



IP5 HEADS AND
DEPUTY HEADS OF
OFFICE MEETING



2019 IP5 Joint Statement (Incheon)

13 June 2019

The IP5 Offices, the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office, and the China National Intellectual Property Administration, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, have been working together since 2007 to promote an efficient, cost-effective and user-friendly global patent landscape. They share a vision and commitment to enhanced work-sharing; high-quality, timely search and examination results; and seamless access to patent information.

The IP5 Offices highlight the activities undertaken and progress achieved to date and agree to continue to cooperate in the future. Since 2007, the IP5 Offices' cooperation has had many achievements including the following:

- Align and simplify IP5 Offices' practices and procedures
- Enhance and develop work-sharing mechanisms, including the IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program and the Collaborative Search and Examination among the IP5 Offices for Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) applications to provide applicants with high-quality examination results in a timely manner
- Share best practices on quality management to facilitate the provision of higher quality services by the IP5 Offices
- Improve the Global Dossier that offers applicants a single online portal enabling easy access to file wrappers of the IP5 Offices in real time and free of charge
- Coordinate and cooperate with IP5 Industry on technical projects of the IP5 cooperation via the platforms of the Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF) and the Industry Consultation Group (ICG)

- Enrich the IP5 website to furnish stakeholders and the public with up-to-date information on the key activities, achievements and benefits of the IP5 cooperation in transparent manner
- Conduct regular statistical data exchanges and publish an annual statistics report, which allows a periodic comprehensive review of the IP5 cooperation while contributing to policy development at the IP5 Offices
- Revise the patent classification regularly to keep up with the rapid advancement of technologies in order to provide patent examiners and patent information users with the most effective search indexes

Recognizing the continuous increase in the volume of patent filings in their respective regions, the IP5 Offices reaffirmed that the IP5 cooperation needs to reinforce its role in promoting an efficient, cost-effective and user-friendly global patent landscape.

Based on this recognition, the IP5 Heads of Offices express their intention to focus on the following points in the future:

- Coordinate preparation for global technological transformation: work together to explore future cooperative initiatives considering the possible effects of new technologies including artificial intelligence on the intellectual property administration and patent system.
- Advance cooperation for high-quality and reliable examination: strengthen their concerted efforts in identifying new areas of cooperation for harmonization of examination practices and procedures, enhancing work sharing, and improving the IT infrastructure for better accessibility to patent information in order to enhance user experiences and meet user needs.
- Innovate within the cooperation framework: aim to continue improving the IP5 cooperation framework to ensure the sustainable implementation of existing and new cooperative initiatives.