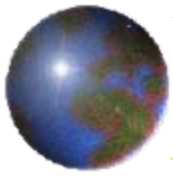


# Trilateral Users Meeting



November 16, 2006

Japan Intellectual Property Association

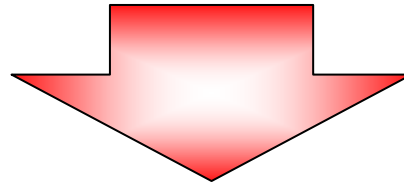


# Global Cost Reduction

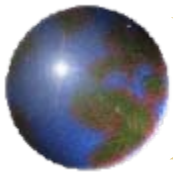
Achieving patent protection in an extensive geographical area at low cost and minimal labor

JIPA

Same Format  
Same Search  
Same Examination  
Same Patent



**4 “same”**  
**Achievements**



# Promoting Framework within JIPA

## Board of Directors

## Trilateral Users Project

(Mr. Nishio (leader) and others; a total of nine members)

### International Affairs Committees

Mr. Kazumoto  
(Committee Chair),  
Mr. Naito  
(Committee Chair),  
Mr. Seki (Committee Chair)  
and others;  
a total of 108 members

### Patent Committees

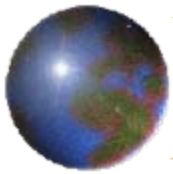
Mr. Nakamura  
(Committee Chair),  
Mr. Toda  
(Committee Chair)  
and others;  
a total of 127 members

### IP Information System Committee

Mr. Mikami  
(Committee Chair)  
and others;  
a total of 32 members

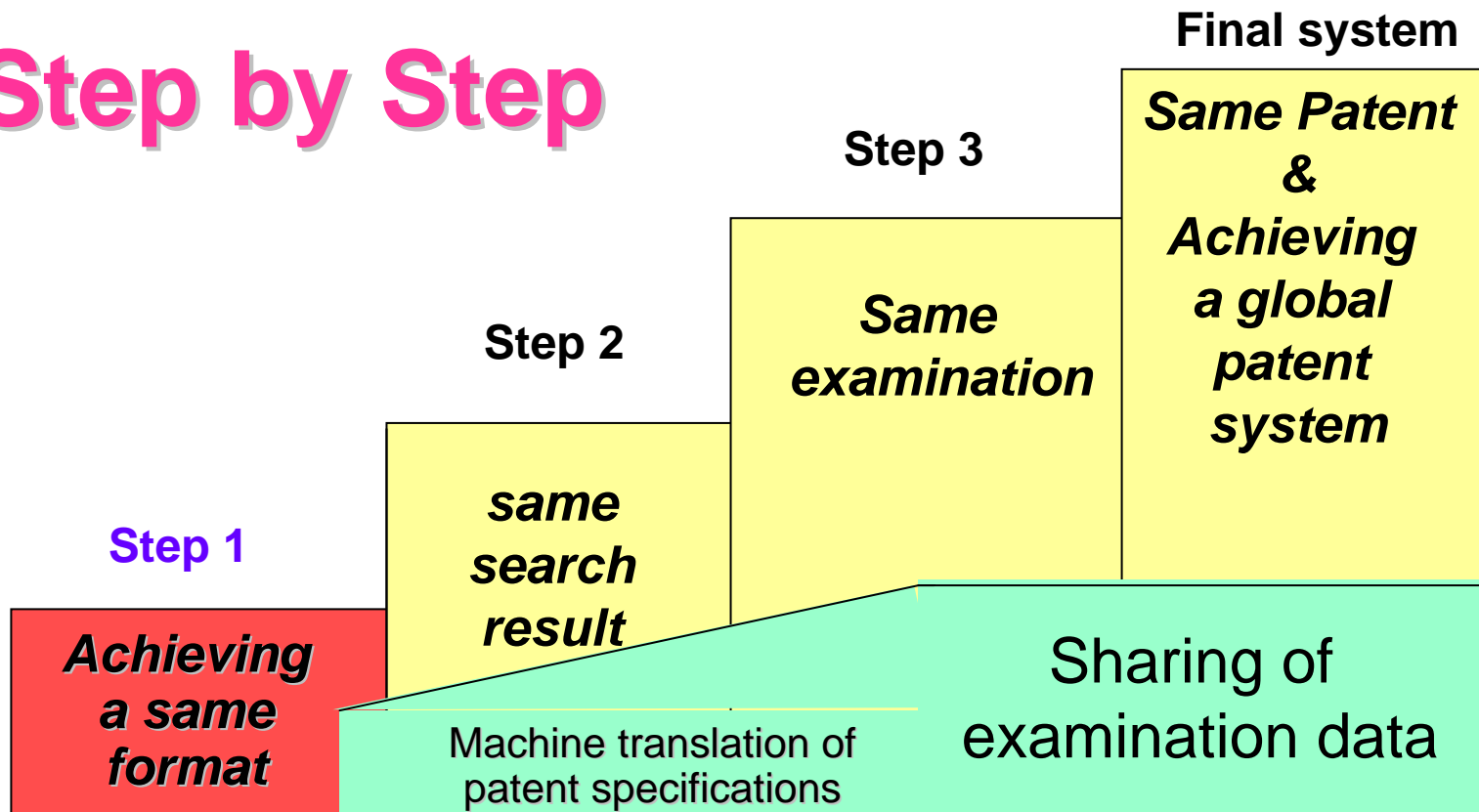
### Other committees

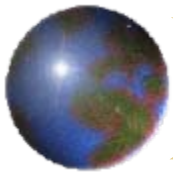
Software Committee,  
IP Information Search  
Committee,  
Biotechnology Committee,  
and others



# *First, Achieving a Same Format*

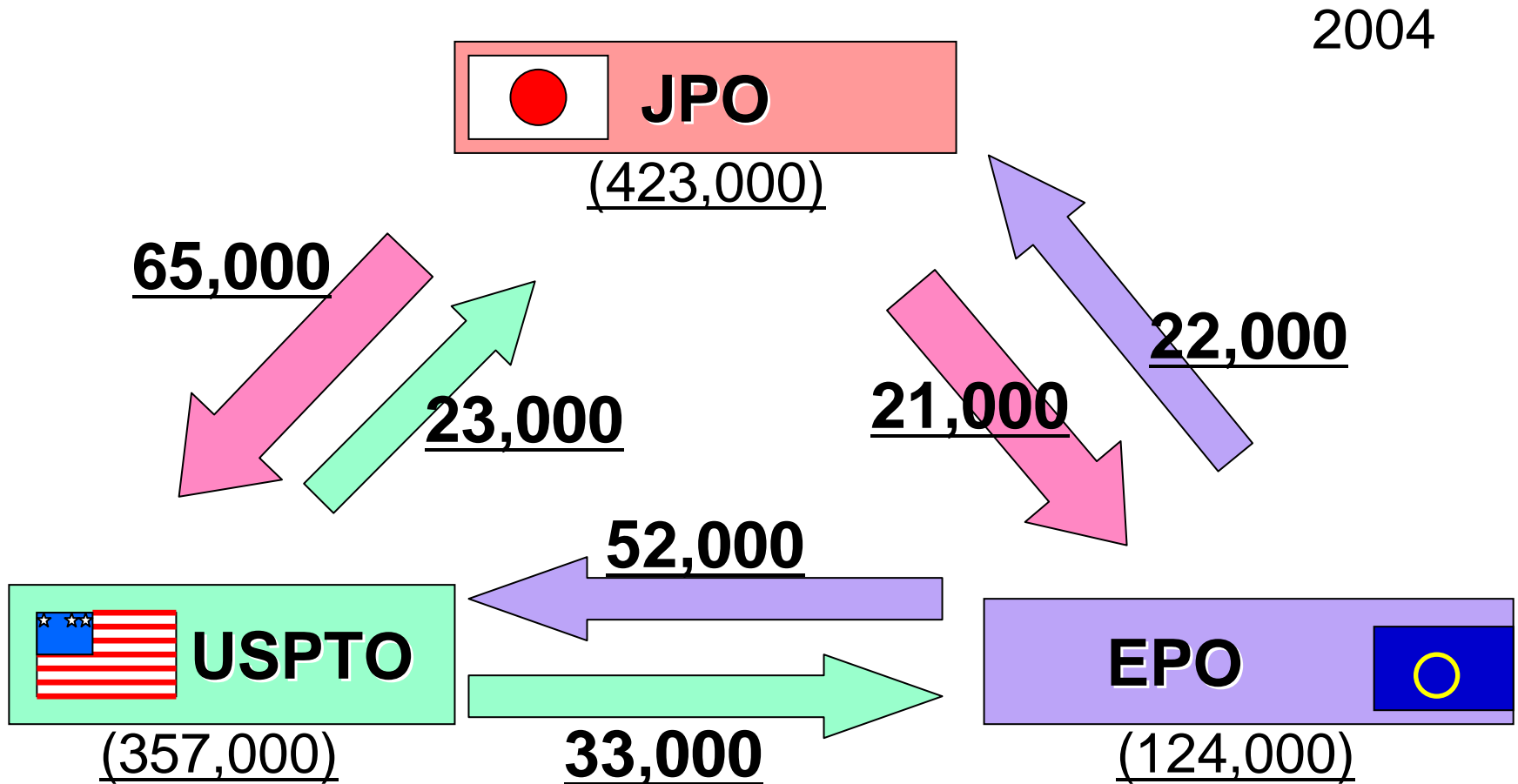
## **Step by Step**

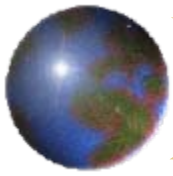




# Patent Filings Among Trilateral Offices

- Approx. **220,000 applications/year** are currently subject to format conversion.



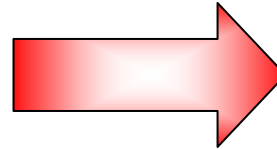


## Benefits of a Same Format

- Rough estimate:

JPO ⇔ USPTO/EPO Approx. **220,000/year** applications (JPO Annual Report 2004)

Reduction in the man-hours involved  
in preparing and checking patent  
specifications and drawings



**300,000 yen/application**

Translation  
cost



Machine  
translation

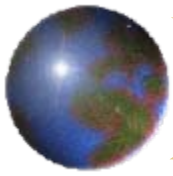


Checking



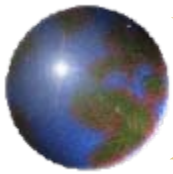
**100,000 yen/application**

**Save approx. 660 billion yen/year!**  
(approx. 600 million dollar/year)



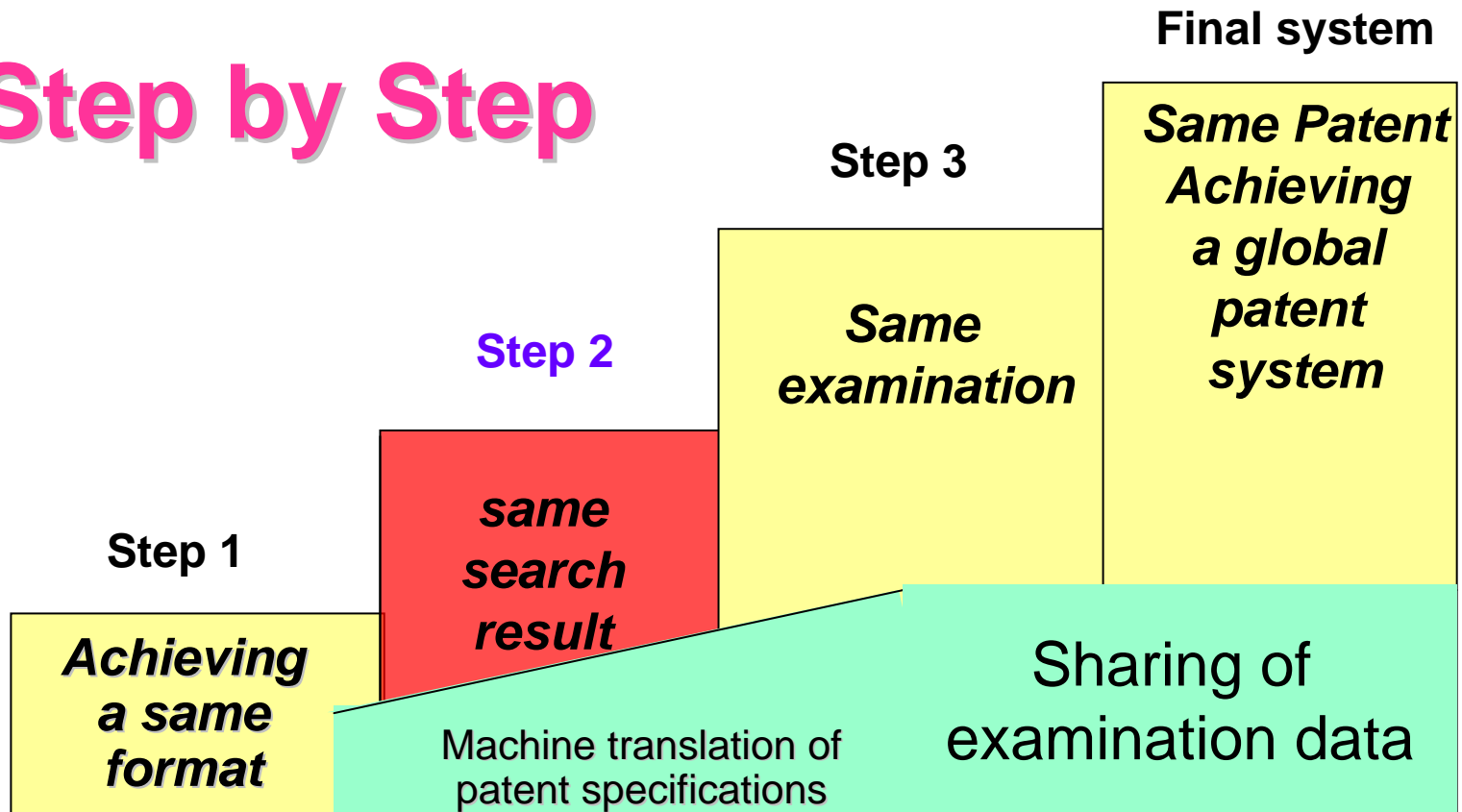
## *Optimizing the Benefits of a Same Format*

- The standards for electronic filings should also be unified.
- Further cost reduction should be achieved by combined use of machine translation.

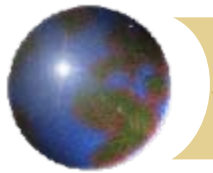


# Then, Achieving a “One Search” System

## Step by Step

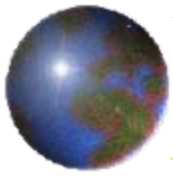






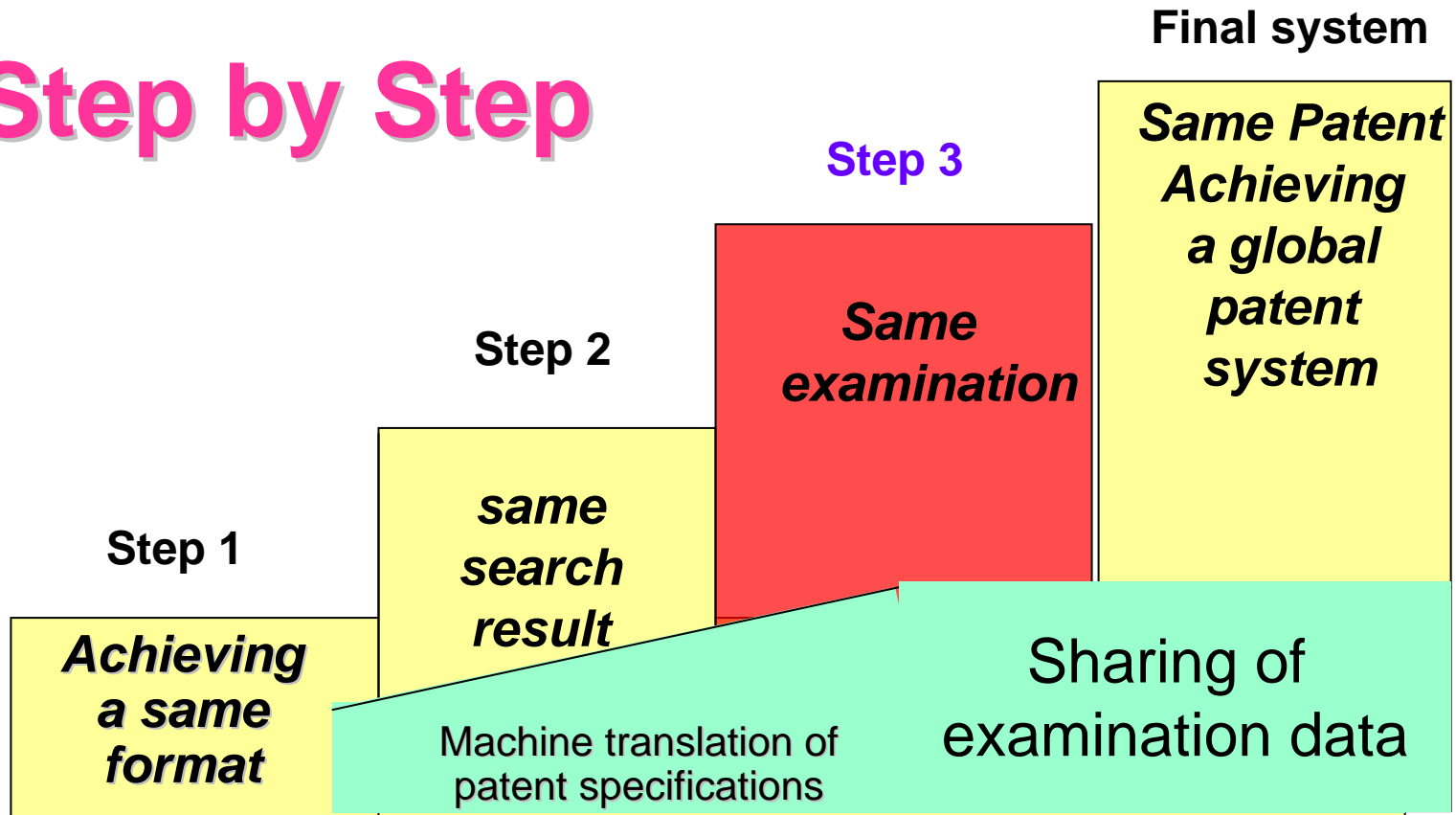
## *Direction of Efforts*

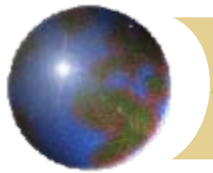
- Making the following efforts step by step  
⇒ Achieving effective and efficient use of other Trilateral Offices' search results
  - Unifying the applications subject to searches
  - Unifying the search report format
  - Unifying the scope of searches
  - Unifying the patent classification
  
- Making earnest efforts concerning matters that require legal amendment
  - Grace period
  - Handling of the prior application
  - Handling of self-collision



# Looking Further Ahead

## Step by Step

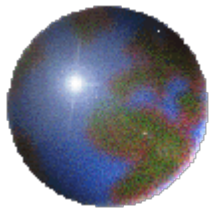




## *Direction of Efforts*

- Activities to lay the foundation for the future
  - Summarizing the opinions on “inventive step” from user perspectives, toward unifying determinations of “inventive step” among the Trilateral Offices
  - Supporting the Patent Prosecution Highway practices from the users’ viewpoint
    - Identifying problems concerning the scope of searches and the sharing of search results
    - Studying the standards for the reasons for rejection
    - Studying determinations on the patentability
    - Studying determinations on the unity of inventions
    - Studying determinations on the description requirements

Among other efforts



Thank you for your attention.