

STRATEGIC TOPICS

New Stage of Work Sharing

IP5 Heads and Industry Meeting | 31 May 2017 | Valletta



Korean Intellectual Property Office

Key points of new IP5 Vision

- ❖ To expand harmonized and cost-effective practices and procedures (or patent harmonization)
- ❖ To further enhance work-sharing
- ❖ To issue high-quality and timely search and examination results
- ❖ To provide seamless access to patent information

Concept of Work-sharing

- ❖ To share examination-related information between patent offices so as to improve the quality of examination of patent applications, to reduce duplication of works, to advance efficiency of patent examination, and to strengthen cooperation between offices for the sake of user convenience

Main Programs of Work-sharing

❖ The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

- With respect to the same invention determined patentable by an Office of Earlier Examination (OEE) an Office of Later Examination (OLE) performs an accelerated examination thereon
- Bilateral PPHs, IP5 PPH and Global PPH *in progress*

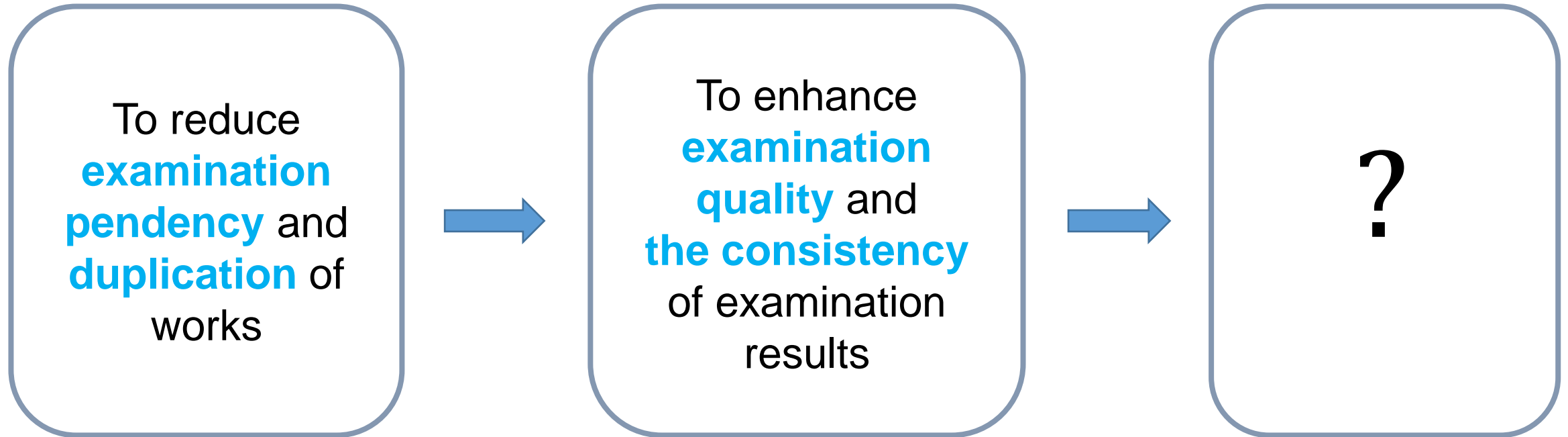
❖ The Collaborative Search Program (CSP)

- Sharing of prior art references between offices before starting the substantive examination
- KIPO-USPTO CSP, JPO-USPTO CSP *in progress*

❖ The Collaborative Search and Examination (CS&E) under the PCT

- The five IP offices' cooperation in performing international search under the PCT
 - No additional fees to applicants during the pilot project
- * The due date of the operation phase: May 2018

New Stage of Work-sharing: Paradigm Shift



New Paradigm of Work-sharing

- ❖ To raise quality of patent examination
- ❖ To reflect user needs and encourage user participation
- ❖ To strengthen relationship between work-sharing and patent harmonization
- ❖ To expand the scope of work-sharing

Potential Targets for Work-sharing

❖ **Expand the scope of work-sharing**

- Including the unpublished patent applications

* Pendency of the first office action (months, IP5 statistics report 2015): 9.4 (EPO), 9.5 (JPO), 10.0 (KIPO), 12.8 (SIPO), 16.4 (USPTO)

- Entire patenting process (e.g. exchange of classification information)

❖ **Strengthen relationship with patent harmonization**

- Patent laws/practices harmonization may raise work-sharing efficiency.
- By utilizing work-sharing results, patent harmonization can be accelerated and prove valid.

Discussion

- ❖ **Priorities of the current work-sharing**
 - *Cost, Quality, Speed, Consistency, and etc.*
- ❖ **How to encourage user participation**
- ❖ **Opinions on the future directions of work-sharing**



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Thank you!