

The results of the 6th Plurilateral Patent Prosecution Highway Working Level Meeting

1. Participants

Japan, the European Patent Office (EPO), the USA, China, South Korea, Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Mexico, Norway, Philippine, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, the UK, the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO), the Nordic Patent Institute (NPI) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

(24 countries/regions/organizations in total)

2. Outline of the meeting results

At the meeting, 24 national/regional/ intellectual property offices and organizations gathered and conducted discussions on the following points:

- Participants have confirmed that the "PPH common guidelines" (common procedure to file a request) proposal and "PPH Policy" proposal by the JPO, which is a common recognition of PPH including the maximum use of the examination results of the office of earlier examination and the accelerated examination to final decisions, the transparency of data about PPH, etc., will be utilized as basic elements for establishing future plurilateral PPH framework. It was agreed that discussions should be continued.
- Participants agreed that comparative study should be conducted by using "PPH common guidelines" as a tool for identifying a common part and different parts among PPH participating offices' PPH request procedures.
- Participants confirmed that discussion on developing plurilateral PPH framework should be continued.
- Participants confirmed the continuation of the examination quality enhancement by using PPH.
- Participants reconfirmed the importance of the PPH promotion activity to a user.