

New Route Proposal

Office of First filing (OF)

0 month

Filing of application with unified format
(in OF's language)
(with submission of bibliographic data in English)

Declaration to use new route
Examination is deemed to be requested.

*OF notifies OS of application using new route. (*1)*

18 months

Publication with unified format

- Both bibliographic data and abstract in English (where OF's language is English) or in OF's language & English translation (where OF's language is other than English)
- Specification, claims, drawings in OF's language
- Published electronically

Examination starts

24 - 26 months at the latest

First Office Action

Search report
(in English)

OF makes search report based on the first office action in English.

26 - 28 months at the latest

Submission of translation of application with unified format
(in OS's language)

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Submission of First office action by OF
(in English)

By 30 months

By 30 months

Examination starts after the submission of translations

Office of Second filing (OS)

0 month

Relevant date of secret prior art effect of the application

Date of the beginning of the patent term of the application

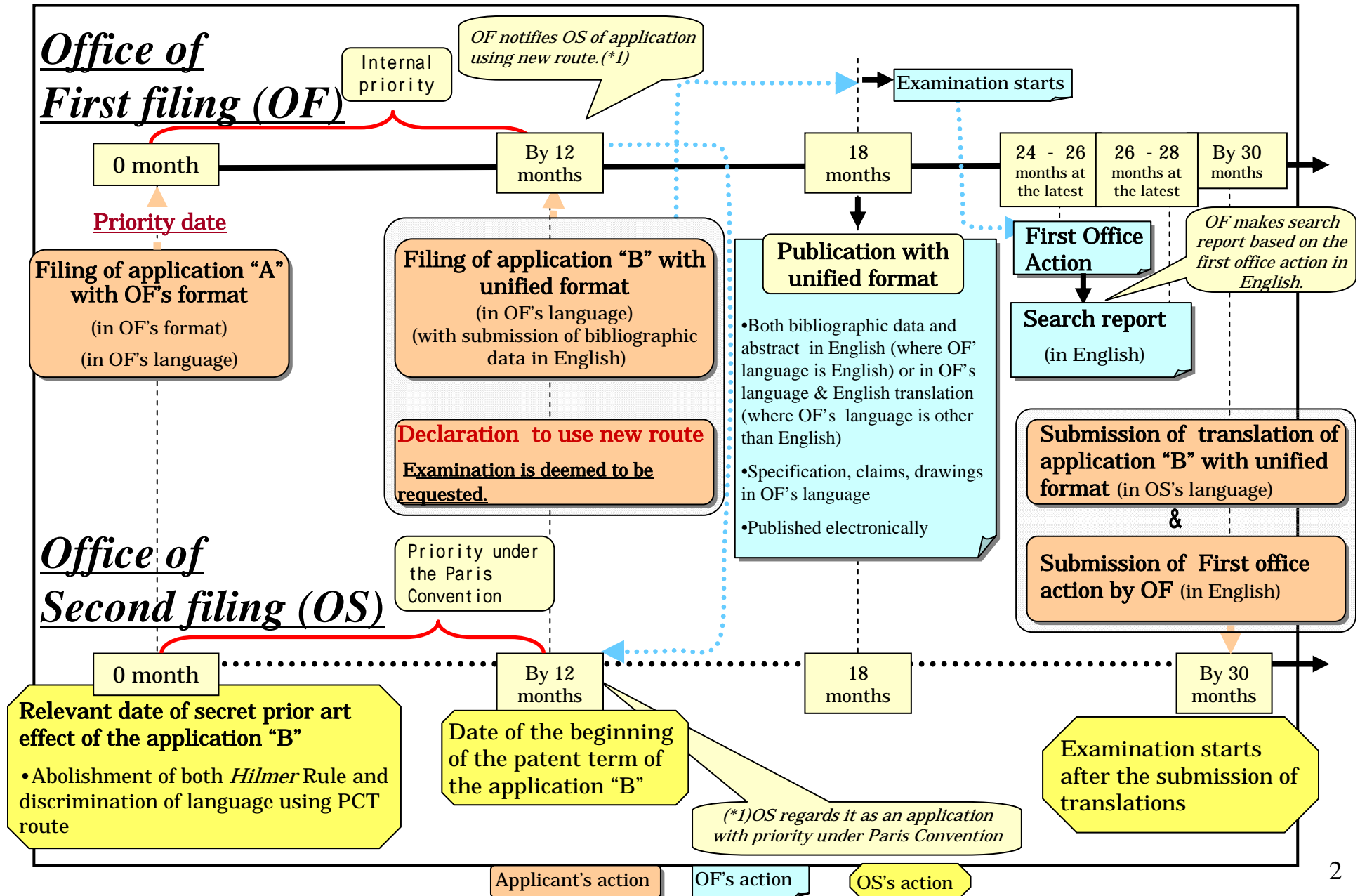
18 months

Applicant's action

OF's action

OS's action

New Route Proposal (With Claiming Priority)



Comparison of characteristics among 3 routes

	Use		Advantages	Disadvantages
Paris Route	· For filing in few countries	Applicant	· The cost is lower than the PCT Route when an applicant obtains patents in few countries	· An applicant needs to make translations in different formats within 12 months from the priority date.
		Patent Office		· A search and examination result of the OF is often unavailable to the OS.
PCT	· For filing in many countries	Applicant	· An applicant can use the expanded time limit (30 months from the priority date) and a search and examination result of the OF to determine whether to continue the application procedure and to submit a translation to the OS.	· It is rather expensive when an applicant obtains patents in few countries.
		Patent Office	· A search and examination result of the OF is always available to the OS. It contributes to high quality and expedited examination.	
New Route	For filing in few countries	Applicant	· The cost is lower than PCT route when an applicant files to limited number of countries which participate in the agreement. · Procedure is simple. · An applicant can use the expanded time limit (30 months from the priority date) and a search and examination result of the OF to determine whether to continue the application procedure and to submit a translation to the OS.	· An applicant can file only with the Offices of the limited number of countries which participate in the agreement.
		Patent Office	· A search and examination result of the OF is always available to the OS. It contributes to high quality and expedited examination.	