

## **Second IP5 NET/AI task force meeting 3-5 March 2021, in virtual format**

### **Summary**

The IP5 NET/AI task force held its second meeting, virtually from 3 to 5 March 2021, to discuss the main elements for a comprehensive IP5 NET/AI roadmap. This roadmap is intended as a blueprint for IP5 Offices' joint endeavours in response to the challenges and opportunities arising from the increasing use of NET/AI.

The task force was established in 2019, to coordinate initiatives and develop a roadmap for possible endeavours that could be taken up by the IP5 Offices in the areas of new emerging technologies (NET) and artificial intelligence (AI). At its first meeting in early 2020, representatives from the IP5 Offices and WIPO developed a scoping document outlining candidate co-operation areas. The IP5 Heads of Office later endorsed this document in July 2020.

During their second meeting, the task force evaluated initial ideas and possible project proposals to formulate short-, medium- and long-term co-operation goals that are broad enough to accommodate future developments in the relevant areas. This should allow the experts from the various IP5 working groups to potentially develop achievable IP5 projects.

In particular, the task force explored the benefits of IP5 co-operation in AI-supported office operations - including automatic classification, machine translation - and the use of new technologies, such as blockchain. The task force members recognized that providing specific guidance on examination practices at the five offices could benefit users. Regarding strategic considerations, statistical exchanges between the IP5 Offices were considered essential for identifying and monitoring emerging trends that are expected to have a major impact.

Task force members underlined the need for continuous engagement with IP5 Industry to ensure that future IP5 co-operation on NET/AI meets the needs of offices and users. They agreed to use existing communication channels with IP5 Industry and to provide an update on the outcomes of this meeting at the next Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF) meeting.

The IP5 NET/AI task force will work on the compilation of the roadmap and seek the endorsement of the IP5 Heads of Office in June 2021. Once endorsed, the IP5 NET/AI roadmap will be published on the IP5 website.