

Information Sheet - [Korea]

I. **General Information**

1 Number of stakeholders in the Country

1-1-1 Population

The total population of Korea as of 2010 is approximately 48,989,000, of which about 10,039,000 (nearly 20%) are living in the capital city Seoul. (Statistics Korea, 2011)

1-1-2 Number of lawyers / attorneys-at-law

As of October 2011, there are 12,590 certified lawyers, and approximately 10,990 are active in practice, of which 7,923 are practicing in Seoul.

1-1-3 Number of judges

As of December 31, 2010, the total number of judges, including the Chief Justice and Supreme Court justices, is 2,490, and if professor-judges at the Judicial Research & Training Institute (JRTI) are included, the number will be 2,545. (The National Court Administration)

1-1-4 Number of prosecutors

As of February 2011, the number of prosecutors is 1,846.

2 Number of court cases handled by first instance courts

1-2-1 Number of civil cases

The total number of civil cases was 881,137 in 2001, 1,169,283 in 2005, and 1,041,468 in 2010.

1-2-2 Number of family cases

The total number of family cases was 111,594 in 2001, 109,131 in 2005, and 136,986 in 2010.

1-2-3 Number of criminal cases

The total number of criminal cases was 267,333 in 2001, 285,637 in 2005, and 356,587 in 2010.

3 Attorneys for Defendants in Criminal Procedures

Please explain in what kinds of criminal cases attorneys must be appointed for suspects or defendants in your country. Please also explain who appoints and bears the costs for the attorneys appointed.

The Constitution of the Republic of Korea provides the right to request the assistance of attorney for any person who are arrested or detained under Chapter II Rights and Duties of Citizens:

Article 12

(4) Any person who is arrested or detained shall have the right to prompt assistance of counsel. When a criminal defendant is unable to secure counsel by his own efforts, the State shall assign counsel for the defendant as prescribed by Act.

Also, The Criminal Procedure Act provides that the defence counsel is assigned by court as follows;

Article 33 (Defence Counsel Assigned by Court)

(1) In any case falling under any of the following subparagraphs, if no defence counsel is available, the court shall appoint a defence counsel *ex officio*:

1. When the defendant is **placed under arrest**;
2. When the defendant is **a minor**;
3. When the defendant is **seventy years of age or over**;
4. When the defendant is **deaf and dumb**;
5. When the defendant is **suspected of having a mental and physical disorder**;
- and
6. When the defendant is **indicted for a case corresponding to death penalty, life imprisonment, or imprisonment with or without labor for a short term of 3 three years or more**.

(2) Where the defendant is unable to appoint a defence counsel because of poverty or any other reason, if the defendant requests, the court shall appoint a defence counsel.

(3) When the court deems it necessary to protect the rights considering the age, intelligence and level, etc. of education of the defendant, it shall appoint a defence counsel within the scope that does not go against the explicit intention of the defendant.

All expenses are paid by the court, regarding the defence counsel.

4 Profile of the Bar Association/ Organization and Attorney System

1-4-1 Location and contact information

Korean Bar Association

Address

4/5F, Lawyer's Hall, 1718-1, Seocho 3-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul, 137-885, KOREA
Tel. +82 2 3476 4060 (Rep.)

Fax. +82 2 3476 2770

E-mail international@koreanbar.or.kr

1-4-2 History of Organization

1950's

July 28, 1952	The KBA was founded.
Dec. 10, 1953	Held the first nationwide lawyer conference. It was resolved that “the lawyers shall make efforts to realize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the UN, comply with the rules on human rights protection as set forth in the Korean Constitution and Criminal Law, manage the KBA as an independent organization, and enhance the dignity of its members.”
Jan. 22, 1958	Made a formal proposal to the National Assembly on the amendment of the Court Organization Act
July 1958	Sent a group of representatives to the annual conference of the International Bar Association (IBA) for the first time (7th annual conference, the KBA has been attending the IBA conference every year ever since)

1960's

June 30, 1962	Established the “Lawyers’ Code of Ethics”
Aug. 6, 1966	Attended the inaugural conference of the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific (LAWASIA) as its founding member (the KBA has been attending the LAWASIA conferences every year ever since)
Aug. 1969	Organized the first Korean Legal Culture Awards (the award has been given out every year ever since)

1970's

Mar. 7, 1970	Published the initial issue of the journal "Hoibo" (later renamed as "Human Rights and Justice" and published every month).
Sept. 1, 1972	Held a symposium on the subject of “Lawyers Expected by Democratic Citizens” to commemorate its 20 th anniversary
Aug. 28, 1977	Hosted the 5 th LAWASIA Conference
Jan. 4, 1978	Organized the first lawyer training session (held every year ever since)
May 25, 1979	Published 『History of Korean Attorneys』 describing the history of the Korean bar system and the history of Korean lawyers since the end of Chosun Dynasty (19 th century)

1980's

Dec. 31, 1982	Lawyer registration was now to be effected with the KBA, instead of with the Ministry of Justice as was previously the case.
May 21, 1983	Established the Lawyer Training Center to train lawyers and paralegals
Sept. 9, 1985	Established the Legal Aid Institution in accordance with the Attorney-At-Law Act and related rules and opened its branches at local bar associations
May 1, 1986	Published the first issue of 『Human Rights Report』 (published every year

	ever since)
Sept. 6-9, 1987	Held the first exchange conference with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) (held every year ever since)

1990's

Feb. 1, 1990	Co-hosted the symposium entitled “Economic Development and Legislation of Asia” with the Chinese and Japanese bar associations
Mar. 8, 1990	Attended the inaugural conference of the Presidents of Law Associations of Asia (POLA) and its first conference. (the KBA has been attending POLA conferences every year ever since)
May 9-11, 1991	Hosted the 2 nd POLA conference
Apr. 24, 1992	Co-hosted the symposium entitled “Regulation on Foreign Lawyers and Countermeasures against the Opening of the Legal Market” with the Chinese and Japanese bar associations
Mar. 10, 1993	Took over the “Right to Impose Disciplinary Measures on Lawyers” from the Ministry of Justice
Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 1996	Held the first exchange conference between the KBA and the All China Lawyers Association (held every year ever since)
Sept. 7-11, 1999	Hosted the 16 th LAWASIA conference in Seoul
Nov. 8, 1999	Launched the KBA website (http://www.koreanbar.or.kr)

2000's

Jan. 28, 2000	Lawyers are obliged to engage in pro bono activities under the amended Attorney-At-Law Act (No. 6207).
Mar. 27, 2000	Launched the “KBA Newspaper”
July 28, 2002	Published 『Fifty-year History of the Korean Bar Association』 to commemorate the 50 th anniversary of the KBA
Jan. 29, 2003	Established KBA Legal Aid Foundation
Apr. 5, 2006	Published “Lawyer Practice Guide” to assist new member lawyers in rationalizing and systematically managing the business opening and operation
May 8, 2006	The 10,000th member was registered since the lawyer registration began.
Sept. 28, 2006	Published 『2006 White-paper on Human Rights in North Korea』 both in Korean and English for the purposes of knowing the situation of human rights in North Korea (published every two years ever since)
Jan. 26, 2007	Under the amended Attorney-At-Law Act (No. 8271), lawyers are obliged to take the training course.
July 4, 2007	The “Act on the Establishment and Operation of Law School (Law School Act)” was passed in the National Assembly.
July 27, 2008	Launched ‘Legal Ethics and Professional Conduct Council’ jointly with the Court Administration Office and the Ministry of Justice, to establish legal ethics and promote sound legal culture
Aug. 25, 2008	Co-held the Korean Lawyers Convention to celebrate the 60 th National Foundation Year with the Korea Legal Center, the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court, the Ministry of Justice and the Korean Law Professors

	Association
Apr. 20, 2009	Prepared the “Report on Human Rights Violation in North Korea” jointly with the Citizens’ Alliance for North Korean Human Rights, focusing on political prison camps and people’s right to food in North Korea, and submitted it to the UN Human Rights Council
July 2-4, 2009	Hosted the 20 th POLA conference
Sept. 14, 2009	Launched the Lawyers’ Specialty Registration System to enhance the quality of professional service
Dec. 17, 2009	Sent delegates to the UN human rights conference in Geneva regarding the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of North Korea to influence the UN Human Rights Council to make a written recommendation for improvement of North Korean human rights situation

2010 - Present

Feb. 7, 2010	Launched the Law School Evaluation Committee
July 6, 2010	Established the KBA Human Rights Foundation
Nov. 29, 2010	Published 『2010 White-paper on Korean Lawyers』 including all statistics and materials of the lawyers for the first time since the lawyer system was adopted in the Republic of Korea
Dec. 11, 2010	Announced the ‘Joint Declaration for Compensation to Victims by Japanese Imperialism’ with the Japanese Bar Association
Dec. 27, 2010	Changed the paper I.D. card to the plastic I.D. card through the business agreement with Shinhan Card Company
Feb. 10, 2011	Published the “Practice Guideline for Legal Service for Victims by Sexual Violence”
Feb. 14, 2011	Started online education for lawyers through the business agreement with EBS, the education-focused media channel in Korea (http://e.koreanbar.or.kr)
Feb. 28, 2011	Induced the Asian Regional Division of IBA to be located in Seoul
Mar. 3-4, 2011	Held and sponsored the 14 th International Arbitration Day conference hosted by IBA in Seoul
Apr. 1, 2011	Started to implement ‘One Attorney for One School’ system
Apr. 28-29, 2011	Co-hosted the Competition Law Conference with IBA in Seoul
Oct. 9-12, 2011	Held the 24th LAWASIA Conference

1-4-3 Governmental Supervision of the Organization and Registration of Members (Please explain whether or not, and if so how, your organization is supervised by the government.)

The Ministry of Justice has conferred the authority to register the attorneys to the KBA. However, approval from the Ministry of Justice is required for establishing law offices and law firms, and approval is also required when the law firms and offices amends their constitution.

1-4-4 Main Activities of the Organization

Protecting Human Rights

As prescribed in the beginning part of Article 1 of the Attorney-at-law Act of Korea that lawyers shall take it as their mission to defend the fundamental human rights, protection of human rights is not an option but a mission imposed by the laws to be performed by lawyers as their obligation. The KBA with its member lawyers has been doing various activities to protect human rights by considering it as the most important duty of the association.

For example, if a citizen suffers from the violation by governmental authorities of his/her fundamental human right, the KBA conducts an investigation, demands remedy, and seeks measures to prevent recurrence of such violation. Also, the KBA publishes 'Human Rights Report' annually that objectively summarizes and analyzes the status of human rights for the purpose of raising human rights-related problems as social issues and encouraging appropriate measures to deal with them.

Meanwhile, the KBA is taking a bigger role in the International Bar Association (IBA) with an increasing exchange with them. Accordingly, it is important for the KBA to raise its awareness of international human rights issues and to enhance its capacity to handle them. The KBA has been involved in international human rights activities. For example, the association dispatched its delegates to the Board of Directors of UN Human Rights in Geneva in order to arouse international interest in the human rights in North Korea so that the recommendation for improvement of human rights status in North Korea can be adopted. The KBA also sent a lawyer to Honduras to assist a Korean citizen who was unjustly charged with murder. The association has actively involved in international aid activities, recently the KBA raised fund to aid the victims of the Japan and Haiti earthquakes.

In addition, in 2010 the KBA established 'the KBA Human Rights Foundation' with mission to enhance and improve human rights in Korea to all residents including foreigners. The contributors for the Foundation are as follow:

Contributor	Amount of Contribution
KBA and 13 local bar associations	KRW 482,000,000
Law firms	KRW 661,500,000
Individuals (180 persons)	KRW 780,600,000
Total	KRW 1,924,100,000

Legal Aid Service

The KBA founded a legal aid institution in 1986 to improve access of justice and to protect the rights of people. However, since an independent legal aid organization was deemed necessary to meet the increasing demands for legal aid services and to expand its scope, the KBA established the KBA Legal Aid Foundation in 2003. The Foundation, with its increased financial funding through sources such as membership fees and external donations, has been able to actively participate in legal aid programs and expand the scope of legal aid services to include a broader scope of the socially underprivileged such as the elderly, minors, the disabled, and refugees from North Korea.

Support for Multicultural Families

With the rapid increase of international marriages, conflicts within the multicultural families are also increasing. Such conflicts are mostly led to legal disputes, but the legal aid programs to handle an increasing number of such disputes are insufficient. To settle this problem, the KBA provides legal aid service for multicultural families in cooperation with the KBA Human Rights Foundation. Also, in

collaboration with multicultural centers and the female immigrant emergency service centers nationwide, the KBA operates the ‘one lawyer at one center system’ and seeks ways to realize ‘on-duty lawyer system’ through the business agreement with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family. It also develops other legal aid service systems for multicultural families.

Furthermore, the KBA makes active efforts to give practical help to prevent legal disputes of multicultural families including: providing information regarding international marriage, opening of the portal website aimed at offering legal aid to multicultural families and proposal of related legislative bills.

Legal Aid for North Korean Defectors

The number of North Korean defectors reached 20,000 in 2010, showing a drastic increase each year. After settling in the Korean society, the defectors face many difficulties (debts, broker-related problems, marriage, family entrance, unfair dismissal from employment, frauds, violence, etc.) due to lack of understanding about the legal system in Korea. To help them have stable life and adapt to new environments in Korea, the KBA has been providing them with legal counselling, education and other legal aid service to North Korean defectors by organizing the ‘Legal Aid Lawyer Group for North Korean Defectors.’

Support for Public Lawsuits

The KBA provides legal service for public lawsuits in order to help consumers who suffered from damages but find it difficult to get professional legal service because the case involves a large number of victims but the claim money is small. The victims are represented by the lawyers belonging to the ‘Special Committee for Public Lawsuits of KBA’ in a public lawsuit in return for only a minimum level of fees. The KBA is committed to protecting consumers’ rights by finding the cases involving a large number of victims and helping them with public lawsuits, thus contributing to strengthening the rule of law.

Reform of Judicial System

In order to realize rule of law in the society, the standing committee of the KBA, Committee for Research on Legal System, provides opinions to more than 200 legislative bills each year and forms opinions based on the members' questions regarding the Attorney-At-Law Act to guide government legislations in the right direction.

In order to better represent the wishes of the citizens and the judiciary body, the KBA provides suggestions on nomination for appointment to positions such as the Chief Justice of Supreme Court, Supreme Court Justices, the Attorney General, Justices of Constitutional Court and independent prosecutors and on reform of the judicial system including the law school system, the bar examination and the system of unifying the judicial officers in an effort to create a judicial system that fully protects people’s rights, provides professional legal services to people and enjoys public trust.

The KBA, as a legal and a human rights organization, safeguards the Constitution and the rule-of-law principles necessary to realize social justice, by conducting investigations, issuing public statements and presenting its criticism of governmental actions when the basic rights of citizens or rule-of-law principles are violated.

Self-Reform of Lawyers

With the increasing number of lawyers and the diversified misconducts of legal professionals, the

sense of ethics of individual attorneys and the importance of ethical education are being emphasized. The KBA helps lawyers to perform the duties for clients in good faith and to build an exemplary image of lawyers. For example, if any misconduct by a lawyer is found, the association investigates it and takes a disciplinary action against the relevant lawyer through the Disciplinary Committee, Investigation Committee and Ethics Committee of the KBA.

In order to help lawyers build a sense of ethics, the KBA published the Bill of Ethics for Lawyers in 1962 that outlines the basic missions of lawyers in the Code of Ethics section and lawyers' obligations in the Regulations of Ethics section. Also, the association published the 'Collection of Disciplinary Cases' that describes the precedent disciplinary actions taken by the Disciplinary Committee of the KBA to provide guidelines on ethical standards for the present and future lawyers.

In the event of a dispute between a lawyer and a client or between lawyers with respect to legal fees, the KBA tries to settle it by having the Dispute Mediation Committee at each local bar association investigate the case, and recommends a compromise or a mediation proposal to the concerned parties.

International Exchange

The KBA is taking an initiative in liberalization and specialization of legal community in order to stay competitive, actively respond to problems arising from rapid globalization of legal markets and adapt to this rapid changing international environment.

The KBA hosts international conferences including the conference of the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific (LAWASIA) and conference of the President of Bar Associations of Asia (POLA), and actively participates in the conferences of International Bar Association (IBA), Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA), etc. It also supports its member lawyers to serve at international legal professionals organizations.

Also, the KBA collects the recruiting information of international organizations, law firms and overseas companies to help Korean lawyers to advance to the international stage, support young lawyers to participate in international conferences, and make efforts to secure the opportunities of internship for Korean lawyers.

The KBA promotes mutual cooperation and understanding of different legal systems between the bar associations of other countries by sharing information on the operation of bar association, judicial system, bar exam system, etc. We have regular exchanges with the Japanese Bar Association and the All China Lawyers' Association to promote amicable relationship and increase mutual understanding on the law system. It also sponsors the International Association of Korean Lawyers (IAKL), which consists of Korean descent lawyers in overseas.

In addition, the KBA makes active exchanges with foreign legal professional groups including signing a memorandum of understanding with the lawyers' groups of the U.S., U.K., Australia, France, etc. It spares no efforts to grasp the changing trend in the legal profession and prepare for the liberalization of the legal service market.

1-4-5 Categories of Membership

The KBA consists of the lawyers who reported their private practice (individual members), law firms/limited liability law firms established by lawyers to perform their duties systematically and professionally, foreign lawyers whose practice is approved (foreign members), law & notary public offices established to perform the duties of notary public pursuant to the Notary Public Law (corporate members), and 13 local bar associations established in the location of every district court

(group members); and it is mandatory for all of those to join the KBA.

1-4-6 Membership Numbers (as of October, 2011)

Category	Number of Members
Private practice (individual members)	10,990
Law firms	514
Limited liability law firms	13
Foreign legal consultants (approved)	0
Law & notary public offices established to perform the duties of notary public pursuant to the Notary Public Law (corporate members)	49
Others (*Joint Law Offices)	115

*Law Offices: requires at least two people for registration

1-4-7 Membership (voluntary or compulsory, please also explain where such registration should be filed)

The KBA membership is compulsory for all the qualified lawyers in Korea and the registration should be filed to the KBA.

1-4-8 Executives and Officers, Number of Positions

- President (1)
- Senior Vice President (5)
- Secretary General (1)
- Vice President (10)
- Auditors (3)
- Spokesperson (3)
- Deputy Secretary General (2)

1-4-9 Finances and membership fees (Please provide the yearly budget amount of your organization and also the yearly membership fees in USD)

The KBA Yearly Budget → USD 6,300,101.75 (as of 2011)

Monthly (Yearly) membership fees → USD 40

Registration fee → USD 442

1-4-10 Journal, Newsletter, Website

Human Rights Report

The KBA has been publishing the "Human Rights Report" which objectively examines, summarizes, and evaluates the situation of human rights in Korea each year since 1986. The annual report is used to assess the status of human rights in Korea and to seek measures to improve human rights situation.

White Paper on North Korean Human Rights

The KBA has published the "White Paper on North Korean Human Rights" every two years since 2006 with the purpose of correctly assessing the human rights related laws and the reality of North Korea. The paper aims to objectively discuss the human rights laws and its application to North Korean citizens. It is free from all political considerations and interests, and aims to provide an accurate report to the world. An English version of the paper was also published with the latter intention in mind.

KBA Newspaper

Under the slogan "to embody human rights, realize social justice, and improve legal culture," the KBA launched a weekly publication, the "KBA Newspaper," on March 27, 2000. The newspaper introduces various legislative, judicial, and executive activities that affect legal practice as well as the activities of the KBA and local bar associations. As an opinion leader in many issues regarding the legal community, it provides useful information to both lawyers and law students.

Human Rights and Justice

In March 1970, the KBA published the first issue of its journal, then called "Hoibo," to create an anthology to strengthen relationships among lawyers and to provide the legal community with information on local bar associations, other legal groups and lawyers in different fields, in order to promote the development of local and international legal culture and to introduce new legislation.

After renaming the journal to "Human Rights and Justice," the monthly "Human Rights and Justice" has served as a forum for official announcements and notices on various regulations that need to be proclaimed to internal and external readers alike. The journal has also published various papers and data on legal practice and study, serving as a comprehensive legal journal in charge of leading the creation and improvement of legal culture, as well as the judicial system.

Literary Magazine 'The Way'

As the number of lawyers increased to exceed 10,000 and new law school graduates are ready to join the legal market, the KBA launched the literary magazine titled 'The Way' aimed at providing emotional encouragement and consolation to lawyers and removing negative image of lawyers. The magazine is expected to bring positive and friendly image of lawyers to people.

White Paper on Korean Lawyers

In 2010, the KBA published the '2010 White Paper on Korean Lawyers' for the first time in Korea. It includes various statistics and data regarding lawyers including the

number of lawyers, their income level, the number of lawsuits, retaining status, notary public system, state-appointed attorney system, public activities of lawyers, etc.

Other Publications

In order to allow members to adequately respond to the rapidly changing legal environment of Korea, the KBA publishes "Summary of Lawyer Practice," "Commentary on Selected Court Decisions Based on the Attorney-At-Law Act," "Register of Lawyers' Specialty Areas" and special training materials in independent volumes. These publications, in keeping up with the trend of the legal market in becoming more specialized, aid in the production of skilled lawyers specialized in various fields in order to better provide citizens with high-quality legal services.

Korean Bar Association website: www.koreanbar.or.kr

1-4-11 Other Bar Associations (including the provincial associations) in the Country and the Number of Members of such Other Organizations

(As of October, 2011)

Number of lawyers registered with each local bar association	
Seoul	7,923
Northern Gyeonggi	223
Incheon	331
Central Gyeonggi	575
Gangwon	87
Chungbuk	94
Daejeon	306
Daegu	366
Busan	394
Ulsan	108
Gyeongnam	175
Gwangju	245
Jeonbuk	125
Jeju	38

1-4-12 Qualifications to Become an Attorney

Qualification

To become a licensed lawyer, one must pass the bar examination conducted by the government and then complete the mandatory training course of the Judicial Research and Training Institute or should be qualified as a judge or a public prosecutor.

However, since the new U.S.-style law school system was adopted with the ratification of the "Act on Bar Examination" by the National Assembly in March 2009, one must have completed the graduate

level law school program and pass the national bar examination in order to qualify as a licensed lawyer beginning in 2012. The previous bar examination system will remain in effect until it is abolished in 2017.

Registration as a Lawyer and Private Practice

In order to begin legal practice, one needs not only to be a licensed lawyer, but also be registered with the KBA and the local bar association which he/she wants to be affiliated with prior to practicing.

However, the Registration Committee of the KBA may deny the registration through resolution if the Committee decides that the person has reasons for disqualification or is deemed significantly inappropriate to perform duties as a lawyer.

FLC Registration

FLC (Foreign Legal Consultant) refers to a person who has been qualified by the Minister of Justice as a holder of the lawyer's license of a foreign country and then has registered at the KBA in accordance with the prescribed regulations.

A foreign lawyer who desires to be an FLC shall apply to the Minister of Justice for qualification as an FLC. The requirements for qualification are that the origin country where his/her lawyer's license was issued is the counter country of the FTA or any similar agreement made by the Republic of Korea and that his/her lawyer's license is valid in the origin country.

However, in case that a foreign lawyer is disqualified or his/her qualification is suspended temporarily, the KBA may revoke his/her qualification as an FLC.

Registration of Lawyers' Specialty Area

To provide quality legal service to meet the needs of clients and to maximize the professionalism in each practice area through free competition among its members, the KBA has been implementing the system of registering lawyers' specialty area of practice.

A lawyer who wishes to register his/her specialty area with the KBA should submit an application together with materials evidencing his/her specialty in the area concerned and then is allowed to register his/her specialty area after passing the examination by the Professional Specialization Review Committee of the KBA.

1-4-13 Laws, Decrees or Regulations on Attorneys (Please explain if there are any laws, decrees or regulations on attorneys in your country. Please provide the JFBA an English translation if they are available.)

Please refer to the attached files:

[1] Korea Attorney-At-Law Act

[2] Enforcement Decree Attorney-At-Law Act

1-4-14 Code of Ethics and/or Rules of Professional Conduct (Please provide the JFBA

an English translation if an English translation of these is available.)

Code of Ethics

- Lawyers shall take it as their mission to defend fundamental human rights and realize social justice.
- Lawyers shall perform their duties fairly and diligently, preserving their honor and dignity.
- Lawyers shall serve the nation and society by devoting themselves to promoting the public awareness of the law.
- Lawyers shall contribute to improving legal culture with their courage, intelligence and creativity.
- Lawyers shall make efforts to establish the fundamental order of democracy and condemn immorality and injustice.
- Lawyers shall act in cooperative spirits while respecting friendship and trust.
- Lawyers shall contribute to world peace by promoting goodwill among legal communities of the world.

1-4-15 Disciplinary Functions (Please explain who has the power to take disciplinary action against members.)

The Attorney-At-Law Act, Article 92, provides that the establishment of Attorney Disciplinary Committee as follows;

Article 92 (Establishment of Attorney Disciplinary Committee)

- (1) All disciplinary action against an attorney-at-law shall be taken by the Attorney Disciplinary Committee.
- (2) Both the Korean Bar Association and the Ministry of Justice shall have their own Attorney Disciplinary Committee, respectively.

Article 92-2 (Establishment of Investigative Committee)

- (1) The Investigative Committee mandated to investigate attorneys-at-law who are suspected for being subject to disciplinary action shall be set up in the Korean Bar Association.
- (2) The Investigative Committee may, if deemed necessary, request relevant agencies, organizations, etc. to submit material or interview the parties or persons concerned to consider their opinions about facts.
- (3) Necessary matters concerning the composition, operation, etc. of the Investigative Committee shall be determined by the Korean Bar Association.

1-4-16 Continuous Legal Education for Members (Please explain about the program, if any)

The Attorney-At-Law Act provides that the Training and Education of Attorneys-at-Law as follows;

Article 85 (Training and Education of Attorneys-at-Law)

(1) Each attorney-at-law shall receive training and education offered by the Korean Bar Association to enhance their expertise and awareness of ethics (hereinafter referred to as "training and education") for a period determined by Presidential Decree or longer: Provided that the same shall not apply to cases falling under any of the following subparagraphs:

1. Cases where an attorney-at-law is unable to render his/her legal services normally due to disease, etc.;
2. Cases where there is a justifiable ground which prevents an attorney-at-law from receiving training and education, such as suspension of practice;
3. Cases prescribed by the Korean Bar Association, where an attorney-at-law is unable to receive training and education due to his/her advanced age.

(2) The Korean Bar Association may delegate training and education to local bar associations or commission any agency or organization with the training and education.

(3) In cases where any attorney-at-law attends a law-related academic seminar, etc., the Korean Bar Association may recognize that he/she received the training and education as prescribed by the Korean Bar Association.

(4) The subject of legal ethics shall be included in the training and education.

(5) Necessary matters concerning the method of and procedure for the training and education, and procedures and standards for designating institutions and organizations to which the training and education may be commissioned, etc. shall be prescribed by the Korean Bar Association

The Enforcement Decree Attorney-At-Law Act provides that hours the training and education for Attorneys-at-Law as follows;

Article 17-2 (Hours of Training and Education for Attorneys-at-Law)

The hours of training and education for attorneys-at-law pursuant to Article 85 (1) of the Act shall be eight more hours each year, including one hour for legal ethics course, and the method of calculating hours spent for the completion of such training and education, frequency of such training and education, etc. shall be determined by the Korean Bar Association.

KBA Lawyer Training Program

Regular Training

To respond to new demand for legal services and provide citizens with specialized and high-quality legal services, the KBA holds two regular training courses each year (summer & winter) on legal theories, practical knowledge, code of ethics and other areas of interest such as human rights and the environment for all lawyers. The training allows individual lawyers to stay up-to-date on the latest

legal developments while encouraging mutual cooperation and solidarity among lawyers to increase morale of the lawyer community.

Special Training

Since the establishment of the Lawyer Training Center on March 17, 1997, the KBA has been holding specialized courses to enhance the capability and competitiveness of its members in specialized areas. As the number of lawyers reaches 10,000 and the law school system has been newly introduced, the association is required to develop specialized and diverse training programs for lawyers. To meet such requirement, the KBA opened the online lawyer training center (<http://e.koreanbar.or.kr>) in collaboration with the Education Broadcasting System (EBS) in January 2011, allowing the lawyers to take online courses of professional legal practice without limit of place and time. The association is trying to keep offering high quality training courses to lawyers.

Overseas Training (Scholarship for Legal Training)

To strengthen the international competitiveness of lawyers to prepare for globalization and opening of the legal market, the KBA provides its members with overseas training programs such as Young Leaders' Program, a regular one-year course in Japan, and Eisenhower Fellowship in the U.S. and UN International Law Fellowship which are irregular courses.

By introducing and conducting these overseas training programs, the KBA aids young and talented members of the association to become prominent lawyers.

1-4-17 Challenges the Organization is Facing (Please briefly explain the problems and challenges your organization is currently facing.)

1. Tension with the patent attorneys in pursuing right to conduct litigation and right for audience in IP cases
2. Establishing the international arbitration centre in Korea
3. Providing legal service to multicultural families

II Legal Aid

2-1 Please describe briefly the history of legal aid in your country.

- Korean Legal Aid Corporation (www.klac.or.kr)

The Korean Legal Aid Association, an incorporated foundation, was established in July 1, 1972 under its wing of the Ministry of Justice. As time went by, the Korean Legal Aid Association unveiled many problems, since it was operated under the direction of the Prosecution as opposed to the principle of private autonomy, which should serve as the guiding principle in resolving civil disputes. In particular, providing counsel for the detained suspects and the accused who are physically restrained was out the question, given the nature of the Prosecution.

In order to overcome these restrictions, the Legal Aid Act was enacted and proclaimed on December 23, 1986, under which the Korea Legal Aid Corporation, a special corporation led by the private sector, came into existence on September 1, 1987.

- Legal Aid Foundation of the Korean Bar Association (“KBA”) (www.legalaid.or.kr)

It is prescribe in Article 80 of the Attorney-At-Law Act that matters relating to legal aid programs shall be entered in the regulations of the KBA, and also prescribed in Article 84 that a Committee on Legal Aid shall be established to carry out legal aid projects in the KBA, and its subcommittee may be established in a local bar association.

In accordance with the foregoing, the KBA provided legal aid services at its own expense from 1986 to 2003. The Foundation was permitted to be established on March 19, 2003 and began its operation from January 2004, and it was designated in July 2005 as recipient of public contribution by the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

- Korean Legal Aid Centre for Family Relations (www.lawhome.or.kr)

The Korea Legal Aid Centre for Family Relations was established in 1956 by lawyer Tae-Young Lee, under the philosophy of human dignity and equality before law. It was registered at the Ministry of Justice as a legal aid corporation under the Legal Aid Act in 1988, and provides a variety of legal aid services from legal counselling on family affairs and mediation to legal aid in litigation.

2-2 Please outline the legal aid organization and its programs.

- Korea Legal Aid Corporation
 - A. Legal counselling
 - B. Legal aid
 - (1) Civil and family cases
 - (2) Criminal cases (including free defending by right to counsel).
 - (3) Administrative Review & Judicial Review of Administrative Act.
 - * Administrative review cases are restricted to the cases pending on such committees of Prime Minister, Cities, and Provinces, respectively.
 - (4) Adjudication on Constitutional Complaint.

- Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA
 - A. Legal aid
 - B. Other activities
 - (1) Legal support programs for the retired and senior citizens
 - (2) Operation of Citizen's Law School

- Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations
 - A. Legal Counselling
 - B. Mediation and Free paper preparation for necessary lawsuits.
 - C. Aid for litigation in court
 - D. Anti-Domestic Violence Counseling Program

2-2-1 Name of the legal aid organization/head office location

- Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations
11-13 Yeouido-dong, Youngdeungpo-gu, Seoul 150-868, Korea
02)780-5688

- Korea Legal Aid Corporation
Korea Legal Aid Corporation Bldg, 1703-10, Seocho 3-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
Tel. 02)532-0132

- Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA
5th Floor, Korean Bar Association, 1718-1, Seocho-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
Tel. 02) 3476 - 6515
Fax. 02) 3476 - 4008

2-2-2 When was the above organization established?

- The Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations was established in 1956.
- The Korea Legal Aid Corporation was established on September 1, 1987.
- The Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA was permitted to be established on March 19, 2003.

2-2-3 Please describe briefly the organization structure such as branches and other offices.

- Korea Legal Aid Corporation
18 branches; 40 sub-branches
Number of employees: 753 persons (as of October 2011)
- Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA
It is operated under the auspices of the KBA and 13 local bar associations.
- Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations
31 branches home and abroad

2-2-4 Please explain about the organization's service delivery model such as salaried legal professional (staff attorney) and/or private legal professional (judicare).

- Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations- Group of 100 lawyers
Volunteer lawyers provide free legal counseling and other legal services in the daytime and evening to assist the persons with family law problems during weekdays. Currently a total of 618 lawyers are listed to provide services to those who could otherwise not afford them.
- Legal Aid Foundation of KBA
There are no in-house lawyers.
- Korea Legal Aid Corporation
The lawyers and public-service advocates of the Corporation provide legal aid and the Ministry of Justice dispatch 100 public-service advocates each year.

2-2-5 Please explain about the budget for the legal aid system.

Korea Legal Aid Corporation

It receives government subsidies (KRW 26.4 billion in 2008).

Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations

It has received financial subsidies from the Ministry of Justice since 1989, and the amount of the current annual subsidy is approximately KRW 1 billion.

Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA (as of 2010)

Category	Balance
1. Commitment of Donation for 2010	KRW 786,410,000
- Law Firms:	KRW 292,000,000
- Individuals	KRW 4,410,000
- Deposit Management Commission	KRW 300,000,000
- Ministry of Gender Equality and Family	KRW 190,000,000
2. Balance (carried forward from the last account)	KRW 551,134,535
Total Budget	KRW 1,337,544,535

2-2-6 How many recipients have received the legal aid assistance in main legal aid programs in recent years?

Korea Legal Aid Corporation

Status of Provision of Legal Aid

(As of 2010, www.klac.or.kr)

Year	Civil Case, Family Case, Administrative Case, Non-litigation Case, Constitutional Appeal				Criminal Case
	Total	Before Proceeding	Aid in litigation	Expenses (KRW / Billion)	
1987~1984	141,546	99,867	41,679	578.4	-
1995	14,165	5,958	8,207	191.6	-
1996	15,824	5,366	10,458	226.3	654
1997	17,184	4,900	12,284	243.7	1,954
1998	19,971	4,369	15,602	331.8	2,716

1999	20,921	3,301	17,620	261.9	3,752
2000	25,664	2,745	22,919	324.6	9,442
2001	29,884	1,698	28,186	383.7	11,880
2002	33,310	1,256	32,054	444.1	11,606
2003	44,437	999	43,438	639.8	16,705
2004	49,339	743	48,596	729.1	20,153
2005	58,980	453	58,527	914.7	17,078
2006	75,976	377	75,599	1,456.5	17,304
2007	77,653	271	77,382	1,614.3	22,494
2008	99,043	190	98,853	2,143.5	25,952
2009	108,654	120	108,534	3,604	24,619
2010	113,092	115	112,977	2,836.7	19,579
Total	945,643	132,278	812,915	169,247	205,888

□ Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA

□ Status of Provision of Legal Aid □
 (2004 ~ 2010. 12)

Type Year	Annual Total	Classification of Legal Aid					
		Civil Case	Criminal Case	Family Case	Administrative Case	Non-litigation Case	Constitutional Appeal
2004	61	44	0	12	0	4	1
2005	31	23	2	5	0	1	0
2006	37	20	4	5	3	5	0
2007	22	15	2	2	3	0	0
2008	107	58	10	25	13	1	0
2009	167	81	3	58	25	0	0
2010	355	122	56	113	40	23	1

□ Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations (www.lawhome.or.kr)

Since the Center's founding in 1956, it has provided counselling and other legal services on domestic issues to 945,405 people. (1956-2008)

In addition, its branch offices have given aid in 1,549,010 cases, making a grand total of 2,494,415 over for one-half century of legal aid to Korean families

2-2-7 Please explain about the main activities of the legal aid organization, including entitlement to legal aid and reimbursement of the legal aid costs

□ Korea Legal Aid Corporation

A. Legal counselling

It provides free legal counselling services on all legal areas including civil, family, criminal and administrative cases. Anyone wishing to get legal counselling may do so by visiting the office of the Corporation or by phone call or letter.

B. Legal Aid

Legal advice is free for everybody. However, services such as mediation / disputes resolution, preparation of free legal forms, legal representation including civil, family law cases, and free criminal representation, are limited to those listed below:

Domestic citizens and foreign residents in Korea with their average income under KRW 2.6 million per month.

Public officials under the 6th rank, or its equivalents.

Military Officers ranked below of 2nd lieutenant.

Consumers suffering damage from the use of goods and services.

The claimant for whom the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea appointed as a court-appointed counsel, our legal-aid lawyer or public service attorney.

The person for whom the court concerned decided to grant litigation-aid services (including bankruptcy or credit recovery cases), except when granted only to the costs of a lawsuit including that stamp tax.

The stated person who shall receive Free Legal Aid under the necessity of particular assistance for farmers, fishermen, handicapped person, subsidized person of social security and so forth (See page 7 for 'Free Legal Aid' cases).

Criminal suspects or defendants for whom the court concerned designated as a court-appointed counsel our legal-aid lawyer or public service attorney.

And others who are poor and short of legal knowledge, thus unable to take measures or remedies at law on their own.

C. Free legal forms and Documents, including their Preparation.

As for an obviously simple case like a loan contract producing material written evidence, we provide free services of preparing documents such as application forms of complaints or temporary attachment. We also continue to give additional advice to our clients on the details of proceedings so that they may conduct their litigations by themselves without hiring private lawyers

D. Legal Representation in Civil, Family Law Cases, and others.

Legal Aid Procedure

The cases required to be represented in court by the legal-aid lawyer or the public service attorney will be determined among such ones as were referred from the legal-aid advice stage or transferred from the Secretary's Office of the President, Anti-corruption & Civil Rights Commission, and so forth. The cases to be referred to legal aid are allowed for most of cases including civil, family, administrative, constitutional complaint cases.

Costs of a lawsuit

Even for the cases referred to Legal Aid, when represented by the legal-aid lawyer or the public service attorney, the actual expenses paid to court such as stamp revenue, delivery service fee, and the attorney's fee specified by the Korea Legal Aid Corporation are liable for refund by the applicant at the conclusion of the legal-aid case. But the attorney's fee to be refunded is about the half of that provided in the related Rule of the Supreme Court, amounting only to the level of from 20 to 30 percent of a private lawyer's fee.

E. Free Defence by Attorney in Criminal Cases.

When either the defendant or the accused are in custody, detention, imprisonment, or the case concerned is in (or referred to) the court or the juvenile court for a trial or a new trial, the determination of Legal Aid or the decision of court to designate the Legal-Aid

lawyer and our public service attorney as a court-appointed counsel render our client(s) Free Legal Aid Defense, including Free Right to Counsel.

Payment of Bail

While the criminal representation of Korea Legal Aid Corporation is cost-free, the client is required to pay for bail or bail-bond. The money paid for bail renders refund from the court at the conclusion of proceedings.

Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA

*Carries out similar activities with the Korea Legal Aid Corporation as above.

Eligibility for the legal aid (of the Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA)

People who are protected under the National Basic Living Security Act

People whose living can be endangered due to the expenses of lawsuit

Senior citizens, minors, the disabled, criminal victims, and refugees from North Korea

For foreigners - immigrant workers, multicultural family, refugees under the international law

People whom the human rights committee of the KBA acknowledged to be eligible

People whom the foundation acknowledged to be eligible

Legal Aid for sexual violence victims

- With the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family and the KBA

There are 176 lawyers who provide legal aid services as of 2010.

Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations

The Center was established as the pioneer legal aid center in Korea in 1956 and since that time has continued to work to protect those in need through free legal counseling.

In order to solve domestic problems through legal solutions, counselors and lawyers at the Center provide legal counseling, mediation, preparation of documents and legal representation, when necessary at the courts all free of charge. In addition, as one of several counseling centers designated by the Family Court, the Center offers specific counseling for offenders in cases of domestic violence.

To educate about and prevent family problems, the Center has an educational department, which endeavors to raise awareness on domestic conflict issues through a variety of programs.

Likewise, in an effort to extend the network of the Center domestically as well as internationally, the Center has established branches in various areas of Korea and in the United States.

The Center is also actively involved in movements to revise Korea's discriminatory family laws, often based in long-held customs that create gender and spouse discrimination and other family problems. These efforts are geared for creating an atmosphere where improved family relations for all can thrive.

2-3 what are the future issues or challenges with respect to the legal aid system in your country?

There is no set manual summarizing information on the procedures of getting legal aid including where to turn to for initial counseling, and the level of awareness of legal aid is insufficient. Even when the need for legal aid is recognized in the course of initial counseling, the necessary legal aid is, in many cases, not available in one package due to the absence of networking among different legal aid providers.

The Korea Legal Aid Corporation is the top ranking legal aid provider in the country in terms of the number of cases. Established in 1987, the Korea Legal Aid Corporation has so far provided legal aid for 945,643 cases (excluding counseling), and the number is still growing every year. However, the Corporation's directors and auditors are appointed by the recommendation of the representative director, which often brings question of independence as to their roles. Under such circumstance, there is concern that the organization will become bureaucratized if the board of directors fails to play its part effectively. In addition, the centralized management style resulting in an organizational culture where the lawyers responsible for the provision of legal aid are less respected than those in charge of administrative affairs is pointed out as a factor that invites more red tape.

To ensure legal aid is provided to more people, the promotion of private legal aid providers is necessary. Unfortunately, private legal aid providers tend to lack human resources and material compared to the Corporation, which is more evident in the rural areas.

2-4 Please let me know if the legal aid organization has an English language website.

The Korea Legal Aid Corporation

<http://www.klac.or.kr>

The Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations

<http://lawhome.or.kr>

The Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA

<http://www.legalaid.or.kr>

III Legal consultation (other than that covered by the Legal Aid system explained in above II)

3-1 Legal Consultation Programs (Please explain if there are legal consultation programs managed by your organization (or other institutions) other than those covered under the Legal Aid system in your country)

The local governments and local bar associations in Korea have provided free legal consultations in order to strengthen remedies for people in the fields.

3-2 Fees for Legal Consultation (Please explain the fee structure for such legal consultation programs.)

All fees for legal consultation through the local governments and local bar associations above are free of charge.

3-3 Management of the Legal Consultation Program (Please explain how such program is run by the organization.)

Each organization is managing the legal consultation program with fund and subsidies.

3-4 Appointment of an Attorney for Legal Consultation (Please explain how an attorney (consultant) is appointed.)

It depends on an attorney whether he or she become a member of pro-bono legal service group.

3-5 Flow to the legal representation (Please explain how such legal consultation may lead to legal representation by an attorney)

There is no exact flow or procedure to lead to legal representation by an attorney.

3-6 Number of Consultations (Please provide statistics on how many legal consultations have been carried out per year.)

Korea Legal Aid Corporation

Legal Counseling (as of 2010, www.klac.or.kr)

Year	Direct Counseling	Provision of information via 132 voice and fax	Provision of information via the Internet	Total
1987~1994	2,035,163	327,964	114,346	2,477,473
1995	365,142	231,256	86,936	683,334
1996	489,205	442,113	150,834	1,082,152
1997	594,777	338,620	227,834	1,161,231
1998	804,535	379,226	407,007	1,590,768
1999	822,864	364,058	412,802	1,599,724
2000	840,283	391,745	662,200	1,894,228
2001	894,006	405,702	1,984,093	3,283,801
2002	899,285	252,803	3,558,578	4,710,666
2003	1,001,370	251,500	4,682,673	5,935,543
2004	996,255	201,537	4,280,237	5,478,029
2005	1,002,908	159,090	4,274,940	5,436,938
2006	1,035,714	148,047	3,061,695	4,245,456
2007	1,085,712	166,328	2,506,979	3,759,019
2008	1,194,603	255,870	1,921,828	3,372,301
2009	1,260,401	297,053	1,934,431	3,491,885
2010	1,218,792	247,254	2,141,009	3,607,055
Total	16,541,015	4,860,166	32,408,422	53,809,603

Since most of organizations do not want to provide the statistics, there is no exact data regarding how many legal consultations have been carried out in each organization.

IV Shortages of Lawyers in Local Areas

4-1 Is there any figure of lawyers who work in local areas in your country?

Of 10,997 certified lawyers currently in practice as of October 2011; approximately 72% are practicing in Seoul. The rest 28% are practicing in local areas (575 in Suwon, 394 in Pusan and 366 in Daegu).

4-2 Do you think that there are a sufficient number of qualified lawyers working for citizens in local areas in your country?

It is quite clear that many qualified lawyers are heavily located in Seoul, compared to other locations. However, considering the number of cases, population and the demand in other areas, it is unclear whether there are shortages of lawyers in the local areas as of now.

In addition, it is expected that the local areas will have more lawyers working in their areas soon as there will be significant increase in the number of lawyers with the first graduates of the new law school system to join in the legal market in Korea from 2012 (the regional distribution is reflected in setting student quota for law schools).

4-3 If the answer of Question 4-2 is negative, what have caused such shortage of lawyers?

The shortage of lawyers in local areas can be attributed to the concentration of political, economical, socio-cultural activities in Seoul.

4-4 Does the legal aid organization or the bar association/law society has any programs in dealing with legal services in local areas in your country?

Yes, they have such programs such as free legal consultation.

4-5 If the answer of Question 3-3 is affirmative, please describe briefly such programs.

The Korea Legal Aid Corporation and the Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations operate branches and sub-branches in local areas to fill the gap in legal service provision.

The KBA is also making efforts to bring quality legal aid to the residents in the areas other than Seoul through the establishment of the Legal Aid Foundation within itself.

4-6 What are the future issues or challenges with respect to the shortage of legal services in local areas in your country?

A. Increase in the number of lawyers

As of 2010, the number of certified lawyers is over 12,000, and there will be an explosive increase in the number of new lawyers from 2012 when the first graduates of law schools will enter into practice. It is projected that the number of lawyers will be doubled around 2020.

B. Expansion of legal aid and establishment of networking among legal aid providers

The Korean government plans to expand the subsidy for Korea Legal Aid Corporation in the long term. The Legal Aid Foundation of the KBA is also planning to enhance its legal aid by attracting more contributions. As discussed above, establishing effective networking among legal aid providers will also contribute to enhance legal services.

V Other Obstacles to Hinder Access to Justice

5-1 Are there any obstacles to hinder access to justice other than the problems with the legal aid system and the shortage of lawyers in local areas?

Yes.

5-2 If the answer of Question 4-1 is affirmative, please describe briefly such obstacles.

All decisions of the courts are not available to the public due to procedural problems and lack of human resources.

5-3 Please explain briefly the educational system to produce qualified lawyers in your country.

Currently, legal professionals (judges, prosecutors and lawyers) are qualified through judicial exam and Judicial Research and Training Institute in Korea. The exam is open to anyone not subject to certain disqualification and they may apply for the exam with no restriction of qualification, age, etc. After passing the judicial exam, one must complete a two-year training program in the Judicial Research & Training Institute to be qualified as a lawyer. Then, they are required to have themselves registered at the Korea Bar Association to be allowed to practice as a lawyer.

In addition, as of 2009, the graduate law school system was established, similar to American model. Those who have passed bar exam after graduating 3 year course in law school will be qualified as lawyer, and the first bar exam will be held in 2012. Through the first bar exam, 1,500 law school graduates will be newly qualified. 6 months of training period is required after passing the bar exam in order to practice.

Meanwhile, the judicial exam will continue to exist until 2017. The number of passers of the judicial exam will be brought down by stages. Hence, more than 2,000 new lawyers will be produced each year from 2012 when the law schools in Korea will firstly graduate their students.

5-4 Do you think that your country has enough lawyers to substantiate the access to justice?

Korea has a total of approximately 1,200 certified lawyers for its population of 50 million, and thus, it might look there is a shortage of lawyers in Korea. However, given the Korean context where small claims not requiring legal representation account for 80% of the total trials, it is hard to conclude that the number of lawyers is insufficient in Korea. If successfully launched, it seems that the law school system will contribute to the improvement of the access to justice.

5-5 Do you think that your country produces newly qualified lawyers every year to substantiate the access to justice?

Until this year (2011), the annual qualified legal professionals were 1,000 through the Judicial Research and Training Institute. However, with the new law school system and the new bar exam, additional 1,500 legal professionals will be qualified in 2012 (out 2000 graduates of the law school). The exact number of qualified lawyers from 2013 is still to be decided by the National Assembly.

VI Cooperation with Foreign Organizations

6-1 Please explain the details of recent and future projects relating to any of the above discussed issues in your country, in regard to which any foreign (governmental or non-governmental) organizations are providing assistance.

There are no cooperating foreign organizations in relation to the issues discussed above.

VII Others

7-1 Please fill in any comments or your thoughts to way to achieve the well-organized access to justice in your country.

The KBA has two suggestions to improve the access to justice in Korea:

A. The judges to have prior experience (at least 10 years of practice) in order to be appointed, to ensure that the judges are more qualified and experienced. The KBA also encourages and promotes smooth change of careers between different legal professions.

B. To increase number of justices of the Supreme Court to 40, to ensure smooth and fast trial procedure.