

BULLETTIN

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SAUDI ARABIA | IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS OF THE COPYRIGHT LAW PUBLISHED



In an effort to encourage the creation of art and culture, the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property recently issued the Implementing Regulations of the Copyright Law. The Implementing Regulations will enter into force on December 23, 2019 and are expected to pave the way to a clearer copyright procurement process.

The Implementing Regulations confirm the present procedures in Saudi Arabia. As such, the Law grants authors and artists the exclusive right to make and sell copies of their works, the right to create derivative works, and the right to perform or display their works publicly. The Implementing Regulations also stipulate that copyright protection extends to computer software and architectural works (e.g., buildings themselves as well as blueprints, drawings, diagrams, and models).

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION FRAMEWORK IN SAUDI ARABIA

| | |
|--|---|
| Member of Berne Convention and TRIPS Agreement | Yes |
| Registration | Possible for nationals as well as foreigners |
| Filing Requirements | 1. Power of attorney, legalized 2. Copy of the work of art |
| Duration | The life of the author plus an additional 50 years |

JORDAN | ENHANCEMENT OF CUSTOMS SECURITY AT AQABA SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

In the scope of the country's continuous efforts to create competent border enforcement measures, Jordan signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Japan to enhance the Customs security at the Aqaba Special Economic Zone.

The MoU provides the authorities concerned with a grant of around US\$15.7 million to update all the X-ray machines used by the Customs officials. The new and improved X-ray machines will allow agents to check for false compartments and smuggling loads tucked into otherwise normal looking vehicles, among other uses.

It is worth noting that Japan and Jordan maintain friendly bilateral relations and economic cooperation since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1954.

Trademark recordals in Jordan are available at two different authorities, the General Customs Department and the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA). The below table lists the documentary requirements for each:

| Recordal with General Customs Department | Recordal with Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power of attorney, legalized• Copy of the registration certificate of the trademark to be recorded• A petition duly executed on behalf of the rights holder• Brochures or images showing how the genuine trademark is being used | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power of attorney, legalized• Copy of the registration certificate of the trademark to be recorded• Application form• Brochures or images showing how the genuine trademark is being used |
| Recordal is valid for the trademark's protection term, renewable for like periods | Recordal is valid for one year, renewable for like periods |



EGYPT | SEEKING TO JOIN THE UPOV AGREEMENT



Egypt recently amended Law no. 82 of 2002 on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in an effort to join the UPOV Agreement and change its status from an observer to an active member.

Accordingly, these amendments to Book Four of the aforementioned Law, which relates to Plant Varieties, are a continuation of the procedural and legislative steps for this purpose in order to make the Egyptian IP Law more compatible with the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants.

The filing requirements of a plant variety application in Egypt are as follows:

- Denomination of the variety
- Full disclosure of the origin of the variety and the method of breeding
- A detailed description of the consecutive stages of the choice and propagation processes which were used to breed the variety
- Proof of the novelty of the variety, in the sense that the variety has not been sold or otherwise disposed of for purposes of exploitation. A variety shall not lose its novelty if it was exposed or circulated in Egypt for more than one year prior to the effective filing date of the application. Where a variety has been exposed or circulated outside Egypt, such period shall not exceed six years in case of trees and vines or four years for other crops

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- Proof of the uniformity of the variety in the sense that any variations are describable, predictable, and commercially acceptable
- Proof of the stability of the variety in the sense that the variety, when reproduced, will remain unchanged with regard to its essential and distinctive characteristics within a reasonable degree of commercial reliability
- Proof of the distinctiveness of the variety, in the sense that the variety is clearly distinguishable from any other publicly known variety
- Illustrations of the variety, if they are necessary to identify it, along with a brief description

The protection term is 25 years from date of grant for trees and grapevines, and 20 years for other agricultural products. As for annuities, a maintenance fee is due annually and should be paid within a period not exceeding three months from the date of the grant of the certificate.



SAUDI ARABIA . JORDAN . EGYPT . CYPRUS . TANZANIA

CYPRUS | UPGRADED ELECTRONIC PLATFORM FOR TRADEMARKS



CYPRUS

The Trademark Office in Cyprus upgraded its existing online services on July 15, 2019, bringing improved e-filing and online services for trademarks.

The upgraded system benefits users by providing modern, state of the art tools and services for intellectual property offices in the European Union Intellectual Property Network.

What you need to know about trademark registration in Cyprus:

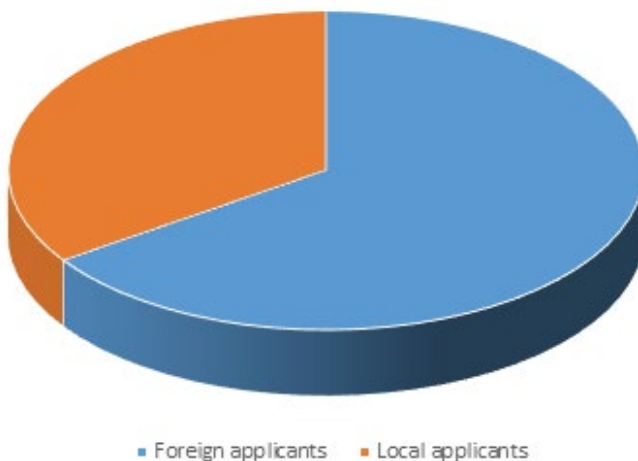
- Classification: 11th edition – single class application
- Examination: On formal, absolute, and relative grounds
- Opposition: 2 months from publication date
- Protection Term: 7 years from filing date and renewable for periods of 14 years each
- Use: Vulnerable to cancellation if mark has not been used for 5 years from filing date

TANZANIA | A FOCUS ON THE TRADEMARK LANDSCAPE



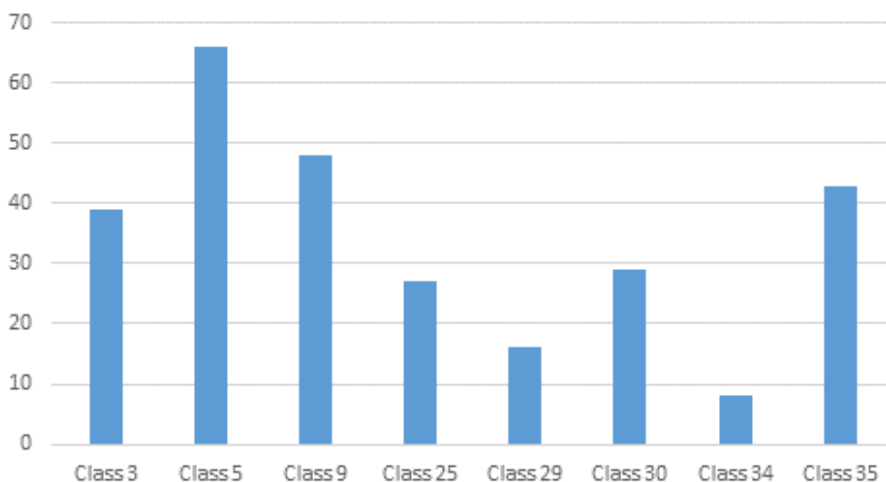
A total of 654 applications were published in the last three issues of the Official Gazette of mainland Tanzania (June to August 2019). Publications within the Gazettes are considered sufficient to comply with legal requirements for public notice.

Local vs International Applicants



Being the largest country in East Africa, mainland Tanzania occupies an unrivaled regional role that is increasing in significance, and due to its vast natural resources, the country is experiencing stable economic development and is encouraging foreign investment, with a significant number of foreign trademark applications between June to August 2019 as one indicative factor (almost 65 percent of total applications).

Number of applications per class



TANZANIA

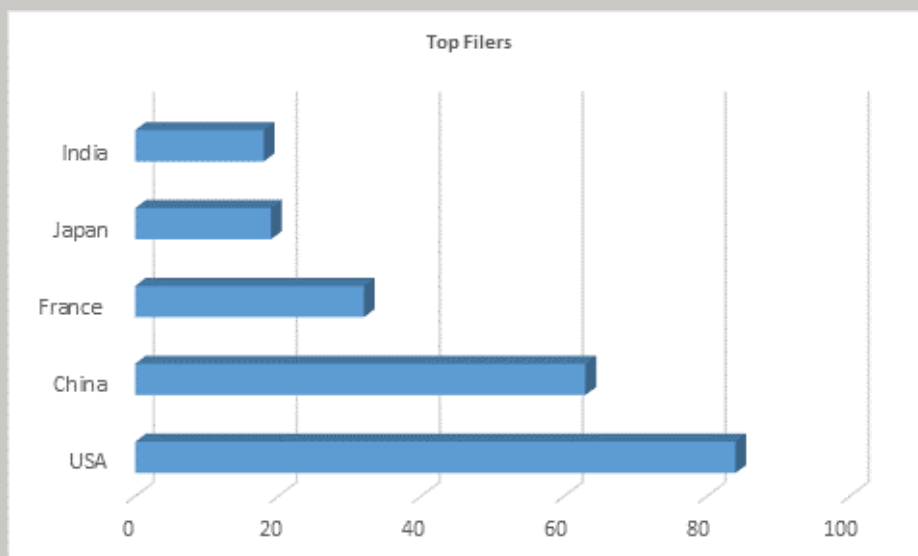
TANZANIA | A FOCUS ON THE TRADEMARK LANDSCAPE



During this same period, pharmaceutical trademark applications comprised around 20 percent of total filings paralleling the growth in the pharmaceutical market. In fact, the market grew to US\$450 million in 2017 from US\$107 million in 2007 as reported by the WHO. Top filers at the TMO between June and August 2019 are from the US, followed by the Chinese and the French.

Basic Facts

- 10th edition – single-class application country
- Examination on formal, absolute, and relative grounds
- Opposition period is 60 days from publication date
- Protection term is 7 years starting from filing date and renewable for periods of 10 years each



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