

WRITTEN STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF THE SESSION

The following positive recommendations concerning the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority were received in advance of the session from the Offices of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation.

For the sake of efficiency, it is proposed that these be treated as having been delivered during the session unless the delegations in question explicitly request to modify or add to them.

ARMENIA / INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGENCY

Statement in Russian

Агентство интеллектуальной собственности Министерства экономики Республики Армения (Агентство) поддерживает назначение Евразийского патентного ведомства (ЕАПВ) в качестве Международного поискового органа (МПО) и Органа международной предварительной экспертизы (ОМПЭ) в рамках системы РСТ.

У Агентства сложились многолетние и плодотворные рабочие отношения с ЕАПВ, и нам хорошо известен высокий профессиональный уровень патентных экспертов ЕАПВ. ЕАПВ имеет многолетний опыт проведения поиска и экспертизы в качестве регионального патентного ведомства, современное информационное и техническое обеспечение, высокий уровень предоставляемых заявителям электронных сервисов. Вышесказанное позволяет с уверенностью заключить, что проведение международного поиска и международной предварительной экспертизы будет осуществляться ЕАПВ на высоком уровне, отвечающем всем требованиям РСТ.

Отчеты Федеральной службы по интеллектуальной собственности (Роспатент) и Национальной администрации по интеллектуальной собственности Китая (СНІРА), оказавших ЕАПВ содействие в оценке готовности к выполнению функций МПО/ОМПЭ, подтвердили соответствие ЕАПВ всем основным критериям для назначения в качестве МПО/ОМПЭ.

Назначение ЕАПВ в качестве МПО/ОМПЭ в рамках системы РСТ будет способствовать популяризации в регионе системы РСТ как для индивидуальных изобретателей, так и среди научных организаций и бизнеса в евразийском регионе.

Informal English translation prepared by the Secretariat

Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia (the Agency) supports appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office as International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT system.

The agency has established successful long-term cooperation with EAPO, and we are well aware of the highest professionalism of the patent experts of EAPO. EAPO possesses many years of experience in search and examination as a regional patent office, it is equipped with the modern IT and technical tools, and provides its applicants with the electronic services of high quality. Thus, we can be sure that international search and preliminary examination will be held by EAPO at the top level, in compliance with all the PCT requirements.

The reports of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), which have assisted EAPO in evaluation of its readiness to perform the functions of ISA/IPEA, have proven compliance of EAPO with all the main criteria for the appointment as ISA/IPEA.

The appointment of EAPO as ISA/IPEA under the PCT system will provide for promotion of the PCT system in the Eurasian region, both among individual inventors and science and research organizations.

AZERBAIJAN / INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGENCY

Referring to the World Intellectual Property Organization Circular C. PCT 1598, the Intellectual Property Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan informs about the support of the Azerbaijani side, on the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT.

According to the EAPO application materials and as evident from the reports of the two assisting offices presented in the document of the session PCT/CTC/31/2, EAPO, under the PCT, meets all the requirements and criteria for appointment as ISA/IPEA

The Republic of Azerbaijan is a party to the Eurasian Patent Convention since 1995. Through all these years, taking part in the activity of the governing bodies of the Eurasian Patent Organization, as well as having different forms of cooperation with EAPO, including regular training sessions for examiners and experts of national patent offices, conferences, seminars, use of EAPATIS patent information system, we have witnessed a sustainable development of this office. On this basis, the EAPO's intention to seek appointment as ISA/IPEA, under the PCT, appears entirely relevant to us.

We are certain that the new capacity of EAPO as International Authority will expand the access to international search and preliminary examination services for the applicants of the Republic of Azerbaijan and of the whole region and will promote the use of the PCT System both, in our country and in the region.

BELARUS / NATIONAL CENTER OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The National Center of Intellectual Property of the Republic of Belarus (NCIP) expresses its support of the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an ISA/IPEA under the PCT.

At the Thirty-Fifth (26th Extraordinary) Session of the EAPO Administrative Council held on September 10-11, 2019 in Kazakhstan the Council representatives unanimously adopted a decision to grant the EAPO the authority to request the status of an ISA/IPEA.

The Republic of Belarus alongside with other member states of the Eurasian patent system is interested in further development of the regional patent system and emphasizes the significance of EAPO activities and services for this process.

Taking into account many years of successful cooperation with EAPO and its contribution to the development of the regional system of intellectual property, we believe that the Eurasian Office meets all the requirements for the aforementioned appointment.

BRAZIL / NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Brazil has no comments on document PCT/CTC/31/2 and has no objection to the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT.

CANADA / CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

The Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), in its capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA) and a member of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation, thanks the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the opportunity to provide statements concerning the application from the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) to become an ISA/IPEA under the PCT.

Please note that Canada reserves the right to revisit its comments below in case the Secretariat accords an extension to respond to C. PCT 1598.

CIPO has reviewed the application and is satisfied that all of the criteria for appointment as an ISA/IPEA have or will have been met by the time of appointment.

The EAPO currently has just over the minimum required number of full time examiners, all of whom have sufficient technical qualifications to carry out patent searches both in the traditional technical fields of patenting (mechanical engineering, chemistry, electrical engineering, etc.) and in high-tech fields (biotechnology, telecommunications, etc.). It is noted that there is a higher proportion of examiners in the chemical, biotechnology and pharmaceutical fields as compared to the electrical and mechanical fields. This distribution appears to be consistent with the distribution of Eurasian applications received by technical field, however, depending on evolving demands, it could be that future hiring at EAPO will be required in the mechanical and electrical areas to adequately cover all technical fields.

The EAPO's training program appears to be extensive. However, it has been CIPO's experience that a certain quantity of PCT work is needed in order to sustain examiners' knowledge of the PCT processes. Given the relatively small size of the Office, the EAPO may want to consider additional on-going PCT training mechanisms to enable their examiners to maintain their skill set until such time as their PCT workload increases.

The Quality Management System (QMS) provided in the application is well written and very thorough. CIPO currently has no concerns regarding EAPO's QMS. CIPO would like to welcome the EAPO to contribute actively to Quality Subgroup (QSG) discussions at meetings and on the QSG wiki, and encourage them to participate in the peer review held at the QSG meetings as a way to share and learn from other offices.

The EAPO would add another Russian language service to the PCT system, which is seen as advantageous by CIPO. Presently, the only other Russian speaking ISA is Rospatent.

Based upon the strength of the CNIPA's and Rospatent's endorsements of EAPO's adherence to the criteria, CIPO can support this bid on those grounds. We look forward to seeing their work.

CHILE / NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

In response to Circular C. PCT 1598 concerning the application for appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT in accordance with Articles 16(3)(e) and 32(3) of the PCT and the relevant understanding of the PCT Assembly, as modified at its fiftieth (29th extraordinary) session, held in Geneva from September 24 to October 2, 2018, and after having reviewed document PCT/CTC/31/2, published on March 20, 2020, the National Industrial Property Institute of Chile, INAPI, as member of the Committee, makes the following statement on above-mentioned subject matter:

INAPI fully support the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority, ISA/IPEA, under the PCT in accordance with Articles 16(3)(e) and 32(3) of the PCT and the relevant understanding of the PCT Assembly

In this regard, INAPI firmly believes that the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) complies with the minimum requirements contemplated under PCT Rules 36 and 63, especially those relating to the number of examiners, access to minimum documentation and the existence of a quality management system, which in addition to the positive evaluation made by both, the Russian Federal Services of Intellectual Property, (ROSPATENT) and the National Intellectual Property Administration of the People's Republic of China, (CNIPA), makes INAPI trust that this new ISA/IPEA will be beneficial for the operation of the PCT system, distributing search resources and consequently providing greater alternatives to users when choosing an ISA/IPEA in their requests in English or Russian languages.

CHINA / NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION

Statement in Chinese

作为PCT技术合作委员会成员，中国国家知识产权局（CNIPA）认真审查了相关文件PCT/CTC/31/2，同意欧亚专利局（EAPO）成为新的PCT国际检索和初审单位。

中国国家知识产权局（CNIPA）作为协助单位，于2019年9月，根据PCT细则的相关要求对EAPO具备成为PCT国际检索和初审单位的条件出具了报告并进行了评估(如文件PCT-CTC-31-2-1所述)，欧亚专利局在审查员数量和能力、PCT最低文献、质量管理和内部检查方面符合《PCT实施细则》第36条和第63条关于成为国际检索和初审单位的最低要求的规定。因此，我局同意指定欧亚专利局作为PCT国际检索和初审单位。

我们相信EAPO被指定为国际检索单位和国际初步审查单位，有助于为欧亚地区以及世界其他地区用户提供PCT国际检索和国际初步审查的服务，有助于PCT制度在该地区的发展。

Informal English translation prepared by the Secretariat

The China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), as a member of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation, carefully reviewed Document PCT/CTC/31/2 and agreed to the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as a new International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA) under the PCT.

In accordance with the relevant requirements of the PCT Rules, CNIPA assisted and issued a report in September 2019 in which it provided its assessment (as stated in Document PCT/CTC/31/2) of the extent to which EAPO met the criteria for appointment as a PCT ISA/IPEA. In terms of its number and competence of examiners, PCT minimum documentation, and quality management and internal inspection, EAPO meets the minimum requirements for ISA/IPEA provided for under PCT Rules 36 and 63. Therefore, CNIPA agrees to the appointment of EAPO as an ISA/IPEA under the PCT.

We believe that the appointment of EAPO as an ISA/IPEA under the PCT will facilitate the provision of PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination services to users in the Eurasian region and from other parts of the world, and will contribute to the development of the PCT system in the region.

COLOMBIA / SUPERINTENDENCE OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Statement in Spanish

Agradecemos a la Secretaría la preparación del documento PCT/CTC/31/2 y consideramos de suma importancia continuar con las discusiones del Comité de Cooperación Técnica pese a la situación que los Países Miembros enfrentamos en este momento.

Teniendo en cuenta el concepto favorable del Servicio Federal de la Propiedad Intelectual de la Federación de Rusia (Rospatent) y de la Administración Nacional de Propiedad Intelectual de China (CNIPA) así como la información contenida en el documento PCT/CTC/31/2, apoyamos la designación de la Oficina Eurasiática de Patentes (EAPO) como Administración encargada de la búsqueda internacional y del examen preliminar internacional en el marco del Tratado de Cooperación en materia de Patentes PCT.

Estamos convencidos que con la mencionada designación se fortalecerá el Sistema PCT en la región eurasiática y permitirá que los países que la conforman puedan realizar la totalidad de los trámites relativos a una Solicitud Internacional ante la Oficina regional, incentivando de esta manera el uso del sistema PCT en la región.

Informal English translation prepared by the Secretariat

We are grateful to the Secretariat for the preparation of document PCT/CTC/31/2 and we consider it of the utmost importance to continue discussions of the Committee for Technical Cooperation, despite the situation that member States are currently facing.

Considering the favorable opinion of the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), as well as the information contained in document PCT/CTC/31/2, we support the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

We are certain that such appointment will strengthen the PCT System in the Eurasian region and will enable member countries in the region to perform all procedures relating to an International Application within the regional Office, thereby encouraging the use of the PCT system in the region.

CZECH REPUBLIC / INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE

The Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic supports the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT.

According to the document PCT/CTC/31/2, which contains the EAPO application and the documentation in support of the application, the EAPO meets the requirements for appointment as an International Authority under the PCT.

The appointment is also recommended by the Federal Service for Intellectual Property of the Russian Federation (Rospatent) and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) with which the EAPO cooperated.

The Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic as a member of the Committee for Technical Cooperation agrees to recommend to the Assembly of the PCT Union that the Eurasian Patent Office be appointed as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT.

EGYPT / EGYPTIAN PATENT OFFICE

The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO) would like to express its support to the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA) under the PCT.

We trust that the appointment of EAPO as an ISA/IPEA under the PCT will positively contribute to the promotion of the use of the PCT system in in the Eurasian region.

KAZAKHSTAN / NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Statement in Russian

На тридцать пятом (двадцать шестом очередном) заседании Административного совета Евразийской патентной организации, прошедшем 10-11 сентября 2019 года в городе Нур-Султане, участники единогласно проголосовали за инициативу испрашивания Евразийским патентным ведомством (далее – ЕАПВ) статуса Международного поискового органа (далее – «МПО») и Органа международной предварительной экспертизы (далее – «ОМПЭ»).

Министерство юстиции Республики Казахстан считает, что ЕАПВ обладает высоким уровнем информационного обеспечения, достаточным кадровым потенциалом и опытом успешной организации системы управления качеством проведения поиска и экспертизы.

Республика Казахстан наряду с другими государствами-участниками евразийской системы патентования выражает заинтересованность в дальнейшем развитии евразийской патентной системы и потенциала ЕАПВ в качестве МПО и ОМПЭ.

Кроме того, расширение функций ЕАПВ в рамках системы PCT актуально для стран евразийского региона, поскольку заявителям из этих стран будет предоставлена возможность пройти все этапы рассмотрения международной заявки в их региональном ведомстве. Страны евразийского

региона нацелены на инновационный путь развития, соответственно, заинтересованы в использовании одного из главных механизмов защиты инновационных разработок на международном уровне, которым является система PCT.

В связи с этим, казахстанская сторона полагает, что ЕАПВ отвечает всем требованиям, предъявляемым при назначении, и выказывает поддержку ведомству в стремлении получить статус МПО/ОМПЭ.

English version also submitted by Kazakhstan

At the thirty-fifth (twenty-sixth ordinary) meeting of the Administrative Council of the Eurasian Patent Organization, held on September 10-11, 2019 in Nur-Sultan, the participants unanimously voted for the initiative of claiming the status of the International Searching Authority (hereinafter - ISA) and the International Preliminary Examining Authority (hereinafter – IPEA) by the Eurasian Patent Office (hereinafter - EAPO).

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan believes that the EAPO has a high level of informational support, adequate human resources and experience of successful organization of the quality management system of search and examination.

The Republic of Kazakhstan along with other member states of the Eurasian patent system is interested in further development of the Eurasian patent system and EAPO potential as ISA and IPEA.

In addition, the expansion of the EAPO functions under the PCT system is important for the countries of the Eurasian region, as applicants from these countries will be able to go through all the stages of the consideration of the international application in their regional offices. The countries of the Eurasian region are aimed at innovative development path, in this regard, are interested in using one of the main mechanisms for the protection of innovations at the international level, which is the PCT system.

In this regard, Kazakhstan's side believes that the EAPO meets all the requirements for the appointment, and shows support to the EAPO in an effort to obtain the status of ISA/IPEA.

MEXICO / INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Statement in Spanish

En atención a la circular C.PCT 1598, relativa a la 13a reunión del Grupo de Trabajo del Tratado de Cooperación en materia de Patentes (PCT) y a la 31a sesión del Comité de Cooperación Técnica del PCT (el Comité), que se realizarían de manera virtual del 26 al 29 de mayo, se transmiten los siguientes comentarios del Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI):

Se toma nota que la Oficina Eurasiática prevé ser Administración competente para los miembros de la EAPO y se hace un llamado a que su actuar como Administración competente para otros países no se limite a la región eurasiática.

Se toma nota de las herramientas y bases de datos consultadas en las búsquedas de patentes relativas al estado de la técnica (EAPATIS, EPOQUE Net, PatSearch, PATENTSCOPE, Espacenet o Google Patents), y se precisa que el IMPI cuenta con las bases públicas mencionadas y los servicios pagados de EPOQUE Net y Derwent, por lo que la información encontrada en la búsqueda traería la identidad con el examen de fondo que, en su caso, se realizaría en el IMPI.

Por lo anterior, este Instituto no tiene inconveniente en emitir una opinión positiva a la consulta formulada mediante la circular C.PCT 1598, para el nombramiento de la Oficina de Patentes de Eurasia (EAPO) como Autoridad Internacional de Búsqueda y Examen Preliminar (ISA / IPEA).

Informal English translation prepared by the Secretariat

In response to Circular C. PCT 1598, concerning the thirteenth session of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group and the thirty-first session of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation (the Committee), held virtually from May 26 to 29, 2020, the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) submits the following comments:

IMPI notes that the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) seeks to serve as the competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority for member states of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) and has been called upon to act as a competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority for countries throughout the Eurasian region.

IMPI notes the tools and databases available to conduct prior art patent searches: EAPATIS, EPOQUE Net, PatSearch, PATENTSCOPE, Espacenet and Google Patents. IMPI further confirms that it has access to the aforementioned public databases and the paid services of EPOQUE Net and Derwent, such that the information found during searches would be identical to the substantive examination that, if applicable, would be performed by IMPI.

Therefore, IMPI has no objection to giving a positive answer to the enquiry made in Circular C. PCT 1598, concerning the appointment of EAPO as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / STATE AGENCY ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

With reference to the WIPO Circular C. PCT 1598 and after having examined the document PCT/CTC/31/2, the State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI) hereby informs you about its support for the application submitted by Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) for appointment as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA) under the PCT in accordance with Articles 16(3)(e) and 32(3) of the PCT.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERAL SERVICE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (ROSPATENT)

Федеральная служба по интеллектуальной собственности (Роспатент) поддерживает назначение Евразийского патентного ведомства (ЕАПВ) в качестве Международного поискового органа (МПО) и Органа международной предварительной экспертизы (ОМПЭ) в рамках РСТ.

На тридцать пятом (двадцать шестом очередном) заседании Административного Совета ЕАПО, которое состоялось 10 – 11 сентября 2019 года, члены Совета единогласно проголосовали за предоставление ЕАПВ полномочий на испрашивание статуса МПО/ОМПЭ, тем самым выразив заинтересованность и поддержку стран региона в дальнейшем развитии евразийской патентной системы.

Назначение ЕАПВ в качестве МПО/ОМПЭ будет способствовать реализации проводимой ЕАПО политики, направленной на более широкое использование международной патентной системы и развитие инновационных процессов в регионе евразийских стран.

Имея многолетний опыт сотрудничества с ЕАПВ, Роспатент считает, что ЕАПВ отвечает требованиям, предъявляемым к МПО/ОМПЭ в соответствии с правилами 36.1 и 63.1 Инструкции к РСТ. Для этого ЕАПВ располагает достаточным по количеству и квалификации составом экспертов, необходимыми техническими и информационными ресурсами, а также системой управления качеством.

Все эксперты ЕАПВ имеют высшее образование по соответствующей технической специальности, часть экспертов имеют ученую степень в технической области, а некоторые эксперты – также в области права.

Для новых экспертов предусмотрена двухуровневая программа обучения, включающая базовый курс и курсы углубленного обучения в области патентного права, экспертизы заявок, систем классификации изобретений (МПК, СПК), использования баз данных для патентного поиска.

Для проведения международного патентного поиска ЕАПВ располагает собственной информационно-поисковой системой – ЕАПАТИС (Евразийская патентно-информационная система), которая содержит патентные документы минимума документации РСТ, предусмотренного правилом 34.1 Инструкции к РСТ и уникальную базу данных патентной документации стран евразийского региона. Кроме этого, эксперты ЕАПВ также имеют доступ к профессиональным системам патентного поиска других патентных ведомств, таким как PATSEARCH

(Роспатент) и EPOQUENet (ЕПВ). Указанные базы данных по наполнению превосходят минимум документации РСТ.

Для поиска по непатентной литературе ЕАПВ создало и поддерживает свою собственную электронную библиотеку, которая содержит постоянно пополняемый массив непатентной литературы (около 4 млн. статей). В дополнение к этой библиотеке эксперты ЕАПВ в зависимости от технической области могут использовать базы данных коммерческих систем и национальных информационных центров.

В соответствии с утвержденной в ЕАПВ политикой управления качеством предусмотрена двухуровневая оценка качества рабочих продуктов и предоставляемых услуг, в частности – внутренний и внешний контроль отчетов о поиске и решений экспертизы.

В ЕАПВ действует система обратной связи с пользователями путем регулярного проведения опросов для установления степени удовлетворенности пользователей качеством рабочих продуктов и предоставляемых услуг.

В заключение следует подчеркнуть, что расширение функций ЕАПВ в рамках системы РСТ будет соответствовать интересам заявителей из стран евразийского региона, поскольку все этапы рассмотрения международной заявки могут быть осуществлены в их региональном патентном ведомстве.

Со своей стороны, Роспатент, подготовивший отчет о возможности ЕАПВ выполнять функции МПО/ОМПЭ, готов и в дальнейшем оказывать ЕАПВ необходимую консультационную и иную поддержку в осуществлении функций МПО/ОМПЭ, а также продолжать существующее плодотворное сотрудничество между двумя ведомствами.

English version also submitted by the Russian Federation

The Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) supports the appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching (ISA) and Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT.

At the Thirty-Fifth (26th Extraordinary) Session of the EAPO Administrative Council held on September 10 and 11, 2019, the Council representatives unanimously adopted a decision to grant the Eurasian Office the authority to request the status of an ISA/IPEA, thereby expressing their interest and support to the countries of the region in the further development of the Eurasian patent system.

The appointment of the EAPO as an ISA/IPEA will facilitate the implementation of the EAPO policy aimed at greater use of the international patent system and the development of innovative processes in the region of Eurasian countries.

With a long history of cooperation between Rospatent and EAPO, Rospatent believes that EAPO meets the criteria for appointment as an ISA/IPEA in accordance with Rules 36.1 and 63.1 under the PCT. EAPO has a sufficient number of qualified examiners, necessary technical and information resources, as well as a quality management system.

All EAPO examiners possess higher education degrees in the relevant technical specialties, some experts have a degree in the technical field, and some experts also have a degree in law.

A two-tier training program is provided to the beginners, including an initial basic course and advanced training courses in the field of patent law, examination of applications, invention classification systems (IPC, CPC), and the use of databases for patent search.

To carry out international patent search, the EAPO has its own patent search and document retrieval tool EAPATIS (Eurasian Patent Information System), which contains patent documents from the PCT Minimum Documentation under Rule 34.1 of the PCT and a unique database of patent documentation of the EAPO and countries in the Eurasian region. In addition, Eurasian Office examiners also have access to professional patent search systems of other patent offices, such as PATSEARCH (Rospatent) and EPOQUENet (European Patent Office). In terms of their content, these databases exceed the PCT minimum documentation.

In working with non-patent literature, the Eurasian Office has created its own electronic library that contains an ever-growing body of non-patent literature (around 4 million articles). In addition to the electronic library, EAPO examiners may use databases of commercial systems and national information centers depending on the technical field.

In accordance with the Quality Management Policy approved by the EAPO, a two-tier quality assessment of working products and services is provided, in particular, internal and external review of search reports and examination decisions.

The Eurasian Office has developed a user feedback system, which involves regular surveys to determine the level of user satisfaction with the quality of working products and services provided.

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that the expansion of the EAPO functions under the PCT system will be in the best interests of applicants from the countries of the Eurasian region since all stages of the examination of the international application can be carried out in their regional patent office.

[End]