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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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Office: Kuwaiti Patent Office

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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?

These 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?

Geneva KIP

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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]

Geneva KW Mission to UN

1- As a first step of accepting the applications, all the required documents must be submitted. Regardless of the conditions of granting the patent, there is a strict system through auditing by the department head then by the supervisor then by the manger. And we are anticipating using the I.S.O system in the intellectual property management office.

2- We are looking forward to hold agreements in search engines as STN, espace net and the others. Also we hope to meet you to share ideas in the possibility of holding agreements in search and examination and documents publications. We are looking forward to hold future agreements with the Korean office and the Egyptian office and the others.

3- Yes, we are cooperating with the GCC patent office in search strategies.

4- Our patent office has only internal database. However we are looking forward to have an external database.

5- We have been already delegated experts from the Egyptian office, which resulted in increasing the skills of the examiners in search and examination.

6- We need specialized training courses in search and examination to become more professionals in this field.