

WIPO

**Questionnaire on the Term ' quality of Patent s ' and Cooperation
between Patent Offices in Search and Examination**

The answers to this questionnaire have been provided on behalf of :

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Q1: The “quality of patents” according Jordanian Patent Office refers mainly to the patent procedures, search and examination, supported by a clear and strong legal framework , novelty search and the substantial examination in the national procedures. The novelty search for national applications is carried out by the European patent office, according to national Law and a specific International Working Agreement between the two Offices. In 2010 specific rules were adopted to harmonize the Italian Patent law to the International/European legislation. The “quality of patents” is also tied to the efficiency of the overall system of managing the applications from filing to grant: the whole electronic processing of application is a key aspect for improving efficiency and transparency as well as the organization of the examination Office.

Q2 : Those types of cooperation may include, for example, access to documents/databases of other offices, use of search and examination work products, expertise and resources available in other offices, collaborative search and examination, outsourcing search and examination etc. As mentioned in Q1, the Italian law establishes that the novelty search for national patent applications is carried out by EPO (that is also ISA for Italy), whereas all the other processing phases are carried out by the Italian patent office. For this reason the cooperation with EPO more than the cooperation with other National Offices is important. This cooperation is wide and includes: training programs for Italian examiners on formalities and examination matters, technical exchanges regarding the implementation of the Working Agreement, exchange of data and documents for the offices' databases. Similar exchanges on training are in place with WIPO and EUIPO

Q3 :

Q4: (i) Platforms and tools provided by your office The Italian Patent and Trademarks Office has two public databases on its website :
<http://www.uibm.gov.it/uibm/dati/> with bibliographic data only regarding all kind of applications filed with UIBM from 1989 on.
<http://brevettidb.uibm.gov.it/> with bibliographic data and documents regarding patent applications filed from 2008 on . (ii) Platforms and tools used by your office National databases (see point i) and public international databases such as espacenet.org and EPO Register. Patentscope . For filing applications and processing them there is a new online system <https://servizionline.uibm.gov.it> Cooperation projects are in place with EPO and WIPO.

Q5 : Exchanges on examination practices on specific technological areas, also through the constitution of examiners working groups; Training, mainly through e-learning means; Discussion platforms and exchanges on the implementation of patent databases as a valuable source of technical information

