

2021 Joint Statement of the TM5 Partners

5 November 2021

The China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (collectively known as the “Partner Offices”) met online on 3-5 November 2021, for the TM5 Annual Meeting hosted by the CNIPA. The meeting was also attended by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in an observer capacity.

The Partner Offices acknowledge that the digitalization of economies and development of new emerging technologies are transforming the intellectual property (IP) landscape, with the process accelerated by the pandemic. Technological advances provide opportunities for greater quality and efficiency in the Partner Offices and cost-effective services for users, as well as challenges to the existing system.

During the Annual Meeting, the Partner Offices reiterated their common goals of promoting and furthering the development of user-friendly, highly efficient, and interoperable trademark systems and trademark procedures through cooperative projects, and providing high-quality services for users, including small and medium-sized enterprises and the public.

During the Annual Meeting, the Partner Offices confirmed the importance of strengthening cooperation, particularly for trademarks in digital and new emerging technologies, to respond to the changing needs of trademark owners. The Partner Offices will endeavor to focus efforts on the following areas:

- Continue project-focused cooperation while striving to explore new areas of cooperation: share best practices and pursue initiatives in relation to trademarks in digital and new emerging technologies, promote cooperation to facilitate mutual understanding of respective trademark systems, and enhance interoperability among various operating practices and trademark procedures;
- Further refine and improve the cooperation framework: endeavor to achieve

sustainable implementation of existing and new cooperative initiatives, and continue to cooperate adaptively;

- Continue engagements with users and stakeholders: continue providing timely information about the Partner Offices and TM5; encourage user involvement by providing feedback on TM5 projects to bring more user-friendly results; and

- Continue to work closely with WIPO: cooperate toward optimising the functioning of the IP ecosystem, as well as facilitating wider and more cost-effective services for users, such as electronic transmission of documents.