#### PPH WITH THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SINGAPOUR (IPOS)

The PPH pilot program between the **INPI** and the **IPOS** will start on the **1st of September, 2024** and will end on the **31th of August, 2026**. However, the program may be extended after a review jointly performed by the two offices and an assessment of the program implementation.

#### 1. REQUIREMENTS

An INPI application must meet four requirements to allow an acceleration of the examination under the PPH pilot program (acceleration request called "PPH request") between the INPI and the IPOS:

- A. The INPI application for which participation in the PPH pilot program is requested must have the same earliest date, whether this is the priority date or filing date, as that of a corresponding national application filed with the IPOS, or a corresponding PCT international application for which the IPOS was the International Searching Authority (ISA) or the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA).
- B. The corresponding application has at least one claim indicated by the IPOS in its capacity as a national office, ISA and/or IPEA to be patentable/allowable.

To have the meaning of patentable/allowable for the purposes of this program, a claim must be novel, involve an inventive step and be industrially applicable.

C. All claims in the INPI application for which participation in the PPH pilot program is requested must sufficiently correspond to the patentable/allowable claims in the corresponding IPOS application.

A claim is considered to sufficiently correspond where, accounting for differences due to claim format requirements, the claim is of the **same** or **similar scope** as a patentable/allowable claim in the corresponding IPOS application.

Claims are considered to "sufficiently correspond" where, accounting for differences due to translations and claim format, the claims in the INPI are of the same or similar scope as the claims indicated as patentable/allowable in the IPOS, or the claims in the INPI are narrower in scope than the claims indicated as patentable/allowable in the IPOS. In this regard, a claim that is narrower in scope occurs when a claim indicated as patentable/allowable in IPOS is amended to be further limited by an additional feature that is supported in the specification (description and/or claims).

Additionally, a claim in the INPI application that introduces a new/different category of claims than those indicated to be patentable/allowable by the IPOS is not considered to sufficiently correspond.

For example, where the IPOS application contains only claims relating to a process of manufacturing a product, then any product claims in the INPI application are not considered to sufficiently correspond, even if the product claims are dependent on process claims which sufficiently correspond to patentable/allowable claims in the IPOS application.

Any claims amended or added after the grant of the request for participation in the PPH pilot program must sufficiently correspond to one or more patentable/allowable claims in the IPOS application.

D. The INPI has not begun the grant examination of the application at the time of request for the PPH.

For a better acceleration of the examination process, the INPI recommends to file the PPH request within 12 months from the filing date of the INPI application.

#### 2. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

The documents listed below must be either provided by attaching them to the PPH request form or identified, if available to the examiner as described below, when filing an acceleration request under the PPH.

A. A copy of the work product(s) which indicate the allowability of the claims of the corresponding IPOS application, or the PCT application with the IPOS as an ISA/IPEA.

The IPOS work product includes one of the following:

- (a) Examination Report
- (b) Examination Review Report
- (c) Written Opinion(s)

For PCT work products: WO-ISA, WO-IPEA or IPRP.

If the INPI encounters difficulties to reach said office actions, then the applicant will be asked to provide a copy.

Either French or English is acceptable as translation language. Machine translations are admissible.

B. Copies of all claims determined to be patentable/allowable by the IPOS.

Either French or English is acceptable as translation language. Machine translations are admissible.

C. Copies of documents cited by the IPOS examiner in the work products submitted under 2.3.2.A.

Non-patent literature must always be submitted if cited.

In the case of prior art documents consisting of patents, a copy is not necessarily required. If the INPI encounters difficulties to reach said patent documents, then the applicant will be asked to provide a copy.

Translation of prior art documents is not necessary.

D. Claim correspondence table

The applicant must submit a claim correspondence table, which indicates how all claims in the INPI application sufficiently correspond to the patentable/allowable claims in the IPOS application.

When the claims are just literal translation, the applicant can just write down that "the claims are the same" in the table. On the contrary, when the claims are not just a literal translation, it is necessary to explain the sufficient correspondence of each claim.

#### 3. PROCEDURE FOR ACCELERATED EXAMIATION UNDER PPH PILOT PROGRAM

The procedure for filing a PPH request is described below (see 4. Procedure for filing a PPH request). INPI then reviews the application's eligibility for accelerated examination under the PPH pilot program. The application, once found acceptable by INPI, is assigned a special status for the accelerated examination under the PPH.

In case where applicant has failed to meet any of the requirements set forth above, the applicant will be notified of such failure and be given at least one opportunity to fix it before the request is rejected. Applicant whose PPH participation request was rejected can file a PPH request on the same application again, as long as there still has not been any grant examination by INPI at the time of the new PPH request.

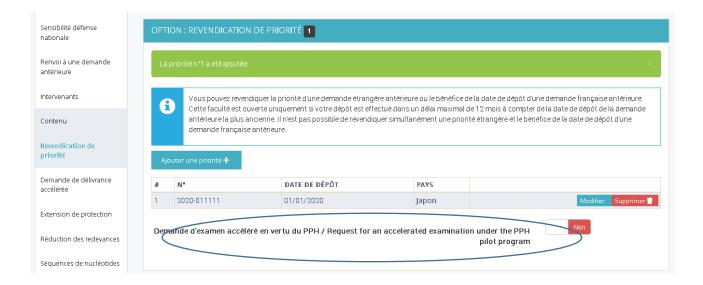
### 4. PROCEDURE FOR FILING A PPH REQUEST

# A. FILING A PPH REQUEST AT THE FILING OF THE PATENT APPLICATION

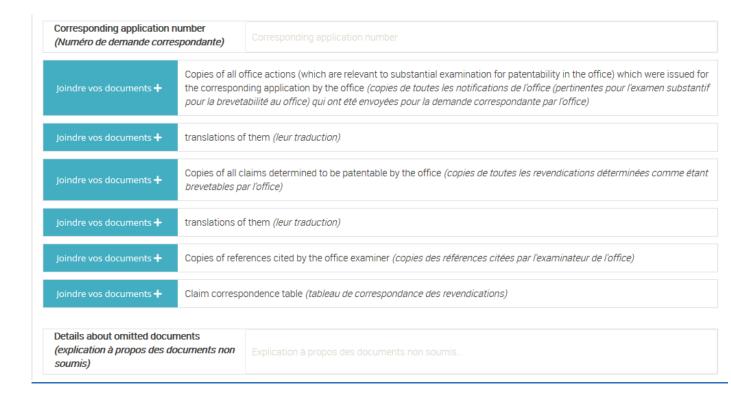
It is possible to file an acceleration request under the PPH pilot program at the filing of the patent application. PPH request must be submitted through INPI's online filing website: <a href="https://procedures.inpi.fr/?/">https://procedures.inpi.fr/?/</a>

#### How to select the PPH request option:

The option to file a PPH request will appear in the "revendication de priorité" section once the priority of an application has been claimed.



Then you need to **tick "Oui"** (next to "Request for an accelerated examination under the PPH pilot program"), in order to trigger the possibility to provide the corresponding documents:



**Required documents** listed below must either be provided by attaching them to the PPH request form, or identified, if available to the examiner as described above, **when filing an acceleration request under the PPH**.

#### Join the documents to be provided when filing an acceleration request under the PPH:

Four documents must be submitted, as specified above:

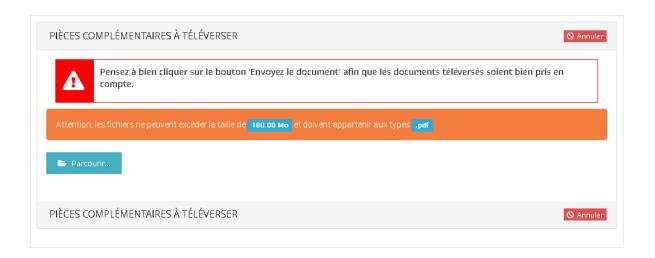
- Copies of the offices actions/work products which indicate the patentability/allowability of the claims (and their translation)
- Copies of all claims determined to be patentable/allowable by the PPH partner office (and their translation)
- Copies of the references/documents cited by the PPH partner office examiner in the said office action/work product
- Claim correspondence table between INPI claims and said patentable/allowable claims; an
  example can be found in the PPH request form (see "Aide en Ligne" section or below)

Warning: The provision of a claim correspondence table is mandatory for processing a PPH request. In addition, non-patent literature must always be submitted if cited.

The field entitled "Corresponding application number/Numéro de demande correspondante" allows the applicant to indicate the application number on which the PPH request is based (when this application number is different from the priority number).

The field entitled "Details about omitted documents/Explication à propos des documents non fournis" allows the applicant to indicate the reasons why he didn't provide some of the documents (with the exception of the correspondence table, which must always be provided, as well as non-patent literature or any other document that is not accessible via the PPH partner office's dossier access system).

When you click on "Joindre vos documents", then you can upload your documents:



Just **click on "Parcourir"**, then upload the document in PDF format, and click on "Envoyer le document".

Finally, **once all of the required documents have been uploaded**, click on **"Etape suivante"** to continue the patent application process



At the end of the patent application filing process, when you see the filing summary ("Récapitulatif de dépôt"), you will be able to check the information concerning the PPH request and documents provided in the "Revendication de priorité" you have submitted during the filing process.



Filing a PPH request is free of charge.

# B. FILING A PPH REQUEST AFTER THE FILING OF THE PATENT APPLICATION

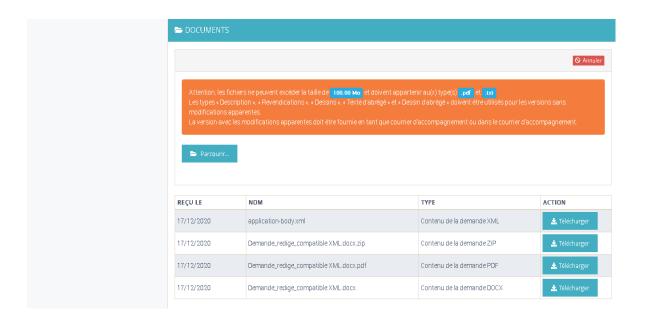
It is still possible to file a PPH request at any time after the filing of the patent application, as long as the INPI has not begun the grant examination of the application.

#### How to select the PPH request option:

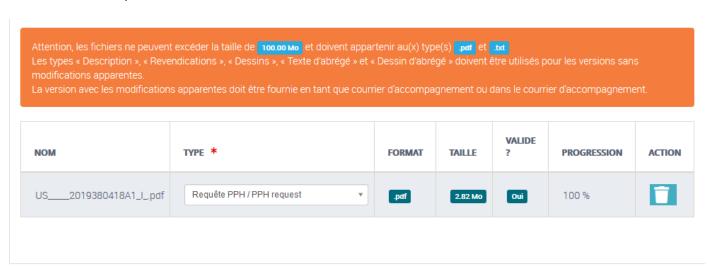
Just click on "Transmettre un document" under "Mes actions":



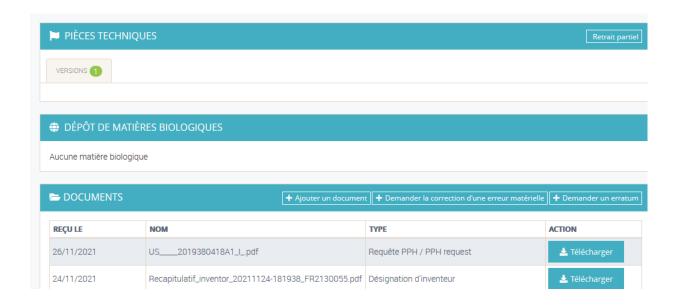
Then click on "Parcourir" and upload all of the documents related to the PPH request, in PDF format:



Once the documents have been uploaded, please select "Requête PPH / PPH Request" for the "Type", then click on "Envoyer le document":



The uploaded document can be seen in the "Documents" section:



#### Join the documents to be provided when filing an acceleration request under the PPH:

All of the documents related to the PPH request have to be uploaded under the "Requête PPH / PPH Request" type.

In addition to the **PPH Request Form provided in the "Aide en Ligne" section**, which is mandatory for processing the PPH request, four documents must be submitted, or identified, as specified above:

- Copies of the offices actions/work products which indicate the patentability/allowability of the claims (and their translation)
- Copies of all claims determined to be patentable/allowable by the PPH partner office (and their translation)
- Copies of the references/documents cited by the PPH partner office examiner in the said office action/work product submitted
- Claim correspondence table between INPI claims and said patentable/allowable claims; an example can be found in the PPH request form (see "Aide en Ligne" section or below)

The documents will then be automatically dispatched to the examiners.

Filing a PPH request is **free of charge.** 

When the PPH request is not filed at the same time as the patent application, **the provision of a PPH request form and claim correspondence table are mandatory** for completing the processing of a PPH request. In addition, non-patent literature must always be provided, if cited.

### 5. PPH REQUEST FORM

Request for an accelerated examination under the PPH pilot program with INPI's PPH partner offices - Requête pour un examen accéléré via le programme pilote PPH de l'INPI avec ses offices partenaires pour le PPH.		
INPI Application number (numéro de dépôt de la demande INPI) :  Corresponding Partner Office Application number (numéro de la demande de brevet de l'office partenaire correspondante) :		
Copies of all of patentability) which and (copies de toutes demande correspondant	n were issued for the co	ct (which are relevant to substantial examination for orresponding application by the PPH Partner Office our l'examen de la brevetabilité) qui ont été envoyées pour la
Copies of all claims determined to be patentable by the PPH Partner Office and (copies de toutes les revendications déterminées comme étant brevetables par l'office partenaire et)  Translations of them (leur traduction)  Copies of documents cited by the PPH Partner Office examiner in the office actions/work products submitted (copies des documents cités par l'examinateur de l'office partenaire dans les notifications soumises)		
Claim correspo	,	correspondance des revendications)  prespondance des revendications
The claim in the INPI  (revendications de la demande INPI)	The patentable claim in the PPH Partner Office (revendications brevetables de la demande de l'office partenaire)	Comments about the correspondence (commentaires sur la correspondance)
(Documents to be	omitted to submit – <i>Exp</i>	plication à propos des documents non fournis) :