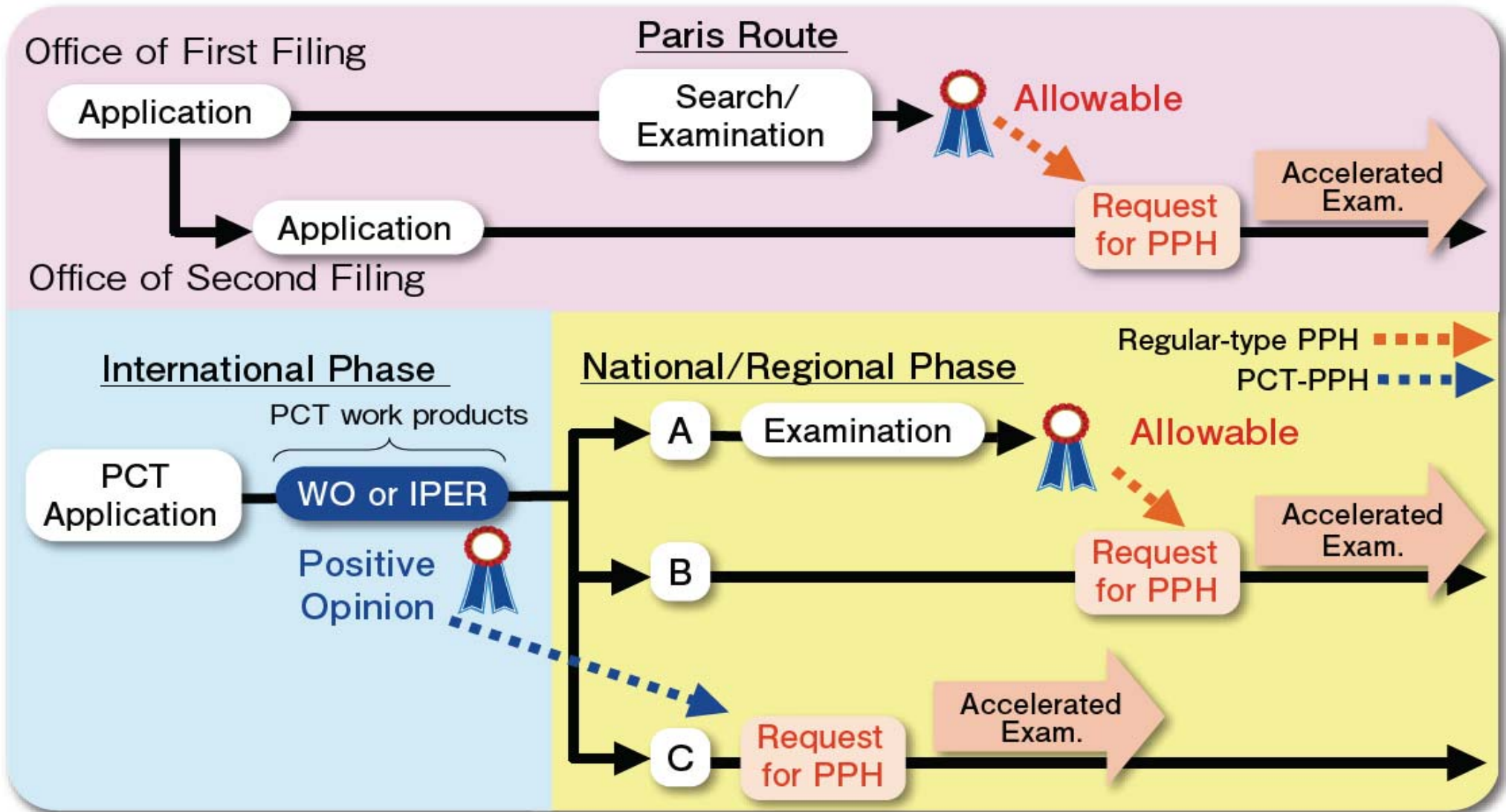


# *Progress in PPH*

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**November 15, 2012**

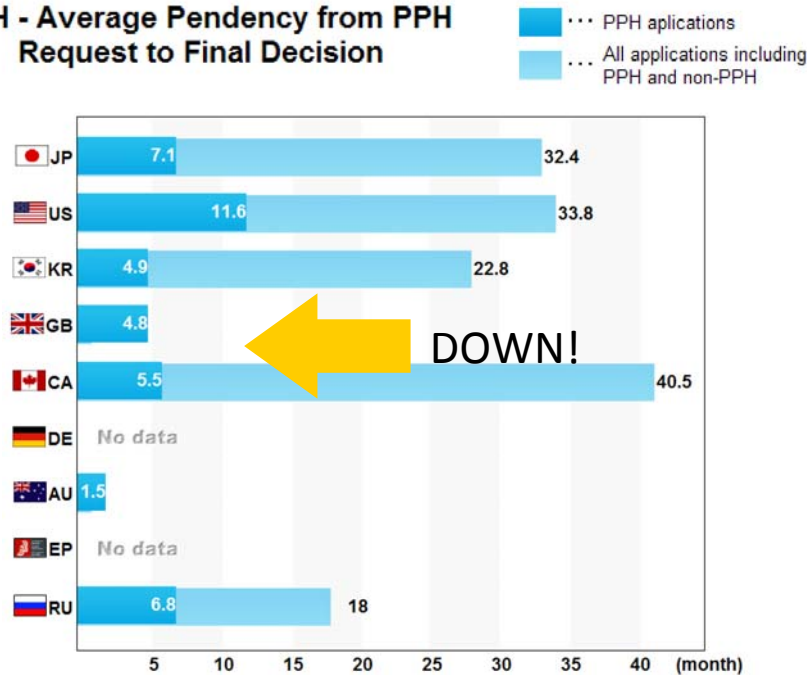
**JAPAN PATENT OFFICE**



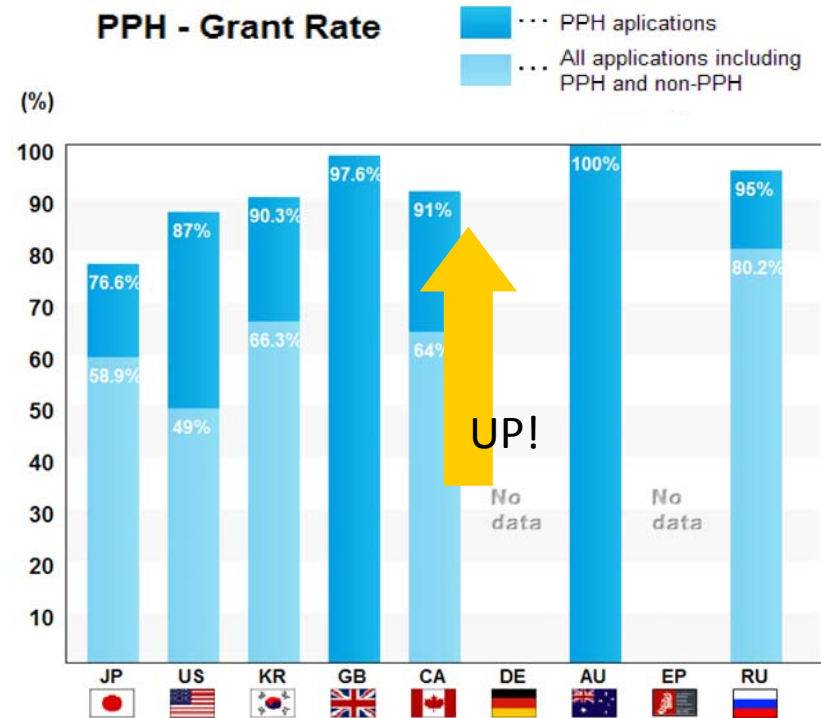
# Merits of PPH

- ✓ Accelerated Examination
- ✓ Increase in Grant Rate
- ✓ Reduce Cost

**PPH - Average Pendency from PPH Request to Final Decision**



**PPH - Grant Rate**



- Period: Jul-Dec 2011
- The Offices which meet the following requirements are indicated.
  - 1, The offices which have entered PPH network more than 1 year ago.
  - 2, The offices which have received more than 50 PPH requests.

For mor statistical data, please access URL: <http://www.jpo.go.jp/pph-portal/>

## Recent new PPH of JPO

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SIPO (China): PPH and PCT-PPH since 1 Nov 2011

NIPO (Norway): PPH and PCT-PPH since 1 Dec 2011

IPO (Iceland): PPH and PCT-PPH since 1 Dec 2011

ILPO (Israel): PPH since 1 Mar 2012

IPOPHIL (Philippines): PPH and PCT-PPH since 12 Mar 2012

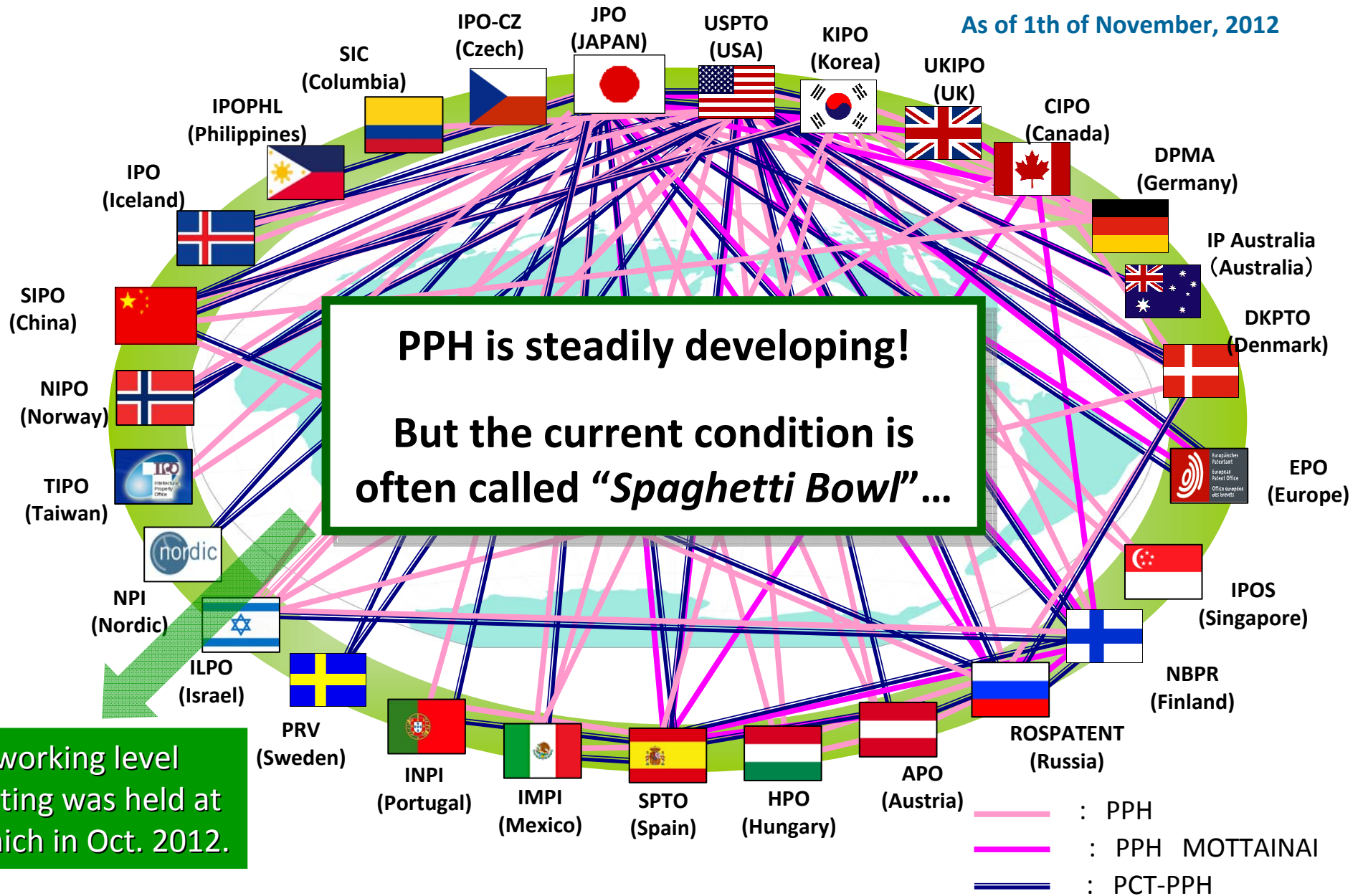
INPI (Portugal): PPH and PCT-PPH since 18 April 2012

TIPO (Taiwan): PPH since 1 May 2012

KIPO (South Korea) : PCT-PPH since 1 July 2012

IMPI (Mexico): full implementation since 1 November 2012

As of 1st of November, 2012



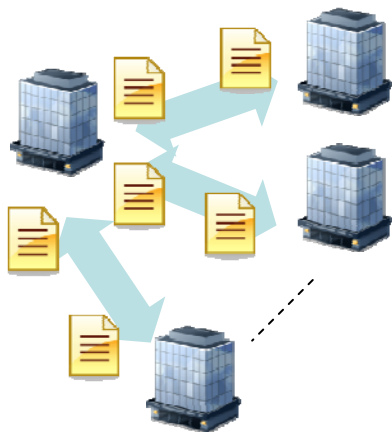
5th working level meeting was held at Munich in Oct. 2012

## Proposed by JPO

### “Common Guideline”

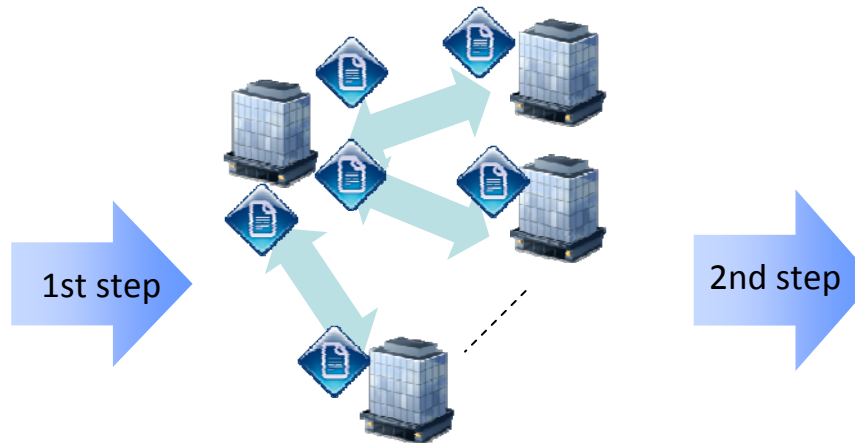
#### Current Condition..

(Bundles of Bilateral Agreements and Guidelines)



#### Introduction of “Common Guideline”

(Including options for offices)



#### Plurilateral PPH

- ✓ One PPH agreement
- ✓ One guideline



However, many requirements are *common* among offices as a result of past Plurilateral PPH meetings.

“Common Guideline” is a unified guideline with some options.

This will make PPH user-friendly and lighten burden of negotiating PPH agreement.

## Proposed by JPO

### “PPH Policy”

For mitigation of workloads via work-sharing among patent offices



For predictable fast acquisition of patent rights

- (1) **Offices of Earlier Examination (OEEs) should maximize their efforts to improve examination quality, providing reliable work products**, so that Offices of Later Examination (OLEs) could maximize the use of the work products by OEEs and minimize the prior art search.
- (2) **OLEs should be expected to make maximum use of search/examination-related information of OEEs and minimize prior art search based on mutual assurance within the framework of existing own system such as laws, examination rules and IT systems of each office, . . . .**
- (3) **OLEs should make every effort to reduce the total number of office actions for PPH applications, . . . .** Interview at the examination stage and suggestion for amendment would enhance communication between examiners and applicants. . . . .
- (4) . . . . , **not only the First Action (FA) pendency from PPH request but also the period from FA to final decision (e.g. decision to grant a patent) of PPH applications should be reduced compare to those of non-PPH applications.**
- (5) . . . . **PPH participating patent offices should ensure publication of PPH related data** (such as Grant Rate, Average Pendency from First Office Action to Final Decision, . . . . etc).
- (6) Each patent office should endeavor to make a guideline according to the above policies . . . . .

\*These policies is nothing more than general concepts. These policies never effect on existing own system such as laws, examination rules of each office.

***Thank You!***