

ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)

*A regional work-sharing initiative by
participating
IP Offices in ASEAN*



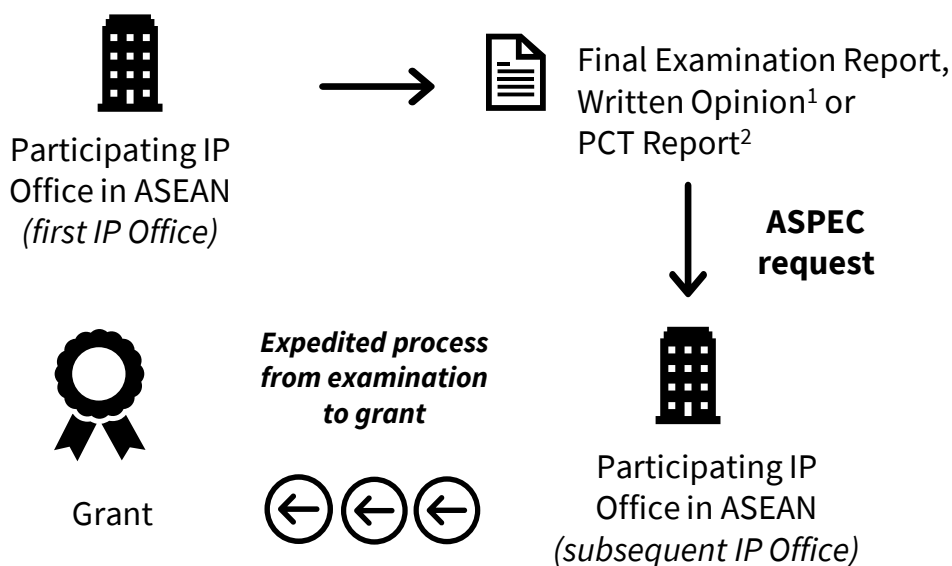
ONE VISION ONE IDENTITY ONE COMMUNITY

What it is

The ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC) is a regional patent work-sharing programme among 9 participating IP Offices.

They are from **Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.**

ASPEC process



How it helps

By using an earlier search and examination report issued by a participating IP Office, you can:

- Accelerate examination in all other participating IP offices
- Obtain higher chance of patent grant

1: From 15 June 2021, written opinion is an acceptable search and examination result for all participating AMS IP Offices except the IP Office of Thailand. Written opinion refers to a non-final assessment of the novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability of the claimed invention that is issued by participating AMS IP Offices. Examples of names of “written opinion” used in AMS are “written opinion” in Brunei, Singapore and the Philippines, and “adverse report” in Malaysia.

2: The written opinion, international preliminary examination report, or the international preliminary report on patentability (“WO/ISA, WO/IPEA, IPER, IPRP Chap I or IPRP Chap II”) established by an ASEAN International Searching Authority or International Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA). Currently, the IP Offices of the Philippines and Singapore are ISAs/IPEAs in ASEAN.

Key features



Fast-track patenting process in the 9 participating IP Offices in ASEAN



Accepts both national and PCT reports³ from participating IP offices.



Operates in **English**. To provide translation when required.



ASPEC requests may be made manually or electronically through the

- ASEAN IP Portal⁴, or
- the designated Offices' electronic portal



One common form with **no additional fee**

3: As per Footnote 2, only PCT reports issued by ASEAN ISA/IPEAs are acceptable.

4: Available at www.aseanip.org

Need more information?

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The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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