

## **6<sup>TH</sup> TRADEMARK TRILATERAL COOPERATION MEETING**

### **JOINT STATEMENT**

The Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs), the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and the Japan Patent Office held the 6th Trademark Trilateral Cooperation Meeting in Tokyo, and the Trilateral Offices discussed the political issues on the 15th of October 2007.

The Trilateral Offices continue to consider the possible cooperation with the Chinese Trademark Office, including the exchange of information with regard to IT issues, efficient operation, well-known marks and so forth among the Chinese Trademark Office and the Trilateral Offices, and the hosting of workshops in China by each of the Trilateral Offices on a rotating basis in cooperation with the other Trilateral Offices.

The Trilateral Offices hope to schedule an exchange of information on operational issues with the Chinese Office at the next Trilateral meeting.

The three Offices recognized that they will promote the Trilateral List of Identification of Goods and Services in other countries and that they will efficiently expand the number of Trilateral List of Identification of Goods and Services with the consideration of the operational issues of the office.

The Offices recognized the importance of making the Madrid System more convenient for users and the necessity of reviewing the requirement for basic applications/registrations. The Offices recognized the need to address the issue of linguistic diversity. The offices agreed that the Offices may be engaged in the discussion about the future development of the Madrid system at Ad Hoc Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.

The USPTO presented "Cooperative Filing." The OHIM and the JPO considered this proposal interesting and consequently stated that they would consider it, including the cost benefit analysis.

In the area of IT cooperation, the three Offices exchanged information on trademark retrieval systems and had a fruitful discussion about the prospects for search method, including image recognition search. The Offices agreed to continue exchanging information on various IT topics in which they were interested.

The Trilateral Offices agreed to post the information of this meeting, such as "Joint Statement" and materials, on the Trilateral Website and to continue cooperating to facilitate the use of the website.