

Africa Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 113

Index

1. Important topics

Kenya:	Kenya Industrial Property Institute Unveils New Online Patent Filing System
Morocco:	Morocco Rises to Global Top 20 in Industrial Design Filings
Nigeria:	Nigeria Approves First National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy
Uganda:	Uganda Launches New IP Examination Guidelines to Strengthen Standards

2. Additional topics:

See end of text

News

1. Important topics

Kenya: Kenya Industrial Property Institute Unveils New Online Patent Filing System^{1;2;3}

The Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) has launched a new Online Filing System, marking a key step in the agency's digital transformation efforts aligned with the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The platform allows applicants to file and pay for national patents, industrial designs, and utility models entirely online, offering a secure, user-friendly alternative to traditional manual submissions. KIPI notes that the system is expected to enhance convenience through 24/7 access, faster processing, and reduced paperwork and travel costs. Managing Director John Onyango stated that the initiative underscores the Institute's commitment to modernizing services and strengthening intellectual property protection in Kenya.

¹ https://www.kipi.go.ke/sites/default/files/2025-11/Public%20Notice%20on%20launch%20online%20Patent%20Filing%20System.pdf?fbclid=IwY2xjawOVhKtleHRuA2FlbQlxMA-BicmlkETFsbEFRVHc1QkRqY0lMaFY1c3J0YwZhchBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHkTdq0_ehTDxwmTzmn6j-mboID7C_VUX23DvUd5IRIVM0OV8vj0oucTJkSFX_aem_SJ4sfJcoojXKFy_T596aMQ

² <https://patentonline.kipi.go.ke/efiling/>

³ <https://www.kipi.go.ke/online-patent-filing-resources>

Morocco: Morocco Rises to Global Top 20 in Industrial Design Filings^{4,5}

Morocco has secured a place among the world's top 20 origins of industrial design filings, reflecting a strong surge in innovation activity reported in the World Intellectual Property Indicators 2025. Design applications grew by 20.2 percent in 2024, placing the country alongside innovation-driven economies such as India and Indonesia. When adjusted for economic size, Morocco ranked third globally with 1,555 filings per \$100 billion of GDP, underscoring the growing sophistication of its creative and manufacturing sectors.

Data from the Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC) shows similarly robust momentum, with design registrations rising 19.8 percent and total filings reaching 6,818 in 2024, a 26 percent increase from the previous year. Notably, nearly 80 percent of filings came from Moroccan applicants, signaling a strengthening culture of intellectual property protection. Packaging and containers led the categories, followed by ornamental objects, construction components, and clothing items, reflecting the country's diverse industrial base.

Nigeria: Nigeria Approves First National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy⁶

Nigeria's Federal Executive Council has approved the National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy (NIPPS) on 6 November 2025. The policy was developed with support from the World Intellectual Property Organization and jointly led by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, Ministry of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy, Ministry of Justice. This initiative has begun in 2020 and incorporated feedback from more than 200 stakeholders. The policy is intended to position Nigeria as an innovation and IP hub for West and Central Africa. Key goals include improving legal and institutional frameworks, boosting IP generation and protection, facilitating commercialization and technology transfer, enhancing enforcement mechanisms, building human-capital capacity, and expanding nationwide IP training and awareness.

Uganda: Uganda Launches New IP Examination Guidelines to Strengthen Standards^{7,8}

⁴ <https://en.7news.ma/from-local-to-global-morocco-joins-top-20-in-industrial-design-filings/>

⁵ <https://h24info.ma/maroc/dessins-et-modeles-industriels-le-maroc-dans-le-top-20-mondial-ompi/>

⁶ <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/office-nigeria/w/news/2025/nigeria-s-federal-executive-council-approves-national-intellectual-property-policy-and-strategy>

⁷ <https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/20/drg-launches-new-ip-guidelines-calls-for-professionalism-and-global-alignment/>

⁸ <https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/20/ursb-joins-wipo-to-celebrate-ip-examiners-day-launches-new-examination-guidelines/>

Uganda has rolled out new Intellectual Property Examination Guidelines aimed at modernizing and standardizing IP examination processes. Deputy Registrar General, Mr. Alex Anganya, said that the new IP Examination Guidelines “will transform the way examination is conducted”. Particularly, the new trademark Examination Guideline was designed to provide trademark examiners with a standardized approach for conducting substantive examinations under the Trademarks Act, Cap. 225 and the Trademarks Regulations, 2023.

2. Additional topics

Africa:

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to Retire Legacy eMadrid Pages as New Platform Becomes Default

<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/madrid-system/w/news/2025/phasing-out-the-former-emadrid-webpages> (04.11.2025)

AfrIPI Launches Multilingual Guide to Strengthen Geographical Indications Across Africa

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/africaipr_afripi-activity-7399713234045362176-5ZwW/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (27.11.2025)

Africa's Auto-Parts Boom Threatened by Surge in Counterfeit Components

<https://iol.co.za/news/politics/2025-11-28-africas-automotive-aftermarket-boom-faces-a-counterfeit-parts-crisis/> (29.11.2025)

Algeria:

Algeria's Traditional Industry Salon Hosts Session on Strengthening Product Authenticity and Legal Protection

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17VTG7cbPz/> (12.11.2025)

ONDA Launches IP Training Program to Support Growth of Algerian Start-Ups and Micro-Enterprises

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17ZqappfUg/> (17.11.2025)

Algeria Secures Approval of 2025–2027 Creative Rights Strategic Roadmap at Regional World Intellectual Property Organization Gathering of the Heads of Author's Rights Offices in the Arab Region

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BumZY7oXv/> (28.11.2025)

Angola:

National Institute of Industrial Property and World Intellectual Property Organization Concludes Training Initiative for Young Innovators in Angola

[https://iapi.gov.ao/web/noticias/encerramento-do-projecto-sobre-propriedade-intelectual-\(pi\)-para-inovacao-juvenil-em-angola](https://iapi.gov.ao/web/noticias/encerramento-do-projecto-sobre-propriedade-intelectual-(pi)-para-inovacao-juvenil-em-angola) (07.11.2025)

Intellectual Property Institute Collaborates with the National Service for Copyright and Related Rights (SENADIAC) to Host Seminar Marking Angola's 50th Anniversary

<https://iapi.gov.ao/web/noticias/iapi-junta-se-ao-senadiac-na-realizacao-do-seminario-sobre-pi-alusivo-ao-cinquentenario-de-angola> (07.11.2025)

ARIPO:

Forty-Ninth Session of the Administrative Council of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization

<https://www.aripo.org/public/news/Remarks+By+the+Director+General+of+ARIPO,+Mr.+Bemanya+Twe+baze+at+the+Opening+Ceremony+of+the+Forty-Ninth+Session+of+the+ARIPO+Administrative+Council-1763479860> (18.11.2025)

African Regional Intellectual Property Organization Concludes 20th Session of Council of Ministers in Ghana with New Leadership for 2026-2027

<https://www.aripo.org/public/news/Communiqu%C3%A9+of+the+20th+Session+of+the+Council%C2%A0of+Ministers+of+ARIPO-1764172090> (26.11.2025)

Intellectual Property Authorities Mark 2025 Science and Peace Week with Call for Responsible Innovation

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization_peaceandscience-innovationforpeace-intellectualproperty-activity-7393953993741398016-vhqh/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (13.11.2026)

Burkina Faso:

Burkina Faso Announces New Cohort of Certified Professionals in Collective Management of Copyright

<https://oapi.int/2025/11/18/burkina-faso-lapide-devoile-les-nouveaux-ambassadeurs-en-gestion-collective-des-droits-dauteur/> (18.11.2025)

Cape Verde:

Institute of Quality Management and Intellectual Property Welcomes Brazilian Technical Delegation to Support Institutional Development

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CgoCVu2x9/> (04.11.2025)

Ethiopia:

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority Holds Training on the Impact of Copyright and Related Rights at Oromo Cultural Center

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BLNesqgHY/> (04.11.2025)

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority and Law Enforcement Enhance Coordination on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1A6xgnxG6Y/> (07.11.2025)

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority Leads Stakeholder Discussion in Bishoftu on Copyright and Related Rights

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GsceNreVc/> (11.11.2025)

Kenya:

Anti-Counterfeit Authority of Kenya Engages the Public on Identifying Genuine Goods at the National Shopping Festival in Nairobi

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeithority_join-us-at-the-8th-edition-of-the-changamka-activity-7389908864407728129-OYvH/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (01.11.2025)

Kenya and the World Intellectual Property Organization Lead Regional Seminar to Strengthen Enforcement Against Counterfeiting in Africa

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/580-wipo-and-kenya-lead-regional-effort-to-combat-counterfeiting-across-africa>; https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeithority_ends-activity-7391042587417153536-GszV/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (04.11.2025)

Kenyan Government Proposes Treason Charges for Individuals Selling Fake Seeds, Warning of Threat to National Food Security

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/117740-cs-kagwe-calls-treason-charges-against-individuals-selling-fake-seeds> (05.11.2025)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Chairperson Arrested and Charged with Bribery After Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Raids

<https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2025/11/eacc-raids-aca-board-chair-josphat-kabeabea-bribery-extortion-probe/> (14.11.2025)

Members of Parliament Push to Formalize Kenya's Creative Industry as Bill Enters Final Review

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/118026-mps-push-formalize-creative-industry-key-bill-enters-final-review> (16.11.2025)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Seizes Counterfeit Alcohol Worth Over One Million Shillings (~USD 9,250; JPY 1,440,000) in Major Enforcement Operation in Ruiru

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeithauthority_250-cartons-of-counterfeit-alcohol-worth-activity-7400453273276678145-bx1w/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (29.11.2025)

Man Arrested with Counterfeit Socks Worth Fifty Million (~USD 385,000; JPY 60,150,000) Kenyan Shillings in Gikomba Crackdown

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeithauthority_chinese-national-arrested-in-gikomba-as-aca-activity-7400161796092989440-g-m7/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw; <https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/118484-chinese-man-arrested-ksh50-million-worth-counterfeit-socks-gikomba> (29.11.2025)

Three Suspects Arrested in Kwale After Seizure of Counterfeit Currency Worth Seventeen Million Kenyan Shillings (~USD 131,000; JPY 20,400,000)

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/118513-three-arrested-kwale-over-possession-counterfeit-currency-worth-ksh-17-million> (30.11.2025)

Liberia:

Liberia Intellectual Property Office Leadership Engages World Intellectual Property Organization Director General on Expanding Support for National Intellectual Property Development

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1A4ZxgWUgA/> (21.11.2025)

Nigeria:

Highlights from the Capacity Building Workshop on Intellectual Property Law and Management for Staff of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Research, Technology and Innovation Department in Abuja

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17cpncRB8f/> (08.11.2025)

Management of the Nigerian Copyright Commission Leads Copyright Enlightenment and Compliance Inspection Across the Federal Capital Territory

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1C4tTaZkVk/> (17.11.2025)

Nigerian Copyright Commission Suspends Multiple .ng Domains Over Major Online Piracy

https://guardian.ng/business-services/ncc-suspends-ng-domains-involved-in-major-online-piracy/?fbclid=IwY2xjawOVe7BleHRuA2FlbQlMQBzcnRiBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeSlnBSh_skfERCJ_k5PLwOtOnJV6-cWnWjgG_vaoCMHbevFsNvPiRH8d_CVI_aem_fUomViQ3fUce40HjgSTAyw (21.11.2025)

Twenty-Six Arrested in Lagos Over Counterfeit Currency and Adulterated Diesel Production
<https://allafrica.com/stories/202511280230.html> (28.11.2025)

OAPI:

African Intellectual Property Organization Announces Selection of Business Incubators Across Member States

<https://oapi.int/2025/11/06/communique-de-presse-selection-dincubateurs-dentreprises-dans-les-etats-membres-de-loapi/> https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedincubateurs-entreprises-oapi-activity-7391860867413458944-NwUD/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (04.11.2025)

Congolese Magistrates Strengthen Expertise in Intellectual Property Litigation After Brazzaville Training Programme
<https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202511120251.html> (10.11.2025)

Women Agribusiness Entrepreneurs Receive Training in Innovation and Intellectual Property to Strengthen Economic Participation in the AFPI project led by the African Intellectual Property Organization and the United Nations Population Fund
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedinnovation-agrobusiness-afpi-activity-7397429831224733696-dAKX?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvQ (21.11.2025)

Initiative in Yaoundé Empowers Women Innovators Through Intellectual Property Training
<https://oapi.int/2025/11/21/exploiter-la-propriete-intellectuelle-pour-cree-de-la-valeur-une-nouvelle-vague-de-femmes-et-jeunes-filles-des-filieres-techniques-et-scientifiques-formee-a-yaounde/>
(21.11.2025)

Progress Continues on Côte d'Ivoire's Intellectual Property Documentation Centre Following High-Level Visit in Abidjan
<https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedinnovation-abidjan-activity-7399508515095994368->

[UZxr?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQifDO8l9hJ34ephvQ; https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19vYGTMTOP/](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19vYGTMTOP/) (26.11.2025)

South Africa:

Proliferation of Counterfeit Goods in KwaZulu-Natal Undermines Industries and Jeopardises Employment
<https://iol.co.za/mercury/2025-11-05-how-counterfeit-goods-threaten-kwazulu-natals-economy-and-job-creation/> (05.11.2025)

National Intellectual Property Management Office and Partners Deliver Training to Equip Teachers with Intellectual Property Education Tools in Boksburg
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/national-intellectual-property-management-office-nipmo-intellectualproperty-innovation-ip-activity-7394651281358733312-v7n/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (13.11.2025)

University of Mpumalanga Hosts Session on Commercialising Research Outputs and Strengthening Intellectual Property Awareness
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/national-intellectual-property-management-office-nipmo-innovation-nipmo-technologytransfer-activity-7394617738284908544-PPuK/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (13.11.2025)

Swiss Residence in Pretoria Hosts Launch of Four-Year Collaboration to Enhance Intellectual Property Systems and Entrepreneurial Growth
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/national-intellectual-property-management-office-nipmo-intellectualproperty-swisspartnershipsouthafrica-activity-7396469199881109504-Jxcg/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (18.11.2025)

Tanzania:

BRELA Hosts Stakeholder Forum to Gather Feedback on Proposal to Extend Four ARIPO and WIPO Creative Ownership Protocols
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1D9W2tpZfK/> (27.11.2025)

Uganda:

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Holds Outreach Session to Educate Crocheters on Copyright Protection and Cultural Innovation
<https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/04/ursb-engages-crocheters-on-copyright-protection-and-cultural-creativity/> (04.11.2025)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Destroys Counterfeit Copyrighted Materials Worth UGX 100 Million (~USD 28,100; JPY ¥4.31 Million)

<https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/20/ursb-destroys-counterfeit-copyrighted-materials-worth-ugx-100-million/>
(20.11.2025)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Convenes Stakeholders to Harmonize Copyright Tariffs

<https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/20/ursb-brings-stakeholders-together-to-harmonize-copyright-tariffs/>
(20.11.2025)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau and State House Science, Technology and Innovation Partner to Launch New Copyright Monitoring System

<https://ursb.go.ug/2025/11/20/ursb-state-house-partner-to-roll-out-new-copyright-monitoring-system/>
(20.11.2025)

Zambia:

Patents and Companies Registration Agency Invites Public Submissions on Draft Trademarks Regulations to Implement 2023 Act

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1H5xnmTzzD/> (10.11.2025)

Zimbabwe:

Zimbabwe Advances Intellectual Property Reforms to Bolster National Vision 2030

<https://www.zbcnews.co.zw/zimbabwe-strengthens-intellectual-property-reforms-to-support-vision-2030/> (22.11.2025)

[Commissioned by JPO]
Africa Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 113

[Author]
KISCH IP



[Published by]
Japan External Trade Organization Dubai Office



Published in December 2025
All Rights Reserved

This newsletter was written by KISCH IP 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.