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## 1. Hague System: Statements of Grant of Protection – Spain

**OEPM WILL  
ISSUE THESE  
STATEMENTS AT THE  
END OF THE REFUSAL  
PERIOD**

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*The Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM) has notified WIPO that, as of April 5, 2021– and in accordance with Rule 18bis (1) of the Common Regulations PDF, Hague System Common Regulations – it will automatically issue Statements of Grant of Protection concerning all, or some of, the designs included in Hague System international registrations in which Spain is designated.*

*OEPM will issue these statements at the end of the applicable refusal period when no opposition has been made. These Statements are available in the International Designs Bulletin – the Hague System’s official publication of international registrations – starting May 14, 2021 (Bulletin 19/... [Read more](#)*

## 2. Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks

**WIPO -  
THE DECLARATION  
WILL ENTER INTO  
FORCE ON SEPTEMBER  
1, 2021.**

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**WIPO** - *Declaration by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments and has the honor to refer to the deposit, on October 1, 2020, of the declaration by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, according to which it extended its ratification of the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, adopted at Madrid on June 27, 1989 ("Madrid Protocol (1989)"), as amended on October 3, 2006, and on November 12, 2007, to the territories of Gibraltar and the Bailiwick of Guernsey, for the international relations of which the United Kingdom is responsibl... [Read more](#)*

## 3. JPO Exchanged Opinions with EUIPO

**AN ACTIVE  
EXCHANGE OF  
OPINIONS AMONG  
PARTICIPANTS ON THE  
QUESTIONNAIRE**

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*On June 22, 2021, Mr. KATSURA Masanori, Director-General, and his team at the Trial and Appeal Department (TAD) of the Japan Patent Office (JPO) held a videoconference to exchange opinions with Mr. João NEGRÃO, President, and his team at the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) Boards of Appeal (BoA).*

*During the meeting, after an introduction of recent developments in the trial and appeal boards of the two offices, there was an active exchange of opinions among participants on the questionnaire survey in the field of trademarks, recent case laws on absolute and relative grounds, recent decisions on bad-faith trademark filings, and areas for future cooperation... [Read more](#)*

## 4. Global Patent Index (GPI) now with access to more than 130 000 000 patent documents

**YOU CAN  
FOLLOW  
GPI & INTERACT WITH  
USERS ON THE  
GPI FORUM**

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*GPI is the EPO's advanced prior-art search tool. To use it, all you need are some basic Boolean search skills, which you can easily learn from the handy GPI pocket guide or the more detailed GPI user manual, both of which are available on the EPO website. The tool now gives access to more than 130 000 000 patent documents for searches in the EPO's worldwide data collection, i.e. DOCDB bibliographic data, INPADOC legal events and full-text data. It also provides features for downloading or visualising the results for statistical analysis. You can follow GPI activities and interact with other users on the GPI forum.*

**GPI content and updates-** *You can use Global Patent Index (GPI) to carry out detailed searches of the EPO's wor... [Read more](#)*

## 5. Report on FICPI-USPTO Bilateral Meeting, 9 June 2021

**THE  
SUBSTANTIVE  
AGENDA COVERED IN  
A WIDE RANGE OF  
TOPICS**

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*Given the ongoing global travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 9 June 2021 marked the start of FICPI's second round of annual meetings with IP offices in the virtual space. As in 2020, our meeting with the USPTO was the first of the 2021 round, with meetings with WIPO and the European Commission also planned in June, and with the EPO and the Boards of Appeal planned for September. It is hoped to arrange meetings with other major IP Offices for the autumn.*

*The FICPI delegation, led by FICPI President, Julian Crump, was given a warm welcome by Drew Hirshfeld, the Acting Director of the USPTO, and a substantial USPTO team. His introductory remarks drew attention to the recent issuance of the... [Read more](#)*

## 6. One-click Access to Patent Documents in their National Databases from PATENTSCOPE

**IN ORDER  
TO  
PROVIDE LINKS  
AS RELIABLE AS  
POSSIBLE**

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*One-click access to patent documents in their national database is now available in PATENTSCOPE for over than 30 national offices. In the National bibliographic data tab, under Office, next to the name of the office in question, when available, a beacon is clickable to access the patent document in its national database: Those deep links are currently available for the offices of Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eurasian Patent Organization, European Patent Office, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Israel, the Republic of Korea, Lithuania, Latvia, Morocco, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Serbia, Romania, South Africa, Sweden, Slovakia and United States.... [Read more](#)*

## 7. DNPI Uruguay now aligned with CP5

**SEEKS TO  
INCREASE  
TRANSPARENCY,  
LEGAL CERTAINTY &  
PREDICTABILITY FOR  
USERS & EXAMINERS**

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*The National Directorate of Industrial Property under the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay (DNPI) has published a practice paper today on the impact of non-distinctive/weak components of trade marks in the examination of likelihood of confusion (relative grounds for refusal). The DNPI is the first Latin American IP office to find common grounds with the criteria listed under the Common Communication (CP5) — Relative grounds of refusal - Likelihood of confusion (impact of non-distinctive/weak components). This achievement was possible thanks to the joint efforts and collaborative work carried out by the DNPI and the EUIPO within the framework of the IP KEY Latin America project, directed by the European Commission and implem... [Read more](#)*

## 8. USPTO issues information on implementation of the Supreme Court's decision in U.S. v. Arthrex, Inc.

**THE INTERIM  
DIRECTOR REVIEW  
PROCESS ON THE  
USPTO ARTHREX  
INFORMATION PAGE**

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*As a result of the recent Supreme Court decision in U.S. v. Arthrex, Inc., the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has implemented an interim procedure whereby review of a Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) final decision may be initiated sua sponte by the Director or requested by a party to a PTAB proceeding. At this time, a party may request Director review of a final written decision in an inter partes review or post-grant review by filing a request for rehearing by the Director of a PTAB decision and concurrently submitting a notification of that request to the Office by email to Director\_PTABDecision\_Review@uspto.gov, copying counsel for the parties. More details on the interim Director review process are provided on... [Read more](#)*

## 9. EPO Patent Knowledge News launched

**EPO NEW  
ARTICLES WILL BE  
PUBLISHED EVERY  
TWO WEEKS**

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*The EPO has launched its new online magazine Patent Knowledge News, which will feature news, updates and facts relating to patent knowledge from the EPO and beyond.*

*Available in a dedicated section of [epo.org](http://epo.org) under Searching for patents, Patent Knowledge News will include:*

- information on updates to and developments in the EPO's tools, data and services;*
- articles about interesting aspects of patent searching;*
- special features on patent systems around the world, and specifically in Asia;*
- tips and tricks on how best to use Espacenet, PATSTAT, Global Patent Index and many other services in everyday... [Read more](#)*

## 10. The Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021

**AN  
ORDINANCE  
FURTHER TO AMEND  
CERTAIN ACTS**

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**India** - Promulgated by the President in the Seventy-Second Year of the Republic of India. An Ordinance further to amend the Cinematograph Act, 1952, the Customs Act, 1962, the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994, the Trade Marks Act, 1999 and the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 and certain other Acts.

*WHEREAS The Tribunal Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2021 has been introduced in the House of the People on the 13th day of February, 2021;*

*AND WHEREAS the aforesaid Bill could not be taken up for consideration and passing in the House of the People;*

*AND WHEREAS Parliament is not in session and the... [Read more](#)*

## 11. CNIPA - The 14th IP5 Heads of Offices Meeting Held

**FUTURE IP5  
COOPERATION WITH  
AN EYE ON THE POST  
COVID-19 ERA**

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From June 22-23, 2021, the 14th IP5 Heads of Offices Meeting was held via video conference, hosted by the Japan Patent Office (JPO) in rotation. The CNIPA Commissioner Shen Changyu led a delegation to attend the meeting. The JPO Commissioner Kasutani Toshihide presided over the meeting. The European Patent Office (EPO) President António Campinos, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) Commissioner Kim Yongrae and United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Director Drew Hirschfeld also led delegations to participate in the meeting. Lisa Jorgensen, Deputy Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), attended the meeting as an observer. The meeting adopted the 2020 Joint State.. [Read more](#)

## 12. Press Communiqué of 22 June 2021 on decision G 4/19 of the Enlarged Board of Appeal

**APPLICATION  
CAN BE REFUSED  
UNDER ARTICLES 97(2)  
& 125 EPC IF IT CLAIMS  
THE SAME SUBJECT-  
MATTER**

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**EPO-** The Enlarged Board of Appeal of the European Patent Office issued decision G 4/19 (Double patenting) today, in which it held that a European patent application can be refused by reason of the prohibition on double patenting.

Background- The Enlarged Board of Appeal is the highest judicial authority under the European Patent Convention (EPC). Its main task is to ensure the uniform application of the EPC. The principle of the prohibition on double patenting excludes two patents being granted to the same applicant for one invention. The examining division applied this principle and refused European patent application 10718590.2 under Articles 97(2) and 125 EPC on the ground that the applicant already had a patent for... [Read more](#)



## 13. China approves new IPR protection center

**CHINA HAS 50  
IPR PROTECTION  
CENTERS, INCLUDING  
THOSE UNDER  
CONSTRUCTION,  
NATIONWIDE**

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*China has approved the establishment of an intellectual property rights (IPR) protection center in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, the National Intellectual Property Administration (NIPA) said on Tuesday. The first of its kind in the north China region, the center will provide more efficient IPR protection services for enterprises in biology and new materials sectors. According to the administration, the center is significant to the building of Inner Mongolia as an important base of energy and strategic resources, as well as agricultural and livestock products. To date, China has 50 IPR protection centers, including those under construction, nationwide. The centers' establishment is part of China's continuous efforts to strengthen IPR protection. Sin.... [Read more](#)*

## 14. IPOPHL partners with International Trademark Association for heightened anti-counterfeiting drive

**THE ONGOING  
EFFORTS AT THE  
LEGISLATIVE TO  
AMEND ITS 1997 IP  
CODE**

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*The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) has inked a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the International Trademark Association (INTA) to fight counterfeiting by improving the capacities and awareness of the youth, businesses, online platforms and national authorities. The MOU was signed by IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba and INTA President Tiki Dare through a virtual ceremony last June 22. "We are thankful to INTA for always standing with IPOPHL in the past years. But today, we elevate our collaborative relations to a more solid partnership where we will be pursuing a multi-pronged strategy on capacity building, awareness, and global dialogue," IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba said. Under... [Read more](#)*

## 15. Hague System: In Focus – The International Designs Bulletin

**HAGUE  
SYSTEM'S  
INTERNATIONAL  
DESIGNS BULLETIN &  
MULTIPLE  
FUNCTIONS**

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*Novelty is an essential requirement of design protection – your own designs cannot infringe on those that are already subject of protection.*

*It is essential therefore that you keep abreast of not just existing but also newly registered designs if you are seeking protection – no mean feat with so many new designs hitting the market all the time.*

*Did you know that through the Hague System's International Designs Bulletin you have instant access to the bibliographic data and reproductions of all the latest designs published in a given week within new international registrations? You can also find information on renewed, modified and expired inter... [Read more](#)*

## 16. European Cooperation: The Estonian Patent Office (EPA) implements the Common Tools Integration (CTI)

**EUIPO & EPA TO  
CONNECT CTI TO THE  
IP REGISTER IN  
BLOCKCHAIN**

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*On 13 May the Estonian Patent Office (EPA) implemented the Common Tools Integration (CTI) tool as part of the 'Major Improvements to TMview and DesignView' project.*

*The main purpose of CTI is to update TMview and DesignView with the latest changes to IP rights in the implementing office. CTI includes a Data Quality Validator module featuring a series of intuitive dashboards that provide a real-time view of the data quality of trade marks and designs in the IP office. This allows IP offices to take a more proactive role in improving the data quality of their registrations, and in turn, those in TMview and DesignView. The EUIPO now continues the joint effort with EPA to connect CTI to the IP Register in Blockchain and inc... [Read more](#)*

## 17. EUIPO - New: improved online form for designs

**AFTER REGISTERING  
THEIR IP RIGHTS, 54 %  
OF OWNERS CLAIM TO  
HAVE SEEN A POSITIVE  
IMPACT**

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*As part of our drive to modernise the EUIPO's online services, we have made several enhancements to the online application form for registered Community designs (RCD). Most of these improvements follow up on suggestions made by our customers to improve the user experience at the time of filing, including additional guidance to avoid possible deficiencies during the examination of the application. This is one of many initiatives within the 2025 Strategic Plan that the EUIPO is undertaking in order to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SME). In this context designs are a powerful driver for growth, as reported in the latest Intellectual Property SME Scoreboard. According to the study, after registering their IP rights, 54 % of... [Read more](#)*

## 18. TIPO Announced the Updated Version of the Requirements for Design Patents' Descriptions and Drawings

**TIPO ADDED  
INSTRUCTIONS AND  
EXAMPLES ON  
WRITING  
DESCRIPTIONS AND  
DRAWINGS**

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*To be in line with the "Substantive Examination Guidelines for Design Patents" amended last year (2020), TIPO has comprehensively updated the "Requirements for Design Patents' Descriptions and Drawings" as well as especially adding examples to make the content clearer and easier to understand. The key revisions are as follows: Added a specific section of "Instructions for Writing Descriptions" to help applicants to write descriptions according to relevant drawings.*

*Revised instructions and examples on writing descriptions and drawings for "Graphical Designs". Added instructions and examples on writing descriptions and drawings for "Spatial Design" (including constructions and interior desi... [Read more](#)*

## 19. Users meet to discuss EPO Guidelines and agree to extend public consultation

**DISCUSSING THE  
GUIDELINES FOR  
EXAMINATION IN THE  
EPO AND THE  
GUIDELINES FOR SEARCH  
AND EXAMINATION AT  
THE EPO AS PCT  
AUTHORITY**

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*The SACEPO Working Party on Guidelines held its 21st meeting on 20 May, discussing the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO (EPC Guidelines) and the Guidelines for Search and Examination at the EPO as PCT Authority (PCT-EPO Guidelines). It was the first meeting of the working party in its new composition, now also including members of the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), the Union of European Practitioners in Intellectual Property (UNION-IP) and the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI). The SACEPO Working Party on Guidelines meets at least twice a year to discuss practice at the EPO as described in... [Read more](#)*

## 20. EAPO Receives the First Eurasian Industrial Design Application

**NEW REGIONAL  
SYSTEM OF LEGAL  
PROTECTION  
OF INDUSTRIAL  
DESIGNS**

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*On June 1, 2021, the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) held a ceremony symbolizing the launch of the Eurasian system of legal protection of industrial designs. The first Eurasian design application was submitted on behalf of the Russian Federation by the Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities. In accordance with the requirements of the legislation of the Russian Federation, the Eurasian application was filed through the national patent office – the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent). The President of the EAPO Saule Tlevlessova, the delegation of Rospatent headed by Grigory Ivliev, representatives of the structural divisions of the EAPO took part in the ceremony. On behalf of the Eurasian Patent Org... [Read more](#)*

## 21. Adding EP Register data to the EPO worldwide legal event database (INPADOC)

**THE EPO IS  
USEFUL FOR  
ADVANCED PATENT  
INFORMATION USERS  
& PROFESSIONALS**

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*The main source of EP procedural data for the INPADOC database has until now been EP bibliographic data (EBD), which contains the information referred to in Rule 143 EPC. However, EBD does not include all procedural data related to EP applications and grant proceedings and so, for example, data on appeals and third-party observations has not been available in INPADOC. To meet the growing demand for EP procedural data in INPADOC, the EPO has begun integrating more and more of this data into the database. To facilitate this, INPADOC will now draw on the same source of EP procedural data as the European Patent Register and the related bulk data set. For co... [Read more](#)*

## 22. MYIPO Trademarks Act 2019 Practice Direction No. 2/2020 (VA2-2021)

**IN VIEW OF THE  
GLOBAL PANDEMIC  
COVID '19**

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*THIS PRACTICE DIRECTION is issued in the exercise of the power conferred upon the Registrar of Trademarks by sections 160 and 183 of the Trademarks Act 2019 [Act 815] and in view of the global pandemic COVID '19 that is currently taking place in Malaysia.*

*PART I- Preliminary: Citation, effective date and scope;*

- (1) This practice direction may be cited as the Practice Direction No. 2/2020;*
- (2) The variation made to the Practice Direction No. 2/2020 shall be effective on 1 June 2021 until further notice by the Registrar of Trademarks.*
- (3) This Practice Direction No. 2/2020 sets out the.... [Read more](#)*

## 23. ARIPO - Adoption of a Protocol on Voluntary Registration of Copyright and Related Rights

**THE CERTIFICATE  
CAN BE USED AS A  
PRIMA FACIE  
EVIDENCE OF  
OWNERSHIP**

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*By Bemanya Twebaze, Director General of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization;*

*The African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), with support of the Government of Uganda through the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) is organizing a Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Draft Protocol on Voluntary Registration of Copyright and Related Rights to take place at the Speke Resort Munyonyo, in Kampala, Uganda from the 23rd to the 24th of July 2021. The Protocol will establish a regional voluntary registration of Copyright and Related Rights, create and maintain a Regional Database for Copyright and... [Read more](#)*

## 24. Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications

**CMS - THE NEW  
WEB BASED FILING  
SERVICE, "ONLINE  
FILING 2.0"**

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*Ministry of Economy, Department for Intellectual Property (Montenegro) to begin receiving and processing international applications in electronic form;*

*The Ministry of Economy, Department for Intellectual Property (Montenegro), in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau (IB) under PCT Rules 89bis.1(d) and 89bis.2 that, with effect from 1 August 2021, it will be prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form. The Office will accept international applications filed in electronic form using ePCT-Filing. The applicable electronic filing fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees are indicated in Fee Table I(a). The notification containing the requi... [Read more](#)*