



Africa IP UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the first of our Africa Update IP monthly newsletters, in which we bring you important news and developments regarding IP across the continent from our experts.

In this edition, ARIPO is set to accept a new member, Kenya announces deadline on IP rights recording for imported goods, and two landmark geographical indication certifications, are among our top stories.

To ensure that you don't miss out on the latest IP developments in Africa by subscribing to the newsletter [here](#).



ARIPO

CAPE VERDE ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING THE 22ND MEMBER OF ARIPO

In January 2022, Parliament in Cape Verde approved the accession of the country to the Lusaka Agreement, incorporating accession to the Banjul and Harare Protocols.

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THE FIRST EPO-ARIPO UNIVERSITY IP OUTREACH PROJECT LAUNCHES

At the recent EPO-ARIPO heads of office meeting, a lack of understanding of IP rights and a need for infrastructure for investing in IP rights were identified as challenges in commercialising IP rights of African universities.

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CAPE VERDE

CAPE VERDE ACCEDES TO THE PARIS CONVENTION AND THE PATENT CORPORATION TREATY

On 6 April 2022, Cape Verde acceded to the Paris Convention and Patent Corporation Treaty, which comes into force on 6 July 2022.

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ETHIOPIA

INCREASE IN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FEES

The Ethiopian Press Agency recently announced that there will be a sharp increase in publication fees in response to declining economic conditions in the country.

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KENYA

1 JULY 2022 DEADLINE FOR MANDATORY RECORDALS OF IP RIGHTS ON ALL GOODS IMPORTED INTO KENYA

Kenya's Anti-Counterfeit Authority has made it compulsory to record IP rights on all imported goods (not services) in Kenya by no later than 1 July 2022.

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NIGERIA

COPYRIGHT BILL PASSED BY SENATE

On 6 April 2022, the Senate in Nigeria passed the Copyright Bill, which aims to ensure that copyright laws in Nigeria will be in line with best practices in respect of the regulation, protection and administration of copyright, especially in the digital economy, and to align with Nigeria's obligations under its international agreements.

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BURKINA FASO

THE HAT OF SAPONÉ PROTECTED AS A GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION

The Saponé Hat, dating back to the 13th century, is produced by Burkino Faso's Saponé community and is integrated as part of their cultural and historical identity.

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CAMEROON

POIVRE DE PENJA - CAMEROON'S FIRST EU GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION

Poivre de Penja, more colloquially referred to as Penja Pepper, is a unique tropical pepper cultivated on the volcanic slopes of Mount Kupa in the Penja municipality of the Littoral region of Cameroon. It is rare and highly sought after due to its cultivation and flavour notes.

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SOUTH AFRICA

PROGRESS IN THE COMMERCIALISING OF PUBLICALLY FUNDED IP

A recent local survey conducted by the National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO), found that "60% of South African universities were not empowered to commercialise their IP through spinoffs, start-ups or incubators".

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ZIMBABWE

IMPORTANT TRADE MARK AND PASSING-OFF FINDING: CAIRNS FOODS LIMITED V NETRADE MARKETING (PTY) LTD

This is an appeal decision relating to Cairns Foods Limited and Netrade Marketing, two companies in the business of producing and marketing food products, in particular, fruit jam.

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