Africa IP UPDATE

October 2026

COUNTRY UPDATES

POLICY. PROTECTION. PROGRESS.

Welcome to the October 2026 edition of our **Africa IP Update**, your monthly snapshot of the regional developments, policy reforms and legal trends shaping intellectual property across Africa.

This month, we highlight:

- Mauritius giving domestic effect to the Harare Protocol
- Mozambique's new national IP strategy and its focus on emerging technologies
- Zimbabwe's launch of an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Intellectual Property
- Zambia's transition to digital IP registration certificates

In this edition, you will also find updates from Egypt, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda.

Explore the stories below to see how these countries are strengthening IP systems across the continent.

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

Mauritius: Harare Protocol enters into force
Mauritius deposited its instrument of Accession to the Harare Protocol on Patents, Utility Models and Industrial Designs ("the Protocol") on 27 May 2025.

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EGYPT

Egypt introduces virtual Appeal Committees for trade marks and industrial designs
The Egyptian Intellectual Property Authority (EGIPA) has introduced virtual Appeal Committees for trade mark and industrial design matters.

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MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique adopts new IP strategy with focus on AI and digital transformation
The Government of Mozambique adopted a new National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy (PEPI) 2026-2035, replacing its previous intellectual property (IP) strategy.

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NIGERIA

Nigerian copyright stakeholders unite to strengthen anti-piracy efforts in South-East and South-South regions The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA) and Reproduction Rights Society of Nigeria (REPRONIG) have launched a collaborative initiative to combat piracy and copyright infringement in Nigeria's South-East and South-South regions.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Adams & Adams strengthens Africa-wide IP network as businesses face growing cross-border complexity As businesses expand into Africa, managing intellectual property (IP) across different legal and regulatory systems is becoming increasingly complex.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Major counterfeit merchandise bust ahead of Springboks clash
Law enforcement authorities seized more than 1 700 counterfeit sports items valued at over R1.5 million in the Johannesburg CBD days before a highly anticipated Springboks versus New Zealand rugby match.

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UGANDA

Uganda set to launch new Copyright Management System
The Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) are in the process of launching a new copyright management system.

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ZAMBIA

PACRA to start issuing digital certificates for the registration of intellectual property
The Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) announced that, with effect from 19 August 2026, it will no longer issue or print physical registration certificates for copyright, trade marks, patents and industrial designs.

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ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe launches Inter-Ministerial Committee on Intellectual Property
Zimbabwe has launched an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Intellectual Property (IMC-IP), marking a significant step towards coordinated IP policymaking in Zimbabwe.

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