

patentability determinations faster in multiple jurisdictions. The USPTO currently has PPH arrangements with ten patent offices—those in Japan, the United Kingdom, the Republic of Korea, Canada, Australia, the European Patent Office (EPO), Denmark, Germany, Singapore and Finland. Notices regarding the PPH programs with these patent offices are available on the USPTO Web site at: [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/index.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp).

Under the PPH program, if an application filed in an Office of First Filing (OFF) receives an indication that at least one claim is patentable, a corresponding application with corresponding claims filed in the USPTO as the Office of Second Filing (OSF) may be advanced out of turn for examination. To have the request for participation in the PPH accepted in the USPTO, an applicant must make available to the USPTO the relevant work of the OFF as well as any necessary translation. In addition, the request for participation in the PPH, until now, had to be accompanied by a petition to make special under 37 CFR 1.102(d) along with the required petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

The PPH has proven to be a useful work-sharing vehicle, as shown by the following statistics (as of February 2010):

- Over 2,500 PPH requests received by the USPTO since 2006;
- First action allowance rate for PPH applications is about 25%, about double the first action allowance rate for all applications;
- Overall allowance rate for PPH applications is about 93%, about double the allowance rate for all applications; and
- The average number of actions per disposal for PPH applications is about 1.7, which is significantly less than the number of actions per disposal for non-PPH applications.

While the PPH has been useful, it can be improved. The USPTO has taken a number of steps, in concert with the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and other PPH partners, to enhance the PPH framework to make it more user friendly and thereby encourage greater participation. In January 2010, the USPTO, JPO and EPO began a test implementation of an expanded PPH framework, to allow participation of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) national/regional phase applications when the International Authority has determined that one or more claims have novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability in the international phase. Previously, all PPH programs were confined to Paris

Convention route applications. The expectation is that by expanding the PPH to include PCT work products, participation will increase.

The USPTO is taking additional steps to enhance the PPH framework to make the programs more user friendly and thereby encourage more participation. All petitions to make special filed with a PPH request *on or after* May 25, 2010 will be treated as a request that the Director order their application be advanced out of turn to expedite the business of the Office under 37 CFR 1.102(a), and the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) *will not* be required. If the request for participation in the PPH and the request to the Director are granted, the application will be advanced out of turn for examination by order of the Director under 37 CFR 1.102(a).

Petitions to make special filed with a PPH request *prior to* May 25, 2010 will be treated under 37 CFR 1.102(d) and the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) *will* be required.

Dated: May 18, 2010.

**David J. Kappos,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-570-890]

#### **Wooden Bedroom Furniture from the People's Republic of China: Extension of Time Limit for the Final Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review**

**AGENCY:** Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 25, 2010.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Pedersen or David Edmiston, AD/CVD Operations, Office 4, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2769, and (202) 482-0989 respectively.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

On February 5, 2010, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published the preliminary results of the administrative review of the antidumping duty order on wooden

bedroom furniture (WBF) from the People's Republic of China (PRC), covering the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. See *Wooden Bedroom Furniture From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Intent To Rescind Review in Part*, 75 FR 5952 (February 5, 2010). The final results of this administrative review were originally due no later than June 5, 2010. As explained in the memorandum from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, the Department has exercised its discretion to toll deadlines for the duration of the closure of the Federal Government from February 5, through February 12, 2010. Thus, all deadlines in this segment of the proceeding have been extended by seven days. The revised deadline for the final results of this review is currently June 12, 2010. See Memorandum to the Record from Ronald Lorentzen, DAS for Import Administration, regarding "Tolling of Administrative Deadlines As a Result of the Government Closure During the Recent Snowstorm," dated February 12, 2010.

#### **Extension of Time Limit of Final Results**

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires that the Department issue the final results of an administrative review within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary results are published. If it is not practicable to complete the review within that time period, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend the deadline for the final results to a maximum of 180 days after the date on which the preliminary results are published.

The Department finds that it is not practicable to complete the final results of this review by June 12, 2010, because the Department needs additional time to consider over 30 complex issues the parties have raised. Therefore, in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the final results by 60 days to August 11, 2010.

This notice is published in accordance with sections 751(a)(3)(A) and 777(i) of the Act.

Dated: May 19, 2010.

**John M. Andersen,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.*

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