

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
AND
THE STATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

The Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property and the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

Recognizing the importance of intellectual property rights, in particular of patents, to innovation and to scientific and technical progress,

Acknowledging the fruitful results achieved under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Parties in 2012,

Desiring to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation between the two Institutions in the field of industrial property so as to make active contribution to the broader framework of the Sino-Swiss innovative strategic partnership,

Have achieved mutual understanding as follows:

1. The Parties are willing to continue and develop the co-operation under this Memorandum on the basis of partnership and mutual benefit respectively in compliance with the legislation of their respective States.
2. The Parties endeavor to cooperate in the following areas:
 - exchange of information and views on the latest developments of their respective intellectual property system;
 - exchange of information on the legislation and administrative procedures of their respective States in the sphere of intellectual property;
 - exchange of information and experience in patent examination and personnel training;
 - exchange of intellectual property documentation which has been agreed upon by both Parties;
 - exchange of best practices in promoting innovation and socioeconomic development with intellectual property;
 - exchange of information and experience of intellectual property operation (utilization and commercialization);
 - exchange of views on major issues of common concern about the international intellectual property system;
 - organization of exchanges in response to the needs of IP users from both countries, including, where appropriate, through industry roundtables;
 - other activities agreed by both Parties.
3. The Parties plan to determine the detailed activities in accordance with the main areas of cooperation mentioned in Paragraph 2 in corresponding specific agreements.

4. Each Party is expected to appoint a contact person to ensure adequate and easy communication if necessary directly between experts in implementing activities under this Memorandum.
5. Aiming at the discussion of the development of cooperation under this Memorandum and implementation thereof, the Parties intend to hold if necessary working meetings alternately in Switzerland and in China. The results of the meetings should be summed up in the minutes of the meetings.
6. Except for any specific agreement in contrary, each Party is expected to pay for its own expenses.
7. This Memorandum will be valid for five years and can be revised upon consensus of both Parties.
8. The Parties may extend or terminate this Memorandum by prior written notice of at least six months.

Signed in Bern on 16th of January 2017 in duplicate in the English, French and Chinese languages, all the texts being equally valid.

This Memorandum comes into effect on the date of its signature.

On behalf of the Swiss Federal
Institute of Intellectual Property

On behalf of the State Intellectual
Property Office of the People's
Republic of China

Didier Burkhalter
Federal Councillor

WANG Yi
Minister of Foreign Affairs