

Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 81

**Index**

**1. Important topics**

- UAE:** Revised patents, utility models and industrial designs fees effective from January 2024  
UAE is stepping up its initiatives to combat software piracy
- Saudi Arabia:** Bilateral meeting between JPO and SAIP collaborate to strengthen cooperative ties  
Implementing the 12th edition of the Nice International Classification of Trademarks
- Turkey:** Non-use cancellations will be handled by the Turkish Patent Office as of January 2024 instead of courts
- Pakistan:** IPO-Pakistan plan to join PCT in two years
- GCC:** The GCC General Secretariat engaged in the TRIPS Council meeting, emphasizing technical cooperation and capacity building in intellectual property

**2. Additional topics:**

- UAE:**  
Brother gears up for the third wave to combat the rising issue of fake products in Gulf markets  
Advanced screening and verification measures at entry points to combat counterfeit drugs  
The Emirates Intellectual Property Association strengthening cooperation with the Commercial Arbitration Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council and Bahraini Intellectual Property Society
- Saudi Arabia:** SAIP extends PPH with the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)  
Saudi Arabia signs Bletchley Declaration for safe AI use  
Saudi coffee varieties registered with the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property

**SAIP and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Korea signed a MoU in the field of copyrights and related rights**

**Joint training with the Korean Intellectual Property Office to explore the world of Artificial Intelligence Patents**

**Turkey: Türkiye excels globally in geographically indicated products, vital for heritage preservation and economic contribution**

**Pakistan: IPO Pakistan prioritizes innovation, emphasizing IPR Enforcement Coordination to combat counterfeiting for economic security**

**Innovative bamboo structure design registered under Registered Design Ordinance 2000**

**Bahrain: Signing of an MoU on the Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program between Bahrain and China**

**Syria: Madrid Protocol: Individual fees reduced from December 23, 2023**

## **News**

### **1. Important topics**

#### **UAE: Revised patent and design fees effective from January 2024**

The Ministry of Economy's Innovation and Industrial Property Development Department has officially announced the recent issuance of a notice in conjunction with Cabinet Resolution No. 112 of 2023, which revises some parts of Cabinet Resolution No. 20 of 2020. This change is set the structure of fees for patents and designs in the United Arab Emirates.

The revised fee schedule for patents and designs has been detailed in the official gazette number 763, released on November 15, 2023<sup>1</sup>.

Significant modifications include:

- Reinstatement of official fees for previously complimentary services
- Establishment of official fees for annuities
- Structuring fees for substantive examination according to the number of claims, divided into Group 1 (1-10 Claims), Group 2 (11-30 Claims), and Group 3 (31-50 Claims), with an option to request an increase in the number of claims between groups
- Introduction of an expedited examination service
- Implementation of penalty fees, applied on a monthly basis for delayed payment of any service fees
- Including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and academic entities within the reduced fee scheme

The said fee structure is scheduled to take effect from January 15, 2024. In order to provide a comprehensive understanding of the implications stemming from this decision, an informational workshop will be organized.

#### **UAE: UAE is stepping up its initiatives to combat software piracy**

The UAE is intensifying efforts to combat software piracy, aiming to uphold its low piracy rate. This initiative underscores the positive impact on global companies and encourages other Arab nations to adopt comparable measures.

Safeguarding intellectual property rights and encouraging the use of legal software are pivotal for global economic integration. This supports local and regional development plans while fostering an environment conducive to technological innovations.

Recently, two individuals were arrested in Dubai<sup>2</sup>, while in Sharjah, four people were detained<sup>3</sup>, leading to the seizure of machines loaded with pirated software. The raids demonstrate the UAE's commitment to protecting intellectual property rights, creating a healthy environment, nurturing creative ideas, and attracting both local and foreign investment.

In line with the UAE government's anti-piracy campaign, this initiative strives to eliminate such practices. Its focus is on warning software pirates and educating end-users about the importance of installing only genuine software.

#### **Saudi Arabia: Bilateral meeting between JPO and SAIP collaborate to strengthen cooperative ties**

SAIP and JPO conducted a bilateral meeting on November 26. The two offices exchanged information on the latest IP policies and law amendments, confirmed the progress of cooperative projects based on the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed between the two offices in 2019, and confirmed that they will continue to promote mutual understanding and strengthen cooperative relations between the two offices.

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.jetro.go.jp/newsletter/dubai/2023/20240115\\_uae\\_ip\\_fee.pdf](https://www.jetro.go.jp/newsletter/dubai/2023/20240115_uae_ip_fee.pdf) (2023.11.15)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/article/two-held-for-selling-pirated-software> (2023.11.16)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/business/four-detained-in-sharjah-on-charges-of-software-piracy> (2023.11.13)

The JPO aims to strengthen collaboration with SAIP for the proper protection of Japanese companies' intellectual property in Saudi Arabia.<sup>45</sup>

During the Japan visit, SAIP actively participated in various meetings, including an Anti-Counterfeiting Seminar at JETRO HQ.<sup>6</sup> Additionally, the SAIP delegation engaged with the members of International Intellectual Property Protection Forum (IIPPF) through an opinion exchange fostering collaboration among companies and organizations to address IP issues.<sup>7</sup>

The SAIP delegation also conferred with the Deputy Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in Tokyo in the Embassy of Saudi in Japan, discussing mutual interests and cooperation in intellectual property.<sup>8</sup>

### **Saudi Arabia: Implementing the 12th edition of the Nice International Classification of Trademarks**

The Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property has implemented the 12th edition of the Nice Classification<sup>9</sup> effective from November 2, 2023. This edition introduces significant changes, particularly in how applicants are required to specify their goods or services. Notably, the SAIP no longer accepts class headings, applicants are required to choose between specifying individual items from a predefined list or opting for all items within a class.

The transition indicates a deliberate move towards a more detailed trademark application process.

### **Turkey: Non-use cancellations will be handled by TÜRKPATENT as of January 2024 instead of courts**

TÜRKPATENT gained authority to handle non-use trademark cancellations, replacing the courts, according to Industrial Property Law (Law No. 6769<sup>10</sup>) starting January 10, 2017. However, there was a 7-year transition period, and this shift will officially commence on January 10, 2024.

Post this date, TÜRKPATENT, not the courts, will decide on trademark cancellations due to non-use. This administrative process is intended to offer a quicker and more cost-effective resolution compared to lengthy court proceedings. It is expected that there will be a rise in non-use cancellation actions after January 10, 2024.

Key considerations for trademark owners:

- Trademarks not significantly used in the last 5 years are vulnerable to cancellation. Usage within 3 months before a cancellation action will not be considered.
- If a trademark, used only for specific goods and services, faces a non-use cancellation request, it will be canceled for the non-used part.

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/news/ugoki/202311/2023112201.html> (2023.11.22)

<sup>5</sup> <https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1725055118716899826> (2023.11.16)

<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/aalswailem/status/1725418607042007305> (2023.11.17)

<sup>7</sup> <https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1725457944639123692> (2023.11.17)

<sup>8</sup> <https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1725088340309909633> (2023.11.16)

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.wipo.int/classifications/nice/nclpub/en/fr/pdf-download.pdf?lang=en&tab=class\\_headings&dateInForce=20230101](https://www.wipo.int/classifications/nice/nclpub/en/fr/pdf-download.pdf?lang=en&tab=class_headings&dateInForce=20230101) (2023.1.1)

<sup>10</sup> [WIPO Lex \(2016.12.22\)](#)

Trademark owners shall take precautions to prevent either partial or complete cancellations due to non-use. Starting to use the trademark is one preventive measure, but it's important to emphasize that substantial and meaningful usage is required.

### **Pakistan: IPO-Pakistan plan to join PCT in two years<sup>11</sup>**

IPO-Pakistan aims to accede to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) within two years, enhancing intellectual property and fostering commercialization. In a consultative session addressing PCT accession and proposed amendments to the Patent Ordinance, stakeholders were encouraged to actively engage, offering written inputs for parliamentary approval.

The session underscored the significance of capacity building in patent-related domains and sought support from WIPO for training initiatives.

### **GCC: The GCC General Secretariat engaged in the TRIPS Council meeting, emphasizing technical cooperation and capacity building in intellectual property**

The meeting of the TRIPS Council<sup>12</sup> was held and the General Secretariat of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, through its Patent Office and the Economic Affairs Sector participated in the meeting.<sup>13</sup>

The TRIPS Council serves as the platform within the WTO where member nations engage in discussions regarding the functioning and execution of the TRIPS Agreement<sup>14</sup>. It also serves as a forum for consultations on topics concerning the intersection of intellectual property and trade.

The agenda covered a range of topics, reports, and updates related to various intellectual property categories. Throughout the session, the General Secretariat reviewed its annual report on technical cooperation and capacity building in the realm of intellectual property<sup>15</sup>. This report shed light on the collective efforts of GCC countries to strengthen and advance capabilities across diverse aspects of intellectual property and innovation.

Furthermore, the Council explored ways incubators and accelerators can assist cross-border start-ups with IP and economic integration. Members highlighted existing programs supporting start-ups, underscoring their vital role in innovation and economic growth.

## **2. Additional topics**

**UAE:**

---

<sup>11</sup> <https://ipo.gov.pk/news-events> (2023.11.24)

<sup>12</sup> [WTO | 2023 News items - Members to continue dialogue on extending TRIPS Decision to therapeutics and diagnostics](#) (2023.10.31)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.gcc-sg.org/ar-sa/MediaCenter/NewsCooperation/News/Pages/news2023-10-31-2.aspx> (2023.10.31)

<sup>14</sup> [31bis trips e.pdf \(wto.org\)](#) (2017.1.23)

<sup>15</sup> [directdoc.aspx \(wto.org\)](#) (2023.9.19)

Brother gears up for the third wave to combat the rising issue of fake products in Gulf markets

(2023.10.31)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/local-business/brother-set-for-the-third-wave>

Advanced screening and verification measures at entry points to combat counterfeit drugs (2023.11.6)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/gulf/world/efforts-on-to-curb-entry-of-counterfeit-drugs>

The Emirates Intellectual Property Association strengthening cooperation with the Commercial Arbitration Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council and Bahraini Intellectual Property Society (2023.11.16)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=725565402937761&set=a.622300136597622>

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

SAIP extends PPH with the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) (2023.10.31)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1719297736195907719>

Saudi Arabia signs Bletchley Declaration for safe AI use (2023.11.3)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2402366/saudi-arabia>

Saudi coffee varieties registered with the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (2023.11.7)

<https://twitter.com/jazangov/status/1721849724070690898>

SAIP and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Korea signed a MoU in the field of copyrights and related rights (2023.11.9)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1722599191556374709>

Joint training with the Korean Intellectual Property Office to explore the world of Artificial Intelligence Patents (2023.11.21)

<https://www.saip.gov.sa/academy/2231/>

#### **Turkey:**

Türkiye excels globally in geographically indicated products, vital for heritage preservation and economic contribution (2023.11.1, 2023.11.3, 2023.11.13, 2023.11.15)

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1719646564086354306>

<file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/160.pdf>

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/news/regional-products-fair-yorex>

<https://twitter.com/TCSanayi/status/1723992437574586414>

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/news/araban-sarimsagi-is-on-its-way-to-eu-registration>

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1724779714177634391>

**Pakistan:**

IPO Pakistan prioritizes innovation, emphasizing IPR Enforcement Coordination to combat counterfeiting for economic security (2023.10.26, 2023.11.21)

<https://ipo.gov.pk/node/2666>

[https://twitter.com/pakistan\\_ipo/status/1726869697235407088](https://twitter.com/pakistan_ipo/status/1726869697235407088)

Innovative bamboo structure design registered under Registered Design Ordinance 2000 (2023.11.15)

<https://ipo.gov.pk/node/2671>

**Bahrain:**

Signing of an MoU on the Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program between Bahrain and China (2023.10.26)

<https://www.bna.bh/en/IndustryMinisterCommissionerofCNIPASignMoU.aspx?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwlzON1%2bDIYedEnnkfhCbCTSL4ac0wY%3d>

**Syria:**

Madrid Protocol: Individual fees reduced from December 23, 2023 (2023.11.23)

[https://www.wipo.int/edocs/madrdocs/en/2023/madrid\\_2023\\_37.pdf?utm\\_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=478ab42545-DIS\\_MADRID\\_INFO\\_EN\\_281123&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_e80981fddd-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/madrdocs/en/2023/madrid_2023_37.pdf?utm_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm_campaign=478ab42545-DIS_MADRID_INFO_EN_281123&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e80981fddd-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

[Commissioned by JPO]  
Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 81

[Author]  
United Trademark & Patent Services



[Published by]  
Japan External Trade Organization Dubai Office



Published in December 2023  
All Rights Reserved

This newsletter was written by United Trademark & Patent Services and reviewed by JETRO Dubai. In addition, this newsletter is based on information available at the time of creation and may change due to subsequent revisions to laws. The information and comments posted are at the discretion of the author and our office, but we do not guarantee that the general information is correct. Unauthorized reprinting, redistribution, or posting on other websites of the content of this newsletter is prohibited.

Furthermore, JETRO strives to make the information provided as accurate as possible, but it is the reader's responsibility and judgment to confirm the accuracy of the information provided, etc.

JETRO is not responsible for any disadvantages caused using the information supplied through this document.