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ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

2001

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**

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I. Evolution of registration activities:

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and registrations with respect to the previous year:

Years	2000	2001
Number of national applications:	540	788
Number of foreign applications:	3086	3198
Total	3626	3986
Number of national registrations:	702	785
Number of international registrations:	2642	2828

In the year under review, the number of applications for the registration of trademarks increased with 360 (10%), including those filed under the national procedure - with 174 (17,7%) and those filed under the Madrid Agreement - with 186 (7%).

In the year 2001, the national applicants filed 788 applications, with 248 (46%) more than in the previous year (540), strengthening, thus, the positive change in the general picture of registration of product and service trademarks, produced in 2000.

A growth has been also registered in the number of applications filed by the foreign applicants, accounting, thus 3198 applications, in the year under review, with 112 (3,6%) more than in the previous year.

In the year 2001, 785 trademark certificates have been issued, of which 374 – to national owners and 411 – to foreign owners. As compared with the previous year, the number of granted certificates increased with 11,8%. The number of certificates issued to national applicants increased with 61,2% and those issued to foreign applicants fell by 14,4%.

From 1158 applications filed with AGEPI by national and foreign applicants, the most requested Classes were: 33, 35, 05, 32, 42, 30, 29, 41.

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 Office in the field of trademark information are:

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

BOPI including Sections IV and V with information on trademarks and appellations of origin, from January 2000 onwards is available online via our AGEPI web site at www.agepi.md in portable document format (PDF).

Section IV contains:

- Examined applications for trademark registration;
- List of registered trademarks;
- List of renewed trademarks.

Section V contains:

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

Section VII contains various types of notices referring to all amendments occurred to the legal status of the protected industrial property objects (List of amendments, List of cession of rights contracts, Errata, etc), the half-yearly subject indexes of registered trademarks.

The number of documents published in 2001 in BOPI was: 813 applications (in 2000 - 710) and 1402 titles of protection (in 2000 – 1366).

During the year 2001, the series of publications "The Library of Industrial Property" was completed with the following works:

- The Industrial Property Protection in the Republic of Moldova;
- How to register a trademark in the Republic of Moldova;
- The aspects of trademarks registration;
- AGEPI Readings.

The AGEPI maintains a complete history of its national trademark files in paper form.

During the year 2001, the procedure of transfer of the AGEPI Archive into electronic format was launched based on the XEROX DocuImage 620S equipment.

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

Nothing new to report

IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep:

The examiner's search files are the following:

- card - file of word trademarks grouped in alphabetic order;
- 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;
- paper-case with the list of signs protected under Article 6 *ter* of the Paris Convention not included in the Article 6 *ter* CD;
- list of geographical indications which are protected under a bilateral or regional agreement in respect of the protection of geographical indications;
- list of International Nonproprietary Names for pharmaceutical substances issued by the World Health Organization;
- list of names of plant varieties registered in the Republic of Moldova.

At the disposal of examiners, there are three foreign databases on CD-ROM (Romarin, USAMark, Community Trade Mark Bulletin), Trademark Gazettes of different countries and via the Internet the Madrid Express Database – data collection hosted by WIPO.

Moreover, the manual paper search files consist of encyclopedias, dictionaries, special books, periodicals, and a number of other lists and sources.

During the year 2001, 49 titles (489 copies) of national and foreign periodical publications on a large range of issues in the field of Industrial Property have been acquired by subscription. 1008 books, especially dictionaries, encyclopedias, juridical literature, handbooks etc., have been purchased.

Both the examiner's search files and documentation at the library are updated on a regular basis.

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

Important achievement in the field of programs and informational products is the “National Trademarks” database documentation program. The program was designed as a result of a deep study of the existing search systems, including the documentation system in database “International Trademarks” of the most known documentation systems on the Internet.

In the year 2001 a program, which permits to get the statistics data in accordance with the established statistical parameters and the automated engendering of the statistical reports was elaborated.

A new database “Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements” with a relevant documentation program was created in order to make the AGEPI activity in the field of cooperation with other national and foreign institutions more efficient.

According to the Information Program of the library processes, in the year 2001, was acquired and installed on the server the soft IRBIS, elaborated by the Public State Library of the Russian Federation, was studied the modulus “Cataloguing”, “Acquisition” and “Administration”. Great attention was paid to reconfiguration of the existing servers, and namely:

- Primary Domain Controller (documentation);
- Back up Domain Controller (database);
- Internet server, for which was regenerated the operation system, being replaces with a new one.

All examiners have access to the Internet at their desks.

ROMARIN program (trademarks registered internationally) is used for trademarks search purposes.

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 publications and registry extracts):

In the year under review, the AGEPI Library obtained the Statute of Republican Library Science Center in the field of Industrial Property, becoming also a member of the Association of Libraries. The Activities Program on promotion of IP information has been elaborated and implemented.

At the disposal of all interested persons, there are three foreign databases on CD-ROM (USAMark, Community Trade Mark Bulletin, the gazette

Les Marques Internationales) and Trademark gazettes of different countries.

Moreover, the manual paper search files consist of encyclopedias, dictionaries, special books, periodicals, and a number of other lists and sources.

Librarians and information specialists are available in the library to assist the public in all aspects of their work with catalogues, CD-ROMs, books, etc.

The documentation represented in the AGEPI library is available to the public during 6 days (including Saturday) from 9-00 to 16-00.

The collections of IP documents were created in 8 district libraries and 7 sector libraries.

During the year 2001, have been distributed to the beneficiaries' 4833 copies, including 1093 by selling.

The Trademark Register contains legal and procedural status data of the nationally registered trademarks and trademark applications and provides free access to all interested persons with the aim to receive registry extracts.

The main priorities of the "AGEPI-Mobile" Center - Mobile Center for the Promotion of Industrial Property - were the operative rendering assistance and information services, lending practical support in the field of search procedure and industrial property protection directly to enterprises, organization and institutions.

In 2001, the AGEPI has additionally issued a lot of information prospects, leaflets, and booklets regarding the trademark application and registration procedure.

The information provided on the AGEPI web site – www.agepi.md – covers all general topics concerning trademarks (preparation of application, office procedures, forms).

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

In November 2001, a Technical Cooperation Agreement was signed between the National Institute of Industrial Property from France (INPI) and the AGEPI. In accordance with this Agreement, the AGEPI has free access to the trademarks database and JURINPI database of the INPI.

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

In 2001 the AGEPI employees organized and participated in 122 conferences, symposiums, seminars and "round tables," of which 103 have been conducted with the AGEPI.

70 persons have graduated the Distance Learning Courses, organized by the WIPO Academy,

In the year 2001, 85 AGEPI specialists participated in 36 national events (seminars, conferences, exhibitions etc) and 14 international events.

38 employees of the AGEPI have increased their qualification with WIPO and other international institutions. The AGEPI specialists has shown a special interest in training course, organized by the Deputy Director of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center with a view of improving the activity of the Specialized Arbitration Center under the AGEPI.

Within the AGEPI there have been organized 2 cycles of up-grading courses in the IP field, being completed by 28 persons, and training courses on: procedure of examination and label registration. 24 specialists were certified as to the level of knowledge of English.

In the year 2001, 41 students have been listed for daily section and 27 students for extra-mural section of the Intellectual Property Institute (IPI) providing higher education in management of intellectual property in the Republic of Moldova. The instructive-educational process is based on advanced informational and pedagogical technologies, assisted by audiovisual and computer support. Beginning with 2001, IPI organizes, on the basis of License from the Ministry of Education, the following courses: Councilor in industrial property, Councilor in trademarks, Councilor in industrial design; Councilor in inventions and utility models; Councilor in the field of copyright and related rights; Representatives in industrial property; Manager in industrial property; Specialists in industrial property evaluation; Computer Operator; Modern languages.

The AGEPI representatives have also participated in the sessions of the Working Group on the Modification of the Regulations under the Lisbon

Agreement, WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, etc.

At the AGEPI request, in March, the WIPO organized for our experts a re-training course on archive documentation of the international applications deposited in accordance with the Madrid Agreement

On March 27, the AGEPI housed the International Seminar, organized by the Coalition for Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR), and, on March 28, the CIPR Joint Strategy Meeting, in the framework of which there have been outlined the future priority trends of the activity of the Coalition and Patent Offices of the CIS Member States

The Conference of the Young Specialists of the CIS Patent Offices was held in Kishinev from June 26 to 28, 2001. The representatives were from Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Tajikistan, and the Republic of Moldova

Two seminars have been organized with the financial assistance and support of US Department of Commerce (Legal Tools of Intellectual Property Protection, Last practices related to the examination and protection of the appellations of origin and geographical indications).

The AGEPI Library staff on May 3, 2001 has organized a republican seminar entitled "The contribution of the libraries in promotion of IP information," with the participation of representatives of the national, university, public district libraries etc. Such seminars have been also organized in the territory: Balti, Ungheni, Straseni.

In accordance with the AGEPI program of activity for the year 2001, there have been organized 5 national exhibitions of inventions and new technologies and assured the participation of inventors in 5 international exhibitions

The fifth Edition of International Specialized Exhibition „INFOINVENT–2001”, was organized in cooperation with the International Exhibition Center “Moldexpo”. About 80 enterprises, research institutions, private inventors participated in this exhibition, representing many innovative projects. Moreover, the regional exhibitions “INFOINVENT–2001” have been organized in Balti and Cahul, in which participated successfully the innovative enterprises and inventors from the respective regions.

In the year under review, the AGEPI participated in the Interstate Exhibition in Moscow, dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the Community of Independent States (CIS), as well as in the national exhibitions “Small Business”, “Moldagroteh” and “Farmer”.

IX. Other relevant matters.

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