

**Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 70**

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## News

### **1. Important topics**

#### **UAE:**

#### **UAE to host next World Trade Organization meeting in 2024<sup>1</sup>**

The United Arab Emirates will be the host of the 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Abu Dhabi in the first Quarter of 2024 to shape the future of global trade.

In the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12), the areas of focus included export restrictions, food security, intellectual property, regulatory cooperation, services, tariff classification, technology transfer, trade facilitation, and transparency.

"Geneva Package"<sup>2</sup>, which was secured at the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) held in Geneva on 12-17 June, was delivered to provide concrete trade-related responses to important challenges facing the world today.

The contribution of IP to the pandemic response has sparked a debate within and beyond and has proven to prioritize technical assistance and policy support for WTO members.

This includes efforts such as the waiver of certain requirements under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) concerning the use of compulsory licenses to produce COVID-19 vaccines, to make access to medical supplies and components more predictable; the TRIPS waiver compromise will contribute to efforts to deconcentrate and diversify vaccine manufacturing capacity.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

#### **Joint cooperation between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the People's Republic of China in the field of intellectual property<sup>3</sup>**

The first Arab-China Summit was held on December 9, 2022, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, with the aim of developing relations between the two sides in various fields.

The agreement includes putting the directives into practice, through the executive programs of the Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum emphasizing the importance of cooperation in the next stage in various political, economic, social, and development fields as well as intellectual property rights.

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<sup>1</sup> [Emirates News Agency - UAE to host WTO's 13th Ministerial Conference in Q1 2024 \(wam.ae\)](https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303110344)

<sup>2</sup> [WTO | Ministerial conferences - Twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference - MC12 "Geneva package" - in brief](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303110344>

Earlier, SAIP signed a MoU for cooperation in the field of intellectual property with the National Administration for Intellectual Property of the People's Republic of China within the framework of the "Belt and Road initiatives".<sup>4</sup>

The most prominent joint cooperation activities within the framework of the MoU;

- Signing the fast-track program for examining patent applications.
- Accreditation of the National Administration for Intellectual Property as an international research body for the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property within the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 3 Specialists benefited from grants offered for a master's degree in intellectual property at Tongji University in the People's Republic of China.
- A training program for more than 30 intellectual property specialists, with the participation of experts in the field from the People's Republic of China.
- Conducting 3 joint workshops to exchange experiences in the field of enforcement of intellectual property rights and organizing a field visit to learn about the Chinese experience in this field.

#### **Saudi Arabia joined the Hague Treaty<sup>5</sup>**

Saudi Arabia approved the accession to The Hague Apostille Convention entering into force on December 7, 2022. The signed country can obtain an Apostille certificate from an authorized competent authority to authenticate a public document. This one-step process saves time and cost by avoiding additional certification or legalization at a foreign country's embassy or consulate.

The Apostille Convention is accepted in 121 member countries including Bahrain, Morocco, Oman, and Tunisia in the Middle East.

The Kingdom's participation in this agreement is part of the Kingdom's 2030 Vision to improve the business environment for companies and individuals.

#### **Publication of decisions of committees for the resolution of intellectual property disputes**

The General Secretariat of the Committees for the Resolution of Intellectual Property Disputes at the SAIP has published a set of decisions issued by the intellectual property committees on the SAIP website.<sup>6</sup>

The said Committees have published decisions for reviewing violations of the Copyright Protection System with the applicable statutory requirements.

It aims to raise the level of researchers and academics in the field of intellectual property and understand its nature by reviewing the decisions issued by the committees and enhancing the efficiency of legal

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<sup>4</sup> <https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1600549399771611136>

<sup>5</sup> <https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1604763451674411008>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.saip.gov.sa/respect-ip/>

practitioners in intellectual property cases. The decisions issued by the Patent Committee will be published during the next stage.<sup>7</sup>

All beneficiaries are encouraged to view the published decisions which may be considered valuable scientific material specialized in the fields of intellectual property and that would contribute to identifying more awareness about the protection and preservation of intellectual property rights.

**Turkey:**

**Electronic Communication System opened to exchange views from the authority<sup>8</sup>**

With the aid of the Electronic Communication System opened on December 5, applicants and patent/trademark attorneys are able to get information about industrial property applications from the Turkpatent and exchange views through <https://iletisim.turkpatent.gov.tr/iletisim/giris>.

The e-Government password can be obtained from the PTT Central Directorates by applying in person and by presenting your identity card with your T.R. Identity number or from Embassies and Consulates abroad.

**Oman:**

**The Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion announced enormous decreased in fees for Trademark, Patent and Design**

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion announced 127 fees that included Intellectual Property Services and Patent Registration Services for companies and individuals are reduced, cancelled and combined with effect from the first quarter of 2023" with an aim to support economic development and financial stability by the Ministry of Finance. The revised fee structure aims to raise the quality of services provided by the government and offer a competitive edge to the Sultanate when it comes to attracting foreign investments.<sup>9</sup>

Some of the notable decreased in fees are as follows;

Services	Previous Fees (OMR)	Amended Fees (OMR)	Duration
Filing an Industrial Design Application (Company)	1000	100	-
Certificate of Registration of an Industrial Design	500	50	5 years
Renewal of an Industrial Design	500	50	5 years
Filing a Graphic Design Application			

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.saip.gov.sa/news/1466/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1598741497519607809>



	1000	100	-
Certificate of Registration of a Graphic Design Application	500	50	10 years
Filing of Collective Trademarks or Certification Trademarks in single class of goods	200	160	10 years
Renewal of Collective Trademarks or Certification Trademarks in single class of goods	500	160	10 years
Trademark Search	50	40	-
Registration of a Trademark in single class of goods	50	40	10 years
Renewal of a trademark in single class of goods	200	130	10 years
Filing a Utility Model (Company)	300	50	-
Filing a Patent Application (Company)	300	50	-
Patent Technical Examination Fee	300	150	-

**GCC:**

**GCC Patent Office resume receiving patent applications for Bahrain and Kuwait starting from January 1, 2023<sup>10</sup>**

In the latest Official Gazette issued by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Patent Office, the GCC Patent Office announced to resume receiving patent applications on behalf of Kingdom of Bahrain and State of Kuwait and examining them formally and substantively. Grants will be made by the national office. The new applications will be “national” patents and they will not consider as GCC patent applications, which means the granted patents will only have legal effect in the jurisdiction of the national patent office, either Bahrain and/or Kuwait where the applicant originally designated with the GCC Patent Office and is not valid for all the GCC member states.

<sup>10</sup> <https://gccpo.org/AboutUsEn/ShowNews?id=68>

## **2. Additional topics**

### **UAE:**

ERRA highlights the importance of copyright preservation and copyright management organizations and intellectual property (2022.12.2)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303107909>

UAE Space Agency, Bayanat partner to develop a geospatial analytics platform for the space data center (2022.12.6)

<http://wam.ae/en/details/1395303109068>

JETRO's IP Department shares the latest IP information among Japanese stakeholders, enhancing the awareness of the authorities and public through events (2022.12.9, 2022.12.21)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/supplements/promoting-landscape-of-opportunities-2>

<https://twitter.com/DubaiCustoms/status/1605576984037400578>

At the 13th Sharjah Theatre Festival, the association was inaugurated and raised the issue of the intellectual property of artists (2022.12.12)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/sultan-opens-theatre-festival-in-sharjah>

UAE's clean energy transition and innovative initiatives (2022.12.13, 2022.12.14)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303111366>

<https://www.zawya.com/en/projects/industry/uaes-beeah-advances-waste-to-hydrogen-project-in-sharjah-x88ommpw>

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/environment/solar-parks-green-ammonia-dubai-is-on-its-way-to-achieving-clean-energy-target>

Evocargo launched UAE's first driverless truck trials with 37 protected inventions and technologies (2022.12.14)

<http://wam.ae/en/details/1395303111387>

<https://evocargo.com/>

The first Arabic Language Summit featured strengthening legislation to protect the copyright and IP rights of authors and publishers (2022.12.20)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303113078>

Messi's jersey and Argentina kits including counterfeit items sold out after the historic World Cup win (2022.12.21)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/sports/fifa-world-cup/demand-is-very-high-messi-no-10-jersey-argentina-kits-sold-out-across-gcc-after-historic-world>

Majid Al Futtain signs a deal to launch digital smart rooms with a completely new genre of group entertainment (2022.12.22)

[http://www.tradearabia.com/news/MISC\\_404525.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/MISC_404525.html)

A deep-tech-focused Venture Capital fund, 8X Ventures seeks UAE start-ups transforming industries through a scientific and research foundation (2022.12.23)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/business/start-ups/star-tech-8x-ventures-powers-deep-tech-growth-in-uae>

<https://8xventures.co/>

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

SAIP organized a dialogue session entitled Intellectual Property Rights in Creative Fields at the XP Future of Music Conference 2022 (2022.11.30)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1597930600555376640>

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1597932185608421379>

<https://mdlbeast.com/events/xp-2022>

Music and Web3: music industry in the metaverse, Intellectual Property in the metaverse world is deep and has a clear presence (2022.11.30)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2208931/saudi-arabia>

stc Group supports research and innovation with new partnerships to exchange knowledge, and support educational programs (2022.12.3)

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2210361/corporate-news>

<https://www.stc.com.sa/content/stcgroupwebsite/sa/en/who-we-are.html>

Adding the new shipping service "Shaheen Express" to King Abdulaziz Port in Dammam to be a global logistics center linking three continents (2022.12.11)

<https://mawani.gov.sa/ar->

[sa/MediaCenter/NewsCenter/Pages/%D9%85%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A6-%D8%A5%D8%B6%D8%A7%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%AE%D8%AF%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B4%D8%AD%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AF%D8%A9-Shaheen-](https://mawani.gov.sa/MediaCenter/NewsCenter/Pages/%D9%85%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A6-%D8%A5%D8%B6%D8%A7%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%AE%D8%AF%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B4%D8%AD%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AF%D8%A9-Shaheen-)

[Express-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%A1-%D8%A7%D9%84](https://mawani.gov.sa/MediaCenter/NewsCenter/Pages/%D9%85%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A6-%D8%A5%D8%B6%D8%A7%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%AE%D8%AF%D9%85%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B4%D8%AD%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AF%D8%A9-Shaheen-Express-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%A1-%D8%A7%D9%84)

[%D9%85%D9%84%D9%83-%D8%B9%D8%A8%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B2%D9%8A%D8%B2-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%85.aspx](#)

Saudi Venture is growing vegetables in the desert with new patented technology (2022.12.13)  
<https://twitter.com/WIPO/status/1602543844645560324>

November indicator: 13,497 items have been seized for violating intellectual property rights (2022.12.13)  
<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1602551683967598593/photo/1>

Publication of decisions of committees for the resolution of intellectual property disputes (2022.12.17)  
<https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1466/>  
<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1604090342424313857>

The National Intellectual Property Strategy outlines a vision for a strong IP ecosystem that supports the innovation-based economy (2022.12.23)  
<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1605974421251821576>  
<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1605933964463464448>  
<https://saip.gov.sa/en/national-strategy/>  
<https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1478/>  
<https://externalportal-backend-production.saip.gov.sa/sites/default/files/2022-12/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%8A%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%88%D8%B7%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D9%88%D8%AB%D9%8A%D9%82%D8%A9%20final.pdf>

Accession of the Kingdom to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Trademarks (Madrid Protocol) (2022.12.27)  
<https://istitlaa.ncc.gov.sa/ar/Trade/SAIP/MadridProtocol/Pages/default.aspx>  
<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1607659905250369536>

**Oman:**

Oman issues New Regulations for .OM domain registration effective from March 23, 2023 (2022.12.5)  
<file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/5.pdf>

Mirbat facility to be Oman's first crypt-mining center: Green Data City will develop in two phases adding renewable energy and patented deep-sea water-cooling innovation (2022.12.7)  
<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1129432/business/markets/mirbat-facility-to-be-omans-first-crypto-mining-data-centre>



The Consumer Protection Department seized a commercial establishment trading counterfeit and adulterated goods (2022.12.13)

<https://pacp.gov.om/ar/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=11728>

**Kuwait:**

The ministry seized shops selling counterfeit products of international brands in various areas (2022.12.3, 2022.12.4, 2022.12.5, 2022.12.6)

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1600044178016153600>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1599710556146892800>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1599295021316202496>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1598975739298082816>

**Bahrain:**

Northstar Technology hosted a digital convergence with Lenovo and discussed the importance of a partnership of mutual understanding (2022.12.7)

[http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IT\\_403979.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IT_403979.html)

Bahrain focuses on sustainable aluminum solutions including developing new patents for reducing waste and promoting the green industry (2022.12.22)

[http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IND\\_404505.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IND_404505.html)

**Iraq:**

Starbucks is trying to shut down 3 unlicensed Starbucks stores in Iraq importing the company's coffee and merchandise from surrounding countries (2022.12.22)

<https://www.businessinsider.com/starbucks-trying-shut-down-three-unlicensed-coffee-shops-in-iraq-2022-12>

<https://apnews.com/article/middle-east-business-lawsuits-iraq-baghdad-49b82ce26c4a77af4b09ce41ec2fe0a2>

**Jordan:**

Huawei joins Jordan's march to become a regional ICT hub and maintains global leadership in many ICT domains, including 5G (2022.12.1)

<https://jordantimes.com/news/local/huawei-joins-jordans-march-become-regional-ict-hub-says-ceo>

**Morocco:**

Madrid Protocol: changes in the amounts of the individual fee effective from January 6, 2023 (2022.12.6)

[https://www.wipo.int/edocs/madrdocs/en/2022/madrid\\_2022\\_37.pdf?utm\\_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=564af97602-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2022\\_12\\_07\\_02\\_06&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_564af97602-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/madrdocs/en/2022/madrid_2022_37.pdf?utm_source=WIPO+Newsletters&utm_campaign=564af97602-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_12_07_02_06&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_564af97602-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

**GCC:**

GCC Patent Office issued Issue 69 of the Patent Bulletin including the publication of 111 patents and a number of other decisions of the Office (2022.12.5)

<https://www.gccpo.org/Doc/PatentGazette/Gazette/69.pdf>

**Worldwide:**

FIFA World Cup: the US seized 55 websites for illegally live-streaming matches (2022.12.13)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/sports/fifa-world-cup/fifa-world-cup-us-seizes-55-websites-for-illegally-live-streaming-matches>

WIPO IP Facts and Figures 2022: an overview of IP activity based on the latest available year of complete statistics (2022.12.16)

<https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo-pub-943-2022-en-wipo-ip-facts-and-figures-2022.pdf>

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