Patent Application Flow Chart

Patent Office   Applicant

Patent Application

Formality Examination

Official Gazette Laid-Open (After 1.5 years)

Request for Examination
(Within 3 years from the date of application)
(Within 7 years from the date of application regarding
applications filed on or before Sep. 30, 2001)

Substantial Examination   Request for Examination not being filed
Term: approx 1 to 1.5 years

Allowance   Notice of Reason for Rejection   deemed withdrawal of application

Response to the Reason for Rejection

(approx 3 to 6 months)
Allowance   or   Final Rejection

Demand for Trial

Payment of Registration Fee ◄········ Allowed
(1st to 3rd year)

Disallowed ········► Action against the Trial Decision
(High Court)

(2 to 3 weeks after payment)
Registration (Issuance of Certificate)

Issuance of Official Gazette ·········► Opposition by the third party
(within 6months from the issuance of
Official Gazette)

◄········ Decision of maintaining the patent   Decision of Cancellation of Patent

Expiration (20 years from the date of filing the application)
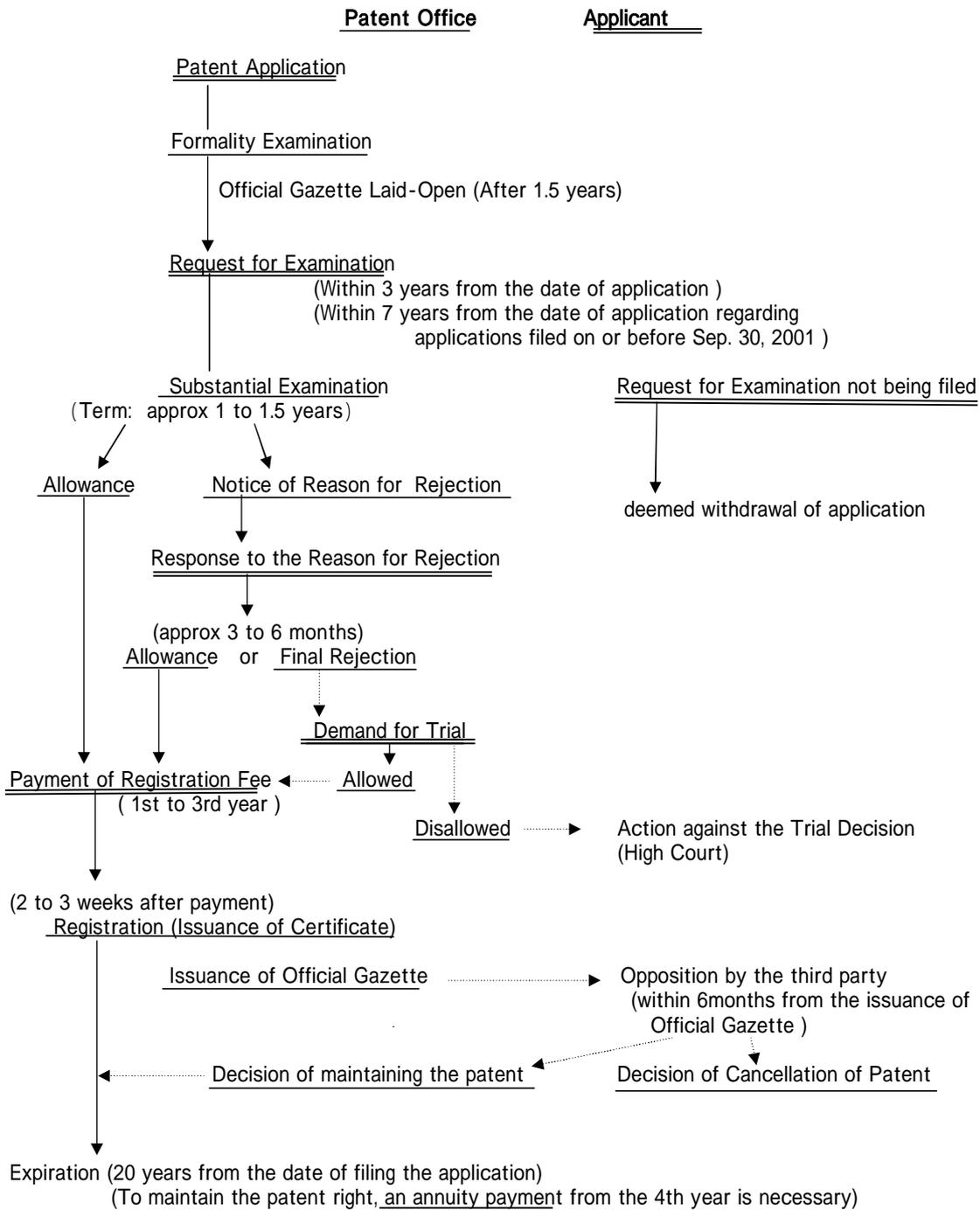(To maintain the patent right, an annuity payment from the 4th year is necessary)

It takes approximately 1 to 2 years to patent from filing a request for examination, if examination runs smoothly