

## Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 69

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### **News**

#### **1. Important topics**

**UAE:**

#### **Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between Dubai Police and WIPO<sup>1</sup>**

In its role for protection and enforcement of Intellectual Property rights of parties in the city, the Dubai Police have extended the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the WIPO, with an aim to promote

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<sup>1</sup> <https://m.facebook.com/dubaipolicehq/photos/a.179855485406259/5839637462761338/?type=3>

intellectual property rights and the protection of the same as a joint effort, as per the international regulations and agreements.

The MoU intends to achieve the objectives of the Dubai Police, to accelerate and promote communication within institutions, bodies and government and private organizations within and outside the country, with an intention to promote a wide exchange of knowledge, information and experiences in various fields.

In its efforts, the Dubai police organized annual workshops in coalition with WIPO, with an aim to educate and create awareness among its employees on the relevance, and importance of the concept of IP.

The MOU was executed by the General Commander of Dubai Police, Colonel Mansour Al Gergawi and Mr. Darren Tang, who is the Director General of WIPO.

### **Dubai Customs registers 4,344 trademarks to protect intellectual property rights<sup>23</sup>**

As it is a known fact, Dubai is the commercial hub of the Middle East and is a busy route for imports and exports. Due to the fact that it is a buzzing market, it is expected to face a lot of illegal encroachment of counterfeit/fraudulent products in the competitive market, hence requiring strict vigilance during the transition.

Dubai Customs plays a very important role to protect the intellectual property rights of registered trademark owners, and the society at large, from the hazards of counterfeit goods, and enhances the opportunities for traders and investors to make the highest return on investment.

Dubai Customs established the IPR Department in the year 2005, which enables trademark owners to register their mark with Dubai customs after it has been registered with the Ministry of Economy. This is called the recordal of the trademark with Dubai customs. Such recordal, protects a trademark owner, through several programs and plans including the trademark registration service, which enables trademark owners to counteract counterfeit goods and prevent them from entering the UAE through the border crossings in Dubai, with the aid of the Dubai Customs.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/NewsCenter/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=1843>

<sup>3</sup> <https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303101118>

Trademark owners can register their trademarks through the Dubai customs website after these trademarks are registered with the Ministry of Economy. Registration of these trademarks helps curb any attempts to enter counterfeit goods into the country. The customs officers will monitor each shipment and in case they suspect that any shipment carries any counterfeit goods, they coordinate with the trademark owner, in order to seek assessment/verification if the goods are original/fake.

Dubai customs have registered 4,344 trademarks since the establishment of the IPR Department in 2005. In 2021 they registered 437 trademarks and in 2022 they have registered 231 trademarks so far.

#### **Dubai Customs recycles 22,436 counterfeit items for 24 brands<sup>4</sup>**

The Intellectual Property Department of Dubai Customs recycled 22,436 counterfeit items from 24 international brands. Counterfeit items included phones, watches, batteries, shoes, bags, accessories and cosmetics.

The recycling took place in the virtual presence of the diplomatic missions' representatives, Dubai Municipality, and Dubai Customs.

The authority aims to recycle these counterfeit goods to ensure disposal without harming the environment. Dubai Customs is welcoming brand owners to organize workshops for customs inspectors and employees to train them on how to distinguish counterfeit products.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

#### **The Saudi Authority of Intellectual property (SAIP) explains the procedures for complaining of trademark infringement, to online store owners<sup>5</sup>**

The Saudi Authority of Intellectual property (SAIP) leaves no stone unturned, in its efforts to protect trademark owners as well as the consumers at large in the Kingdom. As it is a known fact, the objective of obtaining a market devoid of IP infringements, the trademark owners as well as the layman consumers should be aware of the provisions/machinery available to them in order to protect their trademark and/or to protect oneself from the menace of counterfeit activities, as well as for the enforcement of their rights.

The SAIP has recently explained to the owners of e-stores, the procedures for submitting a complaint to the Authority, in case a registered trademark is infringed or used by another person/entity without prior

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/NewsCenter/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=1841>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1410/>

authorization from the owner of the mark. They explained the steps to be taken to file a complaint by filling in the required data and then submitting it through the official website of the authority.

Such efforts shed light on the efforts of the authority which intend to continue with its inspection campaigns in order to create awareness of the importance of respecting IP rights.

In the said statement, the SAIP stressed the need for the citizens and residents to help them in their endeavors by communicating/complaining about any possible infringements, through the Authority's official channels for such complaints.

#### **Turkey:**

#### **Memorandum of Understanding on the Protection of Industrial Property Rights" was signed between the Turkey & Azerbaijan<sup>6</sup>**

The Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT) and the Intellectual Property Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (COPAT) signed a memorandum of understanding on the protection of Intellectual Property rights, in the presence of Cemil Başpınar, i.e., President of TURPATENT, and COPAT Board Member Sanan Tapdigov.

This MOU was signed within the scope of the Turkey-Azerbaijan Business Forum held in Baku, Azerbaijan, which was inaugurated by Vice President Fuat Oktay and Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ali Esedov, which brought together private sector business people of the two countries.

The major objective of the MOU is the protection and enforcement of the intellectual property rights of parties in both countries, as well as the strengthening of the economic, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries.

This MOU will enable the implementation of 8 different plans related to intellectual property rights between the two countries, until the end of 2023.

#### **Qatar:**

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/haberler/turkpatent-ile-copat-arasinda-mutabakat-zapti-imzalandi>

### **First World Cup ticket touts detained in Qatar<sup>7</sup>**

Qatar had been loud and clear that it would not tolerate any kind of illegal or counterfeit activities with respect to any concept/trademark rights of FIFA during the ongoing FIFA World cup in Qatar.

Qatar has announced its first arrests of three foreign men detained outside official ticketing centers in Doha, who were found reselling match tickets. These three people of different nationalities were arrested and now face criminal proceedings. The statement said those arrested could face fines of up to 250,000 riyals (\$68,000) for each ticket they were found to have sold.

FIFA and the Qatari government had repeatedly warned that selling fake/counterfeit World Cup merchandise is strictly prohibited and such acts could face serious consequences. The authorities had also reported the seizure of 144 counterfeit World Cup trophies, in addition to car number plates illegally using World Cup imagery and counterfeit clothes using official logos that have been held by authorities.

### **Oman:**

#### **Seizure of two commercial establishments that trade in counterfeit goods**

The GCC has always been proactive about protecting its consumers at large, as well as protecting the rights of trademark owners and the Sultanate of Oman is not lagging behind in the said pursuit.

In order to actively pursue its objective of a counterfeit free market, the Consumer Protection Department of Oman makes it a point to have routine inspections of the various marketplaces, shops, and commercial establishments, in order to be certain that no counterfeit/infringing products are offered for sale.

During its latest inspections, the department was able to seize two commercial establishments that offered for sale, counterfeit and infringing goods.

Based on the implementation of the Consumer Protection Law, its executive regulations, and the decisions issued in this regard, since the two establishments displayed and sold goods that did not contain the required explanatory data, were counterfeit goods, while taking legal measures the department issued

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/football/first-world-cup-ticket-touts-detained-in-qatar>

administrative fines on these establishments, for violating the consumer protection Law. The fines imposed amounted to 1,500 Omani Riyals.<sup>8</sup>

In yet another independent action, the Consumer Protection Department of Oman in cooperation with the Pharmaceutical Control Section of the Directorate General of Health Services in the governorate managed to seize 1394 commodities from three stores from North Al Batinah, which were found to be selling herbs and honey in the state prohibited and unauthorized by the Ministry of Health, expired goods that do not conform to specifications and standards, and have medical allegations, which have the prospects of having a negative impact on the health of the individual and society.

The summary of seized documents was as follows:

- The number of banned commodities that are sold without fulfilling all conditions related to health and safety- 1270
- expired commodities- 124

The seized goods will be destroyed as per the procedures.<sup>9</sup>

## **2. Additional topics**

### **UAE:**

DFSA Crypto Token regime comes into force, the second phase of the DFSA's work following the introduction of a regime in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) for the Regulation of Investment Tokens (2022.11.1)

<https://www.dfsa.ae/news/dfsa-crypto-token-regime-comes-force>

<https://www.dfsa.ae/innovation>

<https://dfsae.thomsonreuters.com/rulebook/feedback-statement-consultation-paper-no-143-regulation-crypto-tokens>

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<sup>8</sup> <https://pacp.gov.om/ar/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=11706>

<sup>9</sup> <https://pacp.gov.om/ar/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=11716>

Arab Publishers Conference calls for efforts to protect intellectual rights in the region for authors and publishers (2022.11.5)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303098605>

Inaugural 'Prototypes for Humanity' with a mission to reinforce the role of academia-led alliances in accelerating change (2022.11.10)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303100483>

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303100584>

The seven startups pitched for investment on the Investor Day at SRTI Park (2022.11.11)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/kt-network/investor-day-shortlists-startups-at-srti-park>

Abu Dhabi Stock Exchange warns the public against fraud, obtaining illicitly copied copyright and trademark-protected materials from ADX's official website and announcements (2022.11.12)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/uae-scam-alert-abu-dhabi-stock-exchange-warns-public-against-fraud>

Banned Dish TV, hackers are breaching the law of intellectual property rights and anti-IT crimes federal law (2022.11.15)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/thousands-tune-in-to-banned-dish-tv>

UAE Space Agency launches the Space Data Centre project aiming to utilize space data and technologies to address global sustainability challenges (2022.11.16)

[http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IND\\_403272.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IND_403272.html)

<https://space.gov.ae/Page/20121/20274/Space-Data-Center>

Abu Dhabi Arabic Language Centre announces 'Spotlight on Rights' grant program recipients to encourage talented Arab writers, translators, and audio-visual content creators (2022.11.20)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303103775>

Chalhoub Group denied counterfeit perfumes had been sold at their outlets and claimed no complaint was ever filed for the influx of counterfeit perfume in the UAE market (2022.11.24)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/chanel-to-investigate-fake-perfume-claims>

Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (ADDED) partners with 'Prototype' to support inventors, Takamol program has evaluated 1,013 patent applications and supported 377 applications that meet the conditions for patent registration (2022.11.25)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303105831>

Emirati Children's Parliament holds a closing session, enhancing children's capacities of innovation, especially in terms of patents, intellectual property and pioneering ideas (2022.11.25)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303105884>

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303106504>

Golden Visa expanded: innovators with a patent that will add value to the economy of the UAE can apply for a UAE Golden visa (2022.11.28)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/visa-and-immigration-in-uae/uae-golden-visa-expanded-these-15-questions-will-help-you-know-if-youre-eligible>

The Dubai Criminal Court sentenced a man to three years in prison and a fine of Dh 5,000 for attempting to exchange \$10,000 in counterfeit bills at an exchange center (2022.11.29)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/kenyan-trying-to-exchange-fake-bills-caught-and-jailed>

### **Saudi Arabia:**

Aramco launched a Global AI Corridor for building local capacity and growing talent, nurturing Saudi AI startups, and attracting capital investment and intellectual property (2022.11.1)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2191681/business-economy>

EDGE becomes the exclusive distributor of Enekom's patented railway solutions in GCC (2022.11.1)

<https://www.gccbusinessnews.com/edge-becomes-exclusive-distributor-of-enekoms-patented-railway-solutions-in-gcc/>

Tdafoq Energy Partners with Delectrik Systems of India for GWh Scale Vanadium Flow Battery ESS Project in Saudi Arabia (2022.11.2)

<https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/headlines/2235737-tdafoq-energy-partners-with-delectrik-systems-of-india-for-gwh-scale-vanadium-flow-battery-ess-project-in-saudi-arabia>

SAIP announces the Launch of the Compulsory Licensing Service for Copyright Works (2022.11.4)



<https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1414/>

SAIP attended the Council of "Respect for Intellectual Property" to talk about its importance and protection, in addition to reviewing an overview of industrial models, patents and trademarks (2022.11.6)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1589306836586762241>

<https://twitter.com/MonshaatSA/status/1589294035902074884>

The Emirate of Al Qassim contributed to the registration and documentation of the "Falcon Eye" electronic program and was awarded by SAIP (2022.11.7)

<https://twitter.com/EmarahAlQassim/status/1589699066908184577>

The Saudi Economic Crimes Prosecution has arrested an organized criminal gang and is under investigation for counterfeiting money (2022.11.7)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2195441/saudi-arabia>

Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC) signs agreements for desalination brine mining projects (2022.11.8)

<https://www.zawya.com/en/projects/mining/saudis-swcc-signs-agreements-for-desalination-brine-mining-projects-yvxau02y>

King Abdulaziz University honored Saudi students for receiving two bronze medals and two patents at the Warsaw International Exhibition of Inventions in Poland (2022.11.9)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2196726/saudi-arabia>

Korean and Saudi strong partnership registered 447 industrial models, 2,881 trademarks, and 543 patents among the filings in 2021 (2022.11.17)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2201486/world>

State Properties General Authority has announced that it would start implementing the Saudi Green Initiative's agricultural and environmental schemes within the next four years (2022.11.20)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2202961/business-economy>

The SAIP, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, announced a project to include intellectual property in curricula to enable students to have creative thinking and innovation skills as well as enhance awareness of intellectual property rules, controls and laws (2022.11.21)

<https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1424/>

<https://twitter.com/SAIPspokesman/status/1594614157428592642>

The Sustainable Partnerships Conference concluded with the presentation of 1,000 research products and industrial models for universities, in addition to the presentation of 220 scientific inventions (2022.11.25, 2022.11.26)

[https://twitter.com/SPC\\_MOHE/status/1595764516138221570](https://twitter.com/SPC_MOHE/status/1595764516138221570)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1595871311728971777>

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1595870584046751744>

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/627342/SAUDI-ARABIA/1000-research-products-220-inventions-presented-in-Sustainable-Partnerships-Conference?ref=rss&format=simple&link=link>

#### **Turkey:**

"Regional Geographical Indications Symposium and Exhibition" was held in cooperation with TÜRKPATENT, WIPO and COPAT (2022.11.24)

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1595819175565459456>

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/haberler/cografisi-aretler-sempozyumu-ve-sergisi>

#### **Oman:**

ARA Petroleum has teamed up with Austrian solar engineering specialist Heliovis to set up the world's first solar-thermally powered, zero-emission water desalination plant in Oman (2022.11.3)

<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1127863/business/energy/oman-to-host-worlds-first-solar-desalination-plant-for-produced-water-treatment>

Omani inventors participated in Falling Walls Lab Finals in Germany (2022.11.10)

<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1128261/oman/education/3-omani-innovators-participate-in-falling-walls-lab-finals>

#### **Qatar:**

The official logo of the World Cup is the exclusive property of FIFA, and it cannot be used without obtaining the prior approval of the concerned authority (2022.11.10)

<https://twitter.com/MOCIQatar/status/1589890314588000256>

<https://twitter.com/MOCIQatar/status/1590601677698056192>

<https://twitter.com/MOCIQatar/status/1590238971644497922>

### **Kuwait:**

The ministry seized commercial complexes for selling counterfeit products of international brands (2022.11.9, 2022. 11.16)

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1590266146149629957>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1592746533149380608>

### **Pakistan**

Pakistan Roof Afza, the concentrated fruit squash, the trademark was registered both in India and Pakistan (2022.11.17)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2201631/world>

### **Worldwide:**

Amendments to the Regulations under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks in force as of November 1, 2022 (2022.10.31)

[https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wipo.int%2Fedocs%2Fmadrdocs%2Fen%2F2022%2Fmadrid\\_2022\\_30.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wipo.int%2Fedocs%2Fmadrdocs%2Fen%2F2022%2Fmadrid_2022_30.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

Climate change: what Intellectual Property Rights can do? (2022.11.7, 2022.11.12)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/opinion/rich-countries-must-take-lead-in-combating-climate-change>

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2198406>

World Intellectual Property Indicators 2022 has published (2022.11.21)

<https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo-pub-941-2022-en-world-intellectual-property-indicators-2022.pdf>

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303104712>

[Commissioned by JPO]  
Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 69

[Author]  
United Trademark & Patent Services



[Published by]  
Japan External Trade Organization Dubai Office



Published in December 2022  
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