



## **Press Release (June 20, 2024)**

### **World's five largest patent offices affirmed their commitments to building an inclusive intellectual property system for sustainable development**

The Heads of the world's five largest intellectual property (IP) offices, known as the "IP5," met today as part of their 17<sup>th</sup> annual meeting to reaffirm their commitment to building an inclusive intellectual property (IP) system in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The "IP5", namely the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), collectively account for around 85% of all patent applications filed worldwide.

KIPO hosted the 17th annual meeting of the IP5 Heads of Office, with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) attending in an observer capacity. The meeting was chaired by KIPO Acting Commissioner KIM Shi-Hyeong, and attended by EPO Vice-President Nellie Simon, JPO Commissioner HAMANO Koichi, CNIPA Commissioner Shen Changyu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and USPTO Director Kathi Vidal, and a WIPO delegation, attending on behalf of Director General Daren Tang.

The delegations from each of the five offices convened in Seoul, Republic of Korea, with a renewed and strengthened commitment under the new IP5 Vision Statement (<https://www.fiveipoffices.org/about>) adopted at last year's meeting. They engaged in in-depth discussions on topics such as (i) leverage IP in furthering the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the context of the new IP5 Vision Statement; (ii) create a user-friendly and inclusive international patent landscape; and (iii) respond to rapid developments in new technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI).

In particular, the Heads of IP5 Offices:

- Shared key initiatives and policies on supporting the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with innovative technologies by leveraging IP - a report on such policy efforts at the IP5 Offices and also WIPO will be made available on the IP5 website;
- Agreed to develop 'Guidelines for Building a Sustainable Future' in recognition of the need for concrete medium to long-term approaches to realizing the new IP5 Vision Statement;



- Endorsed the result of the 'IP5 Project Review' as part of efforts to define projects that align with the new IP5 Vision and focus resources to produce concrete results for stakeholders;
- Discussed technical cooperation measures, such as global assignment, harmonization of allowable features in drawing, e-signatures, new and emerging technologies and artificial intelligence (NET/AI), and improvements of Global Dossier to establish an efficient, cost-effective and user-friendly international patent landscape; and
- Approved the final outcomes of AI-related projects, such as Examination practices on AI-related inventions and Inventorship of AI-generated inventions, the details of which will be made publicly available through the IP5 website.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> the Heads explored as part of the '14th International IP Protection Conference' various topics related to IP and AI, and exchanged views and information on policies relating to AI matters with stakeholders, including IP5 Industry. The session was moderated by the WIPO Deputy Director General of the Patents and Technology Sector Lisa Jorgenson.

At their annual meeting held on June 19, the Heads of Office and IP5 Industry representatives, reviewed progress and next steps in the IP5 Projects. The Offices and Industry took stock of ongoing efforts within IP5 regions to support the growth of innovative SMEs by leveraging IP and technical co-operation to build an inclusive, user-friendly international IP landscape. The IP5 website will be improved to strengthen and enhance the communication between the IP5 Offices and stakeholders and promote awareness of the IP5 initiatives.

As a result of the discussions, the IP5 Heads highlighted the role of technological progress, innovation and IP to overcome global challenges and economic growth, as well as resilient infrastructure to foster innovation. For more information, please visit the IP5 website (<https://www.fiveipoffices.org/home>).