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Procedural Patent Harmonisation Unity of invention report EPO/SIPOPO



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Timeline

2014/2015

- EPO // SIPO co-lead unity of invention
- IP5 Industry consensus proposal
- collection of data
- compilation of IP5 unity of invention report
- endorsement by IP5 Deputy Heads/Heads
- presentation to IP5 Industry
- publication via the IP5 website
- IP5 user consultation
 - AIPLA, AIPPI, Business Europe, CIPA, FICPI, JIPA

Input from IP5 users re unity of invention

- Engagement with stakeholders
 - IP5 Industry consensus proposal (October 2014)
 - IP5 users consultation (concluded September 2015)
 - AIPLA, AIPPI, Business Europe, CIPA, FICPI, JIPA

- Users' position
 - harmonisation on the basis of the PCT unity of invention standard
 - consistent approach regarding the assessment of unity of invention, regardless of the application type
 - development and application of uniform guidelines
 - “reuse” of unity of invention determination by the first office

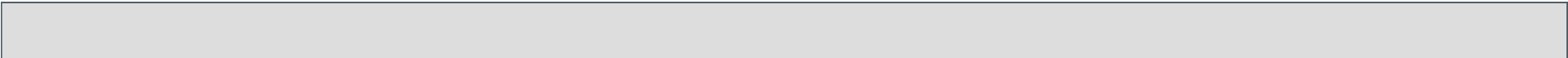
Next steps (1)

- Scope
 - alignment of practices re international applications, including applications entering regional/national phase to the extent that constraints permit

- How
 - benchmarking exercise
 - analyse practices against the background of the Chapter 10 ISPE
 - target gaps identified and consider measures towards alignment

- Timeframe
 - complete work at IP5 level by end 2018

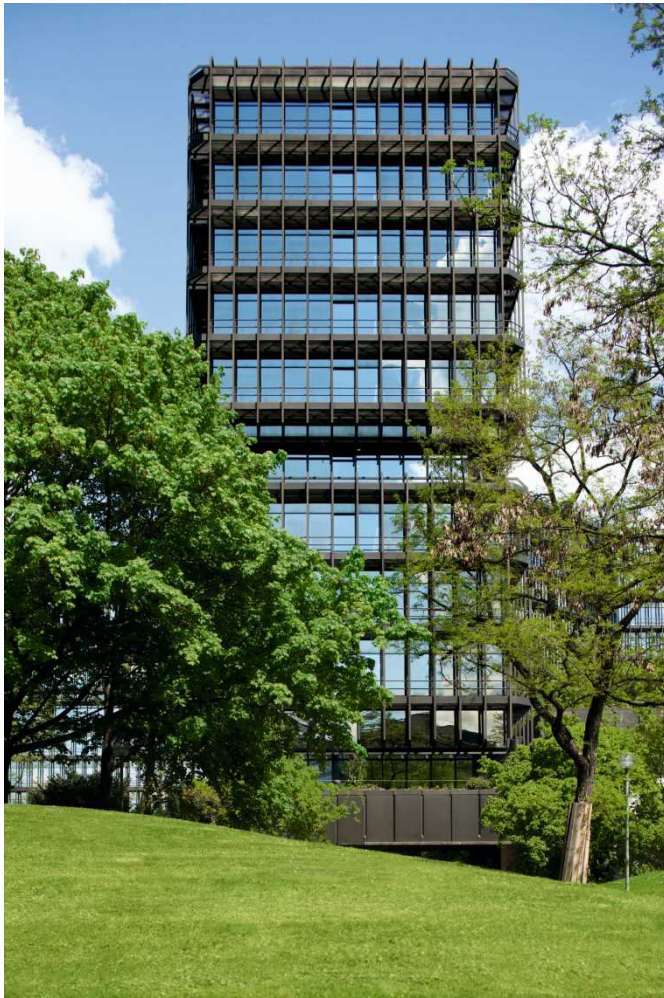
- Interaction with other fora
 - support MIA work and share outcome of the PHEP study with the MIA



Next steps (2)

Seek endorsement by the IP5 Heads of Office to

- reach a harmonised IP5 practice for unity of invention for international patent applications by end 2018
- Pending internal constraints, the alignment of practices with respect to applications entering the national/regional phase shall also apply to those offices



Thank you for your attention!