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**ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

submitted by the

**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

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

# Annual Technical Report on Trademark Information Activities of the State Agency on Industrial Property Protection of the Republic of Moldova in 1999

## I. Evolution of registration activities:

The following numbers of trademark and service mark applications/registrations are presented in 1999:

	1999	1998
Number of national applications:	723	906
Number of national registrations:	907	745
Number of international registrations:	2515	2776

In 1999 the number of national applications filed with the Agency decreased against 1998 by 20,2% consequently to the decrease of both the moldovan and foreign applications (328 and 578 in 1998, 298 and 425 in 1999 ). 58,8% of the national applications originated from foreign applicants.

The distribution of the applications filed in 1999 according to the country of origin of the applicants shows that 24% of the applications belong to the applicants from Germany, 12% from France, 9% from the Republic of Moldova, for 8% from USA and Switzerland, 7,5% from Italy.

The preferred directions of protection have been: pharmaceutical, veterinary and hygienic products (cl. 05) - 239 of registered trademarks and alcoholic drinks (cl. 33) - 151 registered trademarks.

The firms and enterprises of the Republic of Moldova manifested their greatest interest in the registration of trademarks according to classes 33 and 32 - 80.0% and 34,8% of all registrations in these classes, accordingly.

From the total number of the certificates of registration (907) granted in 1999 according to the national procedure 252 (27,8%) belong to the trademark owners of the Republic of Moldova and 655 (72,2%) - to the foreign owners.

The process of renewal of trademark registrations was extended. In 1999 31 trademarks have been renewed. 61 appeals on trademark registration and 1 appeal on registration of the appellation of origin have been filed with the Appeal Board of the AGEPI.

In 1999 there was elaborated the Draft of the Law on Introduction of Amendments and Supplements in some Legislative Acts .in the field of industrial property protection. In accordance with this Draft in the Law on Trademarks and Appellations of Origin will be introduced the protection of the certification marks.

## II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e., trademark gazettes:

The main types of announcements of the AGEPI in the field of trademark information are:

- The Official Bulletin of Industrial Property Protection (BOPI) (monthly publication);
- The Trademark Register;
- The Appellations of Origin Register.

BOPI is published monthly and Sections III and IV contain information on trademarks and appellations of origin, accordingly.

In 1999 the contents of Section III was revised and has the following paragraphs:

- Applications for trademark registration (bibliographic data and reproduction);
- List of registered trademarks (INID codes:210, 220,111,151,511,730,442);
- List of renewal trademarks (INID codes:116, 186, 511, 730, 442, 450).

The contents of Section IV has the following paragraphs:

- Registered appellations of origin of goods;
- List of registered appellations of origin.

In 1999 the AGEPI continued to issue the following periodicals: Intellectus, AGEPI Consultă, AGEPI Revue, AGEPI Expo – serial publications containing consultations and practical recommendations on matters concerning trademark protection rights.

### **III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information:**

The AGEPI applies:

- International Classification of Goods and Services (Nice Classification), seventh edition;
- International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification), first edition;
- three - digit INID codes in accordance with the WIPO Standard ST.60.

### **IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep:**

The manual paper search file consists of encyclopedia, dictionaries, special books, periodicals and a number of different lists according to recommendation of WIPO Standard ST.64.

The following card - files are at the examiners disposal:

- card - file of word trademarks grouped in alphabetic order of the words;
  - card - file of combined trademarks grouped by categories of the Nice Classification;
  - card - file of combined trademarks grouped in alphabetic order of the words;
  - card - file of figurative marks grouped by categories of the Vienna Classification;
  - card - file of appellations of origin grouped in numerical order.
- The information in card - files was updated on a regular basis.

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

It is continued the improvement of the “National Trademark Database” based on the File - Server architecture.

Equipment used: 13 working stations Pentium 200 level connected to the local network - AGEPINET - based on the Microsoft platform.

### **VI. Administration of trademark services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering trademarks, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts):**

The range of information services rendered by the AGEPI has considerably been completed and extended. In 1999 more than 120 legal and natural persons have appealed to the AGEPI’s services.

During the said period there have been performed the following:

- elaboration of documents of the applications for the protection of trademarks - 65;
- elaboration of documents of the applications for the protection of trademarks under the Madrid procedure - 11;
- thematic trademark searches - 94;
- consultations relating to the protection and registration of marks - 280.

### **VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information:**

In 1999 the AGEPI, within the framework of international exchange, sent its BOPI to 42 countries (on paper).

The AGEPI received machine-readable information from the WIPO (Romarin CD-ROM and WIPO Gazette of International Marks CD-ROM).

### **VIII. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries:**

The AGEPI regularly organizes internal training courses for our own specialists. During 1999 37 employees attended industrial property courses: 5 employees attended extension 220-hour courses and 32 employees attended short-time 40-hour courses. Seminars on the study of industrial property objects examination theory and practice are systematically held with the Examination Department.

Two chief members of the Trademark and Industrial Design Examination Division attended training courses with the WIPO, where familiarized themselves with the peculiarities of the procedure for registration of trademarks under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol relating to it. The representative of said Division had special training with patent office of Romania (OSIM).

In 1999 within the general context of cooperation with WIPO the International Symposium on "Development of Management of Industrial Property or Intellectual Property Offices in Countries in Transition" (August 31 - September 2) and the seminar on "Procedure for the International Registration of Marks under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol Relating to it" (November 23-24) were held in Chişinău.

The International Seminar "Enforcement of industrial property rights" was held in June 1999 within the framework of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the Department of Commerce of the USA in Chişinău. The seminar was dedicated to legal aspects on the protection of industrial property rights.

In the year under review there were organized the symposium "Lecturi AGEPI", 5 thematic seminars "Day of Open Doors" and meetings "Roundtable".

The AGEPI took an active part in the national and international exhibitions which were held in Chişinău (Infoinvent '99, Reclama Design, MoldMedizin & MolDent, Industria Moldovei, Expo-business) and abroad (Geneva, Bucharest, Brussels).