

Annual Technical Report on Trademark Information Activities of the State Agency on Industrial Property Protection of the Republic of Moldova in 1998

I. Evolution of registration activities:

The following numbers of trademark and service mark applications/registrations are presented in 1998:

Number of national applications:	916	in 1998
	1380	in 1997
Number of national registrations:	745	in 1998
	1140	in 1997
Number of international registrations:	2766	in 1998
	2745	in 1997

In 1998 the number of applications filed with the Agency decreased against 1997 by 33% consequently to the decrease of moldavian applications (328 in 1998, 861 in 1997).

64,2% of the national applications originated from foreign applicants.

In 1998 10 applications for registration of appellations of origin (in 1997 - 3) were filed with the AGEPI.

The Regulations on the Application of the Law on Trademarks and Appellations of Origin were modified with the view of procedural efficiency increasing in particular the requirements concerning the application of the Nice Classification were expanded.

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.

Section III of the BOPI contains examined trademark and service mark applications (bibliographic data and reproduction), as well as lists of registered trademarks (service marks) (in a table form), and other information concerning their legal status. Section IV of the BOPI contains examined applications for appellations of origin, lists of registered appellations of origin and other legal status information.

In 1998 the paperless technology was elaborated for carrying out of internal procedures including trademarks and appellations of origin data transmission to the editorial division for publishing in Sections III and IV of the BOPI.

The AGEPI started to issue two new publications:

- AGEPI revue - supplement to the republican newspaper “Economical Review” (four times per year),
- AGEPI Expo - supplement to the AGEPI journal of inventors and researchers “Intellectus”.

The above - mentioned publications contain announcements 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.

The information in card - files was updated on a regular basis.

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

Improvement of the AGEPI computer informational system was carried out during 1998. Owing to the upgrading process of the computer system the examiners were provided with the performed technique of search using the modern software.

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

It is planned the change over to the Client - Server architecture.

Equipment used: 9 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):

There are different information services available to the public:

- general information concerning trademark protection (on question);
- advice concerning registration of a defined trademark;
- access to the AGEPI's library collection (national, foreign and international);
- preliminary search before filing an application (on request);
- different kinds of search for producers of goods and services;
- copies of different publications, documents.

The information concerning all general topics of trademark registration procedure is also represented in the Internet - AGEPI Home Page - under <http://www.agepi.md>

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

In 1998 the AGEPI sent its BOPI on subscription and within the framework of mutual exchange to about 70 patent offices and organizations.

The AGEPI received machine-readable information from the WIPO (Romarin CD-ROM) and USPTO (USAMark CD-ROM collection).

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

A number of different courses in the filed of industrial property protection: courses for training of patent counsellors, courses for training and certification of patent attorneys, courses for experts upheld with the Romanian Patent Office (OSIM) and the National Association of Patent Counsellors (NAPC) from Romania were organized in 1998.

The State Agency organized three special republican seminars on the matters concerning the trademark and industrial design protection, as well as the 4th International Exhibition and Conference for young people "Invention - Creativity - Innovation".

In the framework of the WIPO cooperation the regional seminar "Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights" was held in Kishinau from October 21 to 22 attended by 150 specialists from Moldova, CIS countries, Hungary and Romania.

The International Exhibition "Know - How Exchange' 98" was organized in Kishinau by the AGEPI in collaboration with the other specialized organizations in May 1998. During the said Exhibition the public was informed on the system of protection of the trademarks and appellations of origin.

The representatives of the AGEPI participated in the works of the WIPO meetings in the field of trademark protection.

IX. Other relevant matters:

There are no other relevant matters to mention.