

### *Inside this Issue*

<a href="#"><u>Uganda joins TMview</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>EPO Patent Index 2024 issued</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>Design Law Treaty</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>Colombia ratifies the Marrakesh Treaty</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>Consultation opens on draft Patents Amendment Bill</u></a>	5
<a href="#"><u>INPI announces changes to PCT international filing</u></a>	5
<a href="#"><u>PCT-Patent Prosecution Highway (PCT-PPH) Pilots</u></a>	6
<a href="#"><u>Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (DAS)</u></a>	6
<a href="#"><u>Mexico Recognizes Its First Wine Geographical Indication</u></a>	7
<a href="#"><u>IPOPHL enhances efficiency in IPV case resolution with new RAPID rules</u></a>	7
<a href="#"><u>Public Notice: Invitation for Comments on Draft CRI Guidelines 2025</u></a>	7

### *Inside this Issue*

[USPTO rescinds memorandum addressing discretionary denial procedures](#) 8

[IPOPHL highlights best search practices that guarantee quality patents at 60th APEC-IPEG meet](#) 8

[NOTICE: AMENDMENTS TO THE HARARE PROTOCOL ON PATENTS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS](#) 9

[Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the INPI and the Monaco Industrial Property Office](#) 9

[EPO Publishes Patent Index 2024: Growth in Artificial Intelligence and Battery Technology Innovations](#) 10

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## 01. Uganda joins TMview

### UGANDA'S TRADEMARK DATA INTEGRATED INTO TMVIEW SEARCH TOOL

[GO TO TOP](#)

*The Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) has made its trade mark data available as of 10 March 2025 in the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) TMview search tool.*

*With the addition of around 79 000 trade marks from the URSB, TM view now provides information and access to over 129 million trade marks from 79 participating offices.*

*Since TMview's launch on 13 April 2010, the tool has been used for 142 million searches from users worldwide, with those from Germany, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States being among the most frequent visitors. EUIPO pioneered the provision of free quality data to promote market openness... [Read more](#)*

## 02. EPO Patent Index 2024 issued

### LATEST TRENDS REVEALED IN EPO'S 2024 PATENT REPORT

[GO TO TOP](#)

*The European Patent Office (EPO) has recently published the Patent Index for 2024 which presents an overview of applications for the European patent protection and European patents granted by the European Patent Office.*

#### **Key data:**

- The European Patent Office (EPO) received almost 200,000 patent applications last year;*
- Computer technologies took the leading position for the first time;*
- The rapid rise of inventions in the fields of artificial intelligence and batteries;*
- The most represented countries in the origin of patent applications are the USA, Germany, Japan, China and Republic of Korea... [Read more](#)*

## 03.Design Law Treaty

### **AUSTRALIA SUPPORTS WIPO'S DESIGN LAW TREATY TO STREAMLINE GLOBAL DESIGN PROTECTIONS**

*IP Australia welcomes the successful conclusion of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty (the Treaty). IP Australia welcomes the successful conclusion of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty (the Treaty). The Treaty was agreed at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) diplomatic conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, after negotiations that spanned 20 years.*

*The number of design applications by Australians jumped 8.6% last year, from 2,656 in 2023 to 2,884 in 2024, highlighting the growing interest of local designers in securing IP rights.*

*This international agreement will make it easier for local designers to seek intellectual property (IP) protection for their creations and brings greater certainty and consistency for the design... [Read more](#)*

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 04. Colombia ratifies the Marrakesh Treaty

### **COLOMBIA DEPOSITS INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION FOR THE MARRAKESH TREATY**

*Colombia has just deposited the instrument of ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled. It has a clear humanitarian and social development dimension and its main goal is to create a set of mandatory limitations and exceptions for the benefit of the blind, visually impaired, and otherwise print disabled (VIPs).*

*Colombia has become the 99th member to this Treaty, which also counts with Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The only country left from Latin America today is Cuba... [Read more](#)*

[GO TO TOP](#)



## 05. Consultation opens on draft Patents Amendment Bill

**PUBLIC INPUT INVITED  
ON PROPOSED  
CHANGES TO PATENT  
GRANT PROCESS  
UNDER PATENTS  
AMENDMENT BILL**

[GO TO TOP](#)

*This draft Bill amends the Patents Act 2013 to progress an update to the process for granting certain patents. The draft legislation would amend the transitional provisions for new divisional patent applications that are, or are treated as, an application filed under the Patents Act 1953. These amendments would only apply to new divisional applications filed after entry into force of the legislative changes contained in this Bill. The amendments would apply stricter criteria to examination and may apply to any opposition, revocation and re-examination proceedings involving those applications.*

*MBIE is asking for feedback from stakeholders to inform the final Bill. More information and details on how to make a submission is available on the consultation page. Feedback is open from 18 March 2025 to 1 April 2025... [Read more](#)*

## 06. INPI announces changes to PCT international filing

**INPI TO ACCEPT PCT  
APPLICATIONS ONLY  
VIA E-PCT SYSTEM  
STARTING JULY 1, 2025**

[GO TO TOP](#)

*From July 1, 2025, INPI will receive international PCT deposits only in electronic format through the e-PCT system (<https://pct.wipo.int/ePCT/>).*

*Applicants who opt for the international paper filing must do so directly at the WIPO International Bureau (RO/IB).*

*For more information, access the RO/BR Applicant's Guide: <https://www.gov.br/inpi/pt-br/servicos/patentes/Como-protoger-patente-no-exterior/pct/guia-do-depositante-ro-br...> [Read more](#)*

## 07. PCT-Patent Prosecution Highway (PCT-PPH) Pilots

### **BAHRAIN AND EPO INITIATE PCT-PPH PILOT PROGRAM FOR ACCELERATED PATENT PROCESSING**

*On 1 March 2025, a new one-way PCT-PPH pilot program started between the Directorate of Foreign Trade & Industrial Property, National Patent Office (Bahrain) and the EPO. Under this program, accelerated processing in the national phase before the Directorate of Foreign Trade & Industrial Property, National Patent Office (Bahrain) is available on the basis of a PCT application with a positive written opinion issued by the EPO in its capacity as an International Searching Authority (ISA) or an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA), or a positive international preliminary report on patentability (IPRP) (Chapter II) (that is, where at least one of the claims has been determined as patentable). The agreement between the Directorate of Foreign Trade & Industrial Property... [Read more](#)*

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 08. Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (DAS)

### **JPO AND SLOVAK OFFICE TO OPERATE AS DEPOSITING AND ACCESSING OFFICES UNDER WIPO DAS**

*The JPO has notified the International Bureau (IB) that, with effect from 1 April 2025, it will extend the scope of its participation in DAS to include operation as a depositing Office for PCT applications filed electronically, unless the applicant requests, at the time of filing, that the application should not be made available to the Service.*

*The corresponding DAS Notification, which contains further information, is available at:*

*<https://www.wipo.int/web/das/participating-offices/search-details?territoryId=87>*

*Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic*

*The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic has notified the IB that, with effect from 1 July... [Read more](#)*

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 09. Mexico Recognizes Its First Wine Geographical Indication

**A LANDMARK FOR  
MEXICAN WINE: FIRST GI  
OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED**

*Mexico has officially recognized its first Geographical Indication (GI) for wine, marking a historic milestone for its wine industry. This designation highlights the unique qualities of the region's wines, promoting their authenticity and boosting their presence in international markets. The recognition is expected to strengthen Mexico's position as a key player in the global wine....* [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 10. IPOPHL enhances efficiency in IPV case resolution with new RAPID rules

**IPOPHL ENHANCES  
EFFICIENCY IN  
RESOLVING IP  
VIOLATION CASES**

*The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) anticipates a continued reduction in the resolution time of intellectual property violation (IPV) cases after streamlining proceedings for qualified IPV disputes...* [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 11. Public Notice: Invitation for Comments on Draft CRI Guidelines 2025

**INDIA INVITES PUBLIC  
FEEDBACK ON DRAFT  
CRI EXAMINATION  
GUIDELINES 2025**

*The Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) has published the Draft Guidelines for Examination of Computer-Related Inventions (CRI), 2025 for public consultation. Stakeholders and the public are invited to provide their comments and suggestions on the draft guidelines. Feedback can be sent via email to [sukanya.ipo@nic.in](mailto:sukanya.ipo@nic.in) with the subject line: "Comments on Draft CRI Guidelines 2025"*

*The last date for submitting comments is 15-04-2025...* [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 12. USPTO rescinds memorandum addressing discretionary denial procedures

### **USPTO WITHDRAWS INTERIM GUIDANCE ON DISCRETIONARY DENIALS IN AIA PROCEEDINGS**

Today, the USPTO rescinded the June 21, 2022, memorandum entitled "Interim Procedure for Discretionary Denials in AIA Post-Grant Proceedings with Parallel District Court Litigation" (Memorandum). Parties to post-grant proceedings should refer to Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) precedent for guidance, including *Apple Inc. v. Fintiv, Inc.*, IPR2020-00019, Paper 11 (PTAB Mar. 20, 2020) (precedential) and *Sotera Wireless, Inc. v. Masimo Corp.*, IPR2020-01019, Paper 12 (PTAB Dec. 1, 2020) (precedential as to § II.A).

To the extent any other PTAB or Director Review decisions rely on the Memorandum, the portions of those decisions relying on the Memorandum shall not be binding or persuasive... [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)

## 13. IPOPHL highlights best search practices that guarantee quality patents at 60th APEC-IPEG meet

### **CCIP AND IPOPHL JOIN FORCES TO COMBAT ONLINE SALE OF COUNTERFEIT COSMETICS**

The Chamber of Cosmetics Industry of the Philippines (CCIP), along with 18 of its member companies, signed last week the E-Commerce Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)—facilitated by the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL)—to fight back more intensively against the increased sale and advertisement of counterfeit cosmetic products online... [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)



## 14. NOTICE: AMENDMENTS TO THE HARARE PROTOCOL ON PATENTS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

### **REVISIONS MADE TO THE HARARE PROTOCOL ON IP RIGHTS**

*The ARIPO Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs, including its Implementing Regulations, Forms, and Fees, has been amended. The amendments shall come into force on 1 March 2025 and shall apply to all existing and new applications.*

***Notice from the Director General on the Amendments  
Amended Harare Protocol on Patents, Utility Models And  
Industrial Designs***

***Amended Regulations***

***Utility Models fees - No Amendments***

***Patent fees Effective 1st March 2025***

***Industrial Designs Fees Effective 1st March 2025... [Read more](#)***

**[GO TO TOP](#)**

## 15. Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the INPI and the Monaco Industrial Property Office

### **INPI AND MONACO SIGN MOU MARKING ENTRY INTO FRANCOPHONE IP ALLIANCE**

*On March 27, 2025, INPI Director General Pascal Faure was in the Principality of Monaco for a meeting with Pierre-André Chiappori, Minister of Finance and Economy of the Principality. On this occasion, a memorandum of understanding was signed aimed at strengthening cooperation between INPI and the Industrial Property Division (DPI) of the Monaco Economic Development Agency.*

*The memorandum of understanding signed between the INPI and the Monaco Industrial Property Office this Thursday, March 27, 2025 marks, in particular, the official entry of the DPI into the French-speaking intellectualliance inaugurated on October... [Read more](#)*

**[GO TO TOP](#)**

## 16. EPO Publishes Patent Index 2024: Growth in Artificial Intelligence and Battery Technology Innovations

**EPO SEES CONTINUED  
INNOVATION IN 2024  
- AI AND TECH LEAD  
PATENT FILINGS**

[GO TO TOP](#)

*Today, the European Patent Office (EPO) released the Patent Index 2024, which shows that innovation remains strong, with patent applications last year keeping up the high level observed in 2023. Last year, companies and inventors globally filed patent applications with the EPO, maintaining levels similar to the previous year (-0.1%), after three years of notable growth. Patent applications from Europe, including all 39 EPO member states, increased by 0.3%, while those from outside Europe saw a slight decrease of -0.4%... [Read more](#)*