



# MOROCCO COUNTRY INFORMATION



# PATENTS

**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**SEARCHES**


Non-official searches are available.

Official searches are not possible.

Search is limited to published and granted patents.

Search is done by filing number, PCT number, and EP number.

**FILING REQUIREMENTS**


Arabic or French translation of all documents is required.

31 month deadline for PCT national phase filings.

**At the time of filing:**

- Applicant(s) and inventor(s) details in French.
- Title of Invention and Abstract in Arabic/French.
- Specification claims and drawings in English for non-PCT filings.

**Within 3 months from the filing date:**

- Specification claims and drawings in Arabic/French.
- Power of Attorney simply signed.
- Deed of Assignment, notarised (this is not required for PCT applications where the applicant is identical to the applicant listed in the PCT application).
- Certified copy of the Priority Document in English with its sworn French translation (this is not required for PCT applications).

Only the Priority Document in original format is required.

**PRIORITY CLAIM(S)**


Priority must be claimed at the time of filing.

12 month Paris Convention priority period.

**TYPE OF EXAMINATION**


Formal examination.

**PUBLICATION**


Patents are published in the official gazette after grant.

**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**OPPOSITIONS**


There is no provision for filing an opposition, but third parties can file observations concerning the patentability of an invention claimed in the application within 2 months from the publication date. These observations may relate to the criteria necessary for the validity of the registration. Any infringement of the patent is subject to civil action before the Court.

**PROTECTION TERM**


Patents expire 20 years from the international filing date for PCT applications and from the earliest filing date for non-PCT filings provided all annuities are paid.

**CHANGE OF NAME AND/OR ADDRESS**


Changes of name and/or address may be recorded against pending applications and registrations.

The original documents are required.

Power of Attorney simply signed.

Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation or Commercial Extract or change of name extract/document, notarized.

**ASSIGNMENTS**


Assignments may only be recorded against pending applications and registrations.

The original documents are required.

Power of Attorney of the assignee simply signed.

Deed of Assignment, notarised.

**ANNUITIES**


Annuities must be paid every year on the anniversary of the filing date (or the international filing date if the application is a PCT-national phase application).

There is a 6-month grace period for late payment of annuities (penalty fees apply).



# DESIGNS

**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**SEARCHES**


Non-official searches are possible.

Official searches are not possible.

Search by applicant name or title.

Search is available for filed, published and granted designs.

**FILING REQUIREMENTS**

**At the time of filing:**

- Figures in French.
- Description of figures in French.
- Description of design in French.
- Applicant(s) and designer(s) details in French.

**Within 3 months of filing:**

- PDF copy of the power of Attorney simply signed.
- PDF copy of the Deed of Assignment, simply signed and notarised.
- Original Certified copy of Priority Document with its sworn French translation, if priority is claimed.

**MULTIPLE DESIGN FILING SYSTEM**


Yes - up to 100 homogeneous designs under the same class.

**PRIORITY CLAIM(S)**


Priority must be claimed at the time of filing.

6 month Paris Convention priority period.

**EXAMINATION**


Formal examination only.

**PUBLICATION**


Designs are published in the official gazette after the decision of acceptance.

**OPPOSITIONS**


No provision. After the publication of the design any interested party can submit observations within two months of the publication. These observations may relate to the criteria necessary for the validity of the registration. Any infringement of the patent is subject to civil action before the Court.

**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**PROTECTION TERM**


Design protection is valid for 5 years from the date of filing; the design can be renewable for four further 5-year periods, bringing the total protection period available to 25 years.

Grace period for renewal is 6 months.

**CHANGE OF NAME AND/OR ADDRESS**


Changes of name and/or address may be recorded against pending applications and registrations.

The original documents are required.

The French or Arabic sworn translation is required for all documents - except for the POA.

Power of Attorney simply signed.

Change of name (and address) declaration simply signed and notarised **OR** certified commercial extract showing change.

**ASSIGNMENTS**


Assignments may be recorded against pending applications and registrations.

The original documents are required.

The French or Arabic sworn translation is required for all documents - except for the POA.

Power of Attorney simply signed.

Deed of Assignment simply signed and notarised.

**ANNUITIES**


There are no annuity payments.





# TRADE MARKS



**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**SEARCHES**


Word mark searches are available.  
 Device mark searches are available.  
 Proprietor searches are available.

**FILING REQUIREMENTS**


Applicant's details (name, address and jurisdiction of incorporation).  
 Trade mark name and image.  
 Classes of interest and goods and services description.

A signed Power of Attorney.  
 Late filing of this document is possible.

**PRIORITY CLAIM(S)**


Six month Paris Convention priority period.  
 Priority must be claimed at the time of filing the trademark registration application.

A certified copy of the Priority Document is required.  
 Late filing of this document is possible.

**CLASSIFICATION**


Nice Classification (11<sup>th</sup> Edition).

**EXAMINATION**


Formal, absolute and relative grounds.  
 Refused marks must be appealed to the Trade Marks Committee.

A signed Power of Attorney.  
 Late filing of this document is possible.

**OPPOSITIONS**


2 month opposition period.  
 If the applicant does not defend the opposition, the opponent will succeed by default.  
 If the opposition is defended, the parties may request a hearing, following which a decision will issue.

A signed Power of Attorney.  
 Evidence may be filed with the opposition or at any stage before the hearing.

**USEFUL INFORMATION**
**REQUIREMENTS**
**PROTECTION TERM**


10 years calculated from the filing dates of the trade mark registration application.

Registrations can be renewed every 10 years in perpetuity.

**USE REQUIREMENT**


Marks may become vulnerable to cancellation after 5 years of non-use.

**CHANGE OF NAME AND/OR ADDRESS**


Changes of name and/or address may be recorded against pending applications or trade mark registrations.

- A signed power of attorney.
- A simple copy of the latest trade mark registration or renewal certificate.
- A notarised or legalised change of name and/or address declaration.
- Late filing of supporting documents is not possible.

**ASSIGNMENTS**


Assignments may be recorded against pending applications or trade mark registrations.

- A signed power of attorney.
- A simple copy of the latest trade mark registration or renewal certificate.
- A legalised or notarised deed of assignment.
- Late filing of supporting documents is not possible.

**RENEWALS**


Trade mark registrations are due for renewal within a 10 year period calculated from the filing date of the application.

There is a 6 month grace period for late renewals with additional fees.

- A signed Power of Attorney.
- A simple copy of the latest trade mark registration or renewal certificate.
- Late filing of supporting documents is possible.



[www.cwblegal.com](http://www.cwblegal.com)