

December 1, 2020

**SCP/32 JPAA Statement**

**Patents and health**

The new coronavirus(Sars-cov-2) is spreading all over the world and has greatly affected economy activity, and each of our lives. In the midst of this pandemic, various companies and institutions, including for example, Toyota Motor Corporation, etc. have declared that they will not exercise patent rights, utility model rights, design rights, or copyrights for acts whose sole purpose is to develop technology that will be used to help end the spread of the new coronavirus infection(COVID-19). The declaration is titled: "OPEN COVID-19 DECLARATION." It will remain in effect until the day when the World Health Organization (WHO) declares the end of the spread of the COVID-19. The Japan Patent Attorneys Association has endorsed and co-sponsored the Declaration.

The inventions available under the Declaration give us hope that impactful technologies may emerge. For example, Kyoto University, one of the founders of this declaration, has more than 4,800 patents, including patents related to regenerative medicine such as iPS cells, which can perhaps be used in the development of vaccines and therapeutic agents.

Finally, we pray from the bottom of my heart for the early recovery of the affected people and that this situation will quickly be contained, and that society as a whole to can soon regain a peaceful daily life.

**JAPAN PATENT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION**

3-4-2, Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0013, JAPAN

Telephone: + 81-3-3581-1211 / Facsimile: +81-3-3581-9188

<http://www.jpaa.or.jp>