

The results of the 7th Plurilateral Patent Prosecution Highway Working Level Meeting

1. Participants

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

(26 countries/regions/organizations in total)

2. Outline of the meeting results

At the meeting, 26 national/regional/ intellectual property offices and organizations gathered and conducted discussions on the following points:

- The JPO proposed three specific items on which to have discussion:
(1) PPH request available period, (2) Requirement when observation is noted in Box VIII in the PCT-PPH application, and (3) number of opportunities given to the applicant to correct certain specified defect. Participants agreed to have discussion in future within this framework.
- Participants agreed the "PPH Policy" proposal by the JPO with the purpose of improving PPH effectiveness, which is a common recognition of PPH including the accelerated examination to final decisions, improvement in first action allowance rate and the transparency of data about PPH.
- Participants agreed that Austria and Singapore participate in the Global PPH Pilot Program from November 1, 2014.
- Participants confirmed that they should continue the discussion about PPH common request form proposed by China.