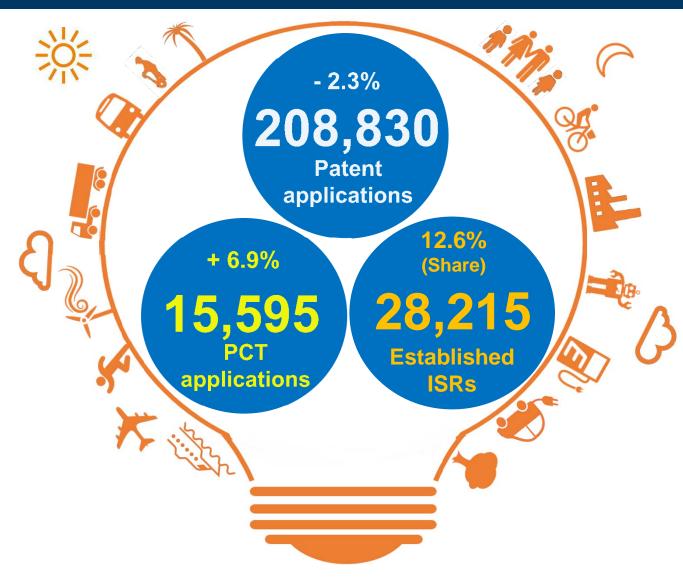
## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT KIPO

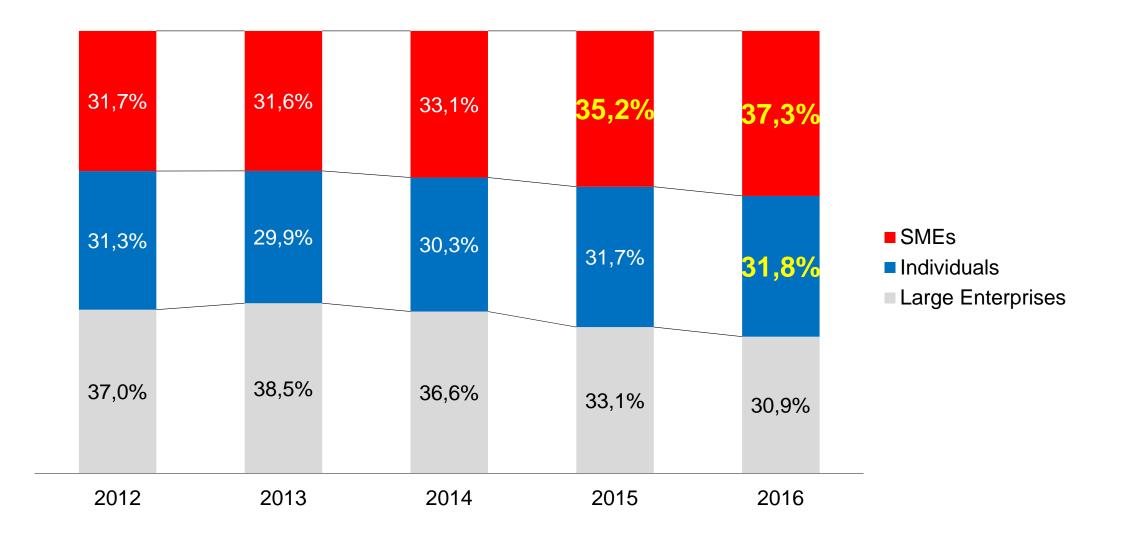
**IP5 Heads and Industry Meeting** 31 May 2017 | Valletta



## Key figures in 2016



## Key figures in 2016



## High quality and timely patent service

Peer examiners / Industry experts group / Foreign patent offices / In-depth interview

#### Interactive examination



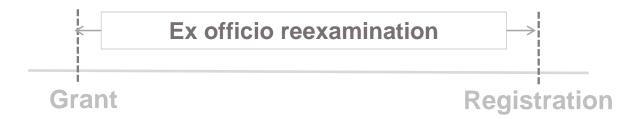
### Revision of Patent Act (from March 2017)

#### New patent opposition system

• If any person provides the grounds for cancellation within 6 months from the publication of a registered patent, an administrative patent judge reviews the registered patent and cancels the patent if found to be defective

#### Ex-officio reexamination

 Before registration, examiners are able to withdraw the grant and reexamine the application if an obvious ground for rejection is found



Reduced period for the request of examination from 5 to 3 years

## Tasks in progress

#### ❖ IP system in the era of the fourth industrial revolution (4IR)

- Identifying IP issues in the era of 4IR at the 'Committee on future IP strategy'
- Plans to refine software patent protection system

#### Enhancing IPR protection

- Plans to introduce punitive damages for the bad-faith infringement of patents or trade secrets
- Plans to strengthen obligation to submit evidence by defendant to ease the burden of patent owner to prove infringement or damage amount (Effective from

June 2016 under the Patent Act and tasks in progress on Trademark, Design Protection and Unfair Competition Prevention Acts)



# Thank you!