# CITATION OF PRIOR ART PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

Meeting of the IP5 Heads of Office and the IP5 Industry

June 1, 2016 Tokyo





### I. Recent Progress

#### **❖ Two prioritized sub-topics were selected** | PHEP Meeting (2014 Oct.)

- Providing an IT based mechanism for the submission of prior art previously cited by other offices
- Implementing an IP5 common form for citation of prior art

#### ❖ IP5 report on citation of prior art was endorsed | Heads Meeting (2015 May)

- Process of each IP5 Office related to citation of prior art
- Barriers and possible solutions on two specific topics

#### **❖** Technical discussion on IT-based solution initiated | WG2 Meeting (2016 Feb.)

WG2 shared initial thought on the business requirement from PHEP

# II. Implementing IT System

#### Objective

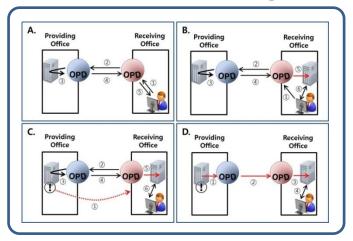
- Allowing examiners to easily view citation data of other offices
- Potentially reducing the burden of applicants

#### **\*** Basic requirements

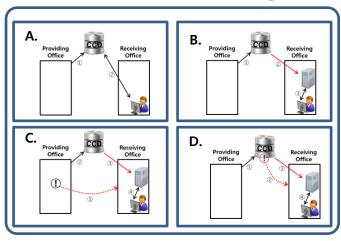
- Consolidation of prior art citations in an application file
- Providing information in real-time
- Indicators as to when the citation was added, whether or not considered by examiner

#### Initial feasibility study by WG2

#### Possible solutions utilizing OPD



#### **Possible solutions utilizing CCD**



# III. Priority for future work

#### Difficulties in harmonizing citation form

- Common form from applicants to Offices
  - : Difficult to decide whether to use a separate form or to incorporate into description as the common form
- 'PCT ISR like' common form from Offices to applicants
  - : Concerns on workload of the IP5 Offices

#### **❖** Future work: <u>Focus on the 'IT based mechanism'</u>

 'Common citation form' may be revisited after the completion of the IT based mechanism

## IV. Next steps

#### **❖ PHEP to clarify the business requirement for the IT system**

 Revisit business requirements to clearly define objective and functions of the IT system based on the information from the feasibility study from WG2

#### **❖** WG2 to design the IT system satisfying the business requirement

- Fully utilize existing structures (OPD, CCD, PDX etc.)
- Set details for optimization
- Distribute tasks

#### **❖** Each office to continue internal consultations on this issue

# Thank you!

For further questions, please contact **Mr. CHO Sangheum** (sangheum.cho@korea.kr) or **Ms. Summer Kostelnik** (summer.kostelnik@uspto.gov)