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Subject: XMLization - Utilizable XML Document

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XMLization – Utilizable XML Document

1. Background

XML is utilized in various ways in the field of Intellectual Property because it is easy to process by the IT systems.

For example, if the outgoing documents from the Office are provided in XML format, the applicants can automatically and accurately import the information into their database and they can utilize it for application management.

On the other hand, if the incoming documents from the applicants are submitted in XML format, the operation in Offices can be automated and improved. Further, it is expected that XMLization in the Offices is promoted and the scope of information provision in XML format is expanded more and more.

XML Document Provision is the project led by the JPO among the five short-term priorities of the Global Dossier. So far the JPO has conducted the survey of the timeline of XMLization at each Office, the survey of users' needs, and the XML tag comparison for the Offices that have already prepared XML documents.

In the XML tag comparison, the JPO compared the XML tags in outgoing documents of the JPO, KIPO and the USPTO's pilot program.

As a result, in the outgoing documents in the JPO and KIPO, there are corresponding XML tags for many of the basic information items. However, in the outgoing documents of the USPTO's pilot program, we found that the information items identifiable by XML tags were limited and such XML data were not be utilizable by the users (See below).

KIPO and JPO	USPTO's Pilot Program
Common items identifiable by XML tags	
Application Number	<code><uscom:ApplicationNumberText></code>
Dispatch Number	<code><uscom:GroupArtUnitNumber></code>
Dispatch Date	
Drafted Date	
Examiner Name	
Examiner Affiliation	
Document Name	
Conclusion	
Paragraph Text	
Applicant Name	
Applicant Address	
Attorney Name	
Attorney Address	
Citation Information	
Applicant ID	

Brief summary of XML tag comparison result

Up until now, the scope of this project has been the expansion of the scope of documents and information provided in XML format and we have not paid attention to the detailed structure of XML data.

Also, in order to facilitate the utilization of the XML documents, it is desirable to share the table of corresponding tags between offices.

However, efforts have not been made to clarify the detail of information items which the Offices commonly set XML tags for and to understand the mutual corresponding relationship of XML tags across the Offices.

Therefore, we need to start the consideration of XMLization in effectively utilizable format at this time, when many of the IP5 Offices are at the early stage of XML development, so that the Offices can adopt desirable XML format and the users and the Offices can fully enjoy the benefits of XMLization.

2. Issues

From the results of XML tag comparison, the issues for Utilizable XML Document were identified as follows:

- In addition to simply achieving XMLization, detailed XML tags need to be set for the necessary information items so that the users and the Office can extract and utilize these items.
- Offices need to set corresponding XML tags for the necessary information items and the detail of its corresponding relationship needs to be shared.

3. Proposal

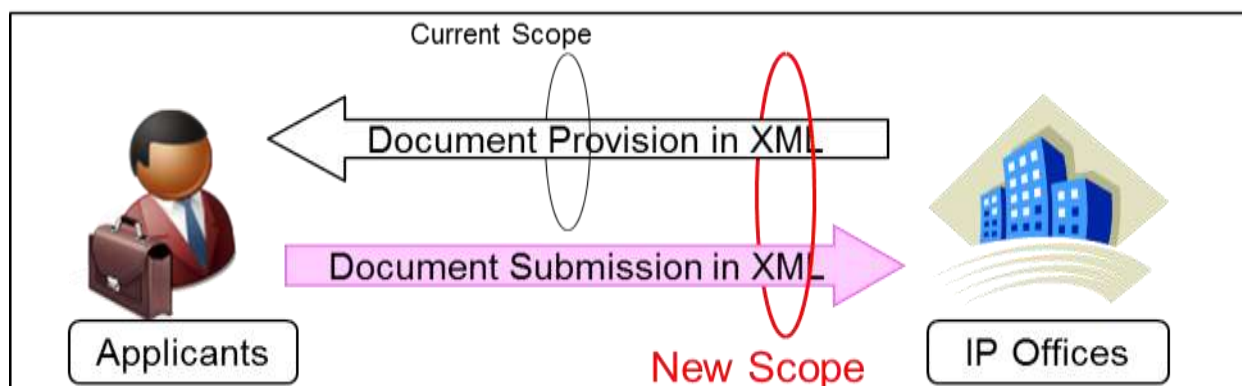
(1) Re-scope of the project

So far, this project has focused on the XMLization of outgoing documents from Offices to the applicants.

However, in order to fully enjoy the benefits of XMLization for the applicants and the offices as mentioned in 1, it is appropriate to consider documents in both ways, incoming and outgoing documents between the applicants and the offices.

Therefore, we would like to propose to re-scope the project and to include not only document provision from the Offices but also document submission from the applicants in XML format into the scope of this project.

Thereby, creation of new value is expected through improving the convenience of the applicants, streamlining the operations in the Offices and analyzing the data extracted from the documents using XML tags.



(2) Minimum items identifiable by XML tag: “XML2020”

In order to solve the issues mentioned in 2, we would like to propose to consider the minimum information items which should be identifiable by XML tag in the XML document data provided by each Office.

We would like to aim for creating a list of the minimum information items that should be identifiable by XML tag, and sharing the detail of corresponding relationship between the information items in the list and the XML tags set by each IP5 Office.

By identifying the common items by XML tags, users and the Offices can easily handle XML documents. Thus the convenience will be improved.

<div>(1) Determine the items based on user needs</div> <div>(2) Each office fills the list with corresponding XML tags.</div> <div>(3) Share the completed list with the industry</div>					
Document Type: Office Action (Non-final rejection)					
Information Items	EPO	JPO	KIPO	SIPO	USPTO
Application Number		<jp:notice-pat-exam/jp:notice-of-rejection-a131/jp:bibliog-in-ntc-pat-exam/jp:application-reference/jp:document-id/jp:doc-number>	<krpat:PatentOpinionSubmission/krpat:BibliographicData/pat:ApplicationIdentification/com:ApplicationNumber/com:ApplicationNumberText>		
	note:	note:	note:	note:	note:
Dispatch Date		<jp:cpy-notice-jp:dispatch-control-article/jp:dispatch-date/jp:date>	<krpat:PatentOpinionSubmission/krcom:SendInformation/krcom:SendDate>		
	note:	note:	note:	note:	note:
Applicant Name		<jp:m-mi-notice-doc/jp:m-domestic-office-doc-mng-arti/jp:m-applicant-and-attorneys/jp:m-dispatch-applicant-group/jp:m-name>	<krpat:PatentOpinionSubmission/krpat:BibliographicData/pat:PartyBag/pat:ApplicantBag/pat:Applicant/com:Contact/com:Name/com:EntityName>		
	note:	note:	note:	note:	note:
and more					

List of the minimum information items

The list will be prepared for each document type.

“Note” will be provided if there are special conditions to be considered, e.g. different definitions.

“Identifiable by XML tag” means the state that the specific XML tag corresponding to only the specific item is prepared, and the tag is actually set for the corresponding item in the XML data which is distributed.

A certain item which exists in a XML document is not “Identifiable by XML tags”, if the XML tag set for the item is not corresponding to only the item.

For example, the data of “application number” which exists in the XML document is not “identifiable by XML tags”, if “paragraph” tag common for the whole text of the document is set or if the exactly same tags are set for “priority number”.

While the WIPO Standard (for example, ST.36 and ST.96) prescribes the structure of XML data itself, this proposal is different from the WIPO Standard in that it is going to agree that the data of each item is actually generated so as to be identifiable by XML tags.

Each Office may design the Schema or DTD arbitrarily and adopt different XML structure. This proposal aims to determine a minimum item list that should be identified with XML tags as the rule of XML structure design and data generation.

Users can fully utilize the data if the items identifiable are common among the Offices and they understand the XML structure of each Office.

4. Procedures of the project

Regarding the “XML2020”, the next stage of this project proposed in the above 3. (2), the JPO would like to proceed with the following procedure. It is noted that if it takes long time for consideration, priority should be given to the documents with strong user needs; JPO’s “notification of reasons for refusal”, “Decision of Refusal” and other offices’ corresponding documents.

(1) Confirmation of target documents (till the end of June 2018)

Due to the different system of each Office, the legal position of each document in each Office do not necessarily coincide with each other. When proceeding with this project, at first, the corresponding relationship of each document of each Office should be organized and then it is necessary to identify the documents which the XML tags corresponding to the minimum information items should be given. On that basis, the items written on the corresponding documents are compared, and the common items are listed up.

(2) Survey of current situation at IP5 Offices (till the end of July 2018)

The survey of XMLization of each Office will be conducted again. In addition to the schedule of the development, the XML structure to be adopted and the items which XML

tags are actually set for and are identifiable will be included in the survey items.

(3) Survey of users' needs (till the end of November 2018)

We will conduct a survey what kind of items need to be identifiable by XML tags for users on the document and data in XML format provided from Offices. This survey will be conducted in collaboration with the IP5 industry, and the survey results will be shared with IP5 Offices.

Also, we will hear the special use on the provided document and data in XML format if any.

(4) Consideration of list of the minimum information items identifiable by XML tags (WG2 and GDTF meeting in 2019)

Based on the survey results in (2) and (3), the minimum information items which should be identifiable by XML tags will be considered and discussed in WG2 and GDTF meeting in 2019.

(5) Agreement at Heads Meeting

After reaching an agreement on the list of the minimum information items at the working level, it is expected to agree at the IP5 Heads Meeting in 2019.

In case where the discussions about all the documents are not completed, we will aim the agreement on part of documents and the agreement on the remaining documents at the IP5 Heads Meeting in following year will be aimed.

5. Note

There might be some information items which are unique for one of IP5 Offices and are necessary to be identifiable by XML tags.

Such items should be identifiable by XML tags in the Office concerned but other offices are not required to prepare such data identifiable.

(End of Document)