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## HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE

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**WIPO/WEBINAR/WSO/2021/10/INF/1**  
**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**  
**DATE: JULY 14, 2021**

## High Level Policy Dialogue to Enhance Patent Search and Examination in the Asia-Pacific Region

*organized by*  
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

*in cooperation with*  
the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP)

*and with the assistance of*  
the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)

**Singapore, August 24, 26 and 27, 2021**

### PROGRAM

*prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO*

Tuesday, August 24, 2021 (all times are Singapore time)

11.15 – 11.30 Online session set-up

11.30 – 11.55 **OPENING CEREMONY OF IP WEEK@SG 2021**

Welcome Remarks by Mrs. Rena Lee, Chief Executive, IPOS

Opening Address by Mr. Edwin Tong SC, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law, Singapore

11.55 – 12.15 **WIPO-IPOS IP FOR INNOVATION AWARDS**

Guest-of-Honor: Mr. Edwin Tong SC, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law

Award Presenters: Mr. Daren Tang, Director General, WIPO

Dr. Stanley Lai, Chairman, IPOS

14.00 – 15.30 **KEYNOTE IP LEADERS' PLENARY ON "CHARTING OUR FUTURE: EMERGING STRONGER THROUGH INNOVATION AND IP"**

COVID-19 has brought about global economic disruption over the past year. As we gradually transit to a post-COVID economy, innovation and IP have emerged as key drivers of growth. R&D investments have continued to grow in 2020, with the OECD estimating a more than 6% increase in R&D budgets. International patent applications also grew by around 4% during the same period.

Against this backdrop, how might IP drive national economic strategies and support businesses in their innovation journeys? This Keynote IP Leaders' Plenary brings together the WIPO Director General and Heads of IP Offices to share their insights on the role of innovation and IP in helping enterprises to emerge stronger as we recover from the pandemic.

Speakers: Mr. Daren Tang, Director General, WIPO

Ms. Rena Lee, Chief Executive, IPOS

Mr. Rowel S. Barba, Director General, IP Office of the Philippines and Chair of ASEAN Working Group on IP Cooperation

Dr. Shen Changyu, Commissioner, China National IP Administration

Mr. Kiyoshi Mori, Commissioner, Japan Patent Office

Mr. Etienne Sanz de Acedo, Chief Executive Officer, International Trademark Association

Thursday, August 26, 2021 (all times are Singapore time)

14.45 – 15.00 Online session set-up

15.00 – 15.15 **OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Daren Tang, Director General, WIPO, Geneva

Mrs. Rena Lee, Chief Executive, IPOS, Singapore

15.15 – 16.00 **Topic 1: Enhancing the effectiveness of patent examiner training and the policies needed to implement successful examiner training**

Speakers: Ms. Baahini Sivakumar, Assistant Director, Quality and Customer Improvements, IP Australia, Canberra

Mr. Xavier Seuba, ES, Director, Patent Academy and EQE, European Patent Office, Munich

Mr. John Koeppen, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and International Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria

16.00 – 16.15 Question and answer session

16.15 – 16.30 **Topic 2: Deploying a learning management system for examiner training – the Philippine experience**

Speaker: Ms. Lolibeth R. Medrano, Director, Bureau of Patents, Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, Manila

16.30 – 16.45 Question and answer session

16.45 – 17.05 **Topic 3: Update on the PCT Working Group's Progress on Improving Examiner Training Management**

Speaker: Mr. Lutz Mailander, Head, PCT International Cooperation Division, Cooperation on Examination and Training Section, WIPO, Geneva

17.05 – 17.15 Discussion

17.15 Closing of Day 1 Speaker: Mr. Peter Willimott, Officer-in-charge, WIPO Singapore Office, Singapore

Friday, August 27, 2021 (all times are Singapore time)

14.45 – 15.00 Online session set-up

15.00 – 16.00 **Topic 1: Workload and Pendency Management**

Speakers: Ms. Chen Xi, Director, International Cooperation Division, Patent Examination Administration Department, China National IP Administration, Beijing

Dr. Michael Zapf, Assistant to the Director General Patents and Utility Models, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA), Munich

Mr. Alfred Yip, Director, Patent Search, Examination and Analytics, IPOS International, Singapore

Ms. Sara Backman, Head of the Patent Department, Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV), Stockholm

16.00 – 16.05 Break

16.05 – 16.35 **Topic 2: Panel discussion on the strategies on managing Search & Examination workload, meeting quality and pendency commitments and future plans**

Moderator: Dr. Les McCaffery, IP Consultant, Canberra

Speakers: Ms. Chen Xi, Beijing

Dr. Michael Zapf, Munich

Mr. Alfred Yip, Singapore

Ms. Sara Backman, Stockholm

16.35 – 16.50 Question and answer session

16.50 – 16.55 **CLOSING REMARKS**

Ms. Sharmaine Wu, Director, Patents, Designs & Plant Varieties, IPOS, Singapore

Mr. Peter Willimott, Officer-in-charge, WIPO Singapore Office, Singapore

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