

Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 66

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**News**

**1. Important topics**

**UAE:**

**ESMAA founder shares thoughts on the completion of first year in business<sup>1</sup>**

ESMAA has achieved a lot in just one year, Hussain 'Spek' Yoosuf told Arab News during his interview, upon completion of one year by the organization. He further explained that although the UAE and other Gulf

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2138826/media>

countries had laws in place relating to intellectual property rights and licensing, but they didn't really have the infrastructure or tools for enforcement. The only option was to take the infringer to court, however it was not really practical that you take everybody that you met to court, when piracy levels were at almost 90 percent across the region in the days when music was a physical, CD-based business, he explained. Hence the evolution of an organization called ESMAA was the steppingstone in creating a regional music rights body in the Country.

What is ESMAA?<sup>2</sup>

Launched in 2020, ESMAA is a music rights management entity. ESMAA works with global rights organizations, music publishers, songwriters, labels and artists to fulfill this objective in the UAE and Gulf region. This organization is on a mission to ensure music creators and rights owners are paid fairly for the use of their music in the Gulf, and to facilitate music licensing for those in the region using music. In other words, this organization simplifies and facilitates the procedures of music licensing in the gulf region.

In the past one-year tenure, ESMAA has signed agreements to represent global royalties-collection agencies, including the UK's Performing Right Society for Music and the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada.

Some other feathers to its cap among others are as follows:

- Agreements to license music from the library of British record label Chrysalis Music and Global Master Rights, a neighboring rights company that represents more than 300 record labels and 2,500 performers including Rihanna, Billie Eilish, Metallica and David Guetta.
- It was the sole music-licensing partner for the Expo 2020 Dubai and its distributing royalties around the world generated by the event.
- It has also recently announced a licensing agreement with Saudi entertainment company MDLBEAST.
- ESMAA also signed an agreement to represent US-based performing rights organization the Society of European Stage Authors and Composers and its affiliate, Harry Fox Agency, a US mechanical rights organization.

**Saudi Arabia:**

**Memorandum of understanding signed between the General Presidency for the Affairs of the Grand Mosque and the Prophet's Mosque and the Radio and Television Authority <sup>3</sup>**

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the General Presidency for the Affairs of the Grand

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<sup>2</sup> <https://esmaamusic.com/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1338>

Mosque and the Prophet's Mosque and the Radio and Television Authority, arranged and organized by the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property at its headquarters in Riyadh.

His Excellency the CEO of the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property, Dr. Abdulaziz bin Muhammad Al-Suwailem, in his welcome note highlighted that the interest of the Authorities with the aid of such MOUs points out to their dedication to create awareness of the importance of respecting rights and complying with rules and regulations concerning intellectual property. He also stressed that such awareness campaigns are tools for promoting intangible assets, their importance in the national economy with the aid of intellectual property rights.

The SAIP leaves no stone untuned, in its efforts for promoting IP rights as well as enforcement and protection of the same. Such efforts of hosting and sponsoring of the signing of the MOU is yet again another indication of the steps and strategies by the SAIP in enhancing the integration between government agencies and providing the necessary support related to intellectual property in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### **Turkey:**

##### **Extended support to candidates under the Candidate Support Program (CSP) for taking the European Patent Attorney's Examination (EQE)<sup>4</sup>**

Candidates who are amidst the preparation of answering the European Patent Attorney's Examination are entitled to extended support by the virtue of the Candidate Support Program (CSP).

Under this program, the candidates preparing for EQE will be provided with up-to-date study notes and free access to EPO's online training program. 10 candidates will be selected among the applications to benefit from the support.

#### **Qatar:**

##### **Hefty fines for selling or exchanging World Cup tickets without FIFA permission<sup>5</sup>**

As a precautionary measure to deal with counterfeit tickets, unfair competition, consumer protection as well as protection of a fair pricing scheme, the Qatar government has decided to issue huge fines up to QR250,000 (around \$69,000), as recently tweeted by the Ministry of Justice in Qatar

Suh a fine may be imposed on anyone who issues, sells, resells, or exchanges World Cup tickets without the permission of FIFA. The fine will be imposed in line with Law No. (10) 2021 regarding Qatar's measures to host the World Cup 2022 in November.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/duyurular/avrupa-patent-vekilligi-sinavi-eqe-aday-destekleme-programi-csp-04082022>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2130861/sport>

As per FIFA any ticket that have been impermissibly transferred are not valid and may be cancelled at any time without notice. However, in case due to any reason any person is unable to attend the match they have the option to put their tickets up for resale on its official resale platform.

**Qatar:**

**Action against store selling counterfeit items<sup>6</sup>**

In the pursuit of tackling the menace of counterfeit activities, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry along with the cooperation of Ministry of Interior in Qatar, carried out a joint inspection program, on a retail outlet working in a residence in Msheireb for selling counterfeit products and goods of international brands on social media.

The inspection campaign resulted in issuing a violation against the retail outlet for displaying and selling counterfeit products and goods bearing international marks on social media platforms, as well as for practicing the commercial activity without obtaining the necessary licensing. The due legal measures were taken against the violators.

Such interventions provide an assurance that the IP authority, MOCI and the MOI in Qatar, will not tolerate the acts of unfair competition, counterfeiting and infringement of trademarks, by keeping a vigilant eye on suspected acts/behaviors.

**Palestine:**

**Seizure of 2 tons of counterfeit products in Hebron<sup>7</sup>**

The Palestine government has expressed its intention of not allowing the malpractice of sale of counterfeit goods in the country, by initiating an effective approach against entities or persons suspected to be involved in the crime.

The officials of the Ministry of National Economy along with the customs police raided a store in the city of Hebron, wherein 2 tons of counterfeit goods were seized by the officials.

**GCC:**

**Meeting and discussion of the Patent Office of the GCC with Sudair Pharma Pharmaceutical Company<sup>8</sup>**

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<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/MOCIQatar/status/1556952061719216131>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MNEPalestine/posts/pfbid0Rur2GaGBu9svXPo7WVuaGZkwCJPTda1Kmg5PQaHr4vQjyaLrWtVJV09mhgESQawPl>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gcc-sg.org/ar-sa/MediaCenter/NewsCooperation/News/Pages/news2022-8-4-2.aspx>

During the visit of the Sudair Pharma Pharmaceutical Company delegation headed by His Excellency Dr. Yasser Al-Obaida, CEO of the company with the Director General of the Office, Eng. Abdullah bin Saleh Al-Mazrou and in the presence of a number of specialists in the office and the company on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 AD, the Patent Office of the General Secretariat of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf discussed aspects of cooperation with Sudair Pharma Pharmaceutical Company.

The discussion involved aspects of the services provided by the Patent Office of the GCC to pharmaceutical companies in the GCC states, as well as the challenges with respect to intellectual property rights and patents for medicines at the international level.

## **2. Additional topics**

### **UAE:**

Kalimat Foundation becomes UAE's first non-profit to secure exceptional publishing rights under Marrakesh Treaty

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303070731>

The United Arab Emirates University publishes 1077 research articles and is awarded 14 patents in the first half of 2022

<https://www.albawaba.com/business/pr/united-arab-emirates-university-publishes-1077-research-articles-and-awarded-14-patents>

<https://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/news/2022/april/uaeu-publishes-613-research-papers-in-the-first-quarter-of-2022.shtml>

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) has created new software and obtained Intellectual Property protection from the UAE Ministry of Economy

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303071325>

Emirates Reprographic Rights Management Association set to galvanize the UAE publishing industry

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303071915>

Collaboration with the UAE helped boost India's farm exports by 31 percent

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303072719>

AI enables DEWA to innovate solutions to improve productivity and performance

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303072197>

Emirates Intellectual Property Association offers 'Arbitration and Mediation in Intellectual Property' diploma

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303073428>

UAE venture builder, hatch & boost tackles food security with patent-pending farming methodology

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/tech/uae-venture-builder-hatch-boost-tackles-food-security>

<https://hatchboost.com/>

New baseball league announces Dubai International Stadium as the official venue for inaugural showcase

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2145291/sport>

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

Granting the patent document No. 10,000 at the national level, which was granted to King Saud University

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1555147466571407360>

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1555153431857438727>

Aramco plans to complete Valvoline Global Products acquisition by early 2023, VGP will acquire perpetual ownership of the Valvoline brand, trademarks, and copyrights in the products sector

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2146811/business-economy>

In cooperation with Public Security and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development, implements a series of field campaigns to promote respect for intellectual property

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1562783555213660162>

#### **Turkey:**

The Amended Law on the Regulation of Electronic Commerce states intellectual and industrial property rights violations

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2022/07/20220707-2.htm>

The Registration Certificate of Malatya Cheese Geographical Indication to the President of Malatya Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<https://twitter.com/CemilBASPINAR/status/1554765695979847680>

1,035 patent and utility model applications were received during "Patentle Turkey-1. National High Schools Patent and Utility Model Competition"

<https://twitter.com/TCSanayi/status/1559445952750125057>

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1559578632829517825>

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1560174073006653440>

**Kuwait:**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry continues to close stores selling counterfeit goods

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1554726957111283712>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1554726253223202821>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1554695135006322688>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1553980905013886977>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1554023317983694848>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1558783724375969792>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1559800269201883136>

**Bahrain:**

An industrial property specialist in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industrial Property Management talked about the brand

<https://www.facebook.com/moicbahrain/videos/793360185430630>

<https://www.facebook.com/moicbahrain/videos/587068036161326>

**Qatar:**

Qatar and WIPO discussed strengthening partnerships to support and develop national intellectual property policies and competencies

[https://www.moci.gov.qa/en/mec\\_news/h-e-the-undersecretary-of-the-ministry-of-commerce-and-industry-meets-with-deputy-director-general-of-the-world-intellectual-property-organization/](https://www.moci.gov.qa/en/mec_news/h-e-the-undersecretary-of-the-ministry-of-commerce-and-industry-meets-with-deputy-director-general-of-the-world-intellectual-property-organization/)

A joint inspection campaign against retail outlets working in a residence for selling counterfeit products and goods of international brands on social media

[https://www.moci.gov.qa/en/mec\\_news/ministry-of-commerce-and-industry-carries-out-joint-inspection-campaign-on-retail-outlet-working-in-a-residence-in-msheireb/](https://www.moci.gov.qa/en/mec_news/ministry-of-commerce-and-industry-carries-out-joint-inspection-campaign-on-retail-outlet-working-in-a-residence-in-msheireb/)

<https://twitter.com/MOCIQatar/status/1556952061719216131>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=391213503053766&set=a.296201915888259>

**Iran:**

The Intellectual Property Center in Iran notified commence operation as a depositing Office of WIPO DAS for Priority Documents

[https://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating\\_offices/details.jsp?id=12533](https://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices/details.jsp?id=12533)

[https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pctndocs/en/2022/pct\\_news\\_2022\\_7\\_8.pdf?utm\\_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=77a76bec55-DIS\\_PCT\\_EN\\_17\\_08\\_22&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bcb3de19b4-77a76bec55-256889069](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pctndocs/en/2022/pct_news_2022_7_8.pdf?utm_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm_campaign=77a76bec55-DIS_PCT_EN_17_08_22&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bcb3de19b4-77a76bec55-256889069)

Iran patented 307 innovations in nanotechnology by the end of 2021 in the United States and Europe  
<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/475898/Nanotechnology-holds-30-share-of-Iranian-registered-patents>

**GCC:**

The Office issued issue 65 of the patent bulletin, including publication and a number of other office decisions (2022.8.4)

<https://twitter.com/GCCPatentOffice/status/1555142637769875456>

<https://www.gccpo.org/Doc/PatentGazette/Gazette/65.pdf>

The Director of the Patent Office in the Gulf Cooperation Council states that 50% of patents are registered by Saudi Arabia among the Gulf countries (2022.8.12)

<https://twitter.com/alekhbariyatv/status/1558075192458596353>



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