

**CONSIDERATION BY THE IP5 PMG OF THE 16th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IP5 HEADS OF
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**IP5 Offices convene at the 16th Annual Meeting of the Heads of Office to discuss the role of IP5 in
addressing climate change through an accessible and inclusive IP system**

The five largest intellectual property (IP) offices, the European Patent Office (EPO), Japan Patent Office (JPO), Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), and United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), collectively known as the IP5 Offices, held their 16th Annual Meeting of the IP5 Heads of Office today. Kathi Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and USPTO Director, hosted the meeting in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Director Vidal was joined by EPO President António Campinos, JPO Commissioner HAMANO Koichi, KIPO Commissioner Dr. LEE Insil, and CNIPA Commissioner Dr. SHEN Changyu. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) also participated as an observer, with Lisa Jorgenson, Deputy Director General of the Patents and Technology Sector, attending on behalf of Director General Daren Tang.

The meeting theme, addressing climate change through an accessible and inclusive IP system, encouraged discussions on IP5 office-led initiatives and programs on climate-related innovations. Recognizing that inventors have, and continue to provide, invaluable contributions to solving global environmental challenges through sustainable inventions, the Offices discussed strategies to leverage their resources to further incentivize and promote sustainable innovations.

During their meeting, the Heads of Office also endorsed the progress of the ongoing IP5 working group projects, including the implementation of the IP5 New Emerging Technologies/Artificial Intelligence (NET/AI) roadmap, efforts to harmonize drawing requirements, and the exploration of creating a global assignment.

The Offices acknowledged the importance of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and explored ways to collaborate to provide additional user value and incorporate sustainability into the IP5 framework. They also amended the 2017 IP5 Vision Statement to include a broader scope of the IP5's work, focusing on efforts to build a sustainable future and enhancing and streamlining the IP system. The 2023 IP5 Vision Statement was adopted and published on the IP5 website on June 15, 2023.

“As a group responsible for the majority of the world's global patent applications, we hold a unique responsibility to ensure equitable access to the patent system and the sustainable technologies it nurtures. I'm therefore delighted we have now incorporated this duty into our mission, enabling us to focus our collective efforts on empowering innovative talent from all over the world, regardless of background, to drive progress towards achieving the all-important sustainable development goals.” – EPO President António Campinos

“The beautiful surroundings of Hawai'i remind me of the fact that this planet is the unreplaceable home for all of humankind. In order to keep it sustainable, we must take action against climate change—despite the challenges in figuring out the most appropriate and thorough methods to do so. I believe that now is the time to think about how to accelerate innovation in order to achieve challenging goals, including carbon neutrality. IP can provide support for this purpose—and the IP5 Offices will lead the movement.” – JPO Commissioner HAMANO Koichi

“Since its inception in Hawaii in 2007, the IP5 Offices have marched together to provide high-quality examination services through patent harmonization of practices and procedures and enhanced work-sharing, thereby contributing to the establishment of advanced global IP system. Reuniting in this historic place, the Offices laid a solid foundation for future cooperation among them to enhance the role of the five Offices in effectively responding to climate change and make our planet a better place to live for all, which is well reflected in our vision statement.” – KIPO Commissioner Dr. LEE Insil

“With the largest number of innovation activities in the IP5 countries/regions, it is of great significance that the IP5 further cooperate to address climate change. Looking into the future, I suggest that IP5 Offices, WIPO and all relevant parties focus on green technologies, actively promote pragmatic outcomes and enhance interactions with industry, to jointly contribute to the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.” – CNIPA Commissioner Dr. SHEN Changyu

“Global challenges, such as climate change, require global solutions. A robust, reliable and inclusive patent system is key to incentivizing and protecting new, sustainable technologies to reduce emissions and address the impacts of climate change. It is fitting that, 16 years after the first IP5 meeting here in Honolulu, we renew our commitment to each other and to the goal of strengthening the international IP ecosystem necessary for achieving a sustainable future for all.” – USPTO Director Kathi Vidal

“Innovation is instrumental in overcoming the world's global challenges, such as climate change and food security. IP, as the catalyst for growth and development is a powerful enabler for translating ideas into impact that will help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a roadmap for a better and more sustainable future. It is timely and appropriate that the IP5 Offices recognize the importance of the role of an accessible and inclusive IP system as part of the equation in addressing these global challenges. WIPO, as the global forum for IP, will continue to work with its 193 Member States towards our common goal of harnessing the power of IP to build a more sustainable world.” – WIPO Deputy Director General Lisa Jorgenson

As a result of the discussions on promoting sustainability and providing helpful resources and incentives to users, the IP5 Offices affirmed their commitment to explore IP5 collaboration opportunities on sustainable innovations to bring innovation to impact.

Today's meeting was preceded by a USPTO-hosted public program entitled “The Sustainable Innovation Dialogue: Exploring the Relationship between IP and Climate Change” held on June 13, 2023, in Honolulu. The IP5 Heads of Office and the Deputy Director General of WIPO used the opportunity to directly engage with stakeholders. They discussed IP5 Office initiatives on climate-related matters, climate and green

technologies, and challenges for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups in the climate-related innovation space. Following the 16th Annual Meeting of the Heads of Office, the leaders of the IP5 Offices and the Deputy Director General of WIPO toured the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Inouye Regional Center and participated in a joint program with NOAA to discuss IP and innovations related to climate and blue economy.

For more information

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