What will change?

The mock exams consisted of two papers, with a Chemical and an Engineering version of each paper:

- **Paper A - Online Search paper:**
  - Validity search
  - Infringement search
- 2 versions of the Chemical Online Search paper:
  - Version 1: 2 different cases
  - Version 2: 1 case – validity + infringement + novelty

- **Paper B - Analysis Exam paper:**
  - Short answer questions on legal knowledge and analysis skills
  - Case with Novelty/Patentability analysis
  - Case with Infringement or Validity analysis

Based on the results and the feedback of the mock exams, it is the intention to implement the following improvements in the final exams:

- Only one Paper A with several cases to choose from covering a chemical, life science, mechanical, engineering (and other?) subjects, probably including case that could be done with chemical structure searching and/or sequence searching. Each candidate will have to make two cases, consisting of one opposition, validity or novelty search and one patent infringement search. Different searches on one subject will not be an option.

- The search paper ("Paper A") will be structured by providing a template for the answers/results. The free format of the mock exams made the results very difficult to mark. The template should also remind the candidates that it is required to explain their choices.

- It should be emphasized in the instructions, template, etc. of Paper A that it is not required to do a full analysis of the retrieved results. Analysis is tested in Paper B. Skipping this in Paper A should enable candidates to finish the two cases within the provided time (7 hours).

- Only one Paper B, instead of one for each technological area, consisting of a set of theoretical short answer questions and two cases. This means that the cases have to be technology independent, i.e. on a subject that is relatively easy to understand, independent of the technical background of the candidate.

- The documents provided for Paper B will (also) be provided in electronic format, allowing candidates to use ‘Find’, highlighting, copy/paste etc.

- Paper B may comprise a Novelty analysis, but will not require a Patentability analysis, since there are regional/local differences on the interpretation of patentability.