# Kluwer Trademark Blog

# Trademark News: What you might have missed in January 2023

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Wolters Kluwer

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# OAPI accedes to Geneva Act of Lisbon Agreement

On 15 December 2022, the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) joined the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (Geneva Act) by depositing its instrument of accession with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

Read the full story here

# Canada clarifies on AIR certification process for Madrid Protocol

On 19 December 2022, the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) issued a notice to clarify the practice before the Office of the Registrar of Trademarks as an Office of Origin when the Registrar cannot certify an application for international registration (AIR) under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and when

an applicant seeks to withdraw the AIR prior to its certification.

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# El Salvador starts using HDB in TMclass

The National Registration Center from El Salvador (NRC) has started using and accepting terms from the harmonised database of goods and services (HDB) in TMclass with effect from 12 December 2022.

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#### **USPTO** launches trademark Virtual Assistant

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has recently launched Virtual Assistant to provide immediate answers to general customer queries in a specific manner.

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#### WIPO launches new interface for Global Brand Database

On 15 November 2022, the World Intellectual Property Organization launched the new interface of the Global Brand Database, its global database for trademarks, which is now more user-friendly and provides statistical information through interactive graphs.

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#### Angolan trademark data now available on TMclass

On 19 December 2022, the Angolan Institute of Industrial Property (IAPI) joined TMclass and will use terms from the alphabetical list of the Nice classification.

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# Madrid Protocol fees established for Belize

Under the provisions of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks, the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization on 11 January 2023 notified the individual fees applicable when Belize is designated in an international application or in an application for renewal of international registration or is a subject of subsequent designation.

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#### **Iceland starts using HDB in TMclasss**

The Icelandic Intellectual Property Office (ISIPO) has started using and accepting the terms in English from the harmonised database of goods and services (HDB) in TMclass from 16 January 2023.

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# Moldova IP Office implements goods and services web service package

The State Agency for Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI) started implementing the goods and services web service package (G&SWSP) software in its back office trademark system with effect from 19 December 2022.

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# São Tomé and Príncipe starts using HDB in TMclass

The National Service of Intellectual Property and Quality of São Tomé and Príncipe (SENAPIQ-STP) started using and accepting terms from the harmonised database of goods and services (HDB) in TMclass with effect from 12 December 2022.

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#### Zambia starts using HDB in TMclass

The Patents and Companies Registration Agency of Zambia (PACRA) joined TMclass and started using the harmonised database of goods and services (HDB) in the tool with effect from 19 December 2022.

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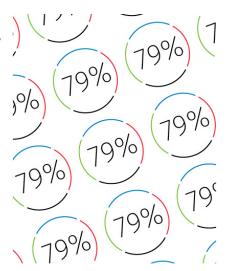
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