

The Declaration of the 6th Presidents' Meeting

Sydney, Australia

We, the Presidents and other representatives of the following attorney associations, meeting in Sydney, Australia on 10th February 2020 for the 6th Presidents' Meeting, holding discussions on issues relating to Qualified Local Representation for Applicants:

- All-China Patent Attorneys Association (ACPAA)
 - Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA)
 - The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA)
 - Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Intellectuelle (FICPI)
 - Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA)
 - Korea Patent Attorneys Association (KPAA)
 - The Institute of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys of Australia (IPTA)
1. Agree that securing high quality intellectual property rights in a particular jurisdiction requires specialised skill, expertise and knowledge of local laws and practices, in addition to knowledge of local languages and customs, in that jurisdiction;
 2. Recognise that efficient engagement with an IP office within a particular jurisdiction also requires such specialised skill, expertise and knowledge; it being undesirable, inefficient and potentially conflicting for representatives of the IP office to be placed in a position where they need to explain processes or actions that should be taken;

3. Note that modern communication and translation tools may encourage applicants to attempt to act directly in a foreign jurisdiction, and IP offices to deal directly with foreign applicants;
4. Believe that for foreign applicants seeking IP rights in a given jurisdiction, high quality intellectual property rights and efficient engagement with the IP office in that jurisdiction can only be achieved if the foreign applicants, directly or indirectly, are required to utilise a local representative who is qualified or otherwise recognised to have the requisite specialised skill, expertise and knowledge, and that for similar reasons, domestic applicants should, if they appoint a representative, be required to utilise a local representative who is similarly qualified or otherwise recognised;
5. And believe that the requirements in paragraph 4 should apply also to electronic systems for filing in foreign jurisdictions such as the system proposed by WIPO for national and regional phase entry using ePCT and proposed cross-filing systems.

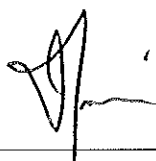
Agreed in Sydney, Australia on 10th February 2020.

董晓林

Xiaolin Dang, Vice President
ALL-China Patent Attorneys Association (ACPAA)

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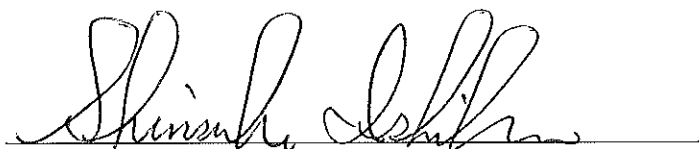
Hirohito KATSUNUMA, President
Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA)



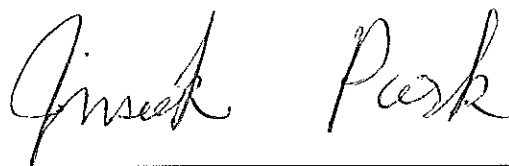
Richard Mair, President
The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA)



Julian Crump, President
Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Intellectuelle (FICPI)



ISHIHARA Shinsuke, Vice President
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Michael Caine, President
The Institute of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys of Australia (IPTA)