|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of meeting: | 7 December 2016 |
| Present: | Ingrid Bayliss (IB), Corinne Cole (CC), Elena Szentivanyi (ES) |
| Next meeting: | 14 March 2017 |

## Upcoming legislation

Enactment of GI legislation.

Review of Plant Variety Rights Act.

## Growth in patent team at IPONZ

Recruiting 5 more examiners for January 2017 start. There will be another similar sized intake around July 2017 then looking at further intakes every 6 months.

## Trade Marks

Recruiting for 3 more trade mark examiners.

There have been delays in the issue of pre-acceptance notices of intention to reject applications. IPONZ is looking at process of notification – as foreshadowed by Simon Gallagher. ES said that important that rejection clearly state the scope of maintained objection.

IPONZ is looking at the feasibility of of making their image recognition tool available more broadly, including the costs, how it would be done and to whom it would be available. CC and ES agreed that this would be great resource for firms.

## Hearings office

IB said that IPONZ had received positive feedback on recent decisions. CC and ES agreed that the decisions were well written.

CC suggested that NZIPA run CPD seminar by Hearings Officers as the previous one run by INTA was very useful.

IPONZ is recruiting at least one more Hearings Officer – NZIPA to promote opportunity on website for future recruitment rounds. If more than one suitable candidate available may investigate recruiting more or keep subsequent candidate in mind for next recruitment round.

IB confirmed that there was still issues with access to rooms for hearings. IPONZ will look to use case management process more to relieve some pressure on hearings.

Jane Glover appointed Deputy Chair of Copyright Tribunal

## Commissioner Mandy McDonald

Mandy is retiring and will remain in her position until new appointment is made. Legislative requirements are met so no issue with validity of documents signed by Mandy until that time.

## Data analysis

IPONZ is looking at the data it holds and what could be done with that data to the benefit of NZ businesses. Ongoing project. IPONZ welcomes suggestions on this.

## WIPO roving seminar

WIPO visiting NZ and AU in March 2017 and will hold public seminars again. CC asked if there could be higher level rather than purely introductory seminars.

IB to advise once she knows the dates.