

**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.