

Africa Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 120

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News

1. Important topics

Kenya: Kenya Concludes Public Participation on Geographical Indications Bill to Protect Unique National Products¹

Kenya has concluded public consultations on the draft Geographical Indications Bill 2026, marking a significant milestone towards the enactment of legislation aimed at protecting unique Kenyan products. The Bill seeks to protect the intellectual property rights associated with agricultural products, traditional crafts and natural products whose qualities, reputation or characteristics are linked to their geographical origin. Following the consultations, officials from the Kenya Industrial Property Institute, the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, and the Office of the Attorney General have met to review and incorporate public submissions into the draft Bill before it is submitted to Cabinet and subsequently to Parliament for enactment. Once enacted, the legislation is expected to strengthen protection of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage, enhance the value and reputation of Kenyan products, and expand opportunities in domestic and export markets.

¹ <https://www.kipi.go.ke/public-forums-bill-aimed-protecting-unique-kenyan-products-conclude>

Libya: New Trademark Batch Published Online as Libya Advances Electronic Publication System^{2,3}

Libya's Ministry of Economy and Trade has launched the first issue of the electronic trademark bulletin for the year 2026, resuming trademark publication and advertisement after a suspension of more than 18 months. The bulletin covers trademark applications numbered 55261 to 57597 and is published through the Commercial Registry Authority's online platform, <https://td.eidc.gov.ly/>.

The new system permits electronic filing of trademark oppositions within 30 working days of publication, with supporting grounds required within seven working days. The initiative forms part of broader efforts to modernize and digitize trademark administration, strengthen intellectual property protection, enhance transparency, and support the business and investment environment in line with international standards.

OAPI: OAPI Launches Funding Programme for Intellectual Property-Based Development Projects in Member States⁴

On 12 May 2026 in Yaoundé, the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) announced the launch of its Funding Program for Structural Projects Based on Intellectual Property (PFPSPI), aimed at supporting innovative initiatives that use intellectual property as a tool for economic and social development in its member states. OAPI stated that eligible projects must align with national development priorities, demonstrate the potential to generate significant socioeconomic benefits, and incorporate the development and use of intellectual property assets, including patents, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications and utility models. The call for proposals is open to a range of national stakeholders in OAPI member states, including public institutions, local authorities, research centres, non-governmental organizations, and professional organizations. Applications must be submitted through the National Liaison Structures (SNLs) in member states by 6 July 2026. OAPI, which comprises 17 member states, said the initiative forms part of its efforts to promote intellectual property as a driver of economic and social development.

Uganda: Uganda Advances Consultations on ARIPO Kampala Protocol Ratification to Strengthen Copyright Protection⁵

Uganda has convened stakeholders to discuss ratification of the ARIPO Kampala Protocol, which seeks to strengthen copyright administration, enforcement and commercialization across Africa. Discussions focused on the benefits of voluntary copyright registration, including improved ownership verification, licensing and cross-border enforcement. Stakeholders also considered the proposed regional copyright registration

² <https://lana.gov.ly/post.php?id=357532&lang=ar&utm>

³ <https://oneworldip.com/libya-update-on-electronic-trademark-publication-system/>

⁴ <https://oapi.int/2026/05/12/programme-de-financement-des-projets-structurants-bases-sur-la-propriete-intellectuelle-pfpspi-2026/>

⁵ <https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/26/stakeholders-consultative-meeting-on-the-ratification-of-the-kampala-protocol/>

database and opportunities to support investment and growth in the creative sector. Consultations form part of Uganda's process toward ratification and domestic implementation of the Protocol.

2. Additional topics

Africa:

Stakeholders Advocate Stronger Intellectual Property Systems to Advance Innovation in Africa

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/26/africa-pushes-for-stronger-intellectual-property-systems/> (26.05.2026)

Algeria:

ONDA Promotes Literary and Artistic Property Protection Across Algerian Universities

<https://www.facebook.com/ONDADZOFFICIEL/posts/pfbid02UZcfsdWjuVYXjGTRkZJ2jMonyLjLKTv3sYzk7Z9JWSutEJg4fysXj97V9cFvUEjYI?rdid=h3cj2uKKchRA39Fx#a> (05.05.2026)

ONDA Participates in Training Programme on Intellectual Property Protection for Judicial Police Officers

<https://www.facebook.com/ONDADZOFFICIEL/posts/pfbid0yNkfwWyy1XDcJotjxwEa3cPM7mMZhV5MPWYgngoAzsebz5bhNEsP1dHhh2KENpe7I?rdid=bYkgUREktwbuB8AQ#> (11.05.2026)

Mehdi Delmi Participates as Deputy Chair in the 48th Session of WIPO's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights in Geneva

<https://www.facebook.com/ONDADZOFFICIEL/posts/pfbid02cuKE9oc8yKqDzosokBLLiHXWgXS1ByvsqXPM6feaYtQfoHDeU86mULFKaPaFkFbCl?rdid=Wg8OXUNlguttQ4UR#> (19.05.2026)

Algeria Celebrates World Intellectual Property Day 2026 with Emphasis on Intellectual Property and Sports Innovation

<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/office-algeria/w/news/2026/ip-day-2026-algeria-ip-empowering-sports-innovation> (20.05.2026)

Algeria and WIPO Launch National Seminar Series to Support Implementation of University Intellectual Property Policy

<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/office-algeria/w/news/2026/algeria-strengthens-ip-culture-universities-series-national-seminars> (27.05.2026)

ARIPO:

ARIPO Director General Meets Mozambique President to Advance Intellectual Property and Economic Development

Agenda. <https://www.aripo.org/public/news/ARIPO+Director+General+Engages+President+Daniel+Chapo+During+High-Level+Mission+to+Mozambique-1779185939> (18.05.2026)

5th Heads of Intellectual Property Offices Conference Opens in Lesotho with Focus on AI and Digital Transformation.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/hipoc2026-ugcPost-7462181682293411840-6Flz/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (18.05.2026)

ARIPO and Lesotho Host Symposium on Plant Variety Protection to Advance Agricultural Innovation and Food Security.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization-plantvarietyprotection-arushaprotocol-foodsecurity-activity-7462869089854816256-FegT?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw&lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_company_posts%3BaszOuSmJSn%2BFM5Et%2BgwJ2Q%3D%3D (20.05.2026)

ARIPO Symposium Highlights Plant Variety Protection as a Catalyst for Agricultural Innovation and Food Security in Africa.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/bemanya-twebaze-922255192_last-week-we-successfully-concluded-the-ugcPost-7465669325799186433-MltW?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvhQ (28.05.2026)

ARIPO Conducts Online Services Sensitization Workshop in Mozambique to Promote Digital Intellectual Property Administration

<https://inventa.com/ip-news-insights/press-release/workshop-aripo-online-services-sensitization-mission> (28.05.2026)

Botswana:

CIPA and WIPO Strengthen Botswana's Innovation Capacity Through IP Meister Course for Researchers

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/companies-and-intellectual-property-authority-botswana_building-botswanas-innovation-capacity-activity-7458452414434582528-9Tun?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvhQ (08.05.2026)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/companies-and-intellectual-property-authority-botswana_building-botswanas-innovation-capacity-activity-7458452414434582528-9Tun/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (14.05.2026)

Cape Verde:

IGQPI and Brazil's INPI Sign Cooperation Agreement to Strengthen Intellectual Property Capacity

<https://www.facebook.com/IGQPI/posts/pfbid02DGPjyA3fqAZaqDH2nggSBwZMPDrvtoPA11aM89SeeHuF18oM59u7H5S78HwZZe6nl?rdid=n1RmNtlLJMiMxlwW#> (05.05.2026)

Ethiopia:

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority and Partners Hand Over 12 Homes to Elderly and Disabled Residents in Harar

<https://www.facebook.com/eipa.gov.et/posts/pfbid02owc7hVFCgi4PYECmYkfbGPKzmy3FLaVWz4AtJ86ee1sDBTYHrQ9GxZXCHh861pGI?rdid=10faElg6b606RIsV#> (26.05.2026)

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority Consults Stakeholders on Institutional Reforms to Strengthen the IP Sector

<https://www.facebook.com/eipa.gov.et/posts/pfbid02evij22LsMxwyPCfsHb3p7ywBBckgnCKETDJAehtYb9HzBBHcF3XcnqZP4duLfV3MI?rdid=WxXCSP1naEYt0JS5#> (26.05.2026)

Ethiopian Intellectual Property Authority and Adama Science and Technology University Renew Cooperation Agreement

<https://www.facebook.com/eipa.gov.et/posts/pfbid09dR26P3YF1L8Tc7F3CWwaB6woBY2N55LcnrdwyFkoEvxfzGtEvvWghgvLrKAefRfl?rdid=loLQPRVK9OIFxYSB#> (29.05.2026)

Ghana:

Ghana Hosts 8th Bnoskka Annual Lecture on Intellectual Property and Sports

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202605150486.html> (14.05.2026)

Kenya:

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Participates in 67th Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee Meeting

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeitauthority_earlier-this-morning-the-anti-counterfeit-activity-7455527871688720384-ycl2/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (01.05.2026)

U.S. Trade Report Flags Kenya Among Markets Affected by Counterfeit Goods Trade

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/123194-medicines-electronics-among-fake-products-flooding-kenyan-market-us-reveals> (07.05.2026)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Seizes KSh 30 Million Worth of Counterfeit Vehicle Spare Parts in Kisumu

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/619-aca-seizes-ksh-30-million-worth-of-counterfeit-motor-vehicle-spare-parts-in-kisumu-crackdown> (07.05.2026)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Briefs Parliament on Efforts to Combat Illicit and Counterfeit Alcohol

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/622-aca-engages-parliament-on-efforts-to-curb-illicit-alcohol> (08.05.2026)

Multi-Agency Team Seizes 250 Bags of Suspected Counterfeit Fertilizer in Kakamega

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/621-250-bags-of-suspected-counterfeit-fertilizer-seized-in-kakamega-operation> (08.05.2026)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority and Police Investigate Suspected Counterfeit Animal Feed Network Following Molo Raid

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/620-suspected-counterfeit-animal-feed-raises-growing-food-safety-concerns> (08.05.2026)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Seizes 40,000 Suspected Counterfeit Mobile Phone Screens in Nairobi

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/625-buyer-beware-40-000-suspected-counterfeit-phone-screens-pulled-off-nairobi-market> (11.05.2026)

Anti-Counterfeit Authority Highlights Link Between Counterfeiting, Information Integrity and Public Trust at Media Summit

<https://www.aca.go.ke/media-center/news-and-events/626-media-urged-to-champion-authenticity-as-aca-highlights-link-between-counterfeiting-information-integrity> (14.05.2026)

TikTok Removes Over 820,000 Videos and Suspends 108,000 Accounts in Kenya for Policy Violations

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/123561-tiktok-removes-over-820000-videos-kenya-bans-108000-accounts-safety-crackdown> (19.05.2026)

Liberia:

Liberia Joins African Intellectual Property Leaders to Discuss AI and Digital Transformation in IP Systems

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202605190451.html> (19.05.2026)

Liberia Intellectual Property Office and United Nations Industrial Development Organization Launch Business and Intellectual Property Management Clinic to Support Liberian Small Businesses

<https://www.facebook.com/liberiaipo/posts/the-liberia-intellectual-property-office-lipo-in-partnership-with-the-united-nat/1288612366782819/>

<https://www.facebook.com/focusonliberiaTV/posts/big-announcementthe-liberia-intellectual-property-office-lipo-in-partnership-wit/1006352838567103/> (25.05.2026)

Morocco:

Morocco Concludes 9th Industrial Property Training Programme for Participants from 14 African Countries
<http://www.ompic.ma/fr/actualites/participation-de-14-pays-africains-dans-la-9e-edition-du-programme-de-formation-dans-la> (25.05.2026)

Nigeria:

WIPO Hosts First National Intellectual Property Youth Camp for Girls in STEAM in Nigeria.
<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/office-nigeria/w/news/2026/innovation-sparks-at-wipo-s-first-national-ip-youth-camp-for-girls-in-steam-in-nigeria> (04.05.2026)

Nigerian Copyright Commission Opens Capacity-Building Workshop for Grade Level 13–14 Officers in Ilorin
<https://www.facebook.com/copyright.gov.ng/posts/pfbid0ECnE5JobbQuyxEIhgtMmKPXpsQbTiXVxqo3aKfCPLqhzLGB2TRaAmecN6y1AwPLI?rdid=PNzEILLBiID5R7sE#> (06.05.2026)

WIPO Nigeria Hosts High-Level Seminar on Intellectual Property and the Business of Sport in Nigeria
<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/office-nigeria/w/news/2026/high-level-seminar-business-sport-nigeria> (07.05.2026)

Lagos Governor and Nigerian Copyright Commission Call for Stronger Action Against Piracy at Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards
<https://pointblanknews.com/pbn/news/gov-sanwo-olu-ncc-boss-seek-united-action-against-piracy/?fbclid=IwY2xjawRy7YBleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAA>
https://www.beats-onit.com/2026/05/11/sanwo-olu-ncc-boss-sue-for-united-front-against-piracy-amvca-12th-edition/?fbclid=IwY2xjawRy7YhleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeGedTOhJ6XRyIN47Fk3jAV7bGLHVmz7AnoKHmltpjabX3UNPBBJ8VzR0jgVA_aem_iUder8fpdRhUmGOvn-zfqg (11.05.2026)

OAPI:

OAPI Congratulates Daren Tang on Re-Election at the 67th Extraordinary Session of the Assemblies of the Member States
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_ompi-wipo-propriaeztaezintellectuelle-activity-7457414630903078912-JJ-F?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw&lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_company_posts%3BREGFCBTEQa%2BwmbNzmgHwOg%3D%3D (05.05.2026)

OAPI and United Nations Population Fund Advance Women's Economic Empowerment Through Innovation and Intellectual Property

<https://oapi.int/2026/05/19/oapi-unfpa-renouvellement-du-partenariat-strategique-pour-lautonomisation-des-femmes-et-la-valorisation-de-linnovation-feminine/>;
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_cameroun-propriaetaeztaezintellectuelle-activity-7462217418342375424-z-la/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (19.05.2026)

OAPI Highlights Bara Musso Success Story as Malian Brand Pursues Expansion into Central Africa
<https://oapi.int/2026/05/22/quand-la-propriete-industrielle-pi-propulse-lentrepreneuriat-la-marque-malienne-bara-muso-a-la-conquete-dun-nouveau-marche/>
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_propriaetaezindustrielle-croissanceentrepreneuriale-activity-7463311217047171074-Pps1?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvQ (22.05.2026)

OAPI Launches Fourth African Geographical Indications Training Programme in Côte d'Ivoire
<https://oapi.int/2026/05/28/formation-africaine-sur-les-indications-geographiques-africa-gi-training-4eme-edition/> (28.05.2026)

OAPI and Gabon Explore Opportunities to Strengthen Cooperation in Intellectual Property
<https://oapi.int/2026/05/29/renforcement-des-liens-entre-le-gabon-et-loapi-une-audience-placee-sous-le-signe-de-la-fraternite/> (29.05.2026)

OAPI Launches Third Edition of Patent Engineering Master's Programme to Strengthen Innovation Expertise
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_brevets-innovation-oapi-activity-7466246760240144384-vj88?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw&lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_company_posts%3BpoRKPo66QcmPhGoJ0L22vw%3D%3D (30.05.2026)

OAPI Receives Gabonese High Commissioner for Talks on Strengthening Cooperation
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_gabon-cameroun-innovation-activity-7466111151764942848-de_j/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (30.05.2026)

Rwanda:

Rwanda Records Strong Growth in Intellectual Property Filings as Innovation Activity Expands

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202605070456.html> (06.05.2026)

South Africa:

South African Soldiers Recover Suspected Counterfeit Designer Goods Worth Nearly R2 Million Near Lesotho Border

<https://iol.co.za/the-star/news/2026-05-04-soldiers-seize-fake-designer-goods-sneakers-handbags-etc-worth-r2-million-near-ficksburg/> (04.05.2026)

Tanzania:

The Business Registration and Licensing Agency Trains High Court Judges on Intellectual Property Rights and Creative Works Protection

<https://www.facebook.com/brelatz/posts/pfbid02FkzQHhHquwLEp2jD2GLTdBdHUBJgC5JT3AqsW2XC AUZoCbAuf9SQDDgdAgATngWzl?rdid=znBrNm3csPUDkOzr#> (11.05.2026)

Business Registration and Licensing Agency Urges Military Institutions to Register and Protect Innovations

<https://www.facebook.com/brelatz/posts/pfbid02mp6d24emrXct92okJX9faHagGR1z7zKU8vpvL88bAH 5u7gsvi5ry1r5YjSAsATH8l?rdid=Nhn1MtloLyhEnxJz#> (15.05.2026)

Minister Highlights Business Registration and Licensing Agency Achievements and Strong Growth in Patent and Trademark Registrations in 2026–2027 Budget Presentation

<https://www.facebook.com/brelatz/posts/pfbid0DhCL64Q9sgnNopTt6V3BWXzkyUSRoM2HwpeonRTx ZudtophHLmaEUZ48haJbYU8UI?rdid=gbUtLVbwuBktW5Gu#> 22.05.2026)

Business Registration and Licensing Agency Launches Enhanced Online Registration System

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1499526788880001&set=a.295313202634705> (27.05.2026)

Tunisia:

National Academy of Intellectual Property (INNORPI) Hosts Webinar on Intellectual Property and Tourism.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/innorpi-tunisie-12931a18a_formation-sur-la-propri%C3%A9t%C3%A9-intellectuelle-activity-7462469583183151104-i8k3?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvQ

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/innorpi-tunisie-12931a18a_pour-sinscrire-veuillez-remplir-le-formulaire-activity-7462775804586876929-GLjp?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABBHjSUBNe6s9vY5YuQjfDO8l9hJ34epvQ (21.05.2026)

National Academy of Intellectual Property (INNORPI) Launches 2026 Training Catalogue on Intellectual Property and Innovation

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/innorpi-tunisie-12931a18a_online-flipbook-activity-7466064107901927426-bAYB/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAVxn4UBmx6eu6dZ8acBthTL72F5G8jB4Aw (29.05.2026)

Uganda:

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Opens New Naguru Centre for Registration and Intellectual Property Services.

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/13/ursb-brings-services-closer-to-clients-with-new-naguru-service-centre/>
(13.05.2026)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Advances Protection of Traditional Bark Cloth Through Geographical Indication Registration

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/13/ursb-advances-protection-of-ugandas-traditional-bark-cloth/>
(13.05.2026)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Launches Technology and Innovation Support Centre at Bishop Stuart University

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/20/ursb-launches-innovation-hub-at-bishop-stuart-university/> (20.05.2026)

Board Chairman Rallies Universities to Drive Innovation at Technology and Innovation Support Centre Launch.

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/20/board-chairman-rallies-universities-to-drive-innovation-at-bishop-stuart-tisc-launch/> (20.05.2026)

Uganda Registration Services Bureau Supports National Mobile Device Tracking System to Strengthen Compliance and Intellectual Property Protection.

<https://ursb.go.ug/2026/05/26/ursb-joins-ugandas-mobile-device-crackdown-here-is-why-it-matters-for-the-bureau/> (26.05.2026)

Zimbabwe:

Study Finds 67 Percent of Zimbabwean Consumers Purchase Counterfeit Goods

<https://www.newzimbabwe.com/67-of-zimbabweans-buying-counterfeit-goods-new-study-reveals/>
(05.05.2026)

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