

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

submitted by the

**AFRICAN REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
(ARIPO)**

An annual series of reports on the trademark information activities
of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

ARIPO Annual Technical Report on
Trademark Activities in 1999

I. Evolution of Registration Activities

- The number of filings and registrations in 1999 increased as compared to 1998.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information

- Registered Marks are published in paper form and
- Types of announcements mass storage media, office automation, word processing and the techniques used are all the same as in patents and industrial designs.

III. Matters concerning classifying, re-classifying and indexing of trademark information:

- Classification and reclassification activities: Nice classification was used;
- No electronic classification system is used;
- Obligation for applicants to use pre-defined terms of the classification-applied: applicants must use the Nice classification;
- Searches were undertaken by the designated states.

IV Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep

- File Building: Manual search files are being established;
- Updating: The files were updated with the new applications and registrations;
- Storage: The search files were stored in hardcopy format in metal cabinets;
- Documentation from other offices: No documentation from other offices were available as search files.

V. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems:

- External databases: No activity
- Administrative management systems: The AFMARK database is also used for administrative purposes.
- Equipment used: WIPONET Project by WIPO facilitated the acquisition of new PCs, Windows NT network and access to Internet.

VI Administration of trademark services available to the public

- Trademark services were available to the public only on request, fairs, workshops and brochures.

VII Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information

- ARIPO has exchange agreements with regard to trademarks with the following offices: - All member states, USPTO, BR, OA, JPO, CH, DE and OHIM.

VIII other relevant matters concerning education and training in and promotion of the use of trademark information including technical assistance to developing countries.

- Training seminars and fairs were undertaken in most member states of ARIPO
- WIPO, GB and the EPO facilitated ARIPO to undertake many training seminars, exhibitions and visits.