

Middle East Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 71

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News

1. Important topics

UAE:

UAE-Korea cooperation efforts during state visit of the Korean president to the UAE¹

Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea (ROK), was on a state visit to the United Arab Emirates from 14th to 17th January 2023 upon the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates.

During the Summit Meeting held on January 15, 2023, at Qasr Al Watan in Abu Dhabi, the two leaders agreed to deepen and further develop the partnership ties between the two countries.

During the talks, it was emphasized that a cooperative attitude and long-standing relationship between the two countries has resulted in growth in various sectors including the intellectual property sector. In order to further strengthen this sector, among other MOUs, they signed a Memorandum of Understanding on enhanced cooperation to implement collaborative activities in a wider range of areas, such as the utilization of patent information for the identification and development of national strategic technologies.

Such efforts from different countries reflect the approach of these countries, towards mutual growth based on a collective and cooperative attitude.

Clean fuel alternative invented by Emirati Scientist²

Emirati Scientist Ayesha Abdulla Alkhoori has invented a clean fuel alternative, that converts carbon dioxide to methane. Methane is considered to be an environment-friendly natural gas as compared to other gases such as carbon dioxide. This invention by Alkhoori has enabled her to earn the laurel of L'Oréal-Unesco for Women in Science award for her said research. Although her invention is not yet available for commercial use, but she is also hopeful that her design is not too far from being commercially available.

Alkhoori has designed a catalytic material used to convert carbon dioxide — a greenhouse gas — to methane, which is the cleanest burning fossil fuel. Methane provides a comparative environmental benefit,

¹ <https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303118985>

² <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/uae-meet-the-emirati-scientist-who-designed-award-winning-clean-fuel-alternative>

producing more heat and light energy by mass than other hydrocarbons, or fossil fuels, including coal and petroleum oils, while producing significantly less carbon dioxide and other pollutants that contribute to smog and unhealthy air.

While it is a crucial invention, especially in the light of global warming threats, Alkhoori realized that is of utmost importance to get her invention patented, in order to protect her rights towards the said invention. She confirmed that she is currently in the process of patenting her discovery.

Saudi Arabia:

The Kingdom launches National Intellectual Property Strategy³⁴⁵

In further efforts to boost tourism in the Country, Saudi Arabia has initiated 10 new policies aimed at expanding the tourism sector and protecting tourists, according to the Minister of Tourism Ahmed Al-Khateeb. One of the 10 initiatives is the launch of the National Intellectual Property Strategy (NIPST).

National Intellectual Property Strategy (NIPST) aims at providing an environment that develops innovative technologies and industries and contributes to the growth of enterprises. The National Intellectual Property Strategy will further enable stimulating investment, create high-quality jobs, and raise awareness of creators and innovators' rights.

NIPST is based on the following four fundamental pillars:

- IP Creation: The main objective of this pillar of the program is to create national high-value IP assets.
- IP Administration: This pillar aims to improve the IP value by establishing a fast and high-quality registration system.
- IP Commercialization: This pillar aims at enhancing the competitiveness of IP-based products through the utilization of Intellectual property and maximizing its impact.
- IP protection: To respect intellectual property rights and enhance the value of protection of creative rights, the pillar of IP protection is one of the important pillars of NIPST. It aims at stimulating the market economy through IP protection.

³ <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%20engfinal.pdf>

⁴ <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/628250>

⁵ <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2222261/business-economy>

Turkey:

Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT) has applied for registration of 10 geographically indicated products to the European Commission⁶

Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT) has applied for the registration of 10 geographically indicated products, to the European Union Commission in an attempt to international protection of these marks. TÜRKPATENT made a collective geographical indication application to the European Union Commission on January 5 for 10 for geographical indication products for which the preparations were completed in the last months of 2022. With these 10 applications, the number of applications whose proceedings are ongoing in the EU has increased to 42.

Ayas Tomato, Bingol Honey, Bursa Peach, Ezine Cheese, Huyuk Strawberry, Isparta Rose Oil, Kilis Olive Oil, Manisa Mesir Paste, Rize Tea, and Urla Gum Artichoke, are the flavors of Turkey which will be under effective protection at the international level.

The eight products from Turkey that were registered with the EU previously include Antep Baklava, Aydın Fig, Aydın Chestnut, Bayramiç White, Giresun Chubby Hazelnut, Malatya Apricot, Milas Olive Oil and Taşköprü Garlic.

The country is laying its best foot forward in the development of the IP program by putting maximum efforts into the strategic development of this sector. Industry and Technology Minister Mustafa Varank stated that they started an international geographical indication mobilization and has expressed his intention that the country will increase the number of geographical indications to 100 soon in the EU." He also stressed that they will now focus on the registration and promotion of these products at an international level.

Oman:

Consumer Protection Authority exhibition⁷

The exhibition on the threats of the counterfeit menace, organized by the Consumer Protection Authority of Oman, was attended by 451 students and a number of supervisors from various public and private schools across the Country.

⁶ <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/haberler/uluslararasi-cografisiaret-seferberligi>

⁷ <https://pacp.gov.om/ar/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=11763>

The program was organized with the aim to make the participants aware of the fraud of counterfeit goods and the associated threats to their use of such goods by consumers. The participants were also educated on the methods to be used for differentiating counterfeit goods from original goods.

The officials primarily addressed the attendees about the background of the Authority, the various efforts put in the attempt to control the problem of counterfeit goods, and the role played by the Authority in protecting consumers. The attendees were also advised on the procedures for submitting complaints and reports through the authority's various communication channels.

The visit also gave the visitors the opportunity to learn about goods that did not conform to specifications and standards and were hence withdrawn from the markets.

The Sultanate of Oman is taking all necessary measures to create awareness and to educate the general public, in order to keep them protected from the threat of counterfeit products.

Surprise inspection and seizure of 55 violating shops in North Al Batinah⁸

Inspection by 6 inspection teams of judicial control officers in the North Al Batinah Governorate, resulted in actions against 55 shops that were found to be violating the law, by offering for sale of adulterated goods, and non-compliance with recording the explanatory data on the commodity in addition to selling prohibited products. Their act resulted them to be charged for 36 violations for violating Resolutions No. (698/2015 AD) regarding the ban on trading in electronic cigarettes and hookahs, and No. (301/2016) regarding the ban on trading chewed tobacco (non-smoked) in any way.

Such inspection campaign sheds light on the efforts of the Directorate in Oman, who put maximum efforts in order to fulfil their responsibility to regulate and monitor markets, its commercial activities in North Al Batinah Governorate, especially in the tobacco sector due to the risks it poses to the society.

Yemen:

Independent Trademark Office set up in Aden⁹

⁸ <https://pacp.gov.om/ar/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=11772>

⁹ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/10v2jqQX9zDI4ExaLDyrhmgQmjVtbZlby/view>

The Ministry of Industry and Trade in the interim capital Aden, Yemen has established a new independent Trademark Office, which acts independently from the Trademark office in Sana'a.

Accordingly, to have a legal extension of your trademarks in the whole of Yemen (Sana'a and Aden), it is highly recommended to renew and register your trademarks also with the Aden Trademarks Office.

2. Additional topics

UAE:

Adopting advanced technology, and innovation as a top priority of the government, the 400 IP assets consolidate to lead in security documents (2022.12.29)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303115092>

ERRA signs a cooperation agreement with the Centre for Reprographic Rights Administration of Argentina (CADRA) to ensure the protection of reprographic rights (2022.12.29)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303115148>

Al Qasimia University and Emirates Intellectual Property Association signed MoU to achieve cultural awareness of intellectual property rights (2022.12.29)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303115184>

Two were arrested for using the popular brand logos of vehicle lubricant oils illegally (2022.12.29)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/crime/dubai-two-arrested-for-using-popular-brand-logo-of-vehicle-lubricant-oils-illegally>

UAE University makes significant academic progress in 2022, ranked 90 globally, according to the number of granted patents based on 2021 data (2022.12.30)

https://menews247.com/uae-university-makes-significant-academic-progress-in-2022/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=uae-university-makes-significant-academic-progress-in-2022

New regulations deal with e-waste, and organizations risk losing confidential information such as intellectual property, and network information, or client contact details (2023.1.10)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/new-regulations-are-coming-up-to-deal-with-e-waste>

University of Sharjah pharmacy students win grand prize, project focused on inhibiting proteins that aggravate cancer, diabetes and neurological diseases (2023.1.10)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/education/university-of-sharjah-pharmacy-students-win-grand-prize>

Counterfeit medicines were confiscated in eight raids by the Health Authority-Abu Dhabi (HAAD) in the past six months (2023.1.10)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/fake-drugs-a-dangerous-choice-2>

The College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine at the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) seeks to provide advanced and accredited educational programs in 2023 (2023.1.13)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303118704>

The Department of Health (DoH) in Abu Dhabi and Hayat Biotech collaborate to enhance the pharmaceutical industry in the emirates towards fighting infectious diseases (2023.1.16)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303119470>

<https://hayatbiotech.com/>

Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department (IACAD) announced the world's first 3D-printed mosque to be built in Dubai (2023.1.17)

<https://3dprintingindustry.com/news/worlds-first-3d-printed-mosque-to-be-built-in-dubai-219982/>

World's First AI Eagle Eye Intelligent Patrol by Zenith Technologies debuted at Intersec 2023, Dubai (2023.1.18)

https://menews247.com/worlds-first-ai-eagleeye-intelligent-patrol-by-zenith/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=worlds-first-ai-eagleeye-intelligent-patrol-by-zenith

<https://www.zenith.com.au/>

Khansaheb Industries signed a distribution agreement with LG Electronics for UAE HVAC units, promote and sell LG's wide diversity of HVAC products (2023.1.19)

<https://www.cbnme.com/news/khansaheb-industries-sign-distribution-agreement-with-lg-electronics-for-uae-hvac-units/>

<https://khansahebindustries.ae/>

Dubai Customs launches Intellectual Property Award for Schools and Universities 2023 (2023.1.21)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303121147>

<https://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/NewsCenter/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=1865>

<https://twitter.com/DubaiCustoms/status/1616063112922423297>

Dubai Customs completes 25.7mn transactions, 2,147 seizures in 2022; with 388 IP disputes in 2022, which included 14.5 million counterfeit items with a street value of AED 109.5 million (2023.1.22)

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303121214>

Dubai Police has reported 245 counterfeit cases, and 262 accused, with Dh1,270,226,110 worth of seized goods last year (2023.1.22)

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/uae/crime/dubai-497-arrested-for-financial-crimes-dh1-4-billion-worth-of-goods-confiscated>

Dubai Customs Week 2023: the IPR Department organized two workshops on intellectual property disputes and procedures taken to resolve these disputes (2023.1.25)

<https://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/NewsCenter/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=1868>

<https://twitter.com/DubaiCustoms/status/1618631652309336068>

<https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303122361>

Saudi Arabia:

Approval of a memorandum of cooperation in the field of intellectual property between Saudi Arabia and Singapore (2023.1.3)

<https://twitter.com/spagov/status/1610257280209125376>

SAIP conducts an inspection campaign to make sure the rights owners are protected (2023.1.6)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1611306812980056064>

Saudi Arabia's Accession to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (2023.1.10)

<https://istitlaa.ncc.gov.sa/ar/Trade/SAIP/WPPT/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://istitlaa.ncc.gov.sa/ar/trade/saip/wppt/Documents/%D9%85%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%87%D8%AF%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%88%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%88%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%8>

[6%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%A1%20%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%B3%D8%AC%D9%8A%D9%84%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D9%88%D8%AA%D9%8A.pdf](#)

Prince Sultan Center for Defense Studies and Research joins the National Network of Support Centers enable to participate in the activities of raising awareness of IP rights (2023.1.17)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1615346011500584962/photo/2>

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1615345455143034881>

SAIP and the Communications, Space and Technology Commission sign a MoU to protect IP for local software and the technology industry (2023.1.19)

<https://twitter.com/SAIPKSA/status/1616075003853692928>

Saudi professor at Michigan State University (MSU) develops pioneering cancer tumors immunotherapy strategy (2023.1.22)

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/629096/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-professor-at-MSU-develops-pioneering-cancer-tumors-immunotherapy-strategy?ref=rss&format=simple&link=link>

The national strategy for intellectual property contributes to stimulating competitive innovation, creativity, and economic growth (2023.1.22)

<https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/news/1478/>

SAIP launches the training manual for the year 2023 to contribute to the development of workers in the IP system (2023.1.24)

<https://externalportal-backend-production.saip.gov.sa/sites/default/files/Training%20Calendar%20-%20Final.pdf>

Turkey:

Turkish Patent and Trademark Office received the 2nd Prize in the "Emerging Technology Development Regions" list (2022.12.27)

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/news/9th-randd-and-design-centers-and-technology-development-zones-summit>

Government fees increased in Turkey from the beginning of 2023 (2023.1.2)

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2022/12/20221231M5-11.htm>

Trademarks: <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/marka-islem-ucretleri>

Patents: <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/patent-islem-ucretleri>

Utility Models: <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/faydali-model-islem-ucreti>

Designs: <https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/tasarim-islem-ucretleri>

"Patent License Agreement" was signed for 3 patents of Istanbul University that contribute to the solution of climate challenges and transferred to BIYOTEK 15 (2023.1.3)

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/en/news/commercialization-processes-of-university-originated-patents-gained-speed>

Cooperation Protocol was signed between the General Directorate of Management Services of the Ministry of Industry and Technology and the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office, the "Information and Document Unit of the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office" was opened within the Provincial Directorates of Industry and Technology in 81 provinces (2023.1.10)

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1612845021010477061>

The invention Award Ceremony was held by the Turkish Aerospace Industry with its very successful year in intellectual property rights and patents (2023.1.13)

<https://twitter.com/CemilBASPINAR/status/1613873882875691010>

The question booklets and answer keys of the Patent and Trademark Attorneyship General Proficiency Exams can be accessed from the website (2023.1.18)

<https://www.turkpatent.gov.tr/vekillik-sinavlari>

<https://twitter.com/TURKPATENT/status/1615655957597663232>

Oman:

The service of updating investor data and registering patents, inventions, and industrial models was launched to strengthen Oman's global investment (2023.1.7)

<https://www.omanoobserver.om/article/1130895/business/economy/landmark-measures-to-strengthen-omans-global-investment-appeal>

Renaissance partners with SOURCE Global to produce renewable water: SOURCE Hydropanels, a patented technology that uses only the sun creating the first water farm in Oman (2023.1.23)

<https://www.muscatdaily.com/2023/01/23/renaissance-partners-with-source-global-to-produce-renewable-water/>

<https://www.source.co/how-hydropanels-work/>

<https://www.renaissanceservices.com/>

Kuwait:

The Ministry closes shops for violating the law by selling counterfeit goods (2022.12.31, 2023. 1.4)

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1610499568914911232>

<https://twitter.com/mociq8/status/1609083250621693952>

Palestine:

Evolution in the adoption of electronic IP services: conducted 3700 electronic services and 1660 brands were registered (2023.1.4)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=528507852643047&set=a.286793916814443>

GCC:

A directory of procedures for submitting patent applications through the protection system was issued by GCC Patent Office (2022.12.31)

<https://www.gccpo.org/Doc/PdfOffice/NewAppFilling.pdf>

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