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1. Egypt joins TMclass

**EGYPT (TIDO)
JOINS TMCLASS WITH
GOODS AND SERVICES
IN ARABIC**

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As of 17 May 2021, the Trademarks and Industrial Designs Office of Egypt (TIDO) joins TMclass with goods and services in Arabic. This latest addition of TIDO brings the total number of national and regional IP offices in the tool, including ARIPO, OAPI, WIPO and EUIPO, to 82.

TMclass offers users the opportunity to search and translate goods and services to and from any of the 44 available languages available as well as to verify the correct classification of terms according to Nice. The integration of TIDO in TMclass is a concrete result of the EU funded project called Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) Action for Africa (AfrIPI), which is directed by the European Commission and executed by the... [Read more](#)

2. Hague System: Declarations from new Hague Member, Belarus

**ENTER INTO
FORCE IN BELARUS ON
JULY 19, 2021**

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Following the deposit of its instrument of accession to the 1999 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement on April 19, 2021, the Government of Belarus has made the following declarations:

1. Accession to the 1999 Act: Belarus : On April 19, 2021, the Government of Belarus deposited with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) its instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs ("1999 Act").

2. The instrument of accession from Belarus contained the following declarations:

- the declaration referred to in Article 4(1)(b) of the 1999 Act, whereby international applications may not be filed... [Read more](#)

3. China joins TMview

**NOW TM
DATA AVAILABLE TO
THE TMVIEW
SEARCH TOOL**

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As of 19 May 2021, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) has made its trade mark data available to the TMview search tool. With CNIPA on board of TMview, the tool now contains data from 75 participating offices. With the addition of more than 32 million trade marks from CNIPA, TMview now provides information and access to more than 96,4 million trade marks in total. Since the introduction of TMview on 13 April 2010, the tool has served more than 81 million searches from users worldwide, with United States, Spain, Germany, Italy and China among the most frequent visitors. The integration of CNIPA in TMview has been possible thanks to the support of IP Key China, an EU-funded project that promotes intellectual ... [Read more](#)

4. 1 June 2021: Update to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) fees

**PATENT
COOPERATION
TREATY (PCT) FEES
CHANGED FROM 1ST
JUNE 2021.**

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The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) fees changed on 1 June 2021 and is now as follows.

Transmittal Fee:

£75

Search Fee:

£1,526

International Fee:

for the first 30 sheets: £1,028

for each sheet over 30: £12

Restoration for Restoration of Priority: £150

Reductions for E – FILING

electronic filing (not being in character coded form... [Read more](#)

5. Albania joins DESIGN Class

**GDIP IS PART OF
DESIGNCLASS AND
WILL USE & ACCEPT
THE LIST OF TERMS
FROM HDBPI**

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As of 31 May 2021, the General Directorate of Industrial Property of Albania (GDIP) is part of DESIGNclass and will use and accept the list of terms from the harmonised database of product indications (HDBPI). Following the decision of the GDIP to use HDBPI, there are now fourteen (14) non-EU IP offices in DESIGNclass that use and accept terms from this harmonised database. The last addition of GDIP in DESIGNclass brings the total number of participating IP offices to 41. The adoption of HDBPI by the GDIP is a concrete result of the International Cooperation programme managed by the EUIPO in collaboration with its international partners. DESIGNclass offers users the opportunity to search and translate product indicat... [Read more](#)

6. INTA Board Approves New Guidelines for Examination of Industrial Designs

**NEW
GUIDELINES
STRENGTHEN INTA'S
ADVOCACY ON
DESIGN RIGHTS**

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INTA's Board of Directors on May 4 approved a resolution to adopt an updated version of the Association's Guidelines for Examination of Industrial Designs. The new Guidelines strengthen INTA's advocacy on design rights and further its overarching objectives of promoting harmonization of intellectual property (IP) practice worldwide. The new Guidelines supersede those that INTA initially adopted November 6, 2018. INTA's 2020-2021 Designs Committee had reviewed that first edition and recommended the revisions. The Guidelines for Examination of Industrial Designs provide general guidance on a diverse range of issues related to the examination of applications for industrial designs. They serve as the baseline standard for... [Read more](#)

7. USPTO updates China IPR toolkit

**TO REFLECT THE
RECENT CHANGES
MADE TO CHINA'S
IP LAWS**

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) recently updated the China Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) toolkit to reflect the recent changes made to China's intellectual property (IP)-related laws and government structure. Originally published in October 2019, the toolkit provides general guidance for businesses and practitioners in better understanding the basics of the IP landscape in China. Published in May 2021, the updated China IPR toolkit highlights the differences between the U.S. and Chinese IP rights legal systems. The USPTO is one of 16 agencies and bureaus participating in STOPfakes.gov—a one-stop shop for free U.S. government tools and resources on protecting and enforcing IP rights internationally. The China IPR... [Read more](#)

8. European cooperation: TMview visual search extended to all EU IP offices with the integration of Latvia

**VISUAL SEARCH
CAN BE ACCESSED BY
CLICKING ON THE
CAMERA ICON IN THE
SEARCH BAR**

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As of 20 May 2021, the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia (LRPV) has made its trade mark images available in TMview. The images have been added to the visual search tool within TMview, which allows users to search for trade mark images from the integrated countries. TMview's visual search can be accessed by clicking on the camera icon in the search bar. With the incorporation of the LRPV, all intellectual property offices in the European Union have included their trade mark images in TMview. Since 2017, when the first image search facility was implemented in TMview, the EU intellectual property offices have gradually incorporated this capability into their search facilities. The extended visual search in TMview is a result of... [Read more](#)

9. Oral proceedings in examination moving to Zoom

**EPO PLANS TO
TRANSITION AWAY
FROM SKYPE FOR
BUSINESS**

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From this autumn the EPO intends to hold oral proceedings (OPs) in examination by Zoom. This follows the positive experience gained in recent months from opposition OPs held via Zoom (over 1400 so far in 2021). As part of the overall modernisation of its communications infrastructure the EPO plans to transition away from Skype for Business by the end of this year. Testing of Zoom for OPs in examination has already started through ad hoc conversion of OPs by Skype for Business with the agreement of the applicant and/or representative. In the coming weeks users may notice that summonses to examination OPs scheduled for the autumn no longer specify the videoconference (VICO) platform to be used - this will be clarified closer to the date of... [Read more](#)

10. The EAEU countries started implementation of the Treaty on Trademarks and AOs

**ARTICLE 25
OF THE
AGREEMENT HAS
BEEN APPROVED**

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On 18 May 2021, the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved the Instruction to the Treaty on Trademarks, Service Marks and Appellations of Origin of Goods of the Eurasian Economic Union (entered into force on 26 April 2021). The Instruction was drafted with the participation of representatives of the national patent offices of the EAEU countries and regulates procedures related to the registration and legal protection of regional trademarks and appellations of origin of the EAEU. At the same time, a list of legally significant actions and fee rates for such actions, as provided for in article 25 of the Agreement, has been approved. On the basis of this list, the EAEU countries will establish the relevant fees in their... [Read more](#)

11. The Gambia ratifies the Banjul Protocol on Marks

**IT'S BRINGS
THE NUMBER OF
MEMBER STATES TO
THE PROTOCOL TO
TWELVE (12)**

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The Government of the Republic of The Gambia deposited its Instrument of Ratification to the Banjul Protocol on Marks with the Director General of ARIPO on 3 May 2021.

In accordance with the provisions of the Protocol, the latter will enter into force, with respect to the Republic of The Gambia, on 3 August, 2021.

Pursuant to the above, with effect from 3 August 2021, The Gambia will be eligible for designation for applicants under the Banjul Protocol.

The Ratification of the Banjul Protocol by the Republic of The Gambia brings the number of Member States party to the Protocol to twelve (12)... [Read more](#)

12. ATMS as the Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks

**IT'S CEASE
TO PRODUCING
THE DAILY PDF COPY
OF THE OFFICIAL
JOURNAL.**

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Australia - *Under the Trade Marks Act 1995, the Registrar is required to advertise the outcomes, actions and status points of applications. These advertisements currently take place in the Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks via a daily publication of a PDF version of the Official Journal of Trade Marks, available on the IP Australia website. Noting that all relevant information is published and searchable via the Australian Trade Mark Search (ATMS) database, we have decided to cease producing the daily PDF copy of the Official Journal. The ATMS database will function as the Official Journal. ATMS has a greater capacity to provide more information via different search functions and with the inclusion of a new 'Notices' section contains all of the information that is provided in the current PDF form of the Aus... [Read more](#)*

13. IPOPHL-USPTO renew IP cooperation and partnership

**ENHANCED ITS
TERMS OF SUPPORT
IN IMPROVING IP
PROTECTION &
ENFORCEMENT**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) recently renewed its partnership under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and enhanced its terms of support in improving intellectual property (IP) protection and enforcement in both home countries.

The MOU was officially renewed with the completed signing of IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba and USPTO Acting Director Drew Hirshfeld last May 5, 2021.

*The areas of cooperation covered by the MOU are on: **1.** Training and capacity building to enhance office administration, human resource development, patent and trademark exam... [Read more](#)*

14. No compulsory licensing for Remdesivir, Tocilizumab

**HEALTH MINISTRY
HAS WORKED OUT
TO PRODUCE 1 CRORE
VIALS OF REMDESIVIR
P/M**

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The affidavit said the health ministry has worked out an estimated requirement of 1 crore vials of Remdesivir per month in case the situation of new active cases continues at the present level. The central government may not exercise the provisions under the Patents Act to issue compulsory licenses to generic pharmaceutical companies for manufacturing of low cost versions of COVID-19 medicines like Remdesivir and Tocilizumab. In an affidavit submitted before the Supreme Court in response to SC's observations that the central government can consider using its powers under Sections 92, 100 or 102 of the Patents Act to increase production of essential drugs to ensure that it is commensurate to the demand, the government said the move may be counterproductive at the moment. The ava... [Read more](#)

15. USPTO Implementing Trademark Modernization Act

**THE PUBLIC HAS
UNTIL JULY 19, 2021,
TO COMMENT ON
THE PROPOSED
RULES**

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) proposes to amend the rules of practice in trademark cases to implement provisions of the Trademark Modernization Act of 2020. The proposed rule establishes ex parte expungement and reexamination proceedings for cancellation of a registration when the required use in commerce of the registered mark has not been made; provides for a new nonuse ground for cancellation before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board; establishes flexible Office action response periods; and amends the existing letter-of-protest rule to indicate that letter-of-protest determinations are final and non-reviewable. The USPTO also proposes to set fees for petitions requesting institution of ex parte expungement and... [Read more](#)

16. CGPD TM Public Notice regarding Extensions for Timelines

**DEADLINES
FALLING
DUE AFTER 15.03.2020
ARE EXTENDED**

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Whereas, by Order dated 27.04.2021 in the matter of Miscellaneous Application No. 665/2021 in SMW(C) No. 3/2020, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India restored its Order dated 23.03.2020 and in continuation of its Order dated 08.03.2021 (both in the matter of Sua Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No. 3 of 2020) directed that the period(s) of limitation, as prescribed under any general or special laws in respect of all judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings, whether condonable or not, shall stand extended till further orders to minimise the hardship to litigant-public. Therefore, it is hereby notified to all the stakeholders that the Public Notice dated 24.03.2021 stand withdrawn and timelines/periods for the completion of various acts/proceedings, filing of any reply/document, evidences, payment of... [Read more](#)