



COUNTRY UPDATES

PROGRESS. REFORM. COLLABORATION.

Welcome to the July 2026 edition of our **Africa IP Update**, your monthly overview of the regulatory developments, legal trends and regional activity shaping intellectual property across the continent.

This month, we highlight:

- ARIPO's push to expand digital IP services in Sierra Leone
- OAPI's strengthening of international relations at Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the WIPO
- A landmark IP administration ruling in Kenya
- Trade mark reform efforts in Ethiopia

You will also find updates on Libya, Sudan, Algeria and Nigeria.

Read on for more information on the latest issues and opportunities in Africa's IP sector.

Should you have any Africa IP queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at marketing@adams.africa so we can direct the query accordingly.

Click [HERE](#) for more information on the latest IP developments in Africa and how Adams & Adams can best assist you.



ARIPO

ARIPO advances Digital IP Services in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone recently hosted an ARIPO Online Services Sensitisation Workshop aimed at increasing awareness and adoption of digital intellectual property services.

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OAPI

OAPI strengthens international cooperation at Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, 2026

The African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening international cooperation and fostering innovation across its 17 member states during the 68th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), hosted in Geneva from 7 to 15 July 2026.

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TUNISIA

Tunisia showcases Women-Led Innovation through Innovative Africa 2026

The Tunisian edition of *Innovative Africa* 2026 was recently held in Sfax, bringing together female entrepreneurs, innovators and industry experts for a programme focused on strengthening innovation-driven businesses and expanding their access to regional and international markets.

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KENYA

Kenyan High Court strikes down directive affecting intellectual property administration

In a landmark judgment delivered on 29 June 2026, the Kenyan High Court has nullified the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry's directive of 30 September 2025, which sought to require Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) Board approval for the registration, renewal and revocation of trade marks, patents, utility models and industrial designs.

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ETHIOPIA

Adams & Adams contributes to Ethiopia's Trade Mark Law Reform Efforts

Adams & Adams has recently played a meaningful role in ongoing efforts to modernise Ethiopia's trade mark framework, contributing technical comments and practical recommendations to a stakeholder consultation process on proposed amendments to the country's trade mark legislation.

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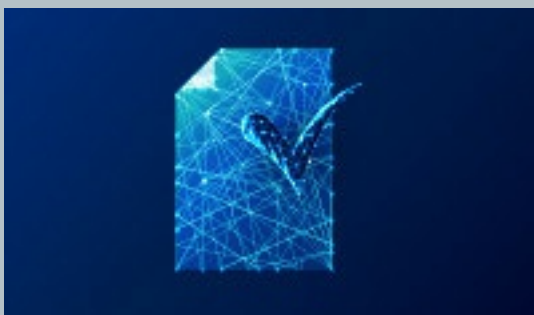


LIBYA

Libya resumes publication of trade marks for opposition purposes

Following an extended period during which the publication of trade marks in Libya were suspended, the Commercial Registry Authority has resumed the electronic publication of trade marks through its official website.

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SUDAN

Stricter enforcement of Sudanese trade mark renewals

The Registrar General of Intellectual Property Administration in Sudan has confirmed a return to the strict application of Article 19(3) of the Trade Marks Act, 1969.

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ALGERIA

Apostille Convention implementation in Algeria

Algeria will become fully operational under the Apostille Convention on 9 July 2026, following its formal accession to the treaty on 5 November 2025.

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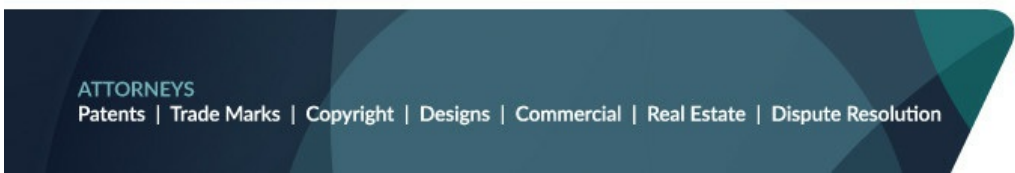


NIGERIA

Nigeria marks milestone as WIPO opens its first Sub-Saharan African Office

Abuja, Nigeria's capital city, has become the home of WIPO's first office in Sub-Saharan Africa, marking a significant milestone in the development of the continent's intellectual property landscape.

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