

# SABA *bulletin*

June 2012 issue

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## OMAN NEWS

### FORMAL EXAMINATION BEGINS

The Omani Patent Office has recently started formal examination of all pending patent applications. All applicants are required to bring their files in line with the new formalities which were introduced in February 2010. This procedure comes as a preliminary step for substantive examination which is expected to begin soon.

For your information, the filing requirements of patent applications are as follows:

- 1- 3 copies of the application form in English and in Arabic
- 2- 3 copies of the abstract of the invention in English and in Arabic
- 3- 3 copies of the technical specification and claims of the invention in English and in Arabic
- 4- 3 sets of formal drawings in English and in Arabic
- 5- Electronic copies of items 1 to 4

By way of background, the Omani Patent Office started accepting patent applications in 2005 after the introduction of the official fees schedule (published in Official Gazette no. 805 dated December 17, 2005), which completed Ministerial Decree no. 37 issued earlier on September 10, 2005 regarding the implementing regulations of Patent Law no. 82 of 2000. On May 12, 2008, Oman introduced a new Industrial Property Rights Law by virtue of royal decree no. 67 of 2008, which replaced Law no. 82 of 2000. The regulations imple-

menting Law no. 67 of 2008 came into force in the country on December 17, 2008. Since then, however, the Patent Office was working on its setup in the preparation for implementing the new regulations and so, examination of patent applications was put on hold.

In light of the above, Saba & Co. IP will be reviewing all files in coordination with the Omani Patent Office and will notify clients of any incomplete records. Should you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact us at [oman@sabaip.com](mailto:oman@sabaip.com).

## UAE NEWS

### RECORDAL IN ABU DHABI SOON

Recordal of trademarks is expected to be implemented in the Abu Dhabi Emirate very soon. The filing requirements for the recordal and the recordal period have not been announced yet. Customs recordal in UAE is now available in only three Emirates out of seven: Dubai, Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah. The recordal in the three Emirates is valid for the trademark's protection term, renewable for like periods. The requirements for registering a trademark are as follows:

- 1- Power of attorney, notarized and legalized up to the UAE Consulate.
- 2- Certified copy of the registration certificate of the trademark to be recorded.
- 3- Filing request form.
- 4- An electronic presentation of the

original product to aid the Customs officials in detecting counterfeit products and differentiating them from original ones.

By way of background, the countries of our region which currently offer customs recordal, in addition to the UAE, are Cyprus, Morocco, Sudan, Turkey and Tunisia. It is worth mentioning here that Customs recordal is expected to be implemented in Qatar during the course of this year pursuant to the new Law on Intellectual Property Rights Border Measures.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the subject matter, please contact us at [uae@sabaip.com](mailto:uae@sabaip.com).

## TUNISIA NEWS

### THE SUNRISE PHASE IS APPROACHING

Now that the Sunrise Phase of Arabic domain names in Tunisia is approaching (June 1st to September 28th, 2012), we would like to emphasize on the fact that domain name requests should only be based on trademarks registered / filed in Tunisia in Arabic. In light of this, we believe that the next course of action for applicants interested in domain name registration should be as follows:

1. Identify the Arabic domain names of interest
2. Check whether there is an adequate protection of the Arabic transliteration of the trademarks
3. File the necessary trademark application for the Arabic marks in case not available



4. Register the Arabic domain names in order to prevent any attempts of cyber-squatting.

## ACCESSION TO THE HAGUE AGREEMENT SOON

The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization welcomed the deposit of the instrument of accession of Tunisia to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs on March 13, 2012. The said Treaty will enter into force in the country on June 13, 2012.

The Hague Agreement currently has a total of 60 contracting member states. Member states from our region include: Egypt, Morocco, Oman, OAPI, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

Should you have any inquiries or comments regarding the subject matter, please contact us at [tunisia@sabaip.com](mailto:tunisia@sabaip.com).

## JORDAN NEWS

### CLASS HEADINGS NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE

Pursuant to an official notification issued by the Trademark Office on April 11, 2012, claiming class headings is no longer acceptable. Applicants will no longer be able to file an application claiming the whole class without specifying the

particular goods / services. In other words, the actual language of the goods or services specified in the registration will define the parameters of the scope of protection of a registration. This new decision applies to all new applications. As for pending and not accepted applications, an office action is expected to be

issued at the time of examination in case the list of goods / services claimed requires modification. Applicants will be informed accordingly.

Should you have any questions, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at [jordan@sabaip.com](mailto:jordan@sabaip.com).



# IP Table

## ARABIC DOMAIN NAMES - GENERAL INFORMATION

The table below provides general information on the registration requirements for Arabic domain names in Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Tunisia and the UAE. Other countries are expected to follow during the course of this year.

Country	Top-Level Domain	Registration Requirements	Protection Term	Local Presence
<b>Egypt</b>	.misr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Name and particulars of the applicant</li> <li>- Name and title of the authorized signatory</li> <li>- Power of attorney, notarized</li> <li>- Copy of corresponding certificate of registration, certified</li> </ul>	1 – 5 years depending on the registrar	Required
<b>Jordan</b>	.alordon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Power of attorney, legalized</li> <li>- A copy of the certificate of registration of the trademark.</li> <li>- Copy of certificate of incorporation.</li> <li>- The primary name server and secondary name server and their IP addresses</li> </ul>	2 years, then renewable every year	Not required
<b>Palestine</b>	.falasteen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Copy of the corresponding home registration certificate of the mark, certified.</li> </ul>	To be announced	To be announced
<b>Qatar</b>	.qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The only requirements are the registrant contacts, admin contacts, tech contacts and the DNS/IP details.</li> </ul>	To be announced	Not required
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	.alsauodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Power of attorney, simply signed</li> <li>- A letter addressed to Saudi Network Information Center, completed on applicant's letterhead, simply signed, with company seal</li> <li>- Copy of the corresponding certificate of registration or copy of the corresponding certificate of incorporation or extract from the commercial register</li> </ul>	Unlimited	Required
<b>Tunisia</b>	.tunis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Power of attorney, simply signed by the applicant</li> <li>- A Tunisian application OR a Tunisian registration but in ARABIC language.</li> </ul>	1 year, then renewable every year	Not required
<b>UAE</b>	.emarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Letter of Authorization or power of attorney</li> <li>- Copy of the corresponding certificate of registration</li> </ul>	1 – 5 years	Not required

Please note that Saba & Co IP is ready to handle all Arabic domain name registration requests. Should you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact us on [bulletin@sabaip.com](mailto:bulletin@sabaip.com).



# The Saba Network

## HEAD OFFICE

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: headoffice@sabaip.com

## ALGERIA

Cabinet Boukrami  
In cooperation with Saba & Co. IP  
PO Box 86 Algiers, Algeria  
Tel: +213 (21) 34 11 61  
Fax: +213 (21) 34 11 62  
E-Mail: algeria@sabaip.com

## BAHRAIN

P.O. Box 21013, Manama  
Tel : +973 (17) 210 301  
Fax : +973 (17) 224 699  
E-Mail: bahrain@sabaip.com

## CYPRUS

P.O. Box 21143, 1502 Nicosia  
Tel: +357 (22) 755 434  
Fax: +357 (22) 754 037  
E-Mail: cyprus@sabaip.com

## EGYPT

P.O. Box 129, Mohamed Farid, Cairo  
Tel: + 20 (2) 279 59686  
Fax: + 20 (2) 279 52314  
E-Mail: info@sabaip-eg.com

## GAZA

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: gaza@sabaip.com

## IRAQ

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: iraq@sabaip.com

## JORDAN

P.O. Box 840553, Amman 11184  
Tel : +962 (6) 464 2145  
Fax: +962 (6) 464 2159  
E-Mail: jordan@sabaip.com

## KUWAIT

P.O. Box 1245, 13013 Safat  
Tel: +965 2 242 3428  
Fax: +965 2 240 2243  
E-Mail: kuwait@sabaip.com

## LEBANON

P.O. Box 119420-, Beirut  
Tel : +961 (5) 45 48 40  
Fax: +961 (5) 45 48 42  
E-Mail: lebanon@sabaip.com

## LIBYA

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: libya@sabaip.com

## MOROCCO

P.O. Box 13 921, Casablanca  
Tel : +212 (522) 251 530  
Fax: +212 (22) 251 603  
E-Mail: morocco@sabaip.com

## OMAN

P.O.Box 2027 Ruwi,  
Postal Code 112 Muscat  
Tel: +968 248 111 26  
Fax: +968 248 111 28  
E-Mail: oman@sabaip.com

## QATAR

P.O. Box 14035, Doha  
Tel: +974 (4) 4423992  
Fax: +974 (4) 324 106  
E-Mail: qatar@sabaip.com

## SAUDI ARABIA

Al Hadaf Marks Services LLC  
In Cooperation with Saba & Co. IP  
P.O. Box 61145, Riyadh 11565,  
Saudi Arabia  
Tel. +966 1 2079596  
Fax +966 1 2079598  
E-Mail: saudi@sabaip.com

## SUDAN

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: sudan@sabaip.com

## SYRIA

P.O. Box 460, Damascus  
Tel: +963 (11) 223 6628  
Fax: +963 (11) 222 6280  
E-Mail: syria@sabaip.com

## TUNISIA

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: tunisia@sabaip.com

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

P.O. Box 42259, Dubai  
Tel: +971 (4) 2959 650  
Fax: +971 (4) 2959 651  
E-Mail: uae@sabaip.com

## WEST BANK

P.O. Box 119421- Beirut, Lebanon\*  
Tel: +961 (5) 454 888  
Fax: +961 (5) 454 844  
E-Mail: westbank@sabaip.com

## YEMEN

P.O. Box 1493, Sana'a  
Tel: +967 (1) 420 595  
Fax: +967 (1) 420 596  
E-Mail: yemen@sabaip.com

\* All mail should be dispatched to the Head Office address in Lebanon for proper channeling.

The information contained in this newsletter is intended to provide a brief update of intellectual property news and should not be relied upon as legal advice. Legal or other professional counseling should be sought from the firm's Head Office in Beirut, Lebanon.

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