

## Chapter 6

# OTHER WORK

This brief chapter contains statistics about other work done on IP rights that is not common to all five offices. The data presented below supplement the information appearing in earlier chapters of this report.

This includes applications for plant patents (USPTO), reissue patents (USPTO), applications for patents other than those for inventions: utility models (JPO, CNIPA, KIPO), designs (JPO, CNIPA, KIPO, USPTO), trademarks (JPO, KIPO, USPTO), and search requests to be performed on behalf of national offices (EPO).

The utility model is different from the patent for invention<sup>42</sup>, because it is used to protect a device in relation to the shape or construction of articles or combination of articles (JPO, CNIPA), or to protect a creation of a technical idea using the rules of nature regarding the shape, structure, or combination of subjects (KIPO). An utility model is registered without a substantive examination as long as it meets basic requirements. The maximum period of protection for a utility model in Japan, R. Korea, and P.R. China is 10 years, which is shorter than for a patent for invention (typically 20 years).

The numbers of requests received for these types of other work are shown for 2016 and 2017 in Table 6.

**Table 6: STATISTICS ON OTHER WORK**

Activity	Year	EPO	JPO	KIPO	CNIPA	USPTO
Search for national offices	2016	27 564	-	-	-	-
	2017	26 403	-	-	-	-
Design applications	2016	-	30 879	65 659	650 344	42 571
	2017	-	31 961	63 453	628 658	43 340
Utility model applications	2016	-	6 480	7 767	1 475 977	-
	2017	-	6 105	6 809	1 687 593	-
Plant patent applications	2016	-	-	-	-	1 177
	2017	-	-	-	-	1 059
Re-issue applications	2016	-	-	-	-	1 087
	2017	-	-	-	-	1 012
Trademark applications	2016	-	161 859	181 606	-	530 951
	2017	-	190 939	182 918	-	615 251

In 2017, the number of utility model applications increased 14 percent at the CNIPA and decreased by 12 percent at the KIPO. The number of trademark applications increased by 18 percent at the JPO and 6 percent at the USPTO. For design applications, there were increases at JPO and USPTO (by 4 percent and 2 percent, respectively) and decreases at KIPO and CNIPA (by 3 percent at both Offices),

<sup>42</sup> Not to be confused with the utility model, the USPTO's main type of patent, called a utility patent, is a patent for invention that is similar to the standard patent at the other IP5 Offices.