminate piracy.” ([Annex: Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team Launched To Combat Software Piracy](#))¹⁰

Mr. Tarun Sawney, BSA Director of Anti-Piracy for Asia, recognized the efforts of the Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team. “We are pleased to see the progress made by the government in its campaign to reduce software piracy. Within just 2 months since the launch of the campaign, the team has confiscated over P19 million worth of illegal software programs in its crackdown nationwide. This is substantial progress indeed and we encourage the team to continue these endeavors.” He also recognized the increase in awareness of the business sector of the importance of using licensed software. “We have received a great number of calls from companies willing to comply and some voluntarily asking advice in auditing their software programs. This is very promising and we

⁹ Source: <http://www.bsa.org/philippines/press/newsreleases/Crackdown-team.cfm>

¹⁰ Source: <http://www.bsa.org/philippines/press/newsreleases/anti-piracy-team.cfm>

encourage more companies to evaluate their programs and legalize if need be.” [\(Annex: BSA commends Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team’s progress\)](#)

“We are reminding companies to stop patronizing pirated software and make sure that all software programs they are using in their business are legal,” said OMB Chairman Eduardo Manzano.¹¹

On his part, NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco called on companies to make sure they are only using licensed software. He said: “the NBI is pleased to work with the OMB and the PNP for this campaign. We hope that businesses will heed our call. Legalize your unlicensed software now before the crackdown begins. Do not put your company at risk by using unlicensed software.” PNP Police Director General Arturo Lomibao echoed Director Wycoco’s call and also called on distributors and computer resellers to stop selling software. “We are one with the NBI and OMB in going after software pirates. Piracy is stealing and against the law. Dishonest vendors who are caught selling pirated software not only face risk of paying hefty fines but also imprisonment,” Lomibao said.

On the part of the private sector, Chairman John Lesaca of the IP Coalition said: “both the Government and legitimate businesses continue to be adversely affected by piracy, particularly in terms of lost income and tax revenues. This collaboration can count on the full support of the private sector. We hope this new initiative will further strengthen efforts to respect intellectual property rights in software as well as the other industries.

The Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team has already confiscated **over P19 million worth of illegal software**, both from computers loaded with unlicensed software and pirated CDs, since it has started its crackdown against businesses using or selling illegal software.

In September, agents of the Optical Media Board, assisted by the Philippine National Police Regional Special Action Unit, raided stores selling pirated in Shoppesville Plus in San Juan, Orient Pearl in Recto Manila, Harrison Plaza in Malate, Metro Walk in Pasig City and shops in MRT Shaw boulevard. They confiscated about 20,000 copies of pirated installer software, interactive games software, software applications and illegal music files in MP3. The Optical Media Board estimated that the confiscated software amounts to about P2 million.

Agents of the National Bureau of Investigation – Intellectual Property Rights Division simultaneously conducted raids against companies allegedly using unlicensed business software. The National Bureau of Investigation confiscated **35 computers and servers valued at P8.3 million**.

Cable Piracy

¹¹ Source: <http://www.bsa.org/philippines/press/newsreleases/Crackdown-team.cfm>

Based on the Complaint of Cable Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) for violation of R.A. No. 8293 (IP Code), the National Bureau of Investigation – Intellectual Property Rights Division raided the following cable companies, Maguindanao Skycable in Cotabato City and Z-Energy CATV Network in Butuan City. ([Annex: Cable piracy crackdown begins: CASBAA leads raids on renegade cable operators](#)) The estimated value of confiscated items is P8.3 million. ([Annex: Table](#)). As reported by Mr. Simon Twiston Davies, CEO, CASBAA, to the Director General of IP Philippines, this sends the clear message that the Philippine Government will not tolerate theft of pay-TV signals.

In a meeting¹² with Mr. Davies, the Director General said that he is “fully supportive” of the efforts of CASBAA, and considered the recent waves of raid against pirate cable companies as “a good step to curb cable piracy.” He also pointed out to CASBAA the need for greater coordination between CASBAA and IP Philippines whenever there are enforcement or education efforts underway.

Moreover, Mr. Davies discussed the outreach program of CASBAA in the Philippines, like the planned PAY-TV Summit. CASBAA explained that the planned Pay-TV Summit is being seen as a good venue to consult industry players and stakeholders towards the creation of an IP strategy for the industry. The Director General agreed and said that the Summit should pave the way for a “private-public sector partnership” against Pay-TV piracy. The Director General expressed his willingness to be a co-organizer of the Pay-TV Summit.

Copyright

On book piracy the National Book Development Board (NBDB), the agency with primary jurisdiction over textbooks, agreed in its latest Board meeting to make a public declaration that licensing under Presidential Decree No. 1203 has long been ineffective because of the enactment of Republic Act No. 8293 otherwise known as the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines. The NBDB’s public announcement will be accompanied by an extensive information campaign supported by IP Philippines. The NBDB, with the support of IP Philippines, is developing a project to facilitate copyright licensing between copyright owners and universities. Through this scheme, the operations of the photocopy shops will either go legitimate or shut down by competition from university-licensed photocopiers. Publishers and IPR owners will be paid royalties while the students gain access to legitimate copies of books. There should be a corresponding rise in the volume of sales of books. The plan is in accord with the development role or function of IP, a more creative and effective approach to the problem, and is good complement to enforcement actions.

¹² 08 November 2005, IP Philippines.

In addition, because of the difficulty of having copyright owners readily available for initiating charges against book pirates, IP Philippines initiated an enforcement project with the IP unit of the PNP-CIDG, headed by Police Senior Superintendent Noel delos Reyes. As a result, a bookshop was raided in Quezon City. The “buy-bust” operation revealed that the bookshop was publishing and selling books without the copyright authorizations of their international publishers. The raiding team carted a total of 261 pieces of medical books valued at a separate amount of P550,000. The bookstore owners, couple Bruce and Catherine Marquez, were arrested and charged with two counts of copyright infringement.¹³ Considering that this “experiment” was a success, there are plans to conduct more of this “buy-bust” type of enforcement against book piracy.

Effective Prosecution and Adjudication

Admittedly improving prosecution and adjudication is one of the most challenging tasks faced by the GRP. This is where all the efforts of the different government agencies converge and work towards convicting a felon, or forcing a satisfactory settlement out of court. Thus, the strategy is aimed at developing specialized skills for the prosecution and the judiciary, setting up a system of monitoring transparently the progress of litigation, and establishing mechanisms for cohesive interaction of different agencies, such as regular case conferences between prosecutors and law enforcers.

Convictions

From the data presently available more effective prosecution has resulted in six (6) convictions the past year and a half against pirates and counterfeiters, five (5) of which were handed down in 2005 alone.

On 22 June 2004, the Regional Trial Court, Branch 214 of Mandaluyong City promulgated its decision of the case *People of the Philippines vs. Catherine Marquez* (Criminal Case Nos. MC-00-3006 to MC-00-3015). The Court found Ms. Catherine Marquez guilty of 11 counts of violating section 174 in relation to section 177 and sections 187.2 (b), 216 and 217 of R.A. No. 8293 (Copyright Infringement), and was sentenced to suffer the **penalty of 1 year imprisonment and a fine of P 50,000.00 for each count (i.e. PhP 550,000).**

Early this year, on 10 February 2005 a Joint Decision was rendered by Judge Raul De Leon, Presiding Judge, Regional Trial Court, Branch 258, Parañaque City, in “*People vs. Eugene Li,*” Criminal Cases Nos. 03-0320 to 03-22. The sentences rendered were as follows:

- 1. In Criminal Case No. 03-0320 (violation of Section 217 of RA 8293), Mr. Eugene Li was sentenced to suffer the penalty of 2 years imprisonment and fine of P 100,000.00.**

¹³ The raid at their owned Multi-Links Bookshop located in Quezon City was covered by two search warrants issued by Manila Regional Trial Court, Branch 24 Judge Antonio M. Eugenio.

2. Criminal Case No. 03-0321 (violation of section 155 in relation to section 170 of RA 8293 [trademark infringement]: **2 years and 6 months imprisonment and a fine of P 100,000.00**)
3. In Criminal Case No. 03-0322 (violation of section 168 in relation to section 170 of RA 8293 [unfair competition]), Mr. Eugene Li was sentenced to suffer the **penalty of 2 years to 6 months imprisonment and a fine of P 100,000.00.**

Just a few months ago, a Joint Decision dated 08 August 2005 in Criminal Cases Nos. 03-2400 and 03-2401 entitled "*People vs. Fu Lin Gutierrez*" and "*People vs. Simon Chan*" was handed by Judge Sixto Marella, Jr., Regional Trial Court, Branch 138, Makati City. Both accused were convicted of the offense of Trademark Infringement under Section 155, Republic Act No. 8293 (1998), otherwise known as the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines, for selling counterfeit copies of PlayStation computer games software, in violation of Sony Computer Entertainment, Inc.'s intellectual property rights to said products. Both accused were sentenced to suffer the **penalty of 2 to 5 years imprisonment and to pay a fine of P 100,000.00 each.**¹⁴ Judge Marella, one of the three judges selected by the SC's Office of the Court Administrator to specialize in IPR, heard and decided these cases in 18 months.

Specialized IP Courts

Judge Sixto Marella Jr. handed down the two latest convictions in only 18 months. It is, thus, fitting that the Office of the Court Administrator and the Philippine Judicial Academy selected Judge Marella's court as one of the three courts that would get specialized intervention for IP capability building. Specialized IP courts is one of the main strategic pillars for effective prosecution and adjudication. Expert judges and courts will force the other agencies of government to align their knowledge, skills and activities towards IP specialization. They will have no choice, but to improve their performance. Although establishing IP courts cannot be effectively done overnight, the process of specialization has begun and due to IP Philippines' advocacy the judiciary has started its internal adjustments to accommodate specialized courts.

After the 21 July 2005 meeting between the Director General of IP-Philippines and Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide, the Supreme Court En Banc issued a Resolution (A.M. No. 05-7-15-SC) on 26 July 2005 referring the proposal of the IP-Philippines entitled "The Need for Special IP Courts" to the Office of the Court Administrator for study

¹⁴ The case was initiated by the NBI in October 2000, when its agents raided accused's retail store in Makati Cinema Square, Makati City, and seized about 5,696 counterfeit copies of PlayStation games software. The trial lasted for only 18 months, under Judge Sixto Marella, Jr.

and recommendation as to “which of the courts in the areas indicated in the proposal may be designated as IP courts and which other courts in areas where there are many IP cases may similarly be designated.” ([Annex: Resolution A.M. No. 05-7-15-SC](#))

On 18 October 2005, IP-Philippines submitted its proposed Memorandum of Agreement to the Supreme Court of the Philippines that would specify the objectives of the undertaking for specialized training and support for IP courts. On the same date, the Supreme Court issued an en banc resolution referred the proposed memorandum to the Philippine Judicial Academy and the Office of the Court Administrator for study and recommendation.

On 27 October 2005, the Director General of IP-Philippines met with Justice Ameurfina A. Melencio-Herrera, Justice Justo P. Torres (Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the Philippine Judicial Academy [PHILJA] respectively), and members of the IPR Group of PHILJA (Court of Appeals Justice Estela M. Perlas-Bernabe, Makati Regional Trial Court Executive Judge Sixto C. Marella, Jr., and Manila Regional Trial Court Executive Judge Antonio M. Eugenio, Jr.

On 15 November 2005, IP-Philippines submitted the Project Document on Training of IP Court Judges and Personnel, and the Training Module. ([Annex: Project Document and Training Module](#))

On 16 November 2005, Director Carmen G. Peralta and Atty. Anton M. Elicaño, IP-Philippines Consultant, represented the IP Philippines in the PHILJA Academic Council Meeting, which deliberated on the proposed Project Document and the Training Module.

At this stage of the talks, the designation of special IP courts is going through a process that starts with special IP training for the judges and staff of three selected courts in Manila (Executive Judge Antonio M. Eugenio, Jr.), Quezon City (Judge Reynaldo B. Daway) and Makati (Executive Judge Sixto Marella Jr.). It was also agreed to study as a model Thailand’s Intellectual Property and International Trade Court. Aware that the Thai special court also had to justify the volume of cases before creating a special court, there is a possibility that IP cases will be put together with international trade cases.

To start the study of the Thai court, Deputy Court Administrator of the Supreme Court of the Philippines Jose P. Perez, Quezon City Regional Trial Court, Branch 90, Reynaldo B. Daway and Atty. Joy Amethyst A. Martinez, Attorney III, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Philippine Judicial Academy were sent to Bangkok to attend the Study Visit to the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court (CIPITC) and

Thai Supreme Court¹⁵ and the EU-ASEAN Symposium on IP Enforcement by Specialized Courts, Challenges and the Recent Developments in IPR.¹⁶

In addition, as part of the training program of IP Philippines, Makati Regional Trial Court, Branch 138, Judge Sixto Marella, Jr. and Associate Justice Estela M. Perlas-Bernabe of the Court of Appeals were sent to Singapore to attend the WIPO CISAC Joint Regional Colloquium for the Judiciary on Copyright and Related Rights.¹⁷

The IP Philippines training program for court personnel (Judges, Clerks of Court, Sheriffs, Stenographers and Legal Researchers) of the selected courts mentioned above will be done in partnership with the Philippine Judicial Academy and the Office of the Court Administrator. The training is planned for the 1st quarter of 2006.

Internally, there are encouraging signs in the judiciary that shows clear directions towards greater attention to IP cases. The Office of the Court Administrator's database for case monitoring nationwide already segregates IP violations as a separate category in court dockets whereas before cases were put under the traditional categories of "criminal, civil and commercial." Even at the appellate level, through the efforts of Court of Appeals Justice Estela M. Perlas-Bernabe the appealed IP cases have also been identified and segregated from the dockets. Based on both sources of data, there are 329 IP violations nationwide, with the following courts having the largest volume: Makati, Quezon City, and Manila ([Annex: 2005 Report on IPR Court Cases – Office of the Court Administrator, Supreme Court of the Philippines](#)). On appeal, there are 22 cases pending in the Court of Appeals. ([Annex: IP Cases Pending as of 03 November 2005](#))

Department of Justice:

As mentioned, on 09 June 2005, Secretary Gonzales issued a Memorandum Order directing Regional State, Provincial and City Prosecutors to submit a list of all cases pending before their respective offices and before the courts involving violation of Republic Act No. 8293 otherwise known as the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines. As a result, the Secretariat has an inventory of these cases at the DOJ. In its records, DOJ has disposed 510 cases and has now 1,050 cases pending.

Recently, Secretary Gonzales issued Department Order No. 657 reconstituting the Task Force on Anti-Intellectual Property Piracy.¹⁸ The Task Force is under the supervision of Undersecretary Ernesto L. Pineda. It is composed of one (1) Chairperson and five (5) members. However, as of this writing, Undersecretary Pineda is about to recommend adding more experienced IP prosecutors to the IP unit.

¹⁵ 28-30 November 2005.

¹⁶ 01-02 December 2005.

¹⁷ 14-15 November 2005.

¹⁸ 21 November 2005.

In addition, the DOJ agreed to have regular “case conferences” with IP Philippines and law enforcement agencies to ensure cohesive and effective prosecution of IP violations. There have been three case conferences so far, but had to be suspended by the pending reconstitution of the DOJ’s IP unit.

An interesting initiative of the DOJ’s IP unit is the filing of a court complaint against a mall owner for the illegal acts of a lessee. This is a test case that the inter-agency secretariat is monitoring closely.

Bureau of Legal Affairs – IP Philippines

In strengthening the BLA, IP Philippines hired five (5) additional Hearing Officers this year. IP Philippines also amended its rules for inter partes cases providing for a summary procedure. ([Annex: Office Order No. 79, series of 2005](#)) and ([Annex: BLA Memorandum Circular No. 03, series of 2005](#)) The IP Philippines also put in place mandatory mediation proceedings for IPR violation cases filed in the BLA. ([Annex: Office Order No. 134, series of 2004](#)) For this purpose, IP Philippines will reactivate twenty-two (22) employees who were trained in mediation under a project with the USAID last year. In their “pilot” mediation of actual cases last year resulted in 23 out of 28 cases resolved satisfactorily. The IP Philippines aims to offer the BLA’s administrative adjudication process and mediation system as an alternative venue to IP owners.¹⁹ The Director

¹⁹ R.A. No. 8293, Section 10. *The Bureau of Legal Affairs.*- The Bureau of Legal Affairs shall have the following functions:

10.1 Hear and decide opposition to the application for registration of marks; cancellation of trademarks; subject to the provisions of Section 64, cancellation of patents, utility models, and industrial designs; and petitions for compulsory licensing of patents;

10.2 (a) Exercise original jurisdiction in administrative complaints for violations of laws involving intellectual property rights: *Provided*, That its jurisdiction is limited to complaints where the total damages claimed are not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000): *Provided further*, That availment of the provisional remedies may be granted in accordance with the Rules of Court. The Director of Legal Affairs shall have the power to hold and punish for contempt all those who disregard orders or writs issued in the course of the proceedings.

(b) After formal investigation, the Director for Legal Affairs may impose one (1) or more of the following administrative penalties: (i) The issuance of a cease and desist order which shall specify the acts that the respondent shall cease and desist from and shall require him to submit a compliance report within a reasonable time which shall be fixed in the order;

(ii) The acceptance of a voluntary assurance of compliance or discontinuance as may be imposed. Such voluntary assurance may include one or more of the following: (1) An assurance to comply with the provisions of the intellectual property law violated; (2) An assurance to refrain from engaging in unlawful and unfair acts practices subject of the formal investigation; (3) An assurance to recall, replace, repair, or refund the money value of defective goods distributed in commerce; and (4) An assurance to reimburse the complainant the expenses and costs incurred in prosecuting the case in the Bureau of Legal Affairs.

The Director of Legal Affairs may also require the respondent to submit periodic compliance reports and file a bond to guarantee compliance of his undertaking;

(iii) The condemnation or seizure of products which are subject of the offense. The goods seized hereunder shall be disposed of in such a manner as may be deemed appropriate by the Director of Legal Affairs, such as by sale, donation to distressed local governments or to charitable or relief institutions, exportation, recycling into other goods, or any combination thereof, under such guidelines as he may provide;

General has offered this alternative to most of the IP owners and associations in his dialogues with them.

The BLA has disposed 114 inter partes cases and 18 intellectual property violations cases from January to November 2005. In one case, the BLA ordered the Respondent to pay P500,000.00 exemplary damages and P100,000.00 attorney's fees. Respondent permanently enjoined from pursuing his trademark application for the mark YOUNGS TOWN and from using it on sardines and mackerel

Public Outreach: IP Information and Education Campaign

Information Dissemination Projects of IP Philippines

From January to December 2005, IP Philippines organized and participated in a total of forty-four (44) seminars and workshops across the Philippines. In these activities IP Philippines gave lectures on IPR and distributed IPR literature. These seminars were designed to target several key and influential sectors in society. Ten (10) IPR Awareness seminars were conducted for government agencies, among which are the Bureau of Agriculture Research's Scientists and Researchers – Department of Agriculture, Philippine Council for Industry and Energy Research and Development, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development System, Bureau of Animal Industry, and the Barangay Consumer Assistance and Protection Team. ([Annex: List of Seminars/Trainings](#))

For the private sector, fifteen (15) seminars were conducted. The main beneficiaries were small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The private sector partners from these sectors are the Chinese-Filipino Business Club, Philippine Franchise Association, Intellectual Property Foundation and Philippine Retailers Association (PRA), among others.

Targeting universities and schools to promote IPR awareness was also part of public outreach activities, wherein a total of eight (8) seminars were conducted.

(iv) The forfeiture of paraphernalia and all real and personal properties which have been used in the commission of the offense;

(v) The imposition of administrative fines in such amount as deemed reasonable by the Director of Legal Affairs, which shall in no case be less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000) nor more than One hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000). In addition, an additional fine of not more than One thousand pesos (P1,000) shall be imposed for each day of continuing violation;

(vi) The cancellation of any permit, license, authority, or registration which may have been granted by the Office, or the suspension of the validity thereof for such period of time as the Director of Legal Affairs may deem reasonable which shall not exceed one (1) year;

(vii) The withholding of any permit, license, authority, or registration which is being secured by the respondent from the Office;

(viii) The assessment of damages;

(ix) Censure; and

(x) Other analogous penalties or sanctions.

10.3 The Director General may by Regulations establish the procedure to govern the implementation of this Section.

For the inter-agency task force, thirty-one (31) participants were sent by IP Philippines to foreign seminar/training courses on the enforcement of IPR. Out of the thirty-one (31) participants, five (5) were from IP Philippines and twenty-six (26) were external: BOC (4), DTI (1), SC (2), CA (1), DOJ (5), Regional Trial Court (4), Law Firm (1), NBI (2), PNP (2), NTC (1), other Government Agency (1), Academe (1) and IP Association (1).

On whether the public outreach programs of IP Philippines are effective worth noting are the findings of two Public Relations experts who came to the Philippines on November 14-18 this year to evaluate these programs under the EC-ASEAN Programme on the Modernization of Intellectual Property Systems in ASEAN.²⁰ The purpose of the EC mission was to:

1. Evaluate the public outreach program of IP Philippines with the end in view of assessing the impact and reach of such program;
2. Provide tools that will assist the Office in assessing and evaluating its public outreach programs, and
3. Recommend modes of expanding the public outreach program of the Office.

According to the experts' findings, the public awareness, education and outreach programmes conducted by the IP Philippines were professionally handled and are creating terrific value.

Regular press releases (February-November 2005)

Since February 2005, proactive engagement with the media has produced more than 500 news reports on IPR enforcement, published almost daily in all nine (9) major dailies and its online versions, covered in the Nation, Metro Manila and Business sections, which in turn, serves as a warning to violators of IPR.

Most IPR stories were on raids conducted by the enforcement agencies of the government, anti-piracy drives launched by LGUs and public-private partnerships to counter the proliferation of counterfeiting in the country.

²⁰ Under the national component for the Philippines of the EC-ASEAN Programme on the Modernization of IP Systems in ASEAN, two Public Relations Experts visited the IP Philippines last 14-18 November 2005 primarily to: (a) evaluate the public outreach program of IP Philippines with the end in view of assessing the impact and reach of such program, (b) provide tools that will assist the Office in assessing and evaluating its public outreach programs, and (c) recommend modes of expanding the public outreach program of the Office.

Radio broadcasting

In addition to print media, IP Philippines has used radio to broadcast to increase public awareness about the importance of IP. The Director General co-hosts a weekly radio program for consumers at DZMM, considered as the most credible and trusted AM station in the country because of its consistent high ratings and numerous awards.²¹

The radio program provides consumers information about the Consumer Act and other consumer related laws, including the Intellectual Property Code. The program also has a segment that warns consumers about sub-standard and fake products that can endanger their lives. In addition, there is a segment devoted to Filipino innovations, which promote the importance of IP and the IP System.

Internet

Complementing the public information reach of regular press coverage is the IP Philippines website. The website has more information now about IP news and events, data about enforcement and prosecution. A separate enforcement report was added last September 2005 to the website. IP Philippines' website received a total of 37,621 hits the past three months.²² ([Annex: Statistics Summary](#))

Department of Education: Mainstreaming IP education

The most ambitious project for public education about IPR is the mainstreaming of IPR in the curricula of elementary and high schools nationwide. This is the only effective way to promote respect and appreciation of IP, but it will take some time and resources to see it through. In initial discussions between the Director General and DepEd Secretary Fe Hidalgo, the latter requested IP Philippines to conduct some orientation seminars on intellectual property, particularly on copyright, for public school teachers. Further discussions, however, led to agreements for mainstreaming children and user friendly modules on copyright and intellectual property rights into the elementary and high school system. A draft Memorandum of Agreement has all ready been prepared and sent to the DepED, and the IP Philippines expects the signing to take place early next year.

Coincidentally, Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada introduced Senate Bill No. 1869 entitled "An Act Requiring The Teaching Of Intellectual Property Ownership Particularly Copyright Law As Part Of The Curriculum Of All Primary, Secondary And Tertiary Schools In The Country, And For Other Purposes." ([Annex: Senate Bill No. 1869](#)) IP Philippines has included this Bill in the IP Legislative Agenda.

²¹ ABS-CBN has been of service to the Filipino people for more than 50 years. Part of their service is having an AM station with a 24-hour programming, which contains different types of programs that cater to the needs of the Filipino people.

²² September – 12,203 hits, October – 12,052, and November – 13,366 hits.

Plans for influencing the tertiary level of education are also underway with the formation of the IP professors network, composed of lecturers on IP from different disciplines. Currently, there are twelve (12) law schools that offer IP law as a two or three unit subject while other universities offer basic IP courses integrated with other disciplines, such as Engineering and Business Ethics.²³

Enhancing the Policy Environment

For the past several years the GRP has been laying the foundations for a legal and policy environment conducive for IPR from the passage of the Intellectual Property Code to the Optical Media Act. The GRP continues to improve or enhance the policy environment by formulating an IP Legislative Agenda for the Legislature.

Internet Treaties

IP Philippines and the inter-agency group support the two (2) House Bills pending at the House of Representatives, seeking the amendment of the copyright provisions of Republic Act No. 8293 (IP Code), which focus on the incorporation of the provisions in the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT), collectively known as the WIPO Internet Treaties These bills are the following:

1. **Senate Bill No. 1973** – introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara entitled: An Act Amending Certain Provisions of Republic Act No. 8293 Also Known As “The Intellectual Property Code Of The Philippines” And For Other Purposes.”
2. **House Bill No. 322** – introduced by Representative Imee R. Marcos entitled: An Act Amending Certain Provisions of Republic Act No. 8293, Entitled “An Act Prescribing the Intellectual Property Code and Establishing the Intellectual Property Office, Providing for Its Powers and Functions and For Other Purposes.
3. **House Bill No. 3308** – introduced by Representative Joey Sarte Salceda entitled: An Act Amending Certain Provisions of Republic Act No. 8293, Entitled “An Act Prescribing the Intellectual Property Code and Establishing the Intellectual Property Office, Providing for Its Powers and Functions and For Other Purposes.

²³ (a) Ateneo de Manila University Law School, (b) Manuel L. Quezon University School of Law, (c) University of the Philippines College of Law, (d) San Beda College of Law, (e) Arellano University Law Foundation, (f) Lyceum of the Philippines College of Law, (g) San Sebastian College Recoletos Manila Institute of Law, (h) Cagayan Colleges of Tuguegarao College of Law, (i) San Carlos University in Cebu City, (j) Jose Rizal University, (k) Manila law College Foundation, and (l) University of Perpetual Help – Rizal.

While the GOP's accession to the WCT and WPPT in October 2002 made the provisions of the treaties part of the laws of our land, the IP Philippines is of the view that the amendments will make our organic laws one of the most modern in the world. Internally, IP Philippines has formed the IP Policy Team reporting directly to the Director General and drives the policy agenda for IP.

IP Philippines proactively participates in the Committee hearings and Technical Working Group meetings of the House of Representatives. On 07 May 2005, the Director General of IP Philippines conducted an Executive Briefing on the implementation of the IP Code before the Committee on Trade and Industry of the House of Representatives.

On 21 November 2005, the Director General and Deputy Director General Ireneo M. Galicia of IP Philippines attended the briefing called by Representative Junie E. Cua, Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Industry, and lectured on Copyright Law and the features of the WIPO Internet Treaties.

Bills on Cybercrime:

The Committee on Information Communications Technology of the House of Representatives deliberated four (4) cybercrime bills, namely:

1. **House Bill No. 1246** – introduced by Representative Eric D. Singson entitled: An Act Preventing and Penalizing Computer Fraud, Abuses and Other Cyber-Related Fraudulent Activities, and Creating for the Purpose the Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center, Prescribing Its Powers and Functions, and Appropriating Funds therefore.
2. **House Bill No. 2093** – introduced by Representative Amado T. Espino, Jr. entitled: An Act Defining Cybercrime, Providing for Prevention, Suppression and Imposition of Penalties Therefor, and for Other Purposes.
3. **House Bill No. 2528** – introduced by Representative Nanette Castelo-Daza entitled: An Act Providing Protection Against Computer Fraud, Abuses and Other Cyber-Related Fraudulent Activities, Providing Penalties Therefor and For Other Purposes.
4. **House Bill No. 3777** – introduced by Representative Harlin Cast Abayon entitled: “An Act Defining Cybercrime, Providing for Prevention, Suppression and Imposition of Penalties Therfor, and For Other Purposes.”

The bills were referred to the Technical Working Group for consolidation. The consolidated version was approved during the Regular Committee meeting on 24 August 2005.

CONCLUSION AND LOOKING FORWARD

From the foregoing, the GRP has shown political will and national commitment to strengthening the IPR Regime in the Philippines and it will continue to do so because it is in its national interest. IP is growing in importance to the Philippine's copyright industries, software sector, design industry and other sectors of the economy. The GRP is also very much aware of the importance of IP in its trade and investment climate.

No less than President Macapagal-Arroyo has given her full support in the campaign against piracy, framing the debate into a moral imperative. Vice President Noli de Castro, the secretaries of justice, interior and local government, trade and industry, education, and the heads of OMB, BOC, NBI, PNP, NTC and other agencies have publicly proclaimed their full commitment to IPR.

Five months of implementing the 2005-06 Action Plan has produced substantial gains and concrete results that have established a momentum that can and ought to be sustained.

Strengthening institutional linkages and inter-agency cooperation was, and will remain, the priority in the GRP's campaign against piracy. IP Philippines filled the leadership gap and embraced its role as coordinator of inter-agency work, investing time, people and resources by setting up a Secretariat, with a full time staff, and a team of computer programmers from its own MIS to develop the software for an interactive web-based database. The Secretariat is the driver of the inter-agency efforts, convening IP units regularly, facilitating meetings of principals, drafting and negotiating with the DG agreements, monitoring operations and cases, and building up the database. Institutional linkages are stronger with the personal and professional relationships forged by the Director General of IP Philippines and heads of other agencies, and his presiding over the regular interagency meetings. Partnerships with the private sector has also been strengthened by regular dialogue with the stakeholders, foremost among them, the broad based IP Coalition.

In the pipeline are memoranda of agreements with the NTC, DILG-PNP, DepEd, and the Supreme Court that are expected to be signed early 2006. The IP Philippines and the inter-agency group will continue crafting and implementing agreements with agencies and the private sector that clarify roles, jurisdictions and responsibilities to further strengthen the IP regime. In the first quarter of 2006, other institutional linkages will also be re-established and reinvigorated to support the anti-piracy efforts. For instance, the FTI field offices can be used for monitoring fake products alongside its mandate to monitor substandard products in the market. Further, it will also be necessary to re-activate selected DTI offices outside Metro Manila to hear and decide cases of violations where the amount involved is PhP 200,000 or less. This has been proven effective in the past.

A database for IP enforcement and prosecution, a critical element for analysis and decision-making and for ensuring transparency in operations, is now functioning. In fact, this is a standard element in all linkages and agreements with

other government agencies and a good indicator on the level of cooperation being extended by an agency. As mentioned earlier, this will be an interactive web-based tool for the GRP in the fight against piracy by the middle of 2006.

Enforcement has picked up and been sustained with a noticeable shift to strategic areas of notoriety resulting in visible reduction of retail pirates and pirated goods in notorious areas like Greenhills and Makati Cinema Square. Enforcement operations covered 280 areas around the country yielding 4,623,960 pieces of fake goods with an estimated value of PhP 1,084,466,010.00, without including operations of local PNP units. Of these enforcement operations, 1,370 were inspections of retail outlets and production areas while 1,044 were by search warrants. Strategic interventions were also visible against production areas and equipment, with eleven (11) replicating machines seized by the OMB and BOC. A remarkable improvement in enforcement is BOC's operations. The BOC issued 26 alert/hold-orders and confiscated 3,145,560 items with an estimated value of P 392,722,480.00. The Bureau is now an active player in inter-agency coordination, the TIFA dialogues, and has a commitment to make permanent its IP unit in 2006.

The special sectoral campaigns for business software piracy and cable piracy have proven to be effective in focusing public attention on this area of violations. The GRP will continue these campaigns, and will include the copyright industries, particularly book piracy. The NBDB has committed to make a public declaration very soon about the repeal of PD 1203, and with the support of IP Philippines launch an information campaign. The most opportune time for this endeavor is first quarter of 2006 for a build up towards the start of regular classes in June. The successful experiment of "buy-bust" operations will be replicated in 2006. However, mechanisms of cooperation should be established between copyright owners and the inter-agency group.

Prosecution and adjudication has also achieved remarkable improvement. Five (5) criminal convictions with deterrent level penalties for violations of the IP Code were handed down by the Regional Trial Courts of Paranaque and Makati, Metro Manila. The penalties for copyright violations and trademark infringement ranged from a minimum of 2 years to a maximum of 5 years, with fines not lower than PhP 100,000. In the meantime the BLA of IP Philippines disposed of 114 administrative inter partes cases and eighteen (18) IP violations cases.

A more strategic move, however, to improve prosecution and adjudication is the Judiciary's support and cooperation in setting up specialized IP courts in the country. In several meetings and discussions with the Chief Justice, the Court Administrator and the Philippine Judicial Academy it was agreed that though the volume of IP cases at present do not justify a special court, the process of specialization in IP for the judiciary must be implemented immediately. Thus, three courts in Makati, Manila and Quezon city have been selected for specialized IP training and other interventions. The Thailand Special IP and International Trade Court is being studied now as the model for the Philippines and a delegation from the Judiciary was sent to Thailand recently to observe first hand the workings of the Thai court. A positive sign of the specialization process is that IP violations are now a separate category in the case monitoring system of the Court Administrator and IP cases have also been segregated in the Court of Appeals

monitoring system. This is significant because the traditional categories for case monitoring of the Court Administrator are simply “criminal,” “civil,” and “commercial.”

On the part of the special IP unit of prosecutors in the DOJ, the IP unit has been reconstituted and is now headed by a DOJ Undersecretary who is an active participant in the inter-agency group. The DOJ will also be an active participant in the TIC process as soon as the final list of IP unit members is released. The DOJ Secretary has also given explicit instructions to all field prosecutors to submit status reports to the central office to monitor the progress of IP cases.

Public outreach activities to raise awareness about IPR improved dramatically this year. There were more training conducted this year for specific influential sectors, among these, schools, government agencies and the SME sector. Proactive engagement with the media has produced more than 500 news reports on IPR enforcement from February this year to date, published almost daily in all nine (9) major dailies and its online versions, covered in the Nation, Metro Manila and Business sections, which in turn, serves as a warning to violators of IPR. Most IPR stories which ran in the papers were on raids conducted by the enforcement agencies of the government, anti-piracy drives launched by LGUs and public-private partnerships to counter the proliferation of counterfeiting in the country.

Medium term and long term plans with the DepEd has also started to mainstream IP education in elementary and high schools. A MOA should be ready for signing in the first quarter of 2006.

The strategy in improving the policy environment now includes local government units. Regular consultations with the Chairmen of the Committee of Trade and Industry of the two houses of Congress have resulted in consistent committee hearings and briefings; thus, keeping the bills alive in the legislative mill. The IP Philippines has prepared an IP Legislative Agenda for lobbying and advocacy, and the WIPO internet treaties is on top of the list. Promoting passage of local ordinances is a project that will continue through the partnership with the DILG and the IP Coalition.

Although there are still problems in piracy and counterfeiting, there is no simple or short-term solution in the Philippines and almost anywhere in the world, including in developed countries. But, with just five months of implementing the 2005 Action Plan the GRP has achieved substantial and concrete gains in its fight against piracy and laid solid basis for more effective anti-piracy work. A momentum has clearly started; there is a renewed vigor in the campaign that will bear more fruit in 2006 and the years to come.

Based on the substantial progress of the GRP in 2005, particularly in the implementation of the Action Plan for the past five (5) months, and a momentum that has been built up, the GRP deserves to be removed from the Special 301 Watch List.

LIST OF ANNEXES

1. PGMA's Speech during the Closing Program of the World Bank 2005 Philippine Development Forum
2. Government of the Republic of the Philippines Action Plan
3. United States Government Proposed Action Plan
4. Office Order No. 64, series of 2005 dated 15 June 2005
5. Press Release: DOJ and IPO War on Intellectual Property Piracy
6. DOJ Memorandum Order dated 09 June 2005
7. Department Order No. 657 dated 21 November 2005
8. Press Release: IPO proposes IPR protection measures to DILG
9. IP Philippines-IP Coalition Memorandum of Agreement
10. Press Release: Quezon City Bans Pirated Products
11. IP Philippines Intellectual Property Cases Monitoring System
12. IP Philippines Website
13. Table: Summary of IP Enforcement Data
14. Table: Enforcement Activities in Strategic Areas
15. Table: Summary of Enforcement Activities in Strategic Areas
16. Table: Bureau of Customs IP Enforcement Data
17. Table: Optical Media Board IP Enforcement Data
18. Table: Number of Replicating Machines Seized by the OMB
19. Press Release: Over 1 Million Pirated Optical Discs Seized in Record Philippines Raid
20. Press Release: Over 500,000 Pirated Optical Discs Seized in Manila Shopping Mall Raid
21. Press Release: Four New Optical Disc Replicating Machines Worth \$1 Million Seized in Manila Factory Raid
22. Table: Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation Detection Group IP Enforcement Data
23. Table: National Bureau of Investigation IP Enforcement Data
24. Press Release: 2 nabbed in Cebu for software piracy
25. Press Release: Anti-Piracy Gains
26. Press Release: Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team Launched To Combat Software Piracy
27. Press Release: BSA commends Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team's progress
28. Press Release: Cable piracy crackdown begins: CASBAA leads raids on renegade cable operators
29. Table: Estimated Value of Confiscated Items
30. En Banc Resolution A.M. No. 05-7-15-SC
31. Project Document and Training Module
32. 2005 Report on IPR Court Cases—Office of the Court Administrator, Supreme Court of the Philippines
33. List of IP Cases Pending with the Court of Appeals as of 03 November 2005
34. Office Order No. 79, series of 2005
35. BLA Memorandum Circular No. 03, series of 2005
36. Office Order No. 134, series of 2004
37. List of Seminars/Trainings
38. Statistics Summary
39. Senate Bill No. 1869
40. Chronology of Key activities

CHRONOLOGY OF KEY ACTIVITIES
(February to December)

Legend:

- Activity
- News Article/Press Release
- Interview/Radio Broadcast

DATE	ACTIVITY
FEBRUARY	
14 February	Malacañang reports: Arroyo appoints DTI undersecretary as IPO Director General
15 February	Malacañang reports: Induction rites of IPO Director General Cristobal
17 February	Malacañang reports: New economic team
	19th Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement Agency Panel (IPREAP) Meeting
21 February	BFAD reports: BFAD pursues fight against fake drugs
22 February	Optical Media Board (OMB) Regular Board Meeting
	Tarlac City reports: Seizure of P5M worth of fake drugs
	NBI reports: Seizure of P4-million pirated Microsoft computer software
23 February	Courtesy Call and meeting with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) officials re enhancement of IPO's Patent Administration Computerized System (PACSYS) With JICA Short-Term expert Toru Yamazaki who will assist JICA in the project
	OMB reports: Over 5 tons of pirated DVDs destroyed in Clark
	IPO reports: Gov't hopeful on US IPR watchlist removal
	IPO reports: IPR watchdog queries RP body drive's sustainability http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/1.doc
	Launch of IP Coalition's Country Report - The IPC Report I: Copyright in the Philippines 2004 (The IPC Philippine Report Series)
24 February	Launch of IP Coalition's Country Report - The IPC Report I: Copyright in the Philippines 2004 (The IPC Philippine Report Series)

26 February	NBI reports: Seizure of P21M fake underwear
27 February	NBI reports: NBI renews anti-piracy drive; 5 SM IT shops collared

MARCH

2 March	Meeting with French officials re status of IP in RP With Economic Commercial Counselor Yves Cadilhon & Mr. Samuel Lefebvre of France Embassy
3 March	Courtesy call of US Embassy Officials re IPO's strategic plans; IPO's role as alternative IPR dispute resolution venue; programs with LGUs & plans to elevate IPR awareness among Filipinos With US Embassy Economic Counselor for Economic Section Robert Ludan and Economic Officer Shawn Waddoups http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/L.JPG
4 March	Media Interview with Graphic Today re Bio Piracy Discussion of pending issues in the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) negotiations in preparation of JPEPA Working Level meetings
5 March	DZMM Regular Radio Program
7 March	IPO issued press release: IPO upgrades system for speedy grant of patents DA reports: DA to protect tech innovations, inventions Executive Briefing on IPR Code With Lower House Chairman of Committee on Trade & Industry Rep. Junie Cua, Chairman of Subcommittee on IPR Rep. John Duavit and Rep. Imee Marcos
8 March	BOI reports: Immigration signs pact to protect local artists
9 March	President GMA announces war vs. DVD piracy http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/2.doc Meeting with French officials re IPR Enforcement on the Celine trademark case With French Foreign Trade Minister H.E. Francois Loos with 30-member business delegation ABS CBN Channel 2 TV Patrol live interview on war against DVD piracy
10 March	IPO issued press release: IPO to strengthen ties with IP Enforcement agencies and private IP advocates Courtesy visit of the Intellectual Property Alumni Association of the Philippines (IPAAP) With IPAAP President Interview with Philippine Graphic re Bio Piracy Meeting with IP Coalition re how IPC can help IPO on IIPA 301 Report With IP Coalition members
11 March	Ceremonial Shredding of Seized Pirated Optical Media With OMB Chairman Edu Manzano Meeting with US Trade Officials re update on IP issues, criminal complaints against Greenhills and updates on IPO

12 March	DZMM regular radio program
14 March	IPO issued press release: IPO orchestrates coordinated IP enforcement to beef up IPR protection http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/3.doc
	DTI reports: Chamber of Cosmetics, DTI and BFAD warn public on fake products
15 March	Launch of Business Software Alliance's Detox Your PC campaign To promote healthy business environment using licensed software
	Courtesy call of Business Software Alliance (BSA) to update new IPO DG on BSA's program for 2005 With BSA Director for Enforcement – Asia Tarun Sawney
16 March	IPO issued press release: IPO to ensure call center's use of licensed software http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/4.doc
	Roundtable for IP-Related Business Development Services With the Department of Science and Technology Application and Promotion Institute (DOST-TAPI), Technology Management Center of UP Diliman, Technological Management Foundation. To acquaint participants with the different services offered by various IP organizations
17 March	Courtesy visit of US Trade Officials With Assistant US Trade Representative Barbara Wiesel and US Embassy Economic Counselor – Eco Section Robert Ludan
	Meeting with the SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) re project on setting up a network on BioDiversity Protection With SEARCA's Mars Ticsay
18 March	Courtesy call of Pfizer Philippines re areas where Pfizer can be of help to IPO With Pfizer President Cherry Bacarro and Pfizer Corporate Affairs Director Karen Villanueva
	Meeting with Vazquez Building Systems Corp. (VBSC) re problem on IP protection of an innovative idea of a socialized housing for underprivileged Filipinos With VBSC President and former National President of the Filipino Inventors' Society Mr. Edgardo Vazquez
	Courtesy call of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) officers With WIPO ODG Executive Director- Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Development Yo Takagi and WIPO Singapore Head Rowena Paguio
19 March	The First Senior Economic Officials – WIPO Consultations
	DZMM regular radio program

20 March	NTC reports: Intellectual property unit to be created under NTC
21 March	NTC reports: NTC urged to penalize cable firm for piracy IPO issued press release: IPO supports creation of NTC IP unit
21-22 March	Seminar on Antitrust and Competition Policy law
26 March	DZMM Regular Radio Program
30 March	IPO issued press release: IPO gives young Filipino inventors incentives for patent application
31 March	Kapihan cum Breakfast forum With Intellectual Property Alumni Association of the Philippines President Atty. Josephine Santiago Public Hearing on the proposed memo circular on the Creation of an Intellectual Property Unit under the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) Meeting with IP Association of the Philippines President (IPAP) Atty. Aleli Quirino and ACCRA law firm Atty. Bridge Aldeguer Courtesy visit of the IP Association of the Philippines (IPAP) officers and Board of Directors First Regional Roundtable Conference on Optical Disc Piracy in SouthEast Asia Hosted by the Optical Media Board (OMB)

APRIL

1 April	GMA network reports: Pirate-free network
2 April	DZMM regular radio program
7 April	Beyond Cable Holdings reports: To use encryption boxes to ward off pirates Asean-USDOJ-USPTO Workshop on Effective Practices in Combating Trade in Counterfeit Hard Goods IPO Philippines DG as one of the speakers in the 5-day workshop organized by the ASEAN Secretariat, US Dept of Justice and United States Patent & Trademark Office. Bangkok, Thailand Panel Discussion on “How Government Fight Counterfeiting: Public Policy and Legislative Choices” IPO Philippines DG as a Panelist Bangkok, Thailand
11 April	IPO issued press release: IPO urges LGUs to step up IPR enforcement http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/5.doc NBI reports: Seizure of P7-million fake Lee T-shirts
11-15 April	First Session of the Inter-Sessional Environmental Meeting on a Dev’t Agenda Geneva, Switzerland

	4th Session of the Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property Geneva, Switzerland
12 April	IPO issued press release: IPO taps the academe to protect student inventors' IPRs
14 April	IPO issued press release: IPO backs creation of ASEAN IP business development service hub 6th International Cable Congress and Exhibit with a theme: 'FCAP: Leading beyond Entertainment' / Roundtable Discussion on CATV New Policies and Guidelines Attended by IPO Deputy Director General Ireneo M. Galicia. Annual gathering of 800 members of the Federation of International Cable TV Association of the Philippines (FICAP), Cable TV operators, programmers, suppliers & manufacturers organized by FICAP.
22 April	NBI press release: Seizure of fake Lee jeans in Binondo Meeting with the Optical Media Board (OMB) and US Embassy officials With OMB Chairman Edu Manzano, David Fulton, US Embassy Economic Officer, Shawn Waddoups and US Embassy Counselor for Economic Affairs Robert Ludan
23 April	DZMM regular radio program
26 April	DWBR live radio interview on the topic: IPR protection and campaign against piracy IPO issued press release: IPO launches electronic trademark system NBI reports: Seizure of P5-M worth of fake leather goods
30 April	DZMM regular radio program

MAY

2 May	IPO issued press release: RP unfazed by USTR report, will sustain IP protection efforts http://www.ipophil.gsover.ph/USTR/News/6.doc
4 May	Intellectual Property Alumni Association of the Philippines (IPAAP) General Assembly with IPO members
5 May	NBI reports: Seizure of P1-M fake Lee goods
7 May	IPO photo release: IPR leaders discuss IP's role http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/7.doc DZMM regular radio program
9 May	OMB reports: 85 sacks of pirated optical discs seized in Bohol DTI reports: Gov't laments move to retain RP in watchlist
10 May	IPO issued press release: LGU's urged to cancel permits of businesses violating IPR
11 May	Meeting with the Cable & Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) to introduce CASBAA and to explore potential issues of common interests/mutual industry concerns

	With CASBAA officials, CEO Simon Twiston Davies & VP for Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs John Medeiros
11 May	<p>Meeting with Atty. Ferdinand Negre re: proposed project to create an association of teachers and researchers in the field of IP The general aim of the proposed association is to elevate the standards of IP education in RP</p> <p>Meeting with IP Foundation (IPF) to discuss how IPF can support IPO particularly in technology information brokering and matching small and medium-scale enterprises, a project of Transfer Registry of IPO's Documentation, Information, and Technology Transfer Bureau With Atty. Ignacio Sapalo (Managing Partner-IP Foundation)</p> <p>Courtesy call of Hill & Associates re: IPR With Mr. Philip Kennington (Hill & Associates Country Manager© & Mr. Matthew Cheetham (Regional Director of Motion Picture Association-Singapore)</p>
12 May	<p>BOC reports: Seizure of P100M worth of fake branded rubber shoes in Pasay City http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/8.doc</p>
14 May	<p>DZMM regular radio program</p> <p>OMB reports: Headway in piracy drive http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/9.doc</p>
15 May	<p>Muntinlupa City gov't reports: Crackdown on piracy http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/10.doc</p>
16 May	<p>Joint Committee meeting (Health, Appropriations, and Ways and Means) to deliberate on House Bills 308, 400, 498, 499, 2377, 3463, 3630 & 366 Organized by the House Committee on Trade & Industry. IPO's concern: House Bill 496, Act amending RA 6295 "IP Code of the Phils, to lower the cost of drugs and pharmaceutical products</p>
17 May	<p>Manila City reports: Crackdown on fake drugs http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/11.doc</p> <p>Meeting with various government agencies on fake spare parts With the Trade Department's Bureau of Product Standards (BPS), Bureau of Import Services (BIS), and Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection (BTRCP); Land Transportation Office (LTO), TMAP, Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturers Association of the Philippines (MVPMPA) and the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC).</p>
18 May	<p>Courtesy visit of Microsoft Philippines to discuss local programs that Microsoft have already implemented & to get inputs on how they can best work with IPO on IPR With Microsoft Philippines Managing Director Antonio Javier, Jr. & Corporate Affairs Director Mark Yambot</p>

	<p>Meeting with the Department of Trade and Industry-Bureau of Import Services (DTI-BIS) on fake motor vehicle spare parts With DTI-BIS Director Chito Catibayan & Assistant Director De Pedro</p>
19 May	<p>OMB and BOC reports: Seizure of P5.6M fake optical media in Cebu City http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/12.doc</p> <p>House of Representatives Committee of Trade & Industry deliberation on HB 492 (Act penalizing mall & store owners engaging in the sale of contraband products) & HB 935 (Act declaring temporary moratorium, the effectivity of which shall be herein prescribed on the apprehension, seizure and confiscation of pirated CDs, VCDs and cassettes and video cassette tapes in the country for the purpose of assuring equitable access to entertainment particularly of the poor and for other purposes)</p> <p>Meeting with Bureau of Customs (BOC) Commissioner Alberto Lina & Optical Media Board (OMB) Chairman Edu Manzano re: IPR Coordination</p> <p>Meeting with the Philippine Chamber of Pharmaceutical Industries (PCPI) re patent With PCPI officials: President Mr. Michael dela Cruz, VP-Generic Sector Willie Fabroa, Branded Sector Director Edward Isaac, and Committee Chairman for Special Projects Ms. May Velilla</p> <p>Meeting with the Office of Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (OSETC) on how their office can support IPO particularly on 2005 Priority Watch List With Ynes Basaen (Deputy Executive Director, Office of Ambassador Florencio Fianza – OP), Col. Bert Chavez & Major Alex Borja</p>
20 May	<p>OMB reports: OMB chief impresses MPA http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/13.doc</p> <p>IPO issued press release: RP to fight for Manila Mango trademark</p>
21 May	DZMM regular radio program
22 May	NBI reports: Seizure of P20M fake cosmetics, perfumes in series of raids
23 May	<p>DTI reports: Gov't runs after fake automotive parts</p> <p>BSA reports: Software piracy in RP down 71% in2004</p> <p>OMB reports: Destruction of 49,000 pirated CDs in Cebu http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/14.doc</p>
25 May	<p>Courtesy visit of Nestle on IP matters With Nestle Asst. VP for Corporate Affairs Atty. Joel Lloren & Malaysia Regional IP Agent Atty. Dennis Barot</p>
26 May	Meeting with House Representative Liban & the Filipino Inventors Society (FIS)

	Meeting with the Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industries (PCPI) re patent With PCPI VP-Generic Sector Willie Fabroa, PCPI President Michael dela Cruz, PCPI Committee Chairman for Special Project May Velilla
	Pasa'yo News Plus radio interview on issues about Manila Mango in Mexico
28 May	DZMM regular radio program
30 May	Courtesy call to Department of Justice (DOJ) Secretary Raul Gonzales http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/2.JPG
	DZRJ live radio interview re IPR

JUNE

1 June	Special USTR Action Plan Inter-agency Technical Working Group Preparatory Meeting With the Supreme Court (SC), Department of Justice (DOJ), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Customs (BOC), Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG), Optical Media Board (OMB), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and the Office of the Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (OSETC) re IPR Enforcement Action Plan
2 June	IPO press release: DOJ backs IPO on IPR protection drive http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/15.doc Meeting with US Embassy Economic Officer Shawn Waddoups on IPR action plan
3 June	Public Consultation on the Adjudication of Cases in the BLA
6 June	IPO issued press release: IPO encourages local manufacture of estimated 10,000 off-patent drugs Joint meeting of the House of Representatives Committee on Trade & Industry and Health re: 2nd deliberation on House Bills on drugs & medicines
7-8 June	Asia-Pacific Regional Symposium on Intellectual Property (IP) for Development Singapore
8 June	Meeting with IPR Enforcement Team re finalization of the IPR Enforcement Action Plan With the NBI, PNP-CIDG, OMB, DOJ, SC, NTC and OSETC
9 June	IPO issued photo release: Cristobal urges youth to patent inventions
11 June	DZMM regular radio program
14-15 June	IPR Forum for Inventors and Researchers With the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) - Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI) Iloilo City
15 June	Meeting with the United States Trade Representative (USTR) Secretariat

18 June	DZMM regular radio program
19 June	NBI reports: Seizure of P2M fake consumer products
20-21 June	National Workshop on a Regional ASEAN Design System
21 June	IPO reports: IPO eyes cable firm, TV network dispute
23-24 June	Regional Symposium on “EU Experience of a Regional Design System and a Possible Implementation in ASEAN Day 1
23 June	Meeting with the French Embassy officials on IPR issues (Celine, Bic, geographical indications (Manila Mango), counterfeit products (Louis Vuitton, Lacoste, etc.) With Mr. Yves Cadilhon (Eco. & Commercial Counselor) and Mr. Samuel Lefebvre (Commercial Attaché)
24 June	IPO press release: IPO seeks standard on product design laws
	Meeting with Enforcement principals re finalization of the IPR Enforcement Action Plan With the Supreme Court (SC), Department of Justice (DOJ), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Customs (BOC), Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG), Optical Media Board (OMB), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and the Office of the Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (OSETC)
25 June	DZMM regular radio program
27 June	PNP reports: WPD cracks down on drugstores selling fake medicines, vitamins
	BFAD reports: BFAD pushes drive vs fake medicines
	Benguet gov’t reports: Ordinance vs fake products signed http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/16.doc
	NBI reports: Seizure of fake Nestle products
28 June	Meeting with the IP Coalition
30 June	Meeting with Microsoft re IPR and software With Microsoft-Director for Small & Medium Size Partners Steven

JULY

1 July	DZRB live radio interview on off-patent drugs
	Licensing Executives Society Phils seminar entitled “IP Licensing: A Tool for Expanding Your Business” Licensing Executives Society Phils (LES) is a non profit organization engaged in licensing of IPR and transfer of technology -Aims to discuss the current trends in licensing & drafting of license agreements
2 July	DZMM regular radio program
3 July	NBI reports: Seizure of P4M fake products
5 July	NBI reports: Seizure of P3M fake computers, software and other products

	Inauguration of the Biotech-IPR Computer Laboratory Organized by the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) in Nueva Ecija
6 July	Technical Workshop “Facilitating Product Innovation and Industry Competitiveness through Intellectual Property Rights Protection Measures and Technology.” DG as discussant. Organized by DLSU-Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies (AKI). DLSU-AKI is funded by USAID & under the Targeted Interventions in Economic Reform and Governance-Partnership and Advocacy for Competitiveness and Trade (TIERG-PACT)
7 July	Meeting with Microsoft and enforcement principals With the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Customs (BOC), Optical Media Board (OMB), Philippine National Police-Criminal and Investigation Detection Group (PNP-CIDG) and Department of Justice (DOJ). Meeting Perceptions PR agency re: Organizations/industries that Perceptions Inc. deal with and how IPO can help against piracy With Mr. Nieva (Pres. -Perceptions), Ms. Lulette Alipio (PR Associate)
8 July	Cheap software to combat piracy NBI reports: Raids on illegal fertilizer manufacturer
9 July	NBI reports: Seizure of P500,000 worth of fake Cricket lighters in Binondo IPO issued photo release: Cristobal urges youth to patent inventions
11 July	Courtesy visit of UK Investors & Philippine partners re: IPO’s immediate registration of patents applications and other assistance With F Atlas Mining-Major Stockholder/ Chairman & CEO of Cleansave Waste Corp. Frank Rubbock; Thermsave Eng’g. UK LTD Managing Director Pete Melcalf; Thermsave Eng’g. UK Ltd. Deputy Director Chris Moore and Cleansave Waste Corp. Antonio M. Tan IPO and Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) MOA signing
12 July	Seminar/Workshop on the IP Code and Its Regulations Organized by the IPO-Documentation, Information, Technology Transfer Bureau
13 July	Foreigner arrested for sales manufacturer of fake Dickies products
14 July	BFAD battles fake medicines
15 July	Meeting with Corserv Inc on infringed ionizers and test equipment of Hugle Technologies (R&D Co.) by Japanese partners With Corserv Inc President Arnel Perez-Posadas
16 July	DZMM regular radio program
18 July	DA reports: Battling biotech piracy PROP reports: Waging war against book piracy http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/17.doc

18-21 July	19th Meeting of the Experts Group on Patents, 19th Meeting of the Experts Group on Trademarks & 24th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on IP Cooperation http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/3.JPG
19 July	Meeting with DTI-Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR) Director Kabigting and Laarni Zapanta re ASEAN-Australia New Zealand Free Trade Area
20 July	Philippine Science Journalists Association (PsciJourn) luncheon discussion: Intellectual Property Issues http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/4.JPG
21 July	Courtesy call of the Japan Patent Office (JPO) to exchange opinions concerning the follow up Cooperation Project for the Modernization on Industrial Property Administration Project With JPO Director Junichi Matsuo; JPO General Affairs Dept.- Regional Policy Office-International Affairs Division Director Kazuo Hattori; Info Systems Affairs Div Staff Specialist for Computers Toru Yamazaki; and JPO Regional Policy Office-International Affairs Division - General Affairs Department Officer Junichi Naguno
	Meeting with Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Jr. on proposal for designating specialized IP courts With IPO lawyers Anton Elicaño, Nathaniel Arevalo and Communications Officer Rene Acosta http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/5.JPG
	Briefing on Regional Consultations for the Countries of Asia and the Pacific on the Protection of Broadcasting Organizations
22 July	PNP-CIDG reports: Intercepted 1,000 fake LPG on Naguilan Road
	Coalition Against Fake Medicine reports: Hotline available for fake med infos
	ABS CBN Channel 2 Magandang Umaga Pilipinas live TV interview
	Meeting with DTI-Bureau of International Trade Relations Dir. Kabigting, Ms. Laarni Zapanta re: ASEAN- Australia ew Zealand Free Trade Area
23 July	DZMM regular radio program
24 July	NBI reports: Seizure of P8-million PCs, laptops in series of raids
	DA & PhilRice reports: Mulling over IPR protection for scientists http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/18.doc
	IPO reports: RP to host APEC IPR experts meet http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/19.doc
25 July	IPO reports: IPO seeks protection of Filipino creativity, genius
26 July	IPO issued press release: IPO proposes creation of special IP courts to SC http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/20.doc

	Preparatory meeting on Broadcaster's Treaty with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) officials With WIPO Deputy Director General Rita Hayes and WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright & Related rights Chair Jukka Liedes
27-29 July	Regional Consultations for the Countries of Asia and the Pacific on the Protection of Broadcasting Organizations http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/6.JPG
27 July	NBI reports: seizure of P10M fake Casio products Meeting with US Embassy Economic Officer Shawn Waddoups re: IPO Action Plan, updates on IPR court prosecutors, trainings/ travels to Washington and manning at IPR agencies, specifically Optical Media Board (OMB)
28 July	IPO issued press release: IPO supports treaty against piracy in broadcasting Meeting with IP Coalition re: MOA & concept paper for IP Institute With IP Coalition Chairman John Lesaca Meeting with private investigators re: enforcement Meeting with DOH re: 1st IPR and Public Health Forum set on Oct 20-21, 2005 With Health Sec. Francisco Duque and IPO Deputy Director General Ireneo Galicia RP-US Trade and Investment Council (TIC) Videoconference w/ U/TGA to USTR Co-Chair Barbara Weisel US would like to take up the European Union Proposal on Geographical Indications
29 July	OMB reports: PNR signs assistance pact with OMB Phone interview with the Managing Intellectual Property Magazine of Hong Kong re: IP court, present judicial system for IP offenses & real life examples such as backlog of cases With Managing IP Magazine Asia Editor Emma Barraclough
30 July	DZMM regular radio program
31 July	IPO reports: IPO and PhilRice promote IPR in agri sector

AUGUST

1 August	Radyo ng Bayan Negosyo at Kalakalan live interview on APEC Intellectual Property Rights Experts Group seminar and cybercrimes IP Experts' Group XXI Informal Meeting http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/7.JPG
2 August	IPO issued press release: APEC needs sound IP system- Cristobal
3 August	Meeting with the Optical Media Board, Philippine National Police and National Bureau of Investigation re: implementation of the enforcement program and weekly enforcement actions in strategic areas.
4 August	IPO reports: Gov't unveils plans to speed up resolution of IPR cases

	PNP-CIDG reports: Seizure of pirated discs, replicators in Quiapo raids
5 August	Meeting with the Optical Media Board (OMB)
	IPO reports: RP may soon be out of piracy watchlist
6 August	IPO reports: foreign traders hail IPR court
	DZMM regular radio program
9 August	OMB reports: Doods out to get video pirates
10 August	BOC reports: Video piracy tools seized at NAIA-2
11 August	OMB reports: OMB leads two-day raids in Quiapo piracy mecca
12 August	BSA reports: BSA talked on Online Software Piracy during the APEC IP Experts Group Seminar in Manila
	BOC reports: Seizure of CDs, VCD, DVD piracy machine parts
13 August	Manila SOG agents report: Seizure of counterfeit Puma socks in Binondo
	NBI reports: Seizure of bogus LPG cylinders in Manila, Caloocan, Antipolo
	DZMM regular radio program
15 August	Doctors stress warnings against fake medicines
	PDEA reports: Seizure of counterfeit drugs in Pangasinan
	NBI reports: Warning against cheap medicines
	ABS CBN Channel 2 The Correspondents taped interview on Filipino scientists and inventors
	IPO issued press release: Court convicts couple selling pirated copies of PlayStation games
	http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/21.doc
16-19 August	5th ECAP II Regional Committee Meetings ASEAN Colloquium on a Common Postgraduate IP curriculum Singapore
17 August	PAPT reports: Countdown-crackdown starts
	http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/22.doc
	NBI reports: Seizure of P2M fake cartoon items in raids
18 August	Makati government reports: Seizure of CDs, DVDs
20 August	NBI reports: Seizure of P1-M fake computer software in Pasig
	DZMM regular radio program
22 August	PNP-NCRPO reports: Arrest of Chinese nationals for IPR violation
	BSA reports: Anti-piracy seminar held

23 August	Makati City government reports: Seizure of pirated optical media http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/News/23.doc
	Meeting with the Cebu Furniture Industry in Cebu
	Meeting with the Intellectual Property Alliance
24 August	“Mugna Namong Bai” SME Forum for Cebu Businesses DG as guest speaker. Presented by IP Alliance of Cebu, IPO-DTI Cebu Office, PhilExport Cebu & Cebu Furniture Industries Sponsored by Microsoft to present snapshots of Cebu’s creative & inventive businesses to the IPO; present various offerings & services of the IPO which may be availed of by the Cebu SMEs in pursuit of IPR protection, and to discuss avenues for cooperation, linkages & synergy between the Cebu business community & the IPO towards achieving a stronger IP regime in Cebu
	Cebu Press Conference on IPO’s directions under the new Director General, design theft in the furniture industry
25 August	BOC reports: Seizure of pirated optical media at NAIA warehouse
	OMB reports: Seizure of P150M in fake DVDs
	Meeting with Allen Consulting Group -Sydney Director Jeremy Thorpe and Creative Industries Division Acting Director Dimitar Gantchev (on behalf of the WIPO) re consultations on the “Study on the Economic Contribution of Copyright-based Industries to the National Economy” to review the methodology, time frame & logistics of the work.
27 August	Nestle reports: Campaign vs fake products stepped up
28 August	NBI reports: Seizure of fuel dispensers used to illegally sell Caltex petrol products
29 August	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Roundtable on Integrated Management of Intellectual Property Islamabad, Pakistan
30 August	IPO issued press release: Anti-piracy campaign nets P.5B worth of fake products
31 August	PNP-PCTC reports: Seizure of fake Barbie items worth more than P.5-M
	Pampanga RTC reports: Conviction against medicine counterfeiters

SEPTEMBER

3 September	DZMM regular radio program
4 September	Quezon City reports: QC IP ordinance backed
5 September	Mandaluyong RTC reports: Copyright violation raps filed vs Intel
	IPO issued press release: Government orders inventory of IP cases, charges in intensified campaign against piracy
6 September	NBI reports: Seizure of P.1M worth of fake Nescafe products in Bacolod
	Baguio City reports: Destruction of confiscated pirated VCDs, DVDs
	Fly High Philippine Software 2010 Project Briefing (National Strategy)

7 September	IPO issued press release: Supreme Court to create special IP courts
	BSA reports: BSA hotline calls up after anti-piracy bid
	Nurturing Creativity: 1st Philippine Creative Industry Forum Organized by CITEM
8 September	NBI reports: Seizure of P2-M fake Lacoste products
9 September	NBI raids Sonic Steel warehouse
	Steel firm sues competitor over row on product name
	NBI reports: Two raids net P11.5M worth of fake products in Metro Manila
	Meeting with the Department of Justice With DOJ Undersecretary Ernesto Pineda Discussed prosecution, special IP prosecutors, inventory of cases
10 September	DZMM regular radio program
12 September	IPO issued press release: Supreme Court to create special IP courts
13 September	IPR Roundtable at the US Embassy in Manila
	NBI reports: Sonic Steel faces counterfeiting raps
14 September	Meeting with Microsoft Philippines to discuss the software sector and joint IPR programs With Microsoft Philippines Managing Director TJ Javier
	Meeting with Emerge, USAID, PACT re training proposals With Dr. Ramon Clarete and Myrna Austria of Emerge, Mr. Tyler Olt of USAID, Mr. Ather Sajid of PACT
15 September	OMB reports: Anti-piracy drive wins praises from HK, Singapore
16 September	NBI reports: Seizure of P5-M fake Hello Kitty products
	Interview with Manila Bulletin re Design Theft
17 September	DZXL Cong. Jesli Lapuz, Simple Lang live radio interview on government's anti-piracy campaign
	DZMM regular radio program
18 September	Microsoft reports: Computer anti-piracy campaign in Bulacan
	PHAP reports: Drug makers intensify drive vs entry of counterfeit medicines in RP
19 September	IPO issued photo release: IPO proposes special IP courts to SC
	Inter-agency meeting on Enforcement update
20 September	MOA signing with IPO, Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry and Department of Health http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/8.JPG

	Meeting with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) on environmental scanning, beat patrols, IP studies in PNPA and PPSC, interagency cooperation, adoption of IPR handbook in police learning institutions With DILG Secretary Angelo Reyes http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/9.JPG
21 September	NBI, OMB reports: Crackdown on internet cafes in Mindanao IPO efforts: Drug firms, gov't signs deal for cheaper medicine IPO issued photo release: IPO signs partnership agreement with DOH, PCPI on IP Rights and Public Health Forum
24 September	PISI reports: Steelmakers warn on risks of fake products
26 September	PAPT reports: Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team launched NBI reports: Campaign vs cable piracy IPO reports: Supreme Courts approves creation of 3 IP courts
26 September to 5 October	41st WIPO General Assembly Geneva, Switzerland
28 September	NBI reports: Seizure of P10M worth of fake rubber shoes
29 September	Davao City government reports: Raids make "Net providers look to other software PAPT reports: Crackdown on pirated software set BFAD reports: Drive vs fake drugs launched
30 September	BFAD warns on fake medicines NBI reports: Seizure of P7-M fake cosmetics in Manila

OCTOBER

26 September to 5 October	41st WIPO General Assembly Geneva, Switzerland
3 October	APIC/JIII & Japan Patent Office 2-day forum "Protecting & Enforcing IPR" Deputy Director General Irineo Galicia as representative for the opening remarks
7 October	IPO issued press release: Seminar-workshop for patent practitioners to improve their skills PNP reports: 14 houses raided for fake liquor Coalition Against Counterfeit Medicines reports: Fake medicine can be fatal
8 October	PNP-RISOO reports: 530 fake watches seized in Quiapo DZMM regular radio program
10 October	Smart Communications reports: Fake cellphone chargers and batteries recovered in NBI raids in Manila OMB reports: OMB and AvidPhil - united vs piracy

	Patent Drafting Workshop for Future Patent Agents 5-day seminar workshop sponsored by the EC-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Co-Operation Programme II (ECAP II) http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/10.JPG
11 October	NBI reports: Seizure of fake liver spread ANC Chat Live TV interview on the IPR and public health forum
12 October	IPO issued photo release: IPO holds patent drafting seminar-workshop 5th Consumer Welfare Month Trade Fair Exhibit DG as Opening Ceremonies Co-Host. IPO's Documentation, Information and Technology Transfer Bureau (DITTB) gave talks on IPR and manned the IPO booth during the Fair. Press Briefing on IPR and public health forum http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/11.JPG GMA Channel 7 "Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho" taped interview on fake products
13 October	Inter-agency Enforcement meeting re updates on Action Plan
14 October	IPO issued press release: IPO Director General push for higher standards in patent system ABSCBN Channel 2 Kontrobersyal taped interview on copyright infringement
15 October	DZMM regular radio program
16 October	IPO issued press release: P1-B counterfeit goods seized in running anti-piracy campaign NBI reports: 2 nabbed in Cebu for software piracy
17 October	NBI reports: NBI warns public against cheap, fake medicines Meeting with the IP Coalition Meeting with Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita re legislation and Presidential Directive
18 October	NBI reports: Raids on companies' software yield P7.5M worth of unlicensed items Meeting with US trade officials With USTR Director for South East Asia and the Pacific Affairs David Katz, US Department of Commerce Deputy Director of the Office of the Pacific Basin David Bisbee and US Patent and Trademark Office Senior Counsel of the Office of the Enforcement for External Affairs Peter Fowler http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/12.JPG
19 October	Inter-agency meeting with US Trade officials With David Katz, Peter Fowler and David Bisbee IPO issued photo release: IPO meets with US trade officials Meeting with Mon Clarete re USAID training proposals
20 October	NBI reports: Seizure of counterfeit medical equipment
20-21 October	1st Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health Forum

	http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/13.JPG
21 October	IPO reports: Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health Forum NBI reports: Seizure of P1-M fake backpacks in Binondo
22 October	NBI reports: American charged with piracy DZMM regular radio program PNP-PAOCTF reports: 10 truckloads of fake Nestle products seized in Zambo
23-29 October	National IP Week
24 October	NBI reports: Seizure of fake medical devices
25 October	Branding and Brand Management Seminar http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/14.JPG IPO reports: Brand regulator cuts office red tape
26 October	Ceremonial Destruction of Confiscated Goods With the Bureau of Customs, National Bureau of Investigation at Warehouse 159 in South Harbor, Manila in celebration of the IP Week 2005 http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/15.JPG IPO issued photo release: IPO and BOC in fight against piracy
27 October	PAPT reports: Anti-piracy gains Meeting with Philippine Judicial Academy (PhilJa) re specialized IP courts With PhilJa Chairwoman Justice Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera and Atty. Anton Elicaño ANC Money live TV interview on IPRs Consultative Forum with IP Stakeholders for the National IP Strategy First in a series of consultative forum gathering all IP stakeholders and advocates in the Philippines to come up with a coherent and consolidated national IP strategy. http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/16.JPG
28 October	PNP-CIDG reports: Seizure of P6.5-M fake appliances
29 October	DZMM regular radio program

NOVEMBER

1 November	DTI reports: Consumer trade fair NBI reports: Seizure of P3M worth of imitation Warner Bros. toys
2 November	IPO reports: Schools, authors to gain in IPO copyright scheme
5 November	IPO reports: More local firms registering trademarks, brands OMB reports: P2.5M pirated discs in seized Cebu turned over to Customs

	DZMM regular radio program
7 November	University of Asia and the Pacific Study reports: Piracy decline would infuse half a billion pesos worth of sales for the music, motion picture and software industries IPO issued photo release: IPO launches First Consultative Forum for a National IP Strategy
8 November	Muntinlupa City government reports: Fewer pirated audio, video discs seized Meeting with the Cable Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) re public-private cooperation/ sectoral campaigns against cable piracy in RP With CASBAA CEO Simon Twiston Davies and VP John Medeiros
9 November	IPO reports: Intellectual property confab held
12 November	DZMM regular radio program
16 November	Inter-agency meeting re Special 301 report to USTR, submission of inputs With the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Optical Media Board (OMB), Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC) RPN Channel 9 taped interview on copyright infringement
17 November	Courtesy call of Business Software Alliance (BSA) to update DG on BSA's activities and involvement in the Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team campaign With BSA Director for Anti-Piracy in Asia Tarun Sawney, discussed public-private cooperation and legislative policies http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/17.JPG Meeting with Business Profiles re how they can help in the IPR protection campaign specifically in the brand protection program Meeting and Formal signing of MOA between IP Philippines and IP Coalition http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/18.JPG
18 November	BSA reports: Mall, building owners to be liable for piracy BSA reports: Anti-piracy drive nets P19-million worth of illegal software BSA reports: BSA lauds NBI for successful arrest of Cebu software pirat
20 November	NBI reports: Seizure of P1.6 million fake Lee jeans
21 November	BSA reports: Anti-piracy campaign gains ground in RP
22 November	DTI reports: US may delete RP from piracy list Public Hearings on IP Code Amendments
23 November	OMB reports: OMB to launch original disc drive PCTA reports: Raids on illegal cable connections in Makati Inter-agency meeting re finalization of comment to the USTR Office

	Presentation to the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines on the directions of IPO http://www.ipophil.gov.ph/USTR/PICTURES/19.JPG
24 November	IPO issued press release: IPO inks partnership agreement with PCARRD
	Quezon City government reports: Pirated products banned in QC
	Seminar on Intellectual Property Licensing/Technology Transfer with Licensing Executives of the Philippines
25 November	QTV Channel 11 taped interview on fake products
	Business World interview on status of anti-piracy campaign
26 November	DZMM regular radio program
27 November	NBI reports: Seizure of P1.7-M Lee T-shirts in raids
30 November	NBI reports: 3 internet cafes raided, seizure of P10M in computers

DECEMBER

2 December	IPO issued press release: IPO, CASBAA agrees to boost anti-cable piracy drive in RP
	NBI reports: Seizure of P10-M fake Nestle products in QC, Caloocan
	OMB reports: Sen. Revilla vows to help Edu in piracy fight
3 December	DZMM regular radio program
	BOC reports: Seizure of P500M worth of goods in 10 months this year
	NBI reports: Seizure of P30 million in fake Nestle products
	NBI reports: Warns consumers on cheap but fake medicines
	NBI reports: NBI readies raps vs trader selling fake food products
6 December	IPO issued press release: RP's software piracy down to 71%; BSA sees further decline
	Quezon City government reports: Illegal tapping of cable TV now a felony in QC
	NBI reports: Seizure of P600K worth of fake canned goods
	BSA reports: BSA cites NBI raids against IPR violators
	Meeting with DOJ Prosecutors Mendoza, Aquino, Waga and Gutierrez
	Meeting with Chief State Prosecutor Zuño of the DOJ
7 December	NBI reports: Korean counterfeit suspect nabbed
	Meeting with US Embassy's Mr. Robert Ludan, Shannon Cazeau re Out-of-Cycle Review with Atty Chester and OMB Chair Edu Manzano
8 December	BOC reports: Seizure of P12.5M in smuggled goods
	PNP-RISOO reports: Seizure of 530 fake watches in Quiapo

	Quezon City government reports: QC Council passes anti-piracy ordinance
9 December	IPO issued press release: IPO pushes for IP education Meeting with Mr. Peter Hensch, Philippine Country Desk Officer and Ms. Shamila Chaudhary, the Indonesia Desk Officer regarding IPR Infringement
10 December	DZMM regular radio program
11 December	NBI reports: Seizure of P1-M computers, pirated discs

