JAPANESE PATENT EXAMINATION FLOW 2 Actions/Decisions by: - After the Commence of Examination -**Applicant JPO** Commence of examination Υ first Notice of Grounds for Rejection grounds for rejection? Ν 3 months (+3months) Ν Response (argument and amendment Υ grounds in the Ν first Notice overcome? Y: grounds to Ν original claims new grounds for rejection? Y: grounds to amended claims final Notice of grounds for Rejection 3 months (+3months) Ν Response (argument and amendment Ν Υ Decision (grant) grounds for rejection ' final rejection 30 days (+ 30 days) 4 months registration fee **Appeal** Υ registration of patent Rejection Commence of publication Appeal procedure **Affirmed** annuity payments termination of patent 20 years from Japanese filing date © 2011 YKI Patent Attorneys