Minutes: 2020 PatCom-WIPO Meeting

Meeting Held: February 6, 2020

1. PatCom were welcomed to the meeting by the Chair **Mr Yo Takagi** (YT)

2. **Mr Yo Takagi** went on to give a general overview of WIPO's latest developments.  He talked of five trends:

    i) **volume**:  the growing number of patent applications.  In 2018 there were 3.3 million patent applications published worldwide and a 5% growth of PCT applications in 2019 to 250,000.

    ii) **Asian Languages**. China patent applications now represent 46% of global patent applications.  And together Japan, Korea and China account for 67% of patent applications. The axis of innovation has moved to Asia.  *(https://www.wipo.int/ipstats/en/* ).

    iii) **Digitization of data**.  WIPO are assisting the emerging economies to create XML data. Using the WIPO OCR tool.  The data is prepared in a structured format.  WIPO is able to expand its geographic coverage in Patentscope.  The datasets are available to the public.

    iv) **Search Tools.**   WIPO is responsible for the IPC.  WIPO are preparing enhancements for its full text search engine, to include search of graphs, tables, mathematical formulae and drawings.

    v) **Deliver Services**.  WIPO continue to provide raw data, and are developing other services, such as analytics, where the use of AI can help to provide quick, reliable, overviews of large datasets.   Data is a commodity now.  There is no profit from providing data on its own. Some of the services will be transactional., within a secure environment and WIPO will be able to identify the customer.

    In answer to a question from PatCom YT explained that WIPO is developing AI tools, and provision of an open platform IP Gateway integrating patents, trademarks and designs in one platform.  WIPO is responsible for Hague, Madrid and Paris protocols and sees the possibilities of data integration.   Claudia (WIPO) has been coordinating AI Policy , and a Draft IP policy paper was released in December 2019. https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=470053   A finding of interest was that users actually are not concerned about using AI tools when the service is useful, for example WIPO's image search tool has been well received.

3. **Introductions** were made as we had new participants in the meeting, two from WIPO and one from PatCom.

4. **The minutes** of the 17th (2019) meeting were formally approved.

5. There were no **points arising** from the 2019 meeting.

6. **Standards development at WIPO**.  (*see standardsdevelopment.pptx*) Mr. Young-Woo Yun (YWY). Talked about the importance that WIPO puts on consulting with all stakeholders

across the complete IP ecosystem, including industry as well as the IP offices.  WIPO is planning towards a streamlined dataflow, with task forces, some of which began in 2018, considering the implications for WIPO standards of 3d models and IPRs, digital transformation, and disruptive technologies.  WIPO (CWS 1/3) is working towards a common WIPO Sequence tool.  A JSON schema for IP data based on ST.96 XML schema is being discussed.  There is no approved JSON schema in industry as yet. XML for Geographical Indications and Copyright Orphan Works is on the standards development roadmap for ST.96.  For M2M (Machine to machine) transfer of data, WIPO has a web API under development which will handle office-office and office-customer transactions. UKIPO and Canada are leading this project.

See links in the ppt for the latest standards (St. 27, 87) on legal status data for patents and designs respectively.  The CWS Legal Status Task Force (TF) are working on a legal status data standard for exchange of trade mark data which will consider TM5 graphical logos.

A meeting is planned in Moscow to discuss 3D digital objects handling.

The meeting was postponed and replaced with an online meeting.

[https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=55946](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=55946)

 (The IP Offices currently customise the schema and during the meeting will share views, of national and international level legal status).

St.26 is scheduled for implementation in January 2022.  WIPO Sequence tool will be improved in the new version of ST.26 with an Applicant tool, which will assist with preparation of sequences to the format.  The office will validate the sequence prior to acceptance.   St.26 implementation in the PCT System planned to be discussed at the meeting in May at the PCT_WG.  There are pilot schemes in operation.

St.25 data will be transferred to St.26.

In response to a question from PatCom regarding search of sequences, YWY invited the group to provide the question to the International Bureau so that it could discuss the question with the SEQL taskforce.

**Action**: FC is interested in participating and will follow up separately).

ICT Slide -  St.27. see WIPO website. Project began in January 2019.   The EPO will be mapping INPADOC to St.27

A new event is being created for SPCs, 2 characters have been reserved.    The DPMA and IP Australia are using St.27 in IP Portal

[https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=440452](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=440452)

The CWS have prioritised the TM standard, in addition nine IPOs are mapping design legal status events to ST.87.

A white paper on Blockchain for IP is planned, information gathering for the project begins and launch is planned for 6 February.   Developers from XML, API and Blockchain will be invited.  ([https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=51407](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=51407) ).   AU and RU are leading developments, one issue for these countries is use of Blockchain for IP Rights relating to energy.   *(see slide).*   A global digital ID is under consideration which would contain Applicant and inventor names.

**Action:**  WIPO to invite PatCom members to participate in the BlockChain survey.

**Name Standardisation.**

KIPO are leading the name standardisation initiative (Task Force 55).  The TF will create a system and agree on common practice towards standardization of Applicant names. 23 offices are involved with the project.  The main findings were shared; these included restrictions on data sharing  and different use cases between the Offices.

Data collected represents a legal record. This data is aggregated.  The TF considers

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applicants' views,  (**see also slide 18  Workshop: Applicant Views**).  and is raising awareness of the importance of accurate name data.
(***For additional meeting documents:***
*https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=51426* ).
During discussion on name data PatCom shared that customers appreciate having access to the original name and also the searchable (normalised) names.  PatCom member companies all take a unique approach to handling names for search and display.
PatCom agreed that the group could help at a high level with WIPO name search TF.  PatCom expressed concern that WIPO would become a new competitor by providing enhanced name search tool for free.

7. **Recent Developments of the IPC**. (*see classification.pptx*)  **K. Fushimi(KF)**
Changes to the IPC are made every year reflecting changes in technologies.  KF provided an overview of changes in 2020.01 with referring to Section G as the area most intensively revised and outlined ongoing revisions in sections B and H.   IoT  IP5 working group on classification (WG1) continues to discuss the revision projects concerning emerging technologies.    The 52$^{nd}$ Committee of Experts meeting (CE) was held in February.
 Link for more information:
https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=55188
The CE decided to adopt the "*New class(es) approach*" on H01L semiconductor technologies and the expert group established in 2016 continued its work based on this approach.. The CE also discussed the completion of the project for the handover of reclassification working list management from EPO to WIPO.  It also exchanged experiences at IP offices about AI based classification and it was shared that the current main use was for routing purposes and the current level of accuracy was not enough for actual classification of documents.
**IPCCAT** – *(see slide 10 onwards)*  is multi-lingual and predicts the classifications to sub-group level.  IPCCAT-neural is available through IPCPub platform on the WIPO website.
*https://www.wipo.int/classifications/ipc/ipcpub*
IPCCAT can also be used through web service. The statistic on the use of the IPCCAT is not available at this stage.

8. **WIPO Data Products (C. Mazenc (CM)).**
**PCT BackFile**
The most recent year of PCT data can be downloaded. In answer to a question from PatCom about the OCR data quality available as subscription and Patentscope PCT data, CM responded that WIPO is planning to make available the complete dataset with updates for bulk download, and this will contain corrections made to the documents. Information on where the correction were made in terms of year range and IPC can also be published.  XML from the newly OCR-ed data will be available during Q1-2 2020.
**PDFs**
The PDFs of the PCT publications is not an official WIPO product. The tiff images are.  PatCom stated that the industry would appreciate access to quality PDF with sections to facilitate understanding of where in the text hits had arisen.
No new plans for the development of the XML product, and are not participating with the EPO project.
WIPO asked PatCom if translations of the PDFs would be of interest.  PatCom replied that this would be of interest, as would embedded images.
**Search Reports in XML**
Search report and Written opinions will be available as XML.  These will not be searchable in

Patentscope, only available via ftp (Front file only).  The pricing is still to be determined.  WIPO will inform PatCom when this new data is available.

9. Updates on PATENTSCOPE (B. Pouliquen, I. Diaconescu)
Patentscope registered users will be able to receive messages and alerts, and legal status updates, this has become available because of the new WIPO IP Portal interface.   WIPO plans to close the old interfaces to Patents, trademarks and designs in six months time.  WIPO have calculated patent families for the Patentscope collection, using the PCT as the base patent.  There are 2.7 million PCT patent families. As a comparison DOCDB has 3 million patent families with a PCT member. The family view has been introduced to PatentScope.

A. Chemical structure search future plans.
WIPO will be introducing simple Markush search in 2020.
B. WIPO Translate: PATENTSCOPE now includes automatic translation of ISRs and WOSAs.  Specific models (including training data for ISRs and WOSAs will be improved in the future).  WIPO Translate is used more frequently (2.5M words per days instead of 1.7 last year).  WIPO Translate is continuously improving:
- 3-4 full time persons work on the development and technical capacity is improving (more GPUs are available); meaning WIPO can now experiment with more complex neural network models including (transformers/teacher-student models).

10. Accessing new data
   a. ASEAN documents.  WIPO does not have the right to make the ASEAN documents available for commercial purposes.

11. WIPO INSPIRE.
WIPO are working on this development. Testing internally is ongoing, WIPO plan for content to be provided by the owners of the platforms. Database reports will be created based on predefined fields on the platform. But based on feedback received additional fields can be added. WIPO Inspire is intended to be a platform where reports on patent databases are presented from a user perspective. Creation of reports to be moderated by WIPO.  Users will need to register to create reports. WIPO eTISC to be used for any comments related to reports on the WIPO INSPIRE platform.
PatCom asked if branding will be permitted.
WIPO answered that currently there is no branding possibility on the platform.
WIPO also informed that a webinar will be scheduled when WIPO Inspire is ready to go-live, and invitations sent to PatCom so they are up to date with plans.


12. Cooperations with the EPO, Latipat, OEPM.
No news to report, other than that the cooperations continue.

13. WIPO and IP5
No news to report, other than that the cooperations continue.

14. Update on AI at WIPO.  IP Policy (Alica Daly, Claudio Cocorocchia)
WIPO are taking the lead in introduction of AI into IP information processing, and also on IP policy.  In addition to activities already discussed, relating to translation and classification, and image recognition, we learnt that HR is using AI tools for CV screening, and in chatbots.  WIPO is making AI technology available for licensing.  There are now three people working in the new AI Policy division at WIPO and this activity is set to grow.  Other IP Offices are using

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the WIPO AI technology, and sharing expertise.  WIPO is guiding the offices in use and handling of AI related inventions. WIPO draft issues paper. .

Interested parties can contact Claudio Cocorocchia directly: claudio.cocorocchia@wipo.int

15. Any Other Business.
    WIPO would like to understand more about how PatCom members handle, for instance, Name harmonisation and the needs of their users.  WIPO are considering all users of this data, not only the IP offices.

16. Date of next meeting.   Provisionally the meeting will be held in the first week of February 2021.  Jane and Sandrine to coordinate nearer the time.


Attendees:

WIPO.
Mr.Takagi, Assistant Director General, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Young-Woo Yun, Head of Standards Section, Global Infrastructure Sector
Ms.  Ning Xu, Head, International Patent Classification, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Fushimi, Director, International Classifications and Standards Division, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Christophe Mazenc, Director, Global Database Division, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Bruno Pouliquen,
IP Data Machine Learning Development Manager
 ATAC, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Iustin Diaconescu, Head, Patent Database Section, Global Infrastructure Sector
Mr. Saroha,
Associate Information Management Officer, Global Infrastructure Sector

Mr. Hussain, Program Officer, Partnerships, Platforms and Tools Section, Global Infrastructure
Mr. Cocorocchia,
Senior Business Manager, Global Infrastructure Sector

Mrs. Daly,
Senior Policy Officer on Artificial Intelligence and Data, Div of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy
Mrs. Ammann, Marketing & Communicatiosn Officer, Global Databases Division, Global Infrastructure Sector




PatCom.

Armin Foerderer, FIZ, PatCom Treasurer
Rahman Hyatt, Minesoft
Felix Coxwell, Questel
Paul Peters, ACS
Jane List, Extract Information, PatCom Secretary.

Jane List, PatCom Secretary ,   6 April 2020, (Updated 17 June ) Cambridgeshire, UK

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