

**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:

Country: Republic of Kazakhstan  
Office: National Institute of Intellectual Property

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Q1. Various aspects may be relevant to the concept of "quality of patents". It may relate to, for example, quality of patent procedures and management in the office, quality of search and examination, quality of granted patents or quality of a patent system. In addition, the expression "quality of patents" may be understood differently depending on the perspectives of various stakeholders, for example, the perspectives of a patent office, an applicant etc.

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

Q2. What types of cooperation with other patent offices does your office have with respect to search and examination?

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.

Q3. When performing prior art search, patent examiners prepare search strategies and queries (for example, indications of databases and publications, classification codes, search terms and key words used) to find relevant prior art.

Does your office share (for example, via an official website), or exchange, such search strategies and queries with other collaborating offices?

Q4. 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
- (ii) Platforms and tools used by your office

Q5. What are the impacts of such cooperation in the area of search and examination to your office? If your office has different types of cooperation and each type of cooperation has different impacts, please indicate them separately.

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

In this context, the capacity building is understood to refer to various activities and trainings that support development of knowledge and skills of office employees for effective cooperation between offices in search and examination.

[End of Questionnaire]

A.1.

The concept of "Patent quality" may be relevant to the whole patent system of country, because this content describes the efficiency of legal acts; qualification of specialists, informative and technical tools etc. Therefore, in order to increase the quality of the patent examination and improve the legislative framework, our office performs analyses of legal background of foreign countries, focuses on enhancement of qualification of our examiners and makes the effort to strength the informative and technical support.

A.2.

Republic of Kazakhstan is a member for Eurasian patent convention within which our experts have an access to database of Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO). Alongside, EAPO holds annually trainings on several different spheres on examination of applications for inventions for our examiners.

Within the framework of the bilateral Memorandum between "National Institute of Intellectual Property" of Republic of Kazakhstan and "Federal Institute of Industrial Property" (FIIP) of Russian Federation our office has an access to searching databases as Patsearch, which consists patent documentation on inventions and utility model of FIIP, PCT countries, countries of Commonwealth of Independent States, WIPO, EPO, ARIPO, OAPI.

A.3.

Unfortunately, our office doesn't share or exchange such strategies and queries with collaborating offices.

A.4.

Nowadays, our Office offers the following available platform or tools on sharing the information:

- Database of State Registry of inventions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which is available in our website [www.kazpatent.kz](http://www.kazpatent.kz)
- WIPO CASE, Espacenet, EAPATIS and other available searching databases of patent offices.

A.5.

Answer will be the same as for 2<sup>nd</sup> question.

A.6.

In order to develop and strength the capacity building on issues of search and examination, we offer the below mentioned:

- A step by step share of experience on examination, which would include several levels and stages of trainings. The purpose is to learn the difficult questions, which appears during examination.
- Organizing the Workshops, which would consist the debates and exchange of opinions on specific situations of search and examination stages, including analyze of results of examination of application applied in different countries.

[End of questionnaire]