

SCIT.ATR.TM.2002.MW

Annual Technical Report 2002 on Trademark Information Activities submitted by Malawi (SCIT/ATR/TM/2002/MW)

Where URLs are requested below, it is preferred that either URLs which are likely to remain stable over time (three years or more) are provided, or home (main) page URLs are provided with a short explanation of how to access the corresponding information.

I. Evolution of registration activities

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

In 2001, there were 641 applications filed and in 2002, there were 578. Registrations in 2001 were 619 and in 2002, were 448.

Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year

In the year 2001, we filed more applications i.e. 641 than in the year 2002 the number of applications were 578.

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

Publishing, printing, copying techniques

Trademarks journals are produced monthly and copies are sent to ARIPO, WIPO and other National Industrial Property Offices on reciprocal basis.

Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of trademark information

There is one type of announcements in the field of trademark information which is trademark journals and it is produced monthly.

Mass storage media and microforms used

Trademark information is kept in two forms i.e. paper form and electronic form because we haven't captured all information.

Word processing and office automation

We are using CDs / ISIS.

Techniques used for the generation of trademark information (printing, recording, photocomposing, etc.)

Techniques used for the generation of trademark information are: filing of renewals, assignments, change of name, restoration, issuing notice of acceptance and rejection.

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

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification systems used, e.g., International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification), other classification (please indicate whether goods and services for the registration of marks and whether the figurative elements of marks are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification(s) is (are) used)

The international classification of goods and services for the purpose of registration of marks (Nice Classification) is used and carried out by the applicants and verified by the Office. No other classification of trademark is used.

Use of electronic classification systems to check the classification symbols furnished by an applicant and which are contained in the lists of goods and/or services

Nothing to report.

Obligation for applicants to use pre-defined terms of the classification applied

Applicants do use pre-defined terms of the classification applied.

Bibliographic data and processing for search purposes

Nothing to report.

IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep

File Building

File building is carried out in the course of filing, examining, issuing of notice of acceptance and rejection.

Updating

Our files are updated as soon as we have received application forms of change of name, renewals, assignments, cancellation and change of business address.

Storage, including mass storage media

Information is kept in two forms i.e. in paper form and electronic form.

Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file

Nothing to report.

V. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems

In-house systems (online/offline)

Nothing to report.

External databases

Nothing to report.

Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.)

Nothing to report.

Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used

Compaq machine, Microsoft windows 2000 professional.

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)

Planning, administration, automation, security

Nothing to report

Collection management, preservation

Nothing to Report.

Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and trademark information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web)

Nothing to report.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of trademark information, e.g., in the form of official gazettes

Trademark journals are sent to WIPO and ARIPO in paper form.

Exchange of machine-readable information

The office received journals in electronic form from EPO, Japanese Patent Office and WIPO.

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

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.)

Nothing to report.

Training courses for national and foreign participants

Nothing to report.

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.)

Nothing to report.

IX. Other relevant matters

Nothing to report.