

Questionnaire on the Term "Quality of Patents" and Cooperation between Patent

Offices in Search and Examination

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

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Q1 . How does your office understand the term "quality of patents"?

[\(answer\) The Republic of Korea understands that the term "quality of patents" means accuracy and reliability of examination, stability of the results of examination.](#)

02. What experiences does your office have with respect to cooperation with other patent offices in the area of search and examination?

[\(answer\) Republic of Korea has been implementing bilateral and multilateral work-sharing programs including Collaborative Search Program\(CSP\), PPH, PCT work-sharing and PCT CS&E.](#)

03. When performing on-line prior art search, patent examiners prepare a set of search queries to find relevant prior art. Does your office share (for example, via an official website), or exchange, such search queries with other offices?

[\(answer\) Republic of Korea does not share or exchange search queries with other offices.](#)

04. In order to facilitate the cooperation, what kinds of platforms and tools to share information on search and examination are available in your office? Such platforms and tools include, for example, WIPO CASE, databases allowing other offices to retrieve information and external databases used to retrieve information.

(i) Platforms and tools provided by your office

(answer) The Korean Patent Information Online Network (K-PION) is a Korean to English machine translation service provided by KIPO aiming to help patent examiners around the world in referring to and reviewing Korean patent information.

(ii) Platforms and tools used by your office

(answer) Republic of Korea uses KOMPASS(Korean Multifunctional Patent Search System, internal use only), OPD(One Portal Dossier, open to public) and WIPO CASE to retrieve information on search and examination.

QS. What are the impacts of such cooperation to your office? If your office has different types of cooperation and each type of cooperation has different impacts, please indicate them separately.

(answer)

CSP : The two offices will provide applicants with high quality search results which is consistent across the offices in a timely manner.

PPH : In Republic of Korea, the registration rate and first action allowance rate for applications filed through the PPH programs were higher than those for ordinary patent applications. Also, both First Office Action pendency and Completion pendency for patent examination significantly reduced.

PCT Work-sharing : It will reduce the duplicated works in the ISAs and increase the quality of ISRs(International Search Reports).

PCT CS&E : PCT CS&E improves predictability of patent examination results in the national phase.

Q6. What kinds of capacity building and trainings are required for cooperation between patent offices in search and examination? Please indicate any specific capacity building needs to conduct such cooperation successfully.

(answer) In Republic of Korea, there is a education for patent examiners for their understanding of the work-sharing program.