

Follow up on 2019 Strategic Topics: New Emerging Technology (IP5 NET/AI Roadmap)

IP5 Heads with Industry Meeting | 22 June 2021 | JPO



Korean Intellectual
Property Office



❖ ‘Impacts of and Preparation for NET/AI’

- The object of this topic is to explore how NET/AI should/would impact the IP5 offices and Industry and how IP5 should/would cope with it
- NET/AI are key elements in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, challenges for patent law & practice and opportunities for efficiency gains in office operations
- IP5 offices need to work together in the area of NET/AI

- June 2019: IP5 Heads of Office agreed on creation of IP5 NET/AI task force
 - identify and coordinate NET/AI related issues
 - develop a roadmap for potential joint work by the IP5
- January 2020: 1st IP5 NET/AI task force meeting
- July 2020: IP5 Heads of Office agreed on the scoping document from IP5 NET/AI task force



IP5 NET/AI Task Force

Scoping document

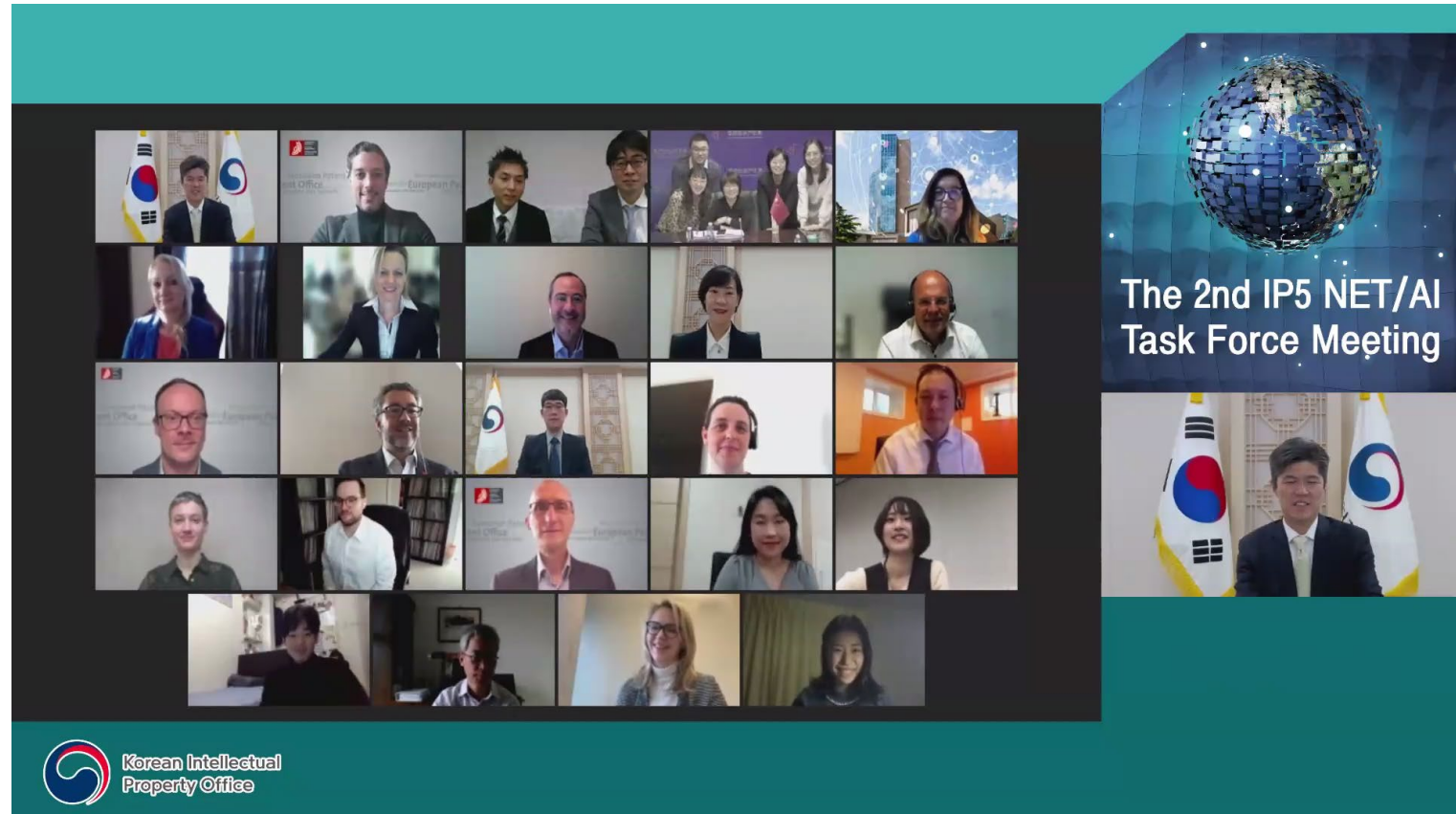
1. At their annual meeting in June 2019 the IP5 Heads of Offices endorsed the establishment of the IP5 New Emerging Technologies and Artificial Intelligence Task Force (NET/AI TF) as the IP5 body in charge of coordinating and analysing NET and AI-related issues across the IP5 and proposing a roadmap for potential joint work on NET and AI by the IP5 Offices. The approved project brief is annexed.
2. In accordance with this project brief and following the first meeting of the IP5 NET/AI TF (15 - 16 January 2020, Berlin) the present document outlines the scope for potential joint IP5 activities in the area of NET/AI ("scoping document").
3. The task force investigated candidate co-operation topics in three different areas: legal, IT and strategic. The identified candidate co-operation topics will be further analysed and elaborated in the comprehensive roadmap for the IP5 Offices' approach to NET and AI, which will form the basis for specific project proposals by the relevant working groups and recommendations for policy developments.

Area 1 - Legal aspects of NET/AI

Objective

4. Not least due to the complexity and the interdisciplinary character of the subject matter a considerable degree of uncertainty appears to surround issues relevant to AI driven innovation and the patenting of AI related inventions. While each IP5 Office undertakes significant efforts to clarify associated practice issues with its domestic users and stakeholders, detailed guidance appears to be lacking on how innovators can best acquire robust patent protection for their inventions in multiple jurisdictions and, hence, ensure better return on their investments.

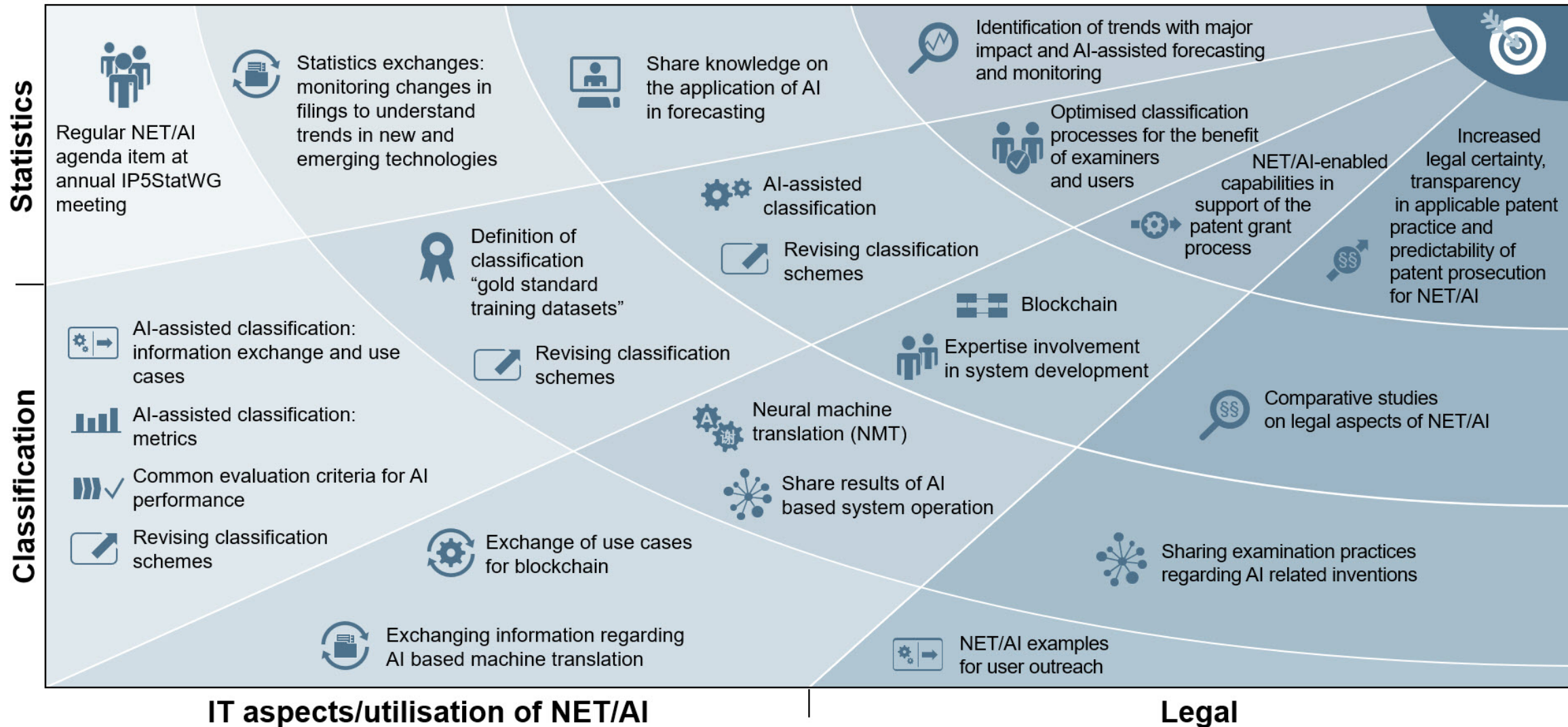
- March 2021: 2nd IP5 NET/AI task force meeting
 - develop NET/AI Roadmap document as second milestone and end-deliverable



IP5 NET/AI roadmap

- Blueprint for potential IP5 Offices' joint endeavours in NET/AI:
 - a number of co-operation opportunities in the short, medium and long term
 - broad enough to accommodate future developments
- Roadmap identifies four key areas of co-operation:
 - Statistics
 - Classification
 - IT aspects/utilisation of NET/AI
 - Legal

IP5 NET/AI OPPORTUNITIES



- Objective
 - overarching vision - what do we want to achieve?
- Goals and Milestones
 - opportunities to collaborate in order to achieve our vision
- Dependencies
 - flagging known dependencies or interdependencies

IP5 NET/AI roadmap - implementation

- Working groups to define exact scopes, timelines and resource requirements for possible future projects
- Implementation models may include pilot projects between two or more offices for proof-of-concept purposes
- IP5 Offices involved in pilot projects will report the project details and status to the respective working group experts and other offices will be able to join at any stage
- IP5 Offices will identify relevant stakeholders, and/or experts that are needed for collaboration and establish clear objectives, scope, resource requirements, and timelines

- Final version of the roadmap
 - approval by the IP5 Heads of Office (June 2021)
 - share with IP5 Industry after approval of the IP5 Heads
 - publish the roadmap after sharing with IP5 industry through IP5 website

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News
About IP5 co-operation
Patent statistics

Activities

[Classification \(WG1\)](#)

[Global Dossier and patent information \(WG2\)](#)

[Work-sharing and quality \(WG3\)](#)

[Patent harmonisation](#)

[New emerging technologies and artificial intelligence \(NET/AI\)](#)

[IP5 material](#)

[Consultation with industry](#)

[Events calendar](#)

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[Online resources](#)

[Sitemap](#)



New emerging technologies and artificial intelligence (NET/AI)

The IP5 Offices face new challenges and opportunities when it comes to rapidly-evolving technologies, and by co-operating they can create benefits for offices and users alike.

Following a request from IP5 Industry and an agreement by the IP5 Heads of Office in 2018 to explore the impact of AI on the patent system, an [IP5 expert round table on AI](#) was held in Munich on the legal aspects of patenting of artificial intelligence (AI). In addition, a [series of meetings](#) with users took place on these topics.

In 2019, the five offices decided to further advance their co-operation in the area of new emerging technologies (NET) and AI by setting up a special task force to co-ordinate their initiatives.

The interdisciplinary IP5 NET/AI task force, which comprises representatives from the IP5 Offices and WIPO, is exploring legal, technical and policy aspects of new technologies and AI, their impact on the patent system and on operations at the five offices. The aim is to pinpoint which areas can benefit most from joint IP5 responses and develop a comprehensive roadmap for possible endeavours.

Following their first meeting in early 2020, task force members developed a scoping document outlining candidate co-operation areas. The IP5 Heads of Office endorsed this [scoping 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 broad enough to accommodate future developments in the relevant areas.

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 recognised the user need for specific guidance on examination practices at the five offices. Statistics exchanges between the IP5 Offices were considered essential for identifying and monitoring emerging trends that are expected to have a major impact.

By June 2021, the task force aims to develop a comprehensive IP5 NET/AI roadmap forming the basis for possible projects and future work to be undertaken by the various IP5 working groups.

First IP5 NET/AI task force meeting, 15-16 January 2020

In their first meeting, hosted by the EPO in Berlin, Germany, the task force members took stock of existing NET and AI-related projects at the various IP5 working groups and at the individual offices and discussed possible areas for IP5 co-operation. [Read summary report](#)

Search

NET/AI section on IP5 website:

- work of the task force
- meeting summaries, scoping document, roadmap, etc.
- other updates as necessary

www.fiveipoffices.org/activities/NET_AI



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Thank you