

Tegernsee Heads Meeting IV Statement

The fourth "Tegernsee Heads" Meeting, attended by Heads of Offices and representatives from Japan, the USA, Denmark, France, Germany, UK, and the EPO, took place in Geneva on 24 September 2013, to consider the results of the Tegernsee User Consultation on Substantive Patent Law Harmonization carried out by the Tegernsee Experts Group on the basis of the four technical fact-finding studies previously undertaken on (1) the Grace period (2) 18-month publication; (3) Treatment of conflicting applications and (4) Prior user rights.

The delegation Reports on the Tegernsee User Consultations presented by the Experts Group were duly approved by the Tegernsee Heads of Office. It was decided that the Tegernsee User Consultation Reports shall be published by the respective delegations at the earliest opportunity, so as to ensure a wide dissemination of the wealth of data thus gathered.

The Tegernsee Experts Group has been mandated to produce a joint factual summary analysing the individual office reports including commonalities and differences in user views, and to present the summary for approval to the next meeting of the Tegernsee Heads, to be called in the spring of 2014.