VI. Future Plans

Although NRICH has a guideline to address intellectual property rights regarding ICH information building and sharing activities, it is not applied just to activities related to ICH, but also to all kinds of cultural heritage,

As mentioned, the CHA, under which the NRICH is as an affiliated organisation, is currently pursuing to legislate the ICH Preservation and Promotion Act, which includes provisions on protecting intellectual property. By doing so, appropriate measures could be taken to protect Korean ICH amidst international patent disputes and intellectual property rights of ICH bearers. As of February 2012, the first draft of the act has been completed and it is presently under review by related experts.

The NRICH is also planning to conduct an academic research project for the protection of ICH intellectual property in 2012. Details of the project are summarised as follows:

1) Purpose

To prepare institutional mechanisms for protecting ICH from illegal use and other infringements as well as for facilitating appropriate ICH usage and benefit sharing

2) Period:

Starting from 2012

3) Overview

Title of project:

Role of Intellectual Property Rights in the Protection, Preservation, and Utilisation of ICH

Title of the 2012 project:

A Study of the Policy for Intellectual Property Rights in the Protection, Preservation, and Utilisation of ICH

4) Expected procedure

To establish a research project \rightarrow to launch call for the research project and to select the research institute(s) \rightarrow to monitor project performance \rightarrow to organise a workshop on the research project \rightarrow to submit the completed research project