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*"Rummaging in the government's attic"*

Description of document: US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Patent Cooperation Treaty - Patent Prosecution Highway Agreements 2020-2021

Requested date: 06-November-2021

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Posted date: 13-May-2024

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request  
USPTO FOIA Officer  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Email: [FOIARequests@uspto.gov](mailto:FOIARequests@uspto.gov)

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## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

December 09, 2021

### VIA E-MAIL

**Re: *Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. F-22-00035***

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) FOIA Office has received your e-mail dated Saturday, November 06, 2021 requesting a copy of the following documents pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552:

A list, printout or spreadsheet of the Patent Cooperation Treaty-Patent Prosecution Highway Agreements currently in effect, and a copy of each Patent Cooperation Treaty-Patent Prosecution Highway Agreement signed during 2020 and 2021.

The USPTO identified information that is responsive to your request. A copy of this material is enclosed.

You may contact the FOIA Public Liaison at 571-272-9585 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Your request is considered complete with full disclosure. However, you have the right to appeal this initial decision to the Deputy General Counsel, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. An appeal must be received within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. See 37 C.F.R. § 102.10(a). The appeal must be in writing. You must include a copy of your original request, this letter, and a statement of the reasons why the information should be made available and

why this initial denial is in error. Both the letter and the envelope must be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal."

The processing fee was less than \$20.00, and is hereby waived.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KES", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Karon E. Seldon  
USPTO FOIA Specialist  
Office of General Law

**PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY  
AGREEMENTS**

<b>TYPE OF AGREEMENT</b>	<b>PARTNER AGENCY</b>
Patent Prosecution Highway Program	National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of France <sup>1</sup>
Patent Prosecution Highway Program	Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks <sup>1</sup>
Patent Prosecution Highway Program	Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) <sup>2</sup>
Patent Prosecution Highway Program	National Institute of Industrial Property of Brazil (INPI-Brazil)
Patent Prosecution Highway Program	Saudi Arabia for Intellectual Property (SAIP) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

<sup>1</sup> Signed in 2020 and 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Simple extension, no MOU.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON  
BILATERAL COOPERATION IN PATENT WORK SHARING  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
AND  
THE ROMANIAN STATE OFFICE FOR INVENTIONS AND TRADEMARKS**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM), hereinafter referred to as “the Participants” or “the Offices”;

*Recognizing* the importance of intellectual property, including patents, in promoting a strong national and global economy, encouraging economic investment in innovation, and fostering entrepreneurship in a knowledge-based society and the development and dissemination of new technologies;

*Noting* the cooperation by the Participants under the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation in Patent Work Sharing Between the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, USPTO MOU No. 14140029, dated October 27, 2014, including in connection with a Patent Prosecution Highway program between the Participants;

*Taking into consideration* that the OSIM and the USPTO are interested in continuing cooperation on patent work sharing;

*Desiring* to leverage accelerated examination procedures available in each Office in order to allow applicants to obtain patents more quickly, while enabling the Offices to operate more efficiently by permitting each Office to benefit from work previously done by the other Office, and in turn, reducing workloads and improving patent quality;

*Hereby* intend to cooperate under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

**I. PURPOSE**

Under this MOU, the OSIM and the USPTO intend to cooperate on work sharing initiatives, and in particular, intend to continue the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program initiated under USPTO MOU No. 14140029, as described in this MOU.

## II. THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) PROGRAM

(1) The PPH program is intended to enhance the efficiency of the patent examination process for corresponding patent applications filed in both Offices. Each Participant intends to utilize the work previously done by the other Participant in corresponding applications, thereby avoiding duplication of work and accelerating the patent examination process.

(2) Neither Participant intends to be bound by the patentability decisions of the other Participant. The applicable patent laws and regulations are to be applied in the examination of the applications filed in each Participant's Office.

(3) Under the PPH program, an applicant receiving a ruling from the Office of First Filing (OFF) that at least one claim in an application filed in the OFF is allowable/patentable may request that the Office of Second Filing (OSF) fast-track the examination of claims that sufficiently correspond to the allowable/patentable claims in corresponding applications filed in the OSF.

(4) The Participants believe that additional benefits are achievable by pursuing a more efficient and effective PPH. Therefore, the Participants intend to hold discussions on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the PPH program for the Offices and applicants.

(5) The Participants intend to consider improvements that include the flexible implementation of elements of the Global PPH pilot project. These may include adopting a plurilateral framework to replace the bilateral framework between the OSIM and the USPTO, expanding eligibility to include different types of work previously done by another Office and basing eligibility on work available from participating Offices on a patent family member regardless of the order of filing.

(6) The Participants intend to work together to conduct outreach efforts to stakeholders in both countries, with a view to expanding applicant participation in the program.

### III. FUNDING OF COOPERATION

The Participants intend to bear their own expenses related to the implementation of the PPH program, outreach and promotional activities as well as any other activities related to work sharing and to the PPH program. The implementation of activities under this MOU is subject to the availability of funds and human resources, as well as applicable budget priorities. This MOU does not obligate funds.

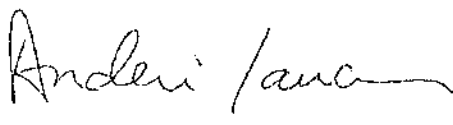
### IV. PERIOD OF COOPERATION

(1) Cooperation under this MOU is intended to have a duration of five years from the date of last signature of this MOU. Either one of the Participants may notify the other of its intention to discontinue cooperation under this MOU at any time prior to that date, but should endeavor to provide notice in writing at least 90 days in advance. The Participants may review and decide to continue their cooperation after the initial five year period.

(2) This MOU may be modified at any time with the mutual consent of the Participants.

(3) This MOU is not intended to give rise to any rights or obligations under international or domestic law.

Signed on behalf of the Participants:

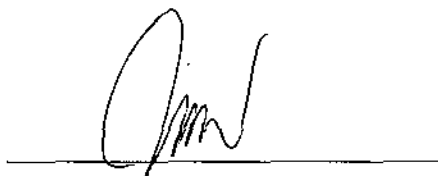


**Andrei Iancu**

Under Secretary of Commerce for  
Intellectual Property and Director of  
the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Date: October 26, 2020

Place: Alexandria, Va



**Mitrita Hahue**

Acting Director General of the Romanian  
State Office for Inventions and  
Trademarks

Date: 27 October 2020

Place: Bucharest



**JOINT STATEMENT OF INTENT  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
AND  
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OF FRANCE  
TO COOPERATE IN THE FIELD OF PATENT PROSECUTION**

**USPTO MOU No. 21143017**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of France (each an Office and collectively, the Offices):

**Reaffirming** that patent protection is key to fostering technological innovation and accelerating economic development;

**Noting** the importance of adequately addressing the growing number of patent applications filed internationally in the context of globalization of the world economy;

**Acknowledging** the importance of expeditious, high quality and efficient examination of patent applications filed in both Offices;

**Recognizing** the benefits for patent applicants and industry of avoiding unnecessary duplication of work, reducing workloads, and streamlining the patent procedures in both Offices; and

**Desiring** to further enhance their significant role in cooperative efforts to be made worldwide in the field of patents,

**Have Reached the Following Understandings:**

**I. Background**

Beginning in July 2006, the USPTO has collaborated with several other offices in Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programs. The PPH program enables an applicant who receives a





positive ruling on patent claims from one participating office to request accelerated prosecution of corresponding claims in another participating office, which allows the applicant to obtain a patentability decision in the second office more quickly. Furthermore, the PPH program promotes efficiency by allowing the examiner in the office of later examination (OLE) to reuse the search and examination results from the office of earlier examination (OEE), thereby reducing workload and duplication of effort.

On January 6, 2014, the USPTO began participating in the Global PPH and IP5 PPH ("Global/IP5 PPH") pilot programs, which consolidated and replaced numerous earlier PPH programs in which USPTO had participated, thereby further streamlining and simplifying the PPH process for both applicants and Global/IP5 PPH participating offices.

Following discussions between the USPTO and the INPI, the Offices intend to begin a PPH pilot program between the USPTO and the INPI. The INPI is not currently a Global/IP5 PPH participating office and intends to initially partner with the USPTO in the PPH pilot program on a bilateral basis.

## **II. Trial Period for the PPH Pilot Program with the INPI**

The PPH pilot program is intended to commence on December 1, 2021, and to run for a period of three years ending on November 30, 2024 (the "trial period").

During the trial period, the Offices intend to evaluate the PPH pilot program to determine whether to modify the program. Either Office may discontinue the PPH pilot program early for any reason, including if the volume of participation exceeds a manageable level. In the event an Office decides to discontinue its participations in the PPH pilot program, that Office should endeavor to provide advance notice of 30 days to the other Office. The USPTO intends to publish notices in the USPTO's Official Gazette in the event of the extension of the trial period or discontinuation of the PPH pilot program with the INPI.



At the end of the trial period, both Offices intend to evaluate the results of the pilot program. Based on those evaluations, the Offices may decide in writing to extend the pilot program based on mutually determined guidelines.

### **III. Participation in the PPH Pilot Program between the INPI and the USPTO**

Any request by an applicant to accelerate patent prosecution in the USPTO under the PPH pilot program based on INPI work product is subject to the same guidelines, requirements and procedures as, and the Offices intend that such requests are to receive equivalent treatment to, a request made under the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program, as it may be modified from time to time. The current guidelines, requirements and procedures of the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program, as implemented by the USPTO, are set forth on the USPTO's "Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) - Fast Track Examination of Applications" portal website. INPI is expected to make available on its filing portal website the guidelines, requirements and procedures to participate in the accelerated examination for applications in the INPI under the PPH pilot program based on USPTO work product.

The Offices intend that their respective guidelines, requirements and procedures under the PPH pilot program reflect any subsequent modifications to those of the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program.

The USPTO intends that to request accelerated examination under the PPH pilot program for applications submitted to the USPTO, patent applicants use the request form that is available on the USPTO "Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) - Fast Track Examination of Applications" portal website. INPI is expected to make available to patent applicants the form to request accelerated examination for applications submitted to INPI on the INPI's filing portal website.



This Joint Statement of Intent does not give rise to any rights or obligations under international or domestic law.

This Joint Statement becomes operative on the date of the last signature.

Signed in the English and French languages, both texts being equally official.

**For the United States Patent and  
Trademark Office**

**For the National Institute of Industrial  
Property of France**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Hirshfeld".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pascal Faure".

**Andrew Hirshfeld**

**Pascal Faure**

Performing the Functions and Duties of the  
Under Secretary of Commerce for  
Intellectual Property and Director of the  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Directeur General, Institut National de la  
Propriété Industrielle

Date: 11/8/21

Date: 8 novembre 2021

Place: Alexandria, Virginia

Place: Courbevoie

**Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program  
Between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the  
Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**I. Background**

Beginning in July 2006, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has partnered with several other offices in Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programs. The PPH enables an applicant who receives a positive ruling on patent claims from one participating office to request accelerated prosecution of corresponding claims in another participating office, which allows the applicant to obtain a patentability decision in the second office more quickly. Furthermore, the PPH promotes patent application processing efficiency by allowing the examiner in the office of later examination (OLE) to reuse the search and examination results from the office of earlier examination (OEE), thereby reducing workload and duplication of effort.

On January 6, 2014, the USPTO began participating in the Global PPH and IP5 PPH (“Global/IP5 PPH”) pilot programs, which consolidated and replaced numerous earlier PPH programs, thereby streamlining and simplifying the PPH process for both applicants and Global/IP5 PPH participating offices. *See Implementation of the Global and IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Programs with Participating Offices*, 1400 OFF. GAZ. PAT. OFFICE 172 (March 18, 2014).

Following discussions between the USPTO and the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (SAIP), the USPTO will implement a PPH pilot program with the SAIP. The SAIP is not currently a Global/IP5 PPH participating office and is partnering with the USPTO in the PPH on a bilateral basis only. However, a PPH request submitted in the USPTO based on SAIP work product will be treated under the published Global/IP5 PPH standards as discussed in Section III below.

**II. Trial Period for the PPH Pilot Program with the SAIP**

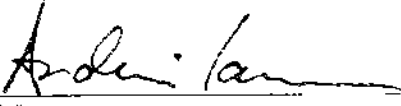
The PPH pilot program will commence on January 1, 2020, and will run for a period of three years ending on December 31, 2022. The trial period may be extended upon mutual written decision by the Offices. During the trial period, the Offices intend to continually evaluate the PPH pilot program to determine whether and how the program should be modified. Either Office may terminate the PPH pilot program early for any reason, including if the volume of participation exceeds a manageable level. Notice will be published if the PPH pilot program will be extended or terminated. Unless the SAIP becomes a Global PPH participating office, any extension or termination of the Global/IP5 PPH program will have no effect on this PPH pilot program.

### III. Participation in the PPH Pilot Program with the SAIP in the USPTO

Any request to participate in a PPH program in the USPTO based on SAIP work product is subject to the same requirements and procedures as, and will receive equivalent treatment to, a request made under the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program as set forth in the following notice: *Implementation of the Global and IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Programs with Participating Offices*, 1400 OFF. GAZ. PAT. OFFICE 172 (March 18, 2014). This PPH pilot program also will be subject to any modifications to the requirements and procedures of the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program. A request form (Form PTO/SB/20SA) is available from the USPTO Web site at [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/).

Any inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Bryan Lin, International Patent Legal Administration, at 571-272-3303, or via e-mail addressed to [bryan.lin@uspto.gov](mailto:bryan.lin@uspto.gov).

Specific questions about the Patent Prosecution Highway should be directed to the Office of Petitions at 571-272-3282, or via e-mail addressed to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

Date: 12/6/2019   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrei Iancu  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

1	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	AU	Australia (IPAU)	1			January 24, 2011 - Indefinitely
2	November 1, 2014	Indefinitely	AT	Austria (APO)	2			October 1, 2010 - Indefinitely
3	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	CA	Canada (CIPO)	3			January 31, 2013 - January 30, 2015
4	July 6, 2020	Indefinitely	CL	Chile (INAPI)	4			
5	July 6, 2017	Indefinitely	CO	Colombia (SIC)	5			
6	Jan 6, 2014	Indefinitely	DK	Denmark (DKPTO)	6			
7	July 6, 2015	Indefinitely	EE	Estonia (EPA)	7			
8	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	FI	Finland (NBPR)	8			January 24, 2011 - Permanent
9	July 6, 2015	Indefinitely	DE	Germany (DPMA)	9			
10	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	HU	Hungary (HPO)	10			
11	Jan 6, 2014	Indefinitely	IS	Iceland (IPO)	11			
12	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	IL	Israel (ILPO)	12			August 1, 2012 - Indefinitely
13	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	JP	Japan (JPO)	13	1		January 29, 2010 - January 28, 2014
14	Jan 6, 2014	Indefinitely	KR	Korean (KIPO)	14	2		June 1, 2010 - Permanent
15	July 6, 2017	Indefinitely	NZ	New Zealand (IPONZ)	15			
16	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	XN	Nordic Patent Institute (NPI)	16			July 1, 2011 - Indefinitely
17	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	NO	Norway (NIPO)	17			
18	Jan 6 2019	Indefinitely	PE	Peru (INDECOPI)	18			
19	January 6, 2017	Indefinitely	PL	Poland (PPO)	19			
20	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	PT	Portugal (INPI)	20			January 29, 2013 - January 28, 2014
21	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	RU	Russian Federation (ROSPATENT)	21			October 1, 2010 - Indefinitely
22	Nov 1, 2014	Indefinitely	SG	Singapore (IPOS)	22			
23	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	ES	Spain (SPTO)	23			October 1, 2010 - September 30, 2013
24	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	SE	Sweden (PRV)	24			June 1, 2011 - Indefinitely
25	Jan 6, 2014	Indefinitely	GB	United Kingdom (UKIPO)	25			
26	January 8, 2018	Indefinitely	XV	Visegrad (VPI)	26			
27	Jan 6, 2014 2014	January 5, 2023	CN	China (CNIPA)		3		December 1, 2011 - November 30, 2013
28	Jan 6, 2014 2014	January 5, 2023	EP	European Patent Office (EPO)		4		January 29, 2010 - January 28, 2014
29	Jan 11, 2016	Nov 30, 2024	BR	Brazil (INPI-Brazil)			1	
30	Jul 1, 2015	June 30, 2022	MX	Mexico (IMPI)			2	Extended on June 29, 2020
31	April 15, 2015	October 27, 2025	RO	Romania (OSIM)			3	Extended on October 28, 2020
32	Jan 1, 2020	December 31, 2022	SA	Saudi Arabia (SAIP)			4	
33	December 1, 2021	November 30, 2024	FR	France (INPI-France)			5	
34	Oct 6, 2012	Indefinitely	CZ	Czech Republic (IPOCZ)			1	October 1, 2012 - Indefinitely
35	Sep 5, 2013	Indefinitely	NI	Nicaragua (NRIP)			2	
36	January 29, 2013	Indefinitely	PH	Philippines (IOPH)			3	January 29, 2013 - Indefinitely
37	September 1, 2011	Indefinitely	TW	Taiwan (TIPO)			4	
	January 6, 2014	Indefinitely	US	USPTO	✓	✓		

**Worldwide = 55 Offices (37 with USPTO) - France, effective Dec 1, 2021.**

**Global = 26 Offices with USPTO**

**Global/IP5 = 28 Offices with USPTO (no EPO and CNIPA on GPPH)**

**Total Bilateral Agreements = 9 (Bilateral under GPPH Principles = 5)**

**GPPH = Global PPH**

**Learn more about PPH at the USPTO here: <https://www.uspto.gov/patents/basics/international-protection/patent-prosecution-highway-pph-fast-track>**

**Continuation of the Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program  
Between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and  
the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks**

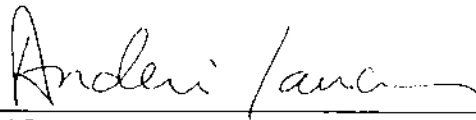
On April 15, 2015, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) commenced a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program with the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM). See *Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks*, 1414 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 188 (May 5, 2015). This PPH pilot program was due to terminate on April 14, 2019.

With a continued commitment to enhancing intellectual property cooperation between both offices, the USPTO and the OSIM have agreed to extend the PPH pilot until October 27, 2025. Therefore, the USPTO will treat as timely any PPH request based on OSIM work product that is filed in the USPTO on or before October 27, 2025. In addition, the USPTO will treat as timely any PPH request based on OSIM work product that was filed in the USPTO between April 14, 2019, and the publication date of this notice.

Any inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Bryan Lin, International Patent Legal Administration, at 571-272-3303, or via email addressed to [bryan.lin@uspto.gov](mailto:bryan.lin@uspto.gov).

Specific questions about the PPH should be directed to the Office of Petitions at 571-272-3282, or via email addressed to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

Date: 1/19/2021



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Andrei Iancu

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

**Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program  
Between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the  
National Institute of Industrial Property of France**

## **I. Background**

Since July 2006, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has partnered with several other offices in Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programs. The PPH enables an applicant who receives a positive ruling on patent claims from one participating office to request accelerated prosecution of corresponding claims in another participating office, which allows the applicant to obtain a patentability decision in the second office more quickly. Furthermore, the PPH promotes patent application processing efficiency by allowing the examiner in the office of later examination to reuse the search and examination results from the office of earlier examination, thereby reducing the workload and duplication of effort.

On January 6, 2014, the USPTO began participating in the Global PPH and IP5 PPH (Global/IP5 PPH) pilot programs, which consolidated and replaced numerous earlier bilateral PPH programs, thereby streamlining and simplifying the PPH process for both applicants and Global/IP5 PPH participating offices. *See* Implementation of the Global and IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Programs with Participating Offices, 1400 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 172 (March 18, 2014).

Following discussions between the USPTO and the National Institute of Industrial Property of France (INPI), the USPTO will implement a PPH pilot program with the INPI, whereby a PPH request may be submitted in the USPTO based on a patent application that was filed in the INPI on or after May 22, 2020. The INPI is not currently a Global/IP5 PPH participating office and is partnering with the USPTO in the PPH on a bilateral basis only. However, a PPH request submitted in the USPTO based on INPI work product will be treated under the published Global/IP5 PPH standards, as discussed in section III below.

## **II. Trial Period for the PPH Pilot Program with the INPI**

The PPH pilot program with the INPI will commence on December 1, 2021, and will run for three years, ending on November 30, 2024. The trial period may be extended upon mutual written decision by the offices. During the trial period, the offices intend to continually evaluate the PPH pilot program to determine whether and how the program should be modified. Either office may terminate the PPH pilot program early for any reason, including if the volume of participation exceeds a manageable level. Notice will be published if the PPH pilot program will be extended or terminated. Unless the INPI becomes a Global PPH participating office, any extension or termination of the Global/IP5 PPH program will have no effect on this PPH pilot program.



### **III. Participation in the PPH Pilot Program in the USPTO based on eligible INPI work product**

Any request to participate in a PPH program in the USPTO based on eligible INPI work product (i.e., a patent application filed in the INPI on or after May 22, 2020) is subject to the same requirements and procedures as, and will receive treatment equivalent to, a request made under the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program, as set forth in the following notice: Implementation of the Global and IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Programs with Participating Offices, 1400 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 172 (March 18, 2014). This PPH pilot program will also be subject to any modifications to the requirements and procedures of the Global/IP5 PPH pilot program. A participation request form (Form PTO/SB/20FR) is available from the USPTO website at [www.uspto.gov/patents/basics/international-protection/patent-prosecution-highway-pph-fast-track](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/basics/international-protection/patent-prosecution-highway-pph-fast-track).

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Specific questions about the PPH should be directed to the Office of Petitions at 571-272-3282 or [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

Date: 11/26/21      /Andrew Hirshfeld/  
Andrew Hirshfeld  
Performing the Functions and Duties of the  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

**National Institute of Industrial Property of Chile Transitioning to the  
Global Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program**

On November 1, 2018, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) commenced a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program that enabled an applicant whose claims have been determined allowable/patentable in an application filed with the National Institute of Industrial Property of Chile (INAPI) to have the corresponding application filed with the USPTO advanced out of turn for examination. See *Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the National Institute of Industrial Property of Chile*, 1455 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 351 (October 30, 2018).

On January 6, 2014, the USPTO began participating in the Global PPH pilot program, which consolidated and replaced numerous earlier PPH programs, thereby streamlining and simplifying the PPH process for both applicants and Global PPH participating offices. See *Implementation of the Global and IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Programs with Participating Offices*, 1400 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 172 (March 18, 2014).

The INAPI has informed the USPTO that, effective July 6, 2020, the INAPI will participate in the Global PPH pilot program. On that date, the Global PPH pilot program will supersede the bilateral PPH pilot program between the USPTO and the INAPI.

Any inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Bryan Lin, International Patent Legal Administration, at 571-272-3303, or via email to [bryan.lin@uspto.gov](mailto:bryan.lin@uspto.gov).

Specific questions about the PPH should be directed to the Office of Petitions at 571-272-3282, or via email to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

Date: JUL 13 2020 

Andrei Iancu  
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