

## **Report on Research and Study on Fees and Other Policies Concerning Designated Goods and Services and Application Support Tools for Improving Trademark Examination Efficiency and Supporting User Applications**

The number of applications for trademark registration in Japan has been increased in recent years, and also "FA Pendency" and "Total Pendency" have been increasing under trademark examination.

To overcome this situation, Japan Patent Office has taken various measures to promote examination processing, such as encouraging applications with low examination burden (fast-track examination), strengthening the examination system (employment of examiners with fixed terms of office), and utilizing outsourcing services, in addition to improving the efficiency of examination work.

However, to cope with the continuous increase in the number of applications, it is necessary to study and promote the implementation of measures that contribute to the efficiency of examination, while referring to the measures taken in other countries and regions. In particular, urgent issue is study measures taken in each country/region to improve the efficiency of the examination (e.g., measures to set different fees depending on the designated goods/services, online application systems with support functions to reduce the occurrence of incomplete description, etc.) due to since an incomplete description of designated goods/services is one of the representative reasons for refusal in examination.

The purpose of this study is to investigate and analyze the systems and operations that contribute to improving the efficiency of examination in each country and region.

We hope that this study will serve as a resource for the consideration of future measures related to the trademark system.