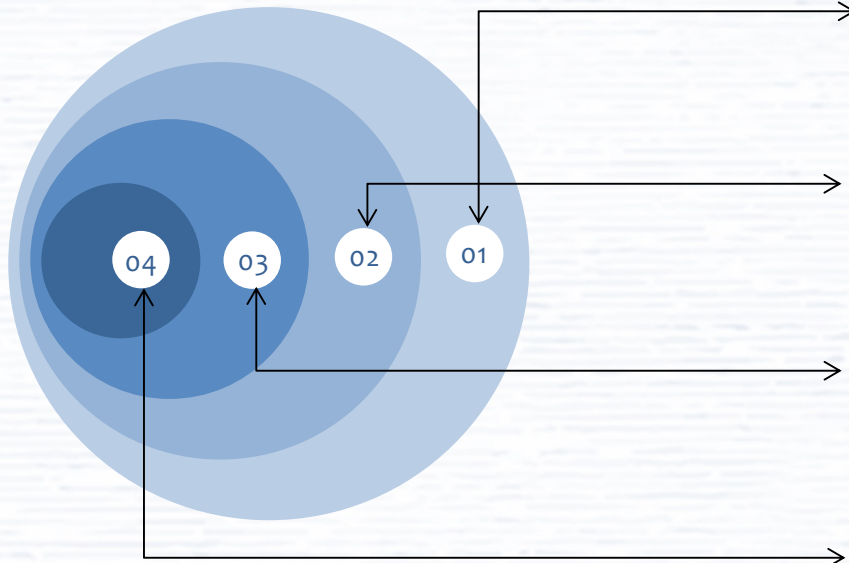国家知识产权局
China National Intellectual Property Administration

API Service Practice in CNIPA for PCT Data exchange at International Phase

IT Department, CNIPA

13 June 2023

China Patent Intelligent Examination and Search System
i-system

Examination Part
launch in January 2023

PCT Module
RO, ISA, IPEA

Data exchange with IB
Machine-to-Machine Approach

04 03 02 01

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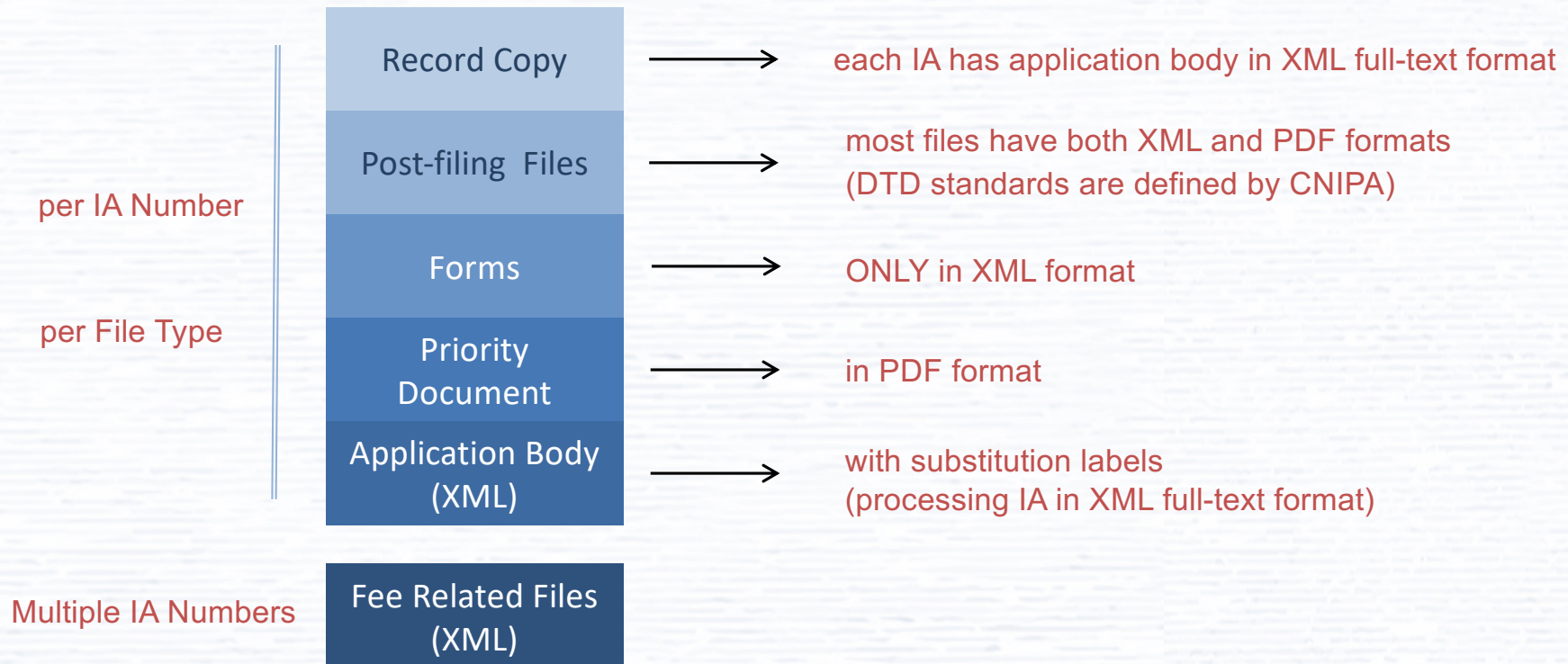
API service practice for PCT data exchange
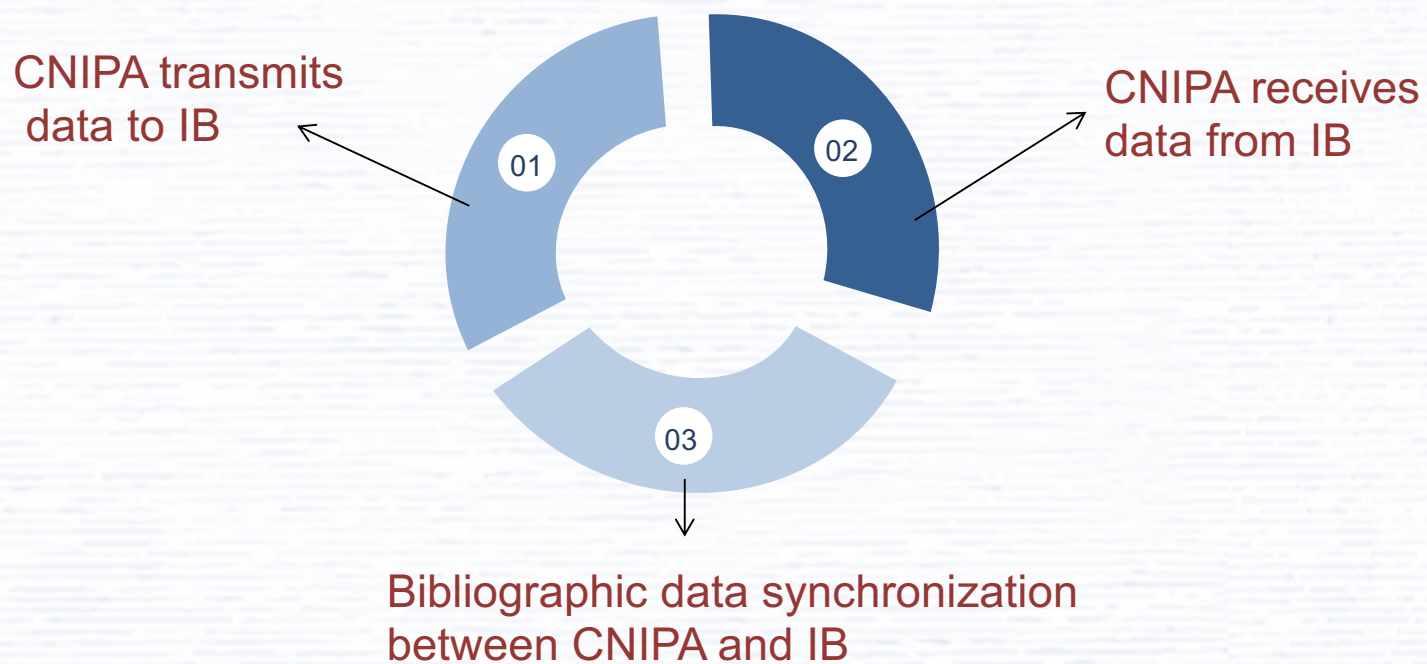
CNIPA transmits
data to IB

01

02

CNIPA receives
data from IB

03

Bibliographic data synchronization
between CNIPA and IB

API service practice for PCT data exchange
>> CNIPA transmits data to IB

per IA Number

per File Type

Multiple IA Numbers

Record Copy	→	each IA has application body in XML full-text format
Post-filing Files	→	most files have both XML and PDF formats (DTD standards are defined by CNIPA)
Forms	→	ONLY in XML format
Priority Document	→	in PDF format
Application Body (XML)	→	with substitution labels (processing IA in XML full-text format)
Fee Related Files (XML)		

API service practice for PCT data exchange
>> CNIPA receives data from IB

New ESearchCopy

New Document Added

Updated ESearchCopy

API service practice for PCT data exchange

>> Bibliographic Data Synchronization

Applicant	Inventor	Agent	Priority

Withdrawn	International Publication

RO
ISA
IPEA

← — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — →

IB
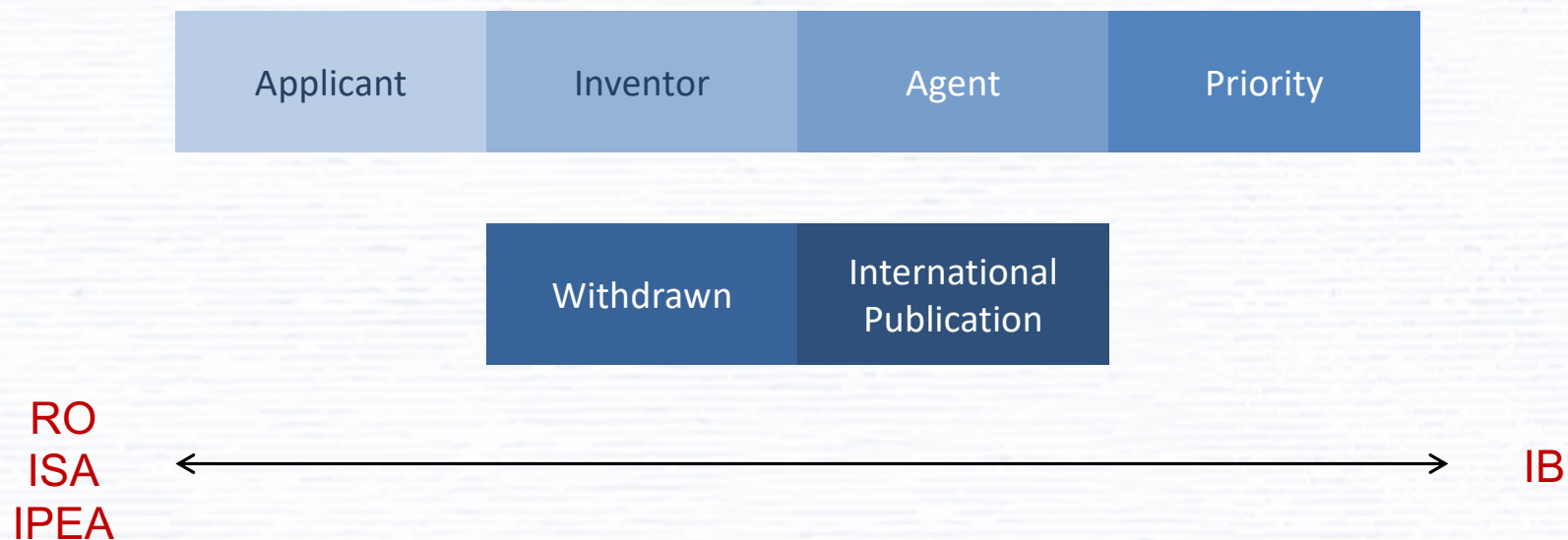
Advantages of using API service for data exchange

- achieving rapid response
- Improving the timeliness of PCT business processing

- Implementing real-time data verification
- improving the efficiency of data processing

- Filtering message fields
- improving the review accuracy and applicants' experience

Suggestions for improving API service for data exchange

- The package structure can be standardized, for which CNIPA practice provides a good example.

- The error response can be improved by establishing a mapping table between the specific reasons and messages.

- Response can be sent after data verification at the front end, other than operation completion.

- The concurrency of data transmission can be further enhanced.

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Thank you !