

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS EXPERTS' GROUP (IPEG) CONVENORS REPORT AND INPUTS FOR 2020 CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

Key Achievements in 2020

This section will be incorporated in the body of the 2020 CTI Annual Report to Ministers. Please provide one paragraph per achievement in dot points. Where possible, please highlight outcomes of these achievements.

Example:

- The United States conducted a survey on the treatment of illicit streaming devices receiving a 100% response rate from APEC economies, presenting the preliminary results to IPEG members.
- Russia implemented its Intellectual Property (IP) Commercialization for SMEs project. Key outcomes included an exchange of experiences regarding best practices in IP management and commercialization for SMEs, such as methods and strategies to address SME challenges, as well as a seminar with participants from several APEC economies and the World Intellectual Property Organization, which identified ongoing challenges and practices APEC economies could further consider to support SMEs.
- The United States completed its first virtual series of workshops regarding industrial design protection and enforcement, focusing on the benefits of partaking in international industrial design protection systems, emerging technologies, infringement and enforcement case studies. Many participants from both APEC economies and the private sector took part in the workshops.
- The IPEG adopted a revised standing agenda that aligns with CTI priorities and reflects current and evolving IP issues.
- The IPEG adopted a number of topics for enhanced engagement, including where the IPEG might play a role in shaping the international policy discussion going forward, such as: Trademark Link, New Technologies, Patent Grace Periods, International IP Dispute Resolution, IP Enforcement, and IP Commercialization and Securitization of IP Assets.
- Economies also shared information on their domestic programs that contribute to a robust IP system within the APEC region, such as: the US' developments on trademark and GI examination, and the profile of women inventors; Hong Kong, China's IP regime updates; and the Philippines' facilitation in the entry of university innovations to the global patent system.

Work Undertaken by the Fora in Response to COVID-19 (if applicable)

Please provide no more than one paragraph per work undertaken in dot points.

Example:

- The IPEG undertook an information sharing exercise of economies IP-related COVID 19 measures. Examples of these measures include: the extension of deadlines for the periods of payment and submission of documents; utilizing online platforms in delivering the services of IP offices to stakeholders and providing COVID-19 related information and technologies.

- IPEG members are still considering what next steps to take with the information collected to date.
- IPEG members have agreed to maintain transparency and to continue to update each other with any new or amended IP-related COVID 19 measures put in place by their economy.

Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora***Please provide a high-level summary of issues in dot points***

- Support for IPEG projects.
- Continued private sector and cross-fora engagement.
- Continued consideration of possible next steps for IP-related COVID 19 measures put in place by APEC economies.
- Continued consideration of emerging and evolving intellectual property issues for deeper engagement within the IPEG.
- Selection of new Chair and Vice Chair

Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers/Leaders at the end of 2020 (if applicable)

Nil.