Outline for the panel discussion
from the SIPO

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1. Ongoing MT services and their prospect in SIPO

- From April 25, 2008, the SIPO launched an online Chinese to English automatic patent MT service, providing foreign users a channel for better accessing Chinese patent documents.

- The SIPO has maintained the translation service from a supplier who conducts the operation and enhancement on a regular basis.
2. What are benefits and challenges of MT peculiar to patent translation?

- **Benefits**

  There is no doubt that the patent search includes at least two steps, i.e. search and document browsing.

  - During the latter phase, MT helps users to view large volume of patent documents in a relatively short period of time for understanding the gist.
2. What are benefits and challenges of MT peculiar to patent translation?

- Challenges

  Improving the quality of translations, since more accurate machine translation results are expected from the users.

- Possible measures for quality improvement in collaboration with other offices

  - Employing a good mechanism for maintaining the MT service:
    user feedbacks - system adjustment – evaluation - new system launching
  
  - Exchanging and benefiting from views or ideas on MT services developed or under development
3. Other patent processing tools/functions you may want to coordinate with MT

- Not applicable

It is well known that some offices have made great progress on cross lingual patent retrieval coordinating with MT via two approaches, translation of queries or preload bulk translated documents. We are interested to know the detail.
4. Future expectation: How far can we expect to go?

- The answer to this question depends on how the existing and emerging technologies will respond to user demands.

- The SIPO is primarily interested in translation from other languages to Chinese with high quality, for example, from English to Chinese.
The End, Thanks!