



JOINT STATEMENT
BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
AND
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OF BRAZIL
ON ENHANCED FUTURE PARTNERSHIP

The European Patent Office (“EPO”) and the National Institute of Industrial Property of Brazil (“INPI”)

Recognizing the fundamental importance of Industrial Property, in general, and patent protection, in particular, as a means to stimulate technological innovation, encourage economic investment, support business growth and, ultimately, contribute to the economic and social development;

Recalling the value of inter-Office cooperation between the EPO and the INPI as last outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2011 and its importance for the promotion of patent cross-filing activity between the two regions;

Considering the significant role that the EPO and the INPI can play together in developing and implementing effective responses to the challenges in the patent system;

Acknowledging that collaborative initiatives in the area of patent examination work-sharing may increase efficiencies for Offices and applicants alike, respectively by enhancing patent examination timeliness and quality and by improving market access conditions:

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

- a) The EPO and INPI will work together towards the implementation of a pilot project with the aim of promoting domestic capacity building at INPI,

supporting and enhancing INPI's national patent search and examination procedure to the maximum extent practicable.

- b) The implementation of the pilot project will be subject to the conditions and requirements to be jointly established by the EPO and the INPI in a specific MoU.

This Joint Statement is subject to the respective laws and regulations, and does not create any legal obligations under international or domestic law.

Signed in Munich on July 17th, 2019

For the European Patent Office



António Campinos
President
European Patent Office - EPO

For the National Institute of Industrial
Property of Brazil



Claudio Vilar Furtado
President
National Institute of Industrial Property of
Brazil - INPI