

**CONSIDERATION BY THE IP5 PMG OF THE 16th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IP5 HEADS OF OFFICE
CONFERENCE SUMMARY**

Document prepared by the United States Patent and Trademark Office

On June 15, 2023, 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), together known as the IP5 Offices, convened for their 16th Annual Meeting of the IP5 Heads of Office. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) also attended the meeting in an observer capacity.

The USPTO hosted the meeting in Honolulu, Hawai'i, under the theme addressing climate change through an accessible and inclusive intellectual property (IP) system. The meeting provided opportunities for the leaders of the IP5 Offices to showcase the positive contribution of IP and patents to climate change and discuss office-led initiatives and programs in the IP5 jurisdictions on climate-related innovations. Before the meeting, the IP5 Offices reviewed and considered a compilation of these initiatives and identified areas of convergence. Notably, all of the IP5 Offices independently offer accelerated examination to users to raise awareness about and spur climate-related innovations. Acknowledging and appreciating that users of the IP system have and continue to provide invaluable contributions to solving global environmental challenges, such as climate change, through sustainable inventions, the Offices assessed the collection of climate-related initiatives and discussed ways to strategically leverage their resources to further incentivize and promote sustainable innovations.

The IP5 Offices acknowledged the importance of innovation in providing solutions toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and agreed to undertake further work to promote IP and inclusive innovation, and to continue work on simplifying and increasing the efficiency of the international patent system. Additionally, the Offices amended the 2017 IP5 Vision Statement to incorporate a broader scope of the IP5 work, particularly concerning efforts to build a sustainable future and enhancing and streamlining the IP system. The new 2023 IP5 Vision Statement was adopted and published on the IP5 website on June 20, 2023.

IP5 Vision Statement (rev.2023)

Building a sustainable future by fostering innovation and economic growth through an inclusive and accessible patent system. Promoting patent protection through harmonization of practices and procedures, high-quality and timely search and examination results, worksharing and access to patent information and achieving an efficient, cost-effective and user-friendly international patent landscape.

As a result of the discussions on promoting sustainability and providing helpful resources and incentives to promote sustainable innovation, the Offices affirmed their commitment to continue exploring IP5 collaboration opportunities to bring innovation to more impact. Specifically, the Offices are considering conducting a study of green technology

innovations in the IP5 Offices' jurisdictions which may include a policy analysis and sharing of typical examples highlighting women, youth inventors, and SMEs, as well as utilizing and commercializing green technologies. . The IP5 Heads of Office acknowledged the need to improve the efficiency of the IP5 cooperation and agreed to conduct a project review, and focus on initiatives that generate tangible results.

IP5 Industry continues to play an integral part in IP5 cooperation by providing the well-needed insight and needs of stakeholders with respect to the IP system. On June 14, 2023, the leaders of the IP5 Offices met with IP5 Industry to discuss the progress of key IP5 projects and ways to leverage the resources of the IP5 Offices and IP5 Industry groups by strengthening cooperation on climate change. The IP5 Offices and Industry agreed to explore ways of improving patent operation efficiencies and reducing costs through the alignment of practices and procedures and technical cooperation. Specifically, the Offices and Industry discussed future work concerning NET/AI, efforts to improve e-signature requirements, enhancements to Global Dossier, harmonization of allowable features in drawing, and global assignment forms.

As a way forward, the Offices agreed to evaluate methods to optimize engagement with IP5 Industry and leverage the resources, expertise, and experience of the IP5 Offices and IP5 Industry to enhance the IP system for the benefit of society at large.

June 15, 2023

Antonio Campinos
President, European Patent Office

HAMANO Koichi
Commissioner, Japan Patent Office

Dr. LEE Insil
Commissioner, Korean Intellectual Property Office

Dr. SHEN Changyu
Commissioner, National Intellectual Property Administration, P.R. China

Kathi Vidal
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO
United States Patent and Trademark Office