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# Reducing the procedural burden in post pandemic era

**GDTF/ICG Meeting 2022**  
**Virtual session of 4 March 2022**

# Background

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- ❖ IP5 Industry appreciates the presentations provided by IP5 Offices
- ❖ We thank the IP5 Offices for the work that they have done on reducing procedural burdens during the pandemic and would appreciate the continuation of these efforts beyond the COVID-19 crisis
- ❖ We believe that e-Signatures and the reduction of procedural burdens should continue being important goals for the IP5 Offices' activities in the near future



# e-Signatures

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- ❖ IP5 Industry agrees with JPO's proposal that each Office would be able to report e-Signature status as illustrated in JPO's presentation
- ❖ IP5 Offices could start with the question whether each Office is allowing e-Signatures to the extent that their national laws allow. If Offices allowed more options for using e-Signatures, that would help alleviate the burdens on users
- ❖ IP5 Industry could prepare some materials/examples showing what Industry expects in relation to e-Signatures, as it was done in relation to Global Assignment. Industry could try provide a standard for e-Signatures



## Reducing procedural burden

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- ❖ IP5 Industry supports the topic on reducing the procedural burdens, on physical signatures, e-Signatures and for the assignments
- ❖ The IP5 Offices should improve their “electronification”, e.g. by providing electronic communications, such as patent certifications and signed documents, at least as an option
- ❖ The IP5 Offices could harmonize form requirements, such as application form, drawings, inventors' signatures once at initial filing, bibliographic items
- ❖ Machine translation is also an important issue for industry



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Thank you!

