JAPAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION

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Mr. Daren Tang Director General

World Intellectual Property Organization 34, chemin des Colombettes

CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Re: POSITION PAPER ON THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF PATENTS, Geneva, November 2 to 6, 2026 (SCP/38)

Agenda item 7. Patents and Health

Updates on the initiatives on publicly accessible databases of patent status information concerning medical products and health technologies.

JIPA makes this statement in collaboration with the Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (JPMA), which comprises about 70 research-based pharmaceutical companies in Japan. This statement is also supported by IFPMA.

With regard to the topic of publicly accessible databases of patent status information concerning medical products and health technologies, we would like to briefly share an example from the innovative pharmaceutical industry.

Several JIPA/JPMA member companies, including Astellas, Daiichi Sankyo, Eisai, Shionogi and Takeda, participate in Pat INFORMED and contribute to facilitating access to medicine patent information by voluntarily providing information on key patents relating to approved medicines.

We believe that such voluntary initiatives can contribute to improving transparency and enhance stakeholders' understanding of the patent information relevant to particular medical products.

Pat-INFORMED is one example of a practical and collaborative initiative developed by industry in cooperation among WIPO, IFPMA and participating research-based

pharmaceutical companies. It demonstrates how participating companies can contribute to greater transparency through voluntary cooperation while supporting a patent framework that continues to foster innovation. Such initiatives also illustrate that improvements in transparency can be achieved through voluntary and cooperative approaches involving relevant stakeholders.

At the same time, we would like to emphasize that a strong, predictable and balanced patent system remains essential for fostering innovation. The patent system provides the foundation for the significant investments, high risks and long development timelines associated with the research and development of new medical products and health technologies.

JIPA and JPMA believe that transparency and innovation are complementary objectives. We remain committed to supporting both and to contributing to global health through continuous innovation under a strong and balanced intellectual property system.