

Topic3 : Establishing Examination Cooperation Mechanisms to Support Patent Work Sharing -IP5

Overview of IP5 Cooperation & JPO-Lead IT Projects in WG2

JAPAN PATENT OFFICE



<u>Outline</u>

- ✓ Establishment of IP5 Cooperation
- ✓WG1: Patent Classification
- ✓WG2: Global Dossier and Patent Information
- ✓WG3: Patent Examination Practices and Quality



- First IP5 Heads meeting in 2007
- The vision of IP5 cooperation (agreed in 2008):
- "The elimination of unnecessary duplication of work among the offices, enhancement of patent examination efficiency and quality, and guarantee of the stability of patent right."

2nd IP5 Heads Meeting in Jeju (2008)





- Heads meeting
- **Deputy Heads meeting**
 - WG1: Patent Classification
 - WG2: Global Dossier and Patent Information
 - Global Dossier: OPD(IP5 File Wrapper), CCD, PDX/DAS etc.
 - Secure Data Exchange
 - Patent information Policy, Authority File
 - **Common Documentation**
 - WG3: Patent Examination Practices and Quality
 - PPH, PCT, Timelines,
 - Training including IP5 Examiners Workshop
 - Sharing Search Strategy, Quality (Gap Analysis, Quality, meetings)



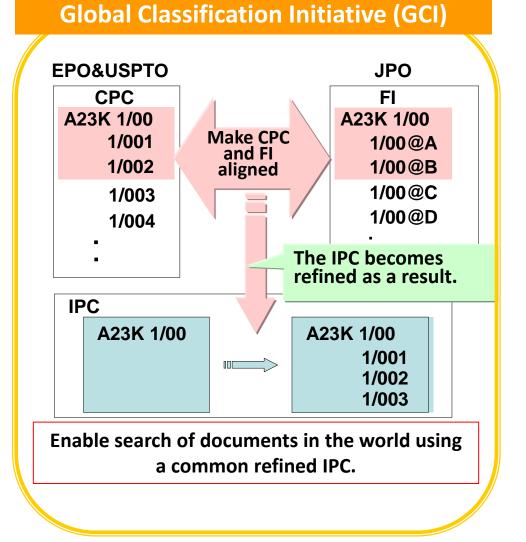
<u>Outline</u>

- ✓ Establishment of IP5 Cooperation
- ✓WG1: Patent Classification
- ✓ WG2: Global Dossier and Patent Information
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■WG1 is a working group on classification to discuss subdivision of the International Patent Classification (IPC).

Global Classification Initiative (GCI), a new framework to harmonize classification, was established at the Heads of IP5 Offices Meeting in June 2013.



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■ 24 IPC revision projects were launched under GCI. The new IPC will be published at 2015.01 at the earliest.

Examples of technical fields being discussed under the GCI

IPC	Technology Based on		
C01B 31/00	Carbon CPC,FI		
H02J17/00	Wireless Electric Power	FI, new classification	
1102317700	Transmission		
	Lighting devices or		
F21S 4/00	systems using a string or	CPC	
	strip of light sources		
B33Y	Additive Manufacturing	New classification	

[Reference] Overview of Patent Classification Scheme

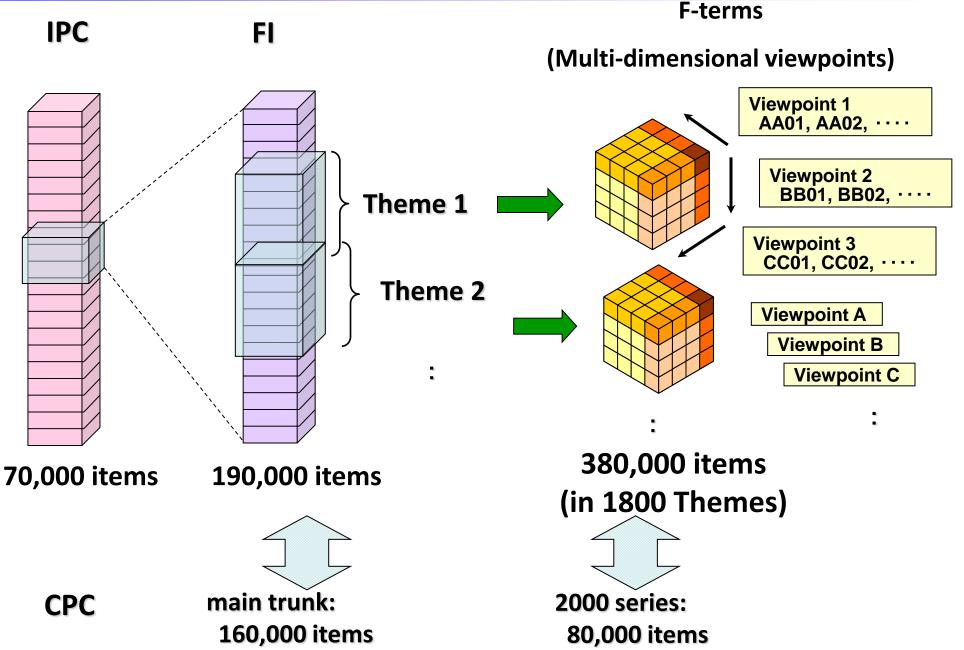


System	Governance	Number of Entries	Documentation coverage
IPC	IPC/CE (Committee of Experts); supervised by WIPO	70K	- almost all patent docs published worldwide
FI/F-term	JPO	190K/ 380K	- JP docs
CPC	EPO/USPTO	250K (main trunk / 2000 series = 160K/ 80K)	 the subset of "min-PCT" documentation in one of the three EPO languages patent docs classified by CPCNO

[Reference] What is F-term? Characteristics of F-term



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[Reference] IPC-FI-CPC Parallel Viewer



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B60G the regulating means comprising e 20411(4) 17/015 lectric or electronic elements(B60 G17/005 takes precedence)		ne regulating means comprising electric or electronic elements (B6 G 17/005 takes precedence) [8]	3640件	<u>3D301</u> HB	B60G17/015	 the regulating means comprising ele ctric or electronic elements ({B60G1 7/002}, B60G17/005 take precedence) 		*
	B60G ··· Co 17/015 A	ontrolling damping force (controlling damper venturi and the like)	4739件	<u>3D301</u> <u>HB</u>	B60G17/0152	 { characterised by the action on a particular type of suspension unit (B6 0G17/01941 takes precedence)} 	1869件	
		controlling working fluid (control of hydro, full active, control of spri g constant)	4916件	<u>3D301</u> <u>HB</u>	B60G17/0155	•••• {pneumatic unit}	1331件	
	B60G ··· co 17/015 C	ontrolling air	2906件	<u>3D301</u> HB	B60G17/0157	•••• {non-fluid unit, eg. electric motor}	690件	
IPC	B60G ··· O1 17/015 Z	thers	1819件	<u>3D301</u> HB		CPC		
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					B60G17/0161	•••• {mainly during straight-line motion (B60G17/0164 takes precedence)}	113件	
					B60G17/0162	•••• {mainly during a motion involving steering operation, e.g. cornering, overt aking (B60G17/0164 takes precedenc e)}		
					B60G17/0163	•••• {the control involving steering ge ometry.eg.four-wheel steering}	95件	
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<u>Outline</u>

✓ Establishment of IP5 Cooperation

✓WG1: Patent Classification

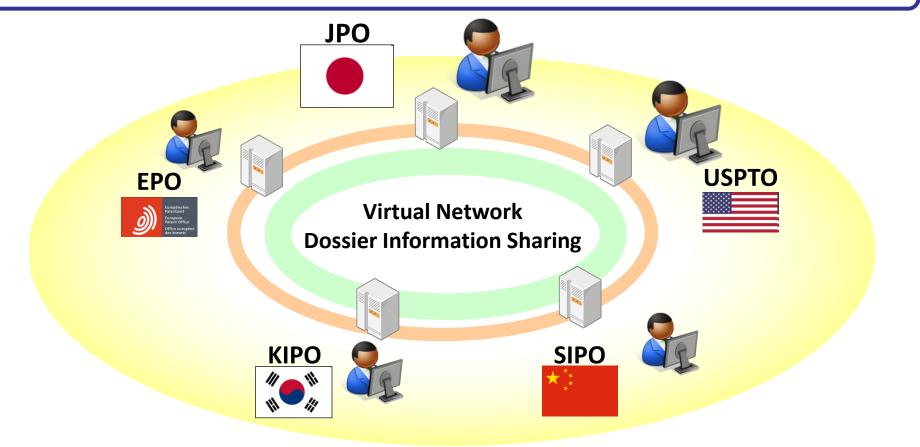
✓ WG2: Global Dossier and Patent Information

JPO-Lead Project in WG2

✓WG3: Patent Examination Practice and Quality



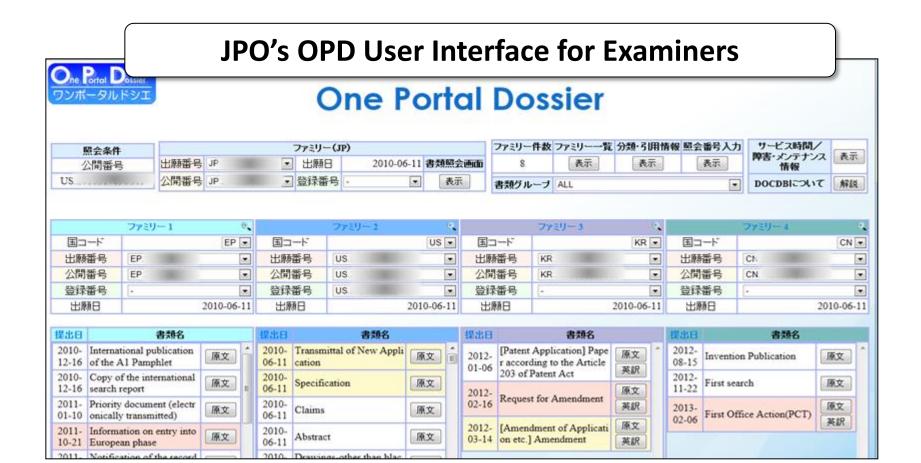
- Examiners of IP5 Offices can access dossier information of all IP5 Offices at One Stop.
- Dossier Information Sharing is achieved with distributed architecture and common communication protocol "OPD Spec".



Launch of OPD

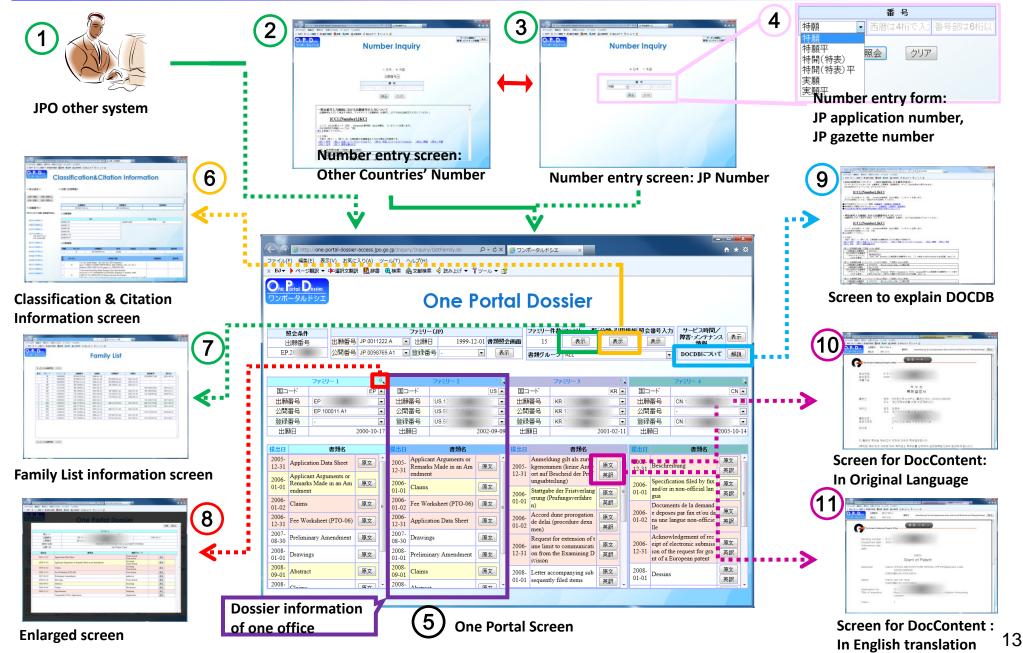


- One Portal Dossier launched in July 2013 among IP5 Offices
- ✓ JPO's examiners access 33,000 documents of the other IP5 Offices monthly
- ✓ Other four Offices' examiners access 16,000 documents of JPO monthly



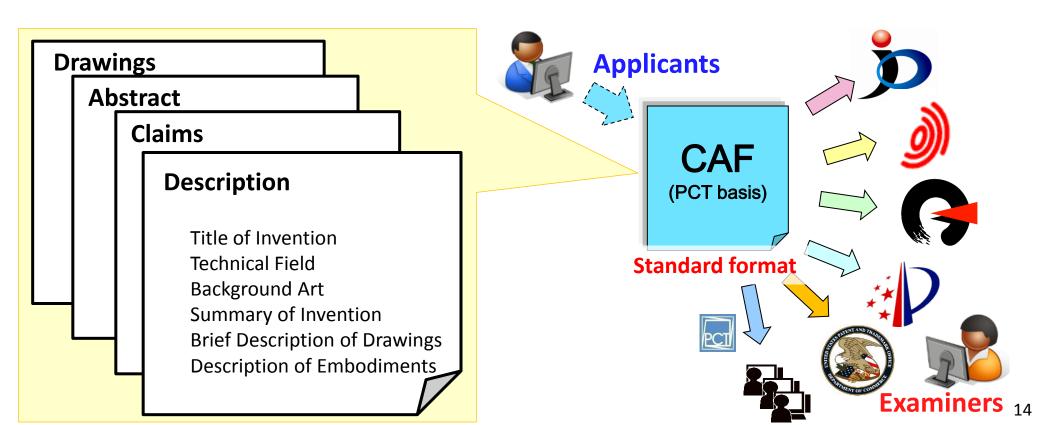
OPD UI for JPO's Examiners





Common Application Format (CAF)

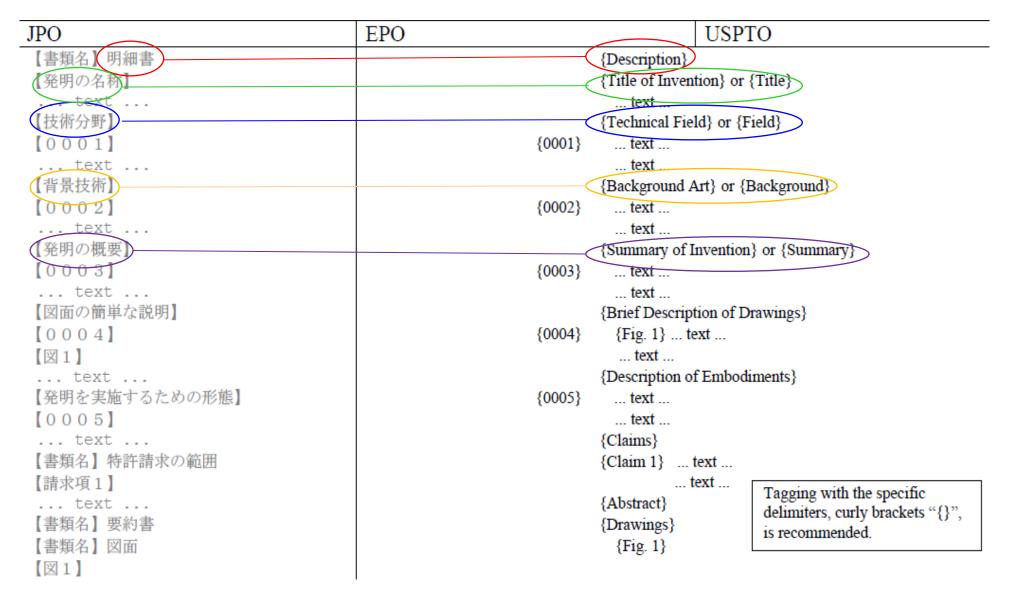
- CAF standardizes style of description, claims, abstract and drawings (name of items, order of items) that had been different office by office
- CAF has been developed based on PCT form
- ✓ Relieve the laborious work of applicants to re-draft specifications in accordance with each country's own original format.
- ✓ Enable examiners to understand the specifications of other countries more easily.





Example of CAF

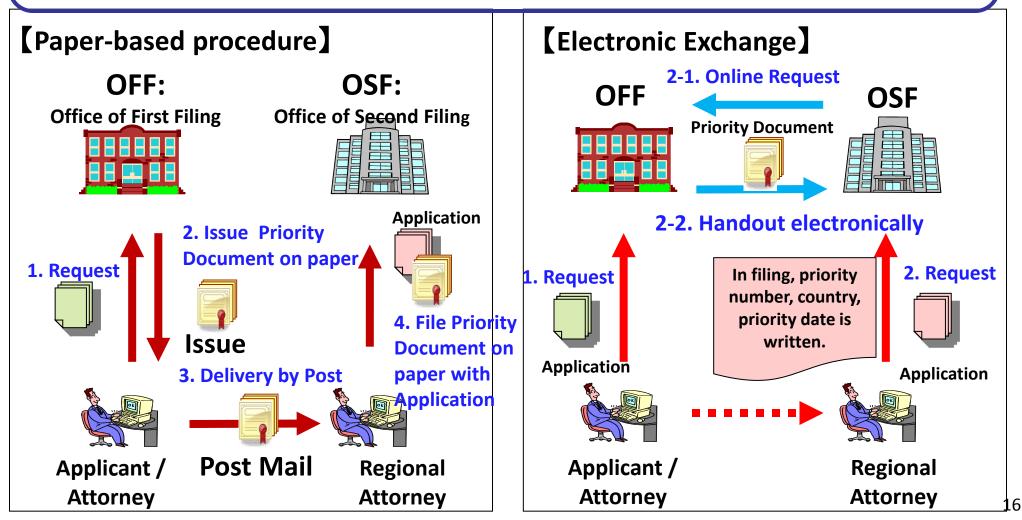




http://www.fiveipoffices.org/activities/globaldossier/CAF.html

Priority Document Exchange (PDX)

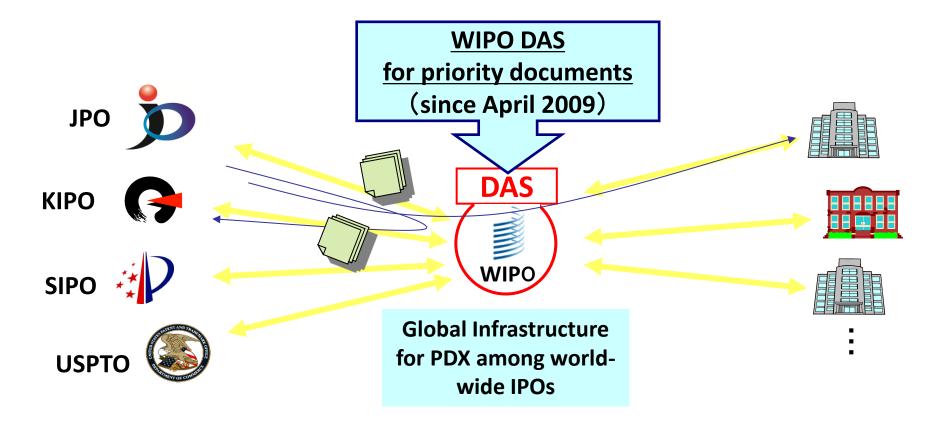
- Eliminate the burden of applicants to handle priority documents
- Improve the productivity and efficiency of patent offices.
- OFF is not required to issue priority documents on paper
- \checkmark OSF can storage priority document data in its database and handle it smoothly



PDX Using WIPO DAS



- WIPO launched the Digital Access Service (DAS) in 2009
- DAS adopts hub-spoke style to exchange priority documents via WIPO
- Priority document exchanges are performed securely with access code



Participating Offices: AU, CN, DK, ES, FI, GB, JP, KR, SE, US and WIPO (as of June 2014)

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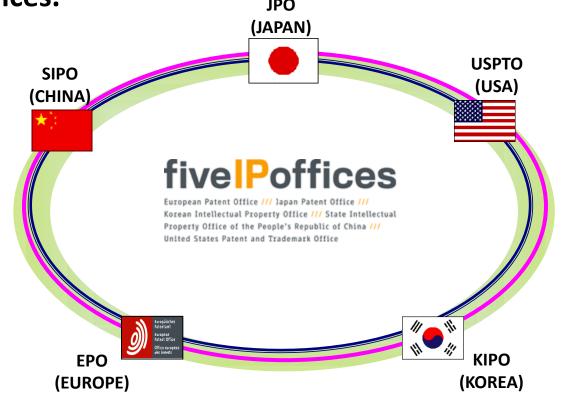
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IP5 PPH Initiative



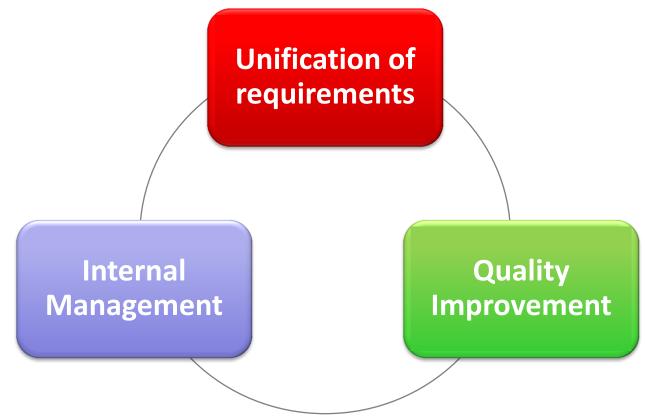
- IP5 PPH pilot program commenced on January 6, 2014 for a period of 3 years.
- Under the program, applicants whose patent claims have been found to be patentable by one office may ask for accelerated processing of their corresponding applications pending before the other IP5 offices.



Next Steps of PPH

The JPO proposes:

- Unification of PPH requirements
- Improvement of quality
- Internal management at IP5 level





IP5 Offices are focusing on the following four prioritized areas.

✓ Work sharing between International Authorities and National Offices

✓ Discussion on Standards to improve accessibility to PCT documents and facilitate their utilization

✓ Collaboration to enhance quality of PCT international searches and preliminary examinations

✓ Cooperation to promote utilization of the PCT system by small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and individual users



- It is proposed to provide for expedited national phase processing through formal integration of the PPH into the PCT.
- This would effectively reduce the cost of pursuing patent protection through the following benefits:
 - Reduced actions per disposal
 - Higher allowance rate
 - Reduced rate of appeal.



From 2009 to 2013, around 90 examiners and training related persons participated in the workshops in total. The workshops annually hosted by KIPO, the EPO, the USPTO, SIPO and the JPO.

orkshops provided an opportunity to share and deepen understanding on search strategy, way to decide patentability (novelty, inventive step and specification requirements) and so on.



Date: November 18(Mon)-22(Fri), 2013 Venue: Japan Patent Office Number of Participants:

EPO	JPO	KIPO	SIPO	USPTO
4	6 incl. 3 facilitators	5	3	3

Approximately 240 JPO examiners observed the workshop

Technical field:

Machinery(A61B 6/00), Chemistry(C08L 3/02) and Electricity (G06Q) Discussion Topics(#):

✓ Claim interpretation and Written Description Requirements

✓ Search Strategy

- ✓ Novelty and Inventive Step
- ✓ Drafting Notifications sent to Applicants

(#) Discussed based on a common case example in each technical field



Sharing search strategies :

- **D** Between IP5 offices
- **PCT** Users

□ Sharing data related to search strategies Between IP5 Offices IP5 Offices are exploring sharing search records such as:

- Class/subclass
- Databases
- Keywords

D PCT Search Strategy

Discussions are ongoing on further improving the usefulness and quality of PCT searches by making available to the public certain information relating to how searches were conducted by the offices.



- Collaborative Metrics Study started as Trilateral Project in 2011
- In 2012, Study turned into IP5 activity as well as activity in PCT/MIA; WIPO started to produce Metrics on ISR
- More than 20 items of ISR Metrics were produced in 2013

Example of ISR Metrics

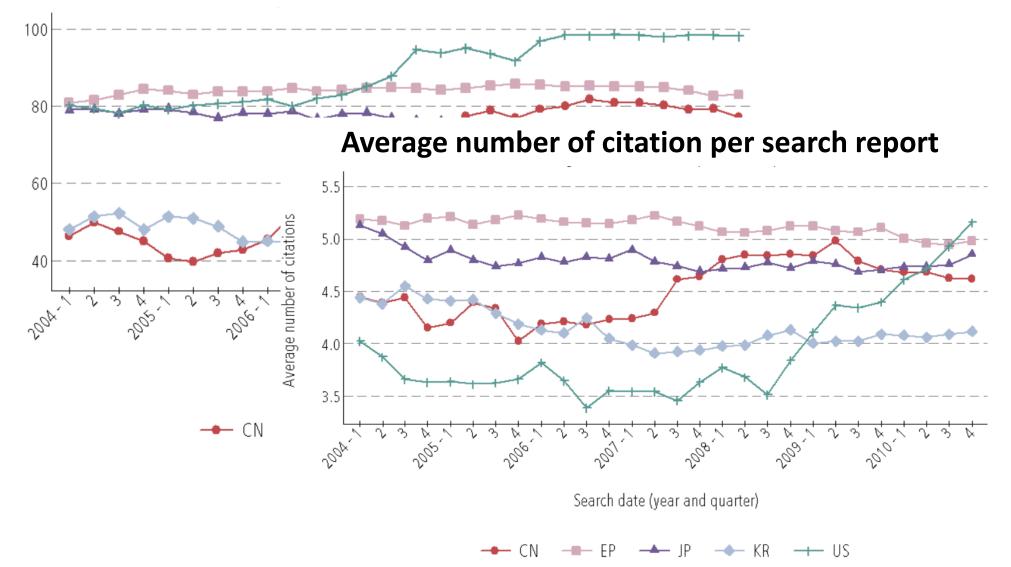
- ■Percentage of PCT search reports with at least one X, Y or E citation
- Percentage of PCT search reports with A citations only
- Average number of citations per search report
- Average number of NPL citations per search report

JPO and EPO are conducting manual sample-based analysis

Metrics provide useful insights for discussion on reducing discrepancy in search and examination results and improving quality



Percentage of search reports with at least one XY citation





Results of IP5 Working Group 3 Meeting

 ✓ The IP5 Offices agreed on holding a meeting on quality management within WG3 in 2014 and naming the meeting as the IP5 Quality Management Meeting.

■Objective	
Sharing	Sharing quality management experience
Convergence	Enhancing quality cooperation among IP5

Content

- 1. Advancing the existing IP5 projects related to quality
- 2. Introducing the outcomes and experiences of the projects which are implemented by some of the IP5 offices
- 3. Sharing one office's fruitful experience, which has the possibility and necessity to perform in IP5 framework

IP5 Quality
Quality evaluation
Quality improvement
measures
User feedback



Thank you !