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1. CHINA: Draft Geographical Indications Guidelines

CNIPA OFFERED AN INVITATION TO COMMENT ON ITS NEWLY DRAFTED "GUIDELINES REGARDING THE RULING OF GENERIC NAMES..

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From March 5 to May 9, 2020, China's National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) offered an invitation to comment on its newly drafted "Guidelines Regarding the Ruling of Generic Names in the Protection of Geographical Indication" (the Guidelines). The succinctly drafted Guidelines have only 10 articles, the key terms being in Articles 3 and 7. Article 3 defines "generic name" as a name which "has been commonly used in China, although it is related to the place, region or country where a product was originally produced or sold. That name is used in China to refer to specific production methods, specific standards, specific quality, specific types or specific categories of products." And according to Article 7, when determining wh... [Read more](#)

2. WIPO Launches Tool to Track IP Policy Information in Member States during COVID-19 Pandemic

WIPO ANNOUNCED IN A PRESS RELEASE THAT IT HAS LAUNCHED A NEW TOOL THAT TRACKS COVID-19 RELATED IP POLICY CHANGES..

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GENEVA – The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) announced in a press release that it has launched a new tool that tracks COVID-19 related intellectual property (IP) policy changes or other measures being implemented by WIPO member states in their response to the global pandemic. This is the latest in a series of measures taken by the Organization in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. "The COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker is an information repository that will help all stakeholders navigate changes implemented by the worldwide IP community as it adjusts to the COVID-19 pandemic," said WIPO Director General Francis Gurry. "With our mandate to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system, it is natural for.... [Read more](#)

3. Establishing patent foundation– TIPO carries out an exchange and cooperation program with College of Design, National Taiwan University of Technology

**TIPO CARRIES OUT
AN EXCHANGE AND
COOPERATION
PROGRAM WITH
COLLEGE OF DESIGN,
NTUST**

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To facilitate exchange between the academia and TIPO regarding theory and patent practices in the field of design, and strengthen IPR protection in Taiwan, this year, for the first time, TIPO carries out a one-year program with College of Design, National Taiwan University of Technology, sending patent examiners to the campus to discuss patent matters with teachers and students. Through the program, patent examiners will exchange views with industry experts, professors and students in class, learn about upcoming design trends together, and provide IPR consultation services. Through such experimental interaction and co-learning, TIPO looks forward to mapping out policies of design pro... [Read more](#)

4. Fees for certain extensions of time during the COVID-19 pandemic requested between 1 June and 30 June 2020

**FEES FOR CERTAIN
EXTENSIONS OF TIME
DURING THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC REQUESTED
BETWEEN 1 JUNE AND
30 JUNE 2020**

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Fees for certain extensions of time during the COVID-19 pandemic requested between 1 June and 30 June 2020. The Deputy Director-General of IP Australia has, on 25 May 2020, issued the following documents:

- [An exemption from certain extension of time fees for patents](#)
- [A dispensation from the requirement to pay certain extension of time fees for trade marks](#)
- [An exemption from certain extension of time fees for designs](#)

These documents provide that fees will not apply to some extensions of time during the COVID-19 pandemic requested in the period 1 June to 30 June 2020. For requests filed... [Read more](#)

5. COVID-19 Update: Madrid System

**WIPO IS
CONTINUING
OPERATIONS UNDER THE
MADRID SYSTEM FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL
REGISTRATION OF
MARKS**

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The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is continuing operations under the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks. We are committed to ensuring that any transitional issues experienced by users, intellectual property (IP) offices and any other stakeholders in our processes are kept to a minimum despite these extenuating circumstances. You can monitor WIPO's operations during the COVID-19 pandemic using the Organization's online dashboard. We are mindful that possible disruptions might affect users of the Madrid System due to measures taken against the COVID-19 outbreak. Consequently, we have compiled all relev... [Read more](#)

6. USPTO announces COVID-19 Prioritized Examination Pilot Program for small and micro entities

**USPTO TODAY
ANNOUNCED A NEW
COVID-19 PRIORITIZED
EXAMINATION PILOT
PROGRAM**

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WASHINGTON — The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today announced a new COVID-19 Prioritized Examination Pilot Program. Under this new pilot program, the USPTO will grant requests for prioritized examination to patent applicants that qualify for small or micro entity status without payment of the typical fees associated with other prioritized examination. In addition, the USPTO will endeavor to reach final disposition of applications in this program within six months if applicants respond promptly to communications from the USPTO. "Independent inventors and small businesses are often the difference makers when it comes to cutting-edge innovation and the growth of our economy," said Andrei Iancu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of... [Read more](#)

7. USPTO to allow filing of initial patent term extension applications via patent electronic filing systems in response to the COVID-19 outbreak

**RELIEF AVAILABLE
TO PATENTEES IN VIEW
OF THE COVID-19
OUTBREAK FOR
SUBMISSION OF INITIAL
PATENT TERM EXTENSIO.**

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) considers the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak to be an "extraordinary situation" within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.183. In accordance with this notice, the USPTO will permit patentees to file initial patent term extension applications that meet certain criteria via EFS-Web or Patent Center. According to the "Legal Framework for Patent Electronic System" (<https://www.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/filing-online/legal-framework-efs-web>), certain documents are prohibited from being filed via the USPTO patent electronic filing systems. See section B2 of the "Legal Framework for Patent Electronic System" for the full list of doc... [Read more](#)

8. EPO member states discuss co-operation and Covid-19 response at first virtual annual meeting

**EPO MEMBER
STATES DISCUSS CO-
OPERATION AND COVID-
19 RESPONSE AT FIRST
VIRTUAL ANNUAL
MEETING**

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Last week representatives of the EPO's member states, and two future member states discussed their co-operation and how to best serve Europe's innovators during the current crisis at their 14th annual meeting on co-operation. In his opening address at the conference, which for the first time took the form of a virtual meeting, EPO President António Campinos highlighted the importance of close co-operation in times of unprecedented challenges: "Common challenges need common solutions. It's the very raison d'etre of this organisation. This is a test that we can face, and overcome, together. IP and patents, and IP-intensive industries, have a central role to play in Europe's rec... [Read more](#)

9. Singaporean Daren Tang Officially Appointed as the Next WIPO Director General

**DAREN TANG,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE
IPOS HAS BEEN
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED
AS THE NEXT DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF THE WIPO**

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Singapore, 8 May 2020 – Mr Daren Tang, Chief Executive of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) has been officially appointed as the next Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). WIPO is a specialised United Nations (UN) agency based in Geneva, Switzerland, with 193 member states and an annual revenue in excess of S\$600 million. Mr Tang will take over the helm of WIPO on 1 October 2020 for a term of six years. This marks the first time a Singaporean will lead a UN agency, and WIPO's first Director General from Asia. 2. In his acceptance speech (<https://youtu.be/HQsU9Wrmnro>), Mr Tang thanked all member states for their support and.. [Read more](#)

10. Changes in PCT Fees 1 June 2020

**PCT ASSEMBLY AT
ITS FORTIETH SESSION,
NEW EQUIVALENT
AMOUNTS IN AUD WILL
BE ESTABLISHED WITH
EFFECT FROM 1 JUNE
2020**

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In accordance with the directives adopted by the PCT Assembly at its Fortieth Session (held from September 22 to October 1, 2009), new equivalent amounts in AUD will be established with effect from 1 June 2020.

International PCT Fees :-

1. Transmittal Fee - \$200
2. International Search Fee - \$2200
3. International Filing Fee - \$2356

If the application contains 30 Pages or less including the request form E-filing reductions-

Electronic filings filed in PDF format via ePCT - \$354

Electronic filings filed in XML format via ePCT - \$531... [Read more](#)

11. Artificial Intelligence Symposium Recordings Available Online

**USCO HAS POSTED
VIDEOS OF ITS FEB. 2020
SYMPOSIUM ON
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE, CO-
SPONSORED BY THE
WIPO**

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The United States Copyright Office has posted videos of its February 2020 symposium on artificial intelligence, co-sponsored by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Copyright in the Age of Artificial Intelligence featured an international gathering of expert panelists taking an in-depth look at how copyright and artificial intelligence intersect. Speakers addressed a range of issues, including the administration of international copyright systems, the creation of visual arts, music, and other creative forms, and the development of consumer goods and services. Speakers also focused on bias in the selection of input data and digital avatars in audiovisual works... [Read more](#)

12. USPTO grants further relief for certain patent-related fees and deadlines

**USPTO GRANTS
FURTHER RELIEF FOR
CERTAIN PATENT-
RELATED FEES AND
DEADLINES**

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In accordance with the temporary authority provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today further extended the time to file certain patent-related documents and to pay certain required fees. The USPTO has already extended various deadlines twice, with the latest extension expiring at the end of this month. However, the USPTO recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impose various hardships, especially on small businesses and individual inventors. Accordingly, as stakeholders continue to navigate the effects of the pandemic in various ways, and as more and more of them are resuming operations, the USPTO will again extend... [Read more](#)

13.COVID-19 Delay in JPO's Sending Notifications Due to Temporary Suspension of Acceptance of International Mails at Japan Post

DUE TO THE GLOBAL SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN MANY COUNTRIES/REGIONS SUCH AS TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ..

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1. *Due to the global spread of the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), measures have been taken in many countries/regions, such as temporary suspension of accepting international mail items. As a result, international mail items being sent from Japan to some countries have been suspended at the Japan Post from April 2nd, 2020*1. (Please note that depending on the individual circumstances, the acceptance of international mail may be additionally suspended in the future to countries whose mail items are currently being accepted.)*

2. *In this regard, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) announces that the international mail service suspension stated above... [Read more](#)*

14.New patent visualisations on the latest COVID-19 technology

IP AUSTRALIA, WE'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT HOW TO PIVOT OUR TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE TO HELP FIGHT THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

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At IP Australia, we've been thinking about how to pivot our technical and scientific expertise to help fight the global pandemic. Today we are pleased to release a package of patent information products to help researchers and decision-makers identify know-how, supply and manufacturing capability in the COVID-19 pandemic. Six interactive visualisations on ventilators, masks, surgical gowns and goggles, vaccines, repurposed drugs and medical diagnostics allow users to 'drill down' into the data and quickly identify applicants in specific technologies and different countries across the world. The interactive visualisations include links to full details of each patent. The pack... [Read more](#)