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1. IPONZ has recently Updates to hearings guidelines

**MATTERS
RELATING
TO TRADE MARK
AND PATENT
PROCEEDINGS**

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IPONZ has recently updated a number of guidelines relating to trade mark and patent proceedings. Following recent reviews and technical focus group discussions, our Hearings Office has updated a number of guidelines and practices.

Implementation of use of electronic bundles at hearings -
We have begun to transition towards the use of electronic bundles in hearings. This will gradually replace the current practice of requiring all parties to file hard copies of the bundle in advance of their hearing.

Our trade mark pre-hearing directions have been updated to reflect this move, and provide more guidance in relation to our Hearings Office's requirements for electronic bundles... [Read more](#)

2. IPOPHL adopts new search techniques to ensure novelty of innovations

**THESE ARE UPSKILL
PATENT EXAMINERS &
ENABLE IPOPHL TO
PERFORM ITS DUTIES
AS ISA/IPEA**

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Over 100 patent examiners from the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) were recently trained to keep in step with new search techniques adopted in certain scientific literature databases, ensuring the novelty of innovations approved for intellectual property (IP) protection by the Office. The webinars, held August 4 to 5, were conducted by the Bureau of Patents (BOP), in coordination with Clarivate Analytics and CAS-American Chemical Society, which respectively maintain the Web of Science (WoS) and the Scientific and Technical information Network (STNNext). The two are databases widely used by the academe for citation review, including intellectual property offices for searching non-patent literature (NPL). NPL is any.. [Read more](#)

3. Namibia joins TMclass

**THIS WILL PRODUCE
CONCRETE RESULT OF
THE EU FUNDED
PROJECT IPRS ACTION
FOR AFRICA**

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As of 13 August 2021, the Namibian Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) will be included in TMclass. BIPA will join with the alphabetical list of the Nice classification. The inclusion of BIPA in TMclass brings the total number of participating national and regional IP offices, including ARIPO, OAPI, WIPO and the EUIPO, to 86. TMclass offers users the opportunity to search for and translate goods and services to and from any of the 44 languages available as well as verifying the terms' correct classification under the Nice classification. The incorporation of BIPA 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.. [Read more](#)

4. In a world first, South Africa accords patent to an artificial intelligence system

**INCREASE
INNOVATION TO
SOLVE THE COUNTRY'S
SOCIO-ECONOMIC
ISSUES**

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The innovation in question involves interlocking food containers that are easy for robots to grasp and stack. At first glance, a recently granted South African patent relating to a "food container based on fractal geometry" seems fairly mundane. The innovation in question involves interlocking food containers that are easy for robots to grasp and stack. On closer inspection, the patent is anything but mundane. That's because the inventor is not a human being – it is an artificial intelligence (AI) system called DABUS. DABUS (which stands for "device for the autonomous bootstrapping of unified sentience") is an AI system created by Stephen Thaler, a pioneer in the field of AI and programming. The system simulates human brains... [Read more](#)

5. Extraordinary Meeting of the EAPO Administrative Council

**POWERS OF NEW
PRESIDENT SHOULD
COME INTO FORCE ON
FEBRUARY 11, 2022**

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The Administrative Council of the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO AC) held its thirty-eighth (eleventh extraordinary) session at EAPO's headquarters on August 9 – 10, 2021. The attending delegations represented all EAPC Contracting States, as well as the delegation of the Eurasian Patent Office headed by President Saule Tlevlessova. EAPO AC Chairman Mirzo Ismoilzoda, plenipotentiary representative of the Republic of Tajikistan, led the meeting. The main issue on the agenda of the extraordinary session of the EAPO AC was the election of the EAPO President. Candidates for appointment to the post of President of the EAPO were presented by the plenipotentiaries of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian... [Read more](#)

6. IPOPHL adopts EU trademark database, ensuring certainty and ease in application

**IPOPHL IS THE 17TH IP
OFFICE OUTSIDE THE EU
& 85TH OUT OF ALL
NATIONAL AND
REGIONAL IP OFFICES IN
THE WORLD TO USE THE
HDB**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines' (IPOPHL) online trademark filing tool is now using the European Union's (EU) harmonized database of goods and services (HDB), currently the largest multilingual trademark classification database in the world. The HDB contains over 78,000 terms which users can choose from when indicating the nature of the goods and services for which the mark is sought. All terms in the HDB are automatically approved by all trademark offices in the EU. Describing the goods and services associated to a trademark is a critical step in application. This will set the limits of the trademark protection sought for and help IP offices determine whether a mark has confusingly similarity with another in the... [Read more](#)

7. New Industrial Property Law in the UAE

**WILL ENTER INTO
FORCE FROM THIS
DECEMBER**

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DUBAI - The Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has issued Federal Law No. (11) of 2021 replacing the previous Industrial Property Law No. (31) of 2006 on Regulation and Protection of Industrial Property of Patents, Industrial Drawings and Designs.

The new law applies to patents, utility models, industrial designs and trade secrets in the UAE, and aims to protect industrial property and regulate the procedures of registration, use, exploitation, and assignment, to ensure support for knowledge and innovation in the UAE. The new law was published in the official gazette number (703 - Annex) on May 31, 2021, and will enter into force six months after the date of publi... [Read more](#)

8. The National Seminar on the Standard Copyright Protection held in Beijing

**THE NATIONAL
STANDARD COPYRIGHT
PROTECTION BE
STIPULATED IN THE
COPYRIGHT LAW AND
OTHER LAWS AND
REGULATIONS**

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Recently, the National Seminar on the Standard Copyright Protection was held in Beijing. The seminar was guided by the Standard Innovation Management Department of the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and hosted by China Quality and Standards Publishing & Media Co., Ltd. (Standards Press of China). Officials from the Office of the National Leading Group on the Fight against IPR Infringement and Counterfeiting (thereinafter shortened as the Office of the National Leading Group), the Science and Technology Information Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security, and the Standard Innovation Management Department, the Standard Technology Management Department and the Dep... [Read more](#)

9. FDA Approves First Interchangeable Biological Product

**SEMGLEE WAS
APPROVED FOR
DISPENSING IN 10 ML
VIALS AND 3 ML PENS
FOR ADMINISTRATION
TWICE DAILY**

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Last week the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved an interchangeable biosimilar to insulin glargine, an approval notable because it is the first approved interchangeable biosimilar product. The product is Semglee (insulin glargine-yfgn), produced by Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and under this approval, it is interchangeable with Lantus (insulin glargine) made by Sanofi. The approval was based on the provisions of the Biological Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009 (BPCIA), enacted with the Affordable Care Act (commonly known as "Obamacare") codified at 42 U.S.C. § 262 et seq. Subsection (k) relates to the standards for biosimilarity; the FDA (and the statute itself) distinguish between biosimilarity and interchan... [Read more](#)

10. WIPO Conference on Intellectual Property in the Digital Economy

**THE CONFERENCE
WILL PROVIDE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO
CONTINUE
DISCUSSION ON IP
AND VIDEOGAMES**

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World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in cooperation with the Romanian Copyright Office (ORDA), State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM) and Romanian American University in Bucharest is organizing Regional Conference on Intellectual Property (IP) in the Digital Economy for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs): Mastering the Game (3.0) on 6 and 7 September, online and in Bucharest. The Conference's Program is attached. The Conference will provide an opportunity to continue discussion on IP and videogames in Central European, Baltic and Mediterranean Countries, and also to present new tools which can enhance strategic use of IP by videogame developers, producers and consumers. Conference will be org... [Read more](#)

11. Banjul Protocol on Marks now effective in The Gambia

THE NATIONALS AND RESIDENTS ARE ENTITLED, AS OF 3 AUGUST 2021, TO FILE MARK APPLICATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THE ARIPO OFFICE

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Effective today, 3 August 2021, the Banjul Protocol is now effective in The Gambia, making it the 12th contracting State of the Banjul Protocol. The Gambia can now be designated in any ARIPO mark application under the Protocol.

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.

Furthermore, The Gambia nationals and residents are entitled, as of 3 August 2021, to file mark applications directly with the ARIPO Office if they so wish. [Read more](#)

12. KIPO's New "Tech Police" Exclusively Dedicated to Preventing Technology Leakage and Infringement

"TECH POLICE" WILL ALLOW INVESTIGATION TO BE FOCUSED ON CASES OF TECHNOLOGY LEAKAGES OVERSEAS

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KIPO's New "Tech Police" Exclusively Dedicated to Preventing Technology Leakage and Infringement -An organizational restructuring to newly create the Technology & Design Police Division- The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) Commissioner Yong Rae Kim announced the official formation of a separate special judicial police (SJP) group at KIPO solely devoted to preventing the leakage and infringement of key technologies that are core to national industrial competitiveness. - KIPO recently carried out a restructuring with the purpose of expanding the former "Intellectual Property Investigation Division" and allowing concentrated investigations according to specific areas of intellectual property. A separate... [Read more](#)

13. Russia and Uganda sign an agreement on IP protection in bilateral military-technical cooperation

**THE AGREEMENT IS
AIMED AT
SAFEGUARDING THE
RIGHTS AND INTERESTS
OF THE PARTY STATES,
COMPANIES ENGAGED
IN MILITARY-TECHNICAL**

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On August 23, 2021, on the premises of Rospatent the Head of Rospatent Grigory Ivliev and the Ambassador of the Republic of Uganda to the Russian Federation Olva Johnson Agara signed the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Uganda on Mutual Protection of the Results of Intellectual Activity and Intellectual Property Protection in the Course of Bilateral Military-Technical Cooperation. The Agreement is aimed at safeguarding the rights and interests of the Party States, as well as the companies engaged in military-technical cooperation when it comes to the use of existing IP rights, jointly performed R&D or.. [Read more](#)

14. IPOPHL tops select WIPO efficiency indicators on int'l patent authority operations

**ISA/IPEA REPORTS
FOR THE PCT, WAS ABLE
TO COMPLETE &
TRANSMIT 100% OF ISRS
REQUESTED WITHIN
DEADLINE**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) is one of the top performing international patent authorities in terms of completion and transmittal of international search report (ISRs) to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), according to WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Yearly Review 2021. Based on WIPO's 2020 global data, the review said the Philippines, through IPOPHL, which operates as an international searching authority and international preliminary examining authority (ISA/IPEA) for the PCT, was able to complete and transmit 100% of ISRs requested at its Office (Fig.1), and achieve 100% compliance in the timeliness of transmittal within the prescribed deadline of nine months from priority... [Read more](#)

15. European Cooperation: Malta implements technological improvements in e-Filing and e-Services within the cloud

**SUCCESSFUL
IMPLEMENTATION OF AN
SP FRONT OFFICE
UPGRADE IN AN IP
OFFICE OF THE EU**

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The Commerce Department of the Government of Malta (CD-IPRD), with the support of the EUIPO's European cooperation project ECP1, has improved the electronic services available for its users. It did so by upgrading the technical platform that supports the Maltese (MT) Front Office system and migrating it to the government cloud services. The MT Front Office platform, available via the CD-IPRD website, now allows users to file electronic applications and requests more reliably and securely, and also to benefit from the enhancements of the user experience in some of the components of the user interface. The launch of the improved e-Filing and e-Services at CD-IPRD took... [Read more](#)

16. Agreement on the enhancement of JP-ASEAN IP Cooperation at the Eleventh JP-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting

**JPO WILL CONTINUE
TO PROMOTE
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATIVE
INITIATIVES WITH
OVERSEAS IP OFFICES**

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On August 2, 2021, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the intellectual property (IP) offices of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States held the Eleventh Japan-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting via video conference. At this meeting, participants agreed on the FY2021 Japan-ASEAN IP Rights Action Plan. Additionally, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) presented a full report of their study on patent examination practices of AI inventions at the individual IP offices of ASEAN Member States. JPO will continue to promote further international cooperative initiatives with overseas IP offices. Please refer to the press release titled "Enhancement of Japan-ASEAN IP Cooperation (External link)" for... [Read more](#)