

Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 67

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1. Important topics

UAE:

Easier Formality of documents related to Patents and Industrial Designs

The Ministry of Economy issued a circular email on September 13, 2022, announcing the new legalization requirements for the powers of attorney (PoA) related to patents and industrial designs, as follows:

For Power of Attorney "POA": it shall be notarized in the UAE or any foreign country by a notary public. Stamp of the UAE public entity (eg. government organizations, national universities) is regarded equivalent as to notarization.

For Deed of Assignment "DOA": * UAE company may submit the certificate of employment or copy of the employment contract as an alternative to DOA if the inventor is the employee of that company since the invention of an employee is automatically transferred to the employer under UAE IP Law.

As to the Certificate of Incorporation "COI": it shall be notarized in the UAE or any foreign country by a notary public. If the COI is issued by a UAE government entity (e.g., trade license by DED), notarization is not required.

A Stamp of the UAE public entity (e.g., government organization, national universities) is regarded equivalent as to notarization.

Saudi Arabia:

SAIP Reports for the First Half of 2022

The SAIP announces the release of the semi-annual report on intellectual property information for the year 2022. The report showed a growth in the number of patent applications filed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the first half of 2022 AD compared to the same period last year by 37%, and requests for voluntary registration of copyright works witnessed a growth of 26%, and the number of trademark applications reached 18,965 applications, an increase of 1%, and the number of industrial designs registration applications filed reached 661, a decrease of 8% compared to the same period last year¹.

Moreover, the SAIP has published the numbers of the inspection work for the first half of 2022², which showed that more than 5 million items on infringing intellectual property rights were seized during the inspection campaigns. The report reflected that more than 5,000 visits were conducted to enforce intellectual property rights and 869 of such visits were mystery shopper visits.

As to the electronic inspection, the report showed that 3,036 websites and contents violating intellectual property rights were removed.

Such reports reflect the SAIP efforts in the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in cooperation with other competent authorities.

Egypt:

National Intellectual Property Strategy³

Egypt launched its National Strategy for Intellectual Property on September 21, 2022, in an official ceremony organized under the auspices of President El-Sisi, and inaugurated in the presence of Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly. The launch was attended by the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Director-General Daren Tang⁴.

The duration of implementation of the Strategy is (5 Years) from September 2022-2027 and is based on the following principles:

- Respect of IP
- Equal opportunities, social justice and adherence to transparency standards
- Supporting competitiveness and preventing monopolistic practices
- Ensuring and consolidating freedom of thought and opinion, and the rights of artistic and literary creativity, developing talents, inducing innovation and scientific research, supporting

¹ <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1360/>

² <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1349/>

³ [Footnote 3.pdf \(jetro.go.jp\)](#)

⁴ <https://sis.gov.eg/Story/171524/PM-Launching-National-Strategy-for-Intellectual-Property-first-step-of-its-kind-in-Egypt?lang=en-us>

and developing its institutions, fostering researchers and inventors, and protecting their acquired rights.

- Achieving the optimal balance between granting exclusive rights to encourage creativity, innovation and investment in various fields on the one hand and achieving the general interest of society in various aspects of life on the other.
- Governance and enhancement of institutional work in the authority to be established and entrusted with the competence of protecting IP rights
- The correlation between authority and responsibility, whereby the State Authorities are deemed responsible for carrying out their duties towards implementing the strategy and ensuring its effectiveness.

The strategy reflected the current status of IP-related rights which shows some weaknesses (i.e. SWOT analysis) such as lack of expertise and developed human resources, the lack of integration between science and industry research, as well as the absence of a comprehensive exclusive pool of IP assets owned by the state.

As to Patents, such weakness is noticeable from the 2021 statistics of the number of patent applications in Egypt, namely 2,225, including 881 from residents (Egyptian) and 1,344 from non-residents (foreigners). The report shows that the number of patent applications filed by the Egyptians is only 39% of the total applications in 2021. Moreover, although most of the applicants are companies (85%), few of them only are Egyptian companies.⁵

Regarding the Utility models, although the IP law no. 82/2002 regulates this right for protecting minor inventions which are considered easily granted with fewer conditions and fees than patents, however, there is a very limited number of filings of utility models in Egypt. The awareness of this type of IP right is important, especially for natural Applicants and SMEs.

The current statics reflects a noticeable increase in the filing percentage of trademarks, industrial designs and plant varieties in Egypt over the past three years.

The Strategic goals include mainly four elements, as follows:

1) **Governance of the Institutional Structure of the IP:** through the establishment of a National IP Authority to coordinate the efforts of IP departments and offices across Egypt, including those at universities and research institutions, as well as supporting the Digital Transformation and promoting the enforcement of IP rights.

⁵ [Footnote 5.pdf \(jetro.go.jp\)](#)

It is important to highlight that the constitutional legislator realized the situation and decided in Article 69 of the Egyptian Constitution to establish a competent body to foster IP rights and undertake their legal protection, in order to achieve harmony and integration between the elements of the IP system and become an arm of the State in this field.

2) **Configuring the Legislative Environment for IP:** through short-term intervention “Urgent phase” by working on solving urgent fundamental problems related to the IP system, as well as a medium-term intervention which entails a comprehensive review of all legislation related to the IP.

3) **Optimizing the economic return of IP in achieving the SDGs:** through encouraging the commercial exploitation of IP assets after their financial valuation according to the latest international standards, maximizing the use of IP in scientific research and linking it to the needs of the national industry, implementing rational and balanced IP policies in the field of public health and access to medicine, maximizing the economic value of the medium, small enterprises, maximizing the economic returns of the tourism and heritage sectors and regulating the access to biological resources and related traditional knowledge and the sharing of benefits arising therefrom.

4) **Raising awareness of Egyptian society on IP:** through disseminating and promoting public awareness of IP and the national IP strategy main components, maximizing the use of IP in scientific research and linking it to the needs of the Integrating the concepts of creativity, innovation and intellectual property into the educational process at the pre-university level as well as promoting IP awareness in universities and research institutions, and motivating students and scholars to produce IP.

The strategy provides also the institutional and interim framework for follow-up and evaluation and is divided into two phases the Council of Ministers will follow up on the efforts of the various State authorities and sectors in the implementation of the Strategy.

Given the importance of the such event, more than ten Egyptian government ministers attended the launch ceremony alongside ambassadors, representatives of UN bodies and international organizations, members of national institutions mandated with administering IP in Egypt and key national figures working in the fields of education, entrepreneurship, technology and the creative economy.

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/

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://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/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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