

five IP offices

European Patent Office /// Japan Patent Office ///
Korean Intellectual Property Office /// State Intellectual
Property Office of the People's Republic of China ///
United States Patent and Trademark Office

IP5 Joint Statement in Tokyo 2016

The IP5 Offices, which started their cooperation in 2007, have been expanding the area of cooperation from work-sharing among the IP5 Offices to harmonization of patent practices and quality management. Through their cooperation, the IP5 Offices have produced many concrete results.

Major results include:

- Common Application Format (CAF)
- Common Citation Document (CCD);
- Global Dossier (GD) and Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF);
- IP5 Patent Information Policy;
- IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH);
- IP5 website (www.fiveipoffices.org).

On June 2, 2016, at the IP5 Heads Meeting held in Tokyo, the IP5 Offices reiterated the goal in the 2015 IP5 Joint Statement, "Provide better services for users and the public," and confirmed that the Offices strive to:

- continue to consider users' opinions;
- consider implications of technology advancements on the patent system;
and
- work together to continue to provide quality services thereby aiding in the acquisition of stable patent rights among the IP5 Offices.

To achieve these, the IP5 Offices recognize the following three initiatives to be advanced:

(1) “Enhancement of the relationship with users”: The IP5 Offices will further enhance their relations with users. The IP5 Offices strive to incorporate the opinions of a broader range of users, by, for example, further improving the IP5 website and expanding Public Relation (PR) activities of IP5 initiatives. Also, the IP5 Offices will enhance user satisfaction by sharing best practices of user services of each Office in order to identify areas of potential improvement.

(2) “Continue providing high-quality and reliable examination results”: The IP5 Offices undertake to strengthen their cooperation so as to enable their users to obtain high-quality and reliable examination results in a user-friendly way. This will be achieved through deepening of work sharing, quality and patent harmonization initiatives, such as IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program, Global Dossier, the PCT Collaborative Search and Examination pilot program, Quality Management and Patent Harmonization Expert Panel (PHEP).

(3) “Exploring the IP Offices’ readiness to respond to emerging technologies”: The IP5 Offices will explore cooperation on office responses to emerging technologies, such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). This may be accomplished through sharing of information, exchanging of opinions, or studies on the effects of these technologies.