

Tegernsee Heads Meeting V Statement

Trieste, Italy, 8 April 2014

The fifth "Tegernsee Heads" Meeting, attended by delegations from Japan, the USA, Denmark, France, Germany, UK, and the EPO, took place on 8 April 2014, in Trieste, Italy.

The Tegernsee Group discussed and approved the Final Consolidated Report on the Tegernsee User Consultation consisting of a joint factual summary analysing the results of the individual office reports, including commonalities and differences in user views, which was drawn up by the Tegernsee Experts Group.

The adoption of this Report marks the end of an intensive cycle of fact-finding and user consultations focusing on four key issues of substantive patent law harmonization: (1) the Grace period (2) 18-month publication; (3) Treatment of conflicting applications and (4) Prior user rights.

It was decided that the Final Consolidated Report on the Tegernsee User Consultation shall be published by the Tegernsee delegations at the earliest opportunity, in order to ensure a wide dissemination of the data thus gathered.

Placing importance on sharing the results of the consultation with interested entities, each Office shall endeavour to communicate the results and provide opportunities for feedback from users as each Office deems appropriate.

The Tegernsee Group agreed further that the Final Consolidated Report shall be forwarded to the Chair of the Group B+, for presentation to that forum.

In the light of input received from users, or other relevant discussions or developments, the Tegernsee Group will meet to review progress in due course.