



SACEPO Working Party on Quality

Provisional agenda (SACEPO WPQ 1/23)

10th meeting
11 and 12 May 2023
Online via Zoom

Subject: Provisional agenda

Drawn up by: European Patent Office

Addressees: Members of the SACEPO Working Party on Quality

11 May 2023

Session 1 for members of the SACEPO WP/Q Europe and neighbouring countries

from 09.00 to 12.30 CEST*

*all times indicated in CEST (Central European Summer Time)

11 May 2023

Session 2 for members of the SACEPO WP/Q Americas as well as Africa and Middle East

from 15.30 to 19.00 CEST

12 May 2023

Session 3 for members of the SACEPO WP/Q Asia/Oceania

from 09.00 to 12.30 CEST

Provisional agenda

1. **Opening of meeting and adoption of the agenda**
2. **Welcome address** video message
3. **EPO focus on user dialogue and actions taken** oral reports followed by an exchange of views
 - Summary of feedback gathered from the last SACEPO WP/Q
 - Update on actions taken to improve dialogue and data exchange
 - **Ombuds office** – overview of activities and update on the experience so far
 - **Members' comments, feedback and questions** – including exchange and dialogue with EPO representatives
4. **SQAP 2023 programme** oral report followed by an exchange of views
 - Update on the new SQAP format in response to members' feedback
 - **Members' comments, feedback and questions** – including exchange and dialogue with EPO representatives
- 5a. **Actions taken on examination stage including related data** oral report

In response to topics raised in the SACEPO WP/Q in November 2022 and in the 2022 SQAP on grants

- 5b. Break-out sessions on quality at examination stage** SACEPO members
Moderated discussion in smaller break-out groups based on the below questions

Questions:

1. Are there specific technical fields where you encounter challenges at the EPO examination stage?
2. SQAP 2022 found that more dialogue between examining divisions and applicants would lead to a smoother examination procedure, prevent misunderstandings and improve quality. What kind of dialogue would you like to see between the examining division and representatives? e.g. at what stages, what format?
3. What actions is your community of practice doing to improve quality?

- 6a. Actions taken on search stage including related data** oral report
In response to topics raised in the SACEPO WP/Q in November 2022

- 6b. Break-out sessions on quality at search stage** SACEPO members
Moderated discussion in smaller break-out groups based on the below questions

Questions:

1. Are there specific technical fields where you encounter challenges at the EPO search stage?
2. In addition to the issues you raised with us at the last meeting regarding completeness of reasoning in our written opinions, are there other areas where the quality of the EPO search report or the written opinion does not meet your expectations?

- 7. AOB** SACEPO members
Topics suggested by members

- 8. Wrap-up and closure of the meeting**