

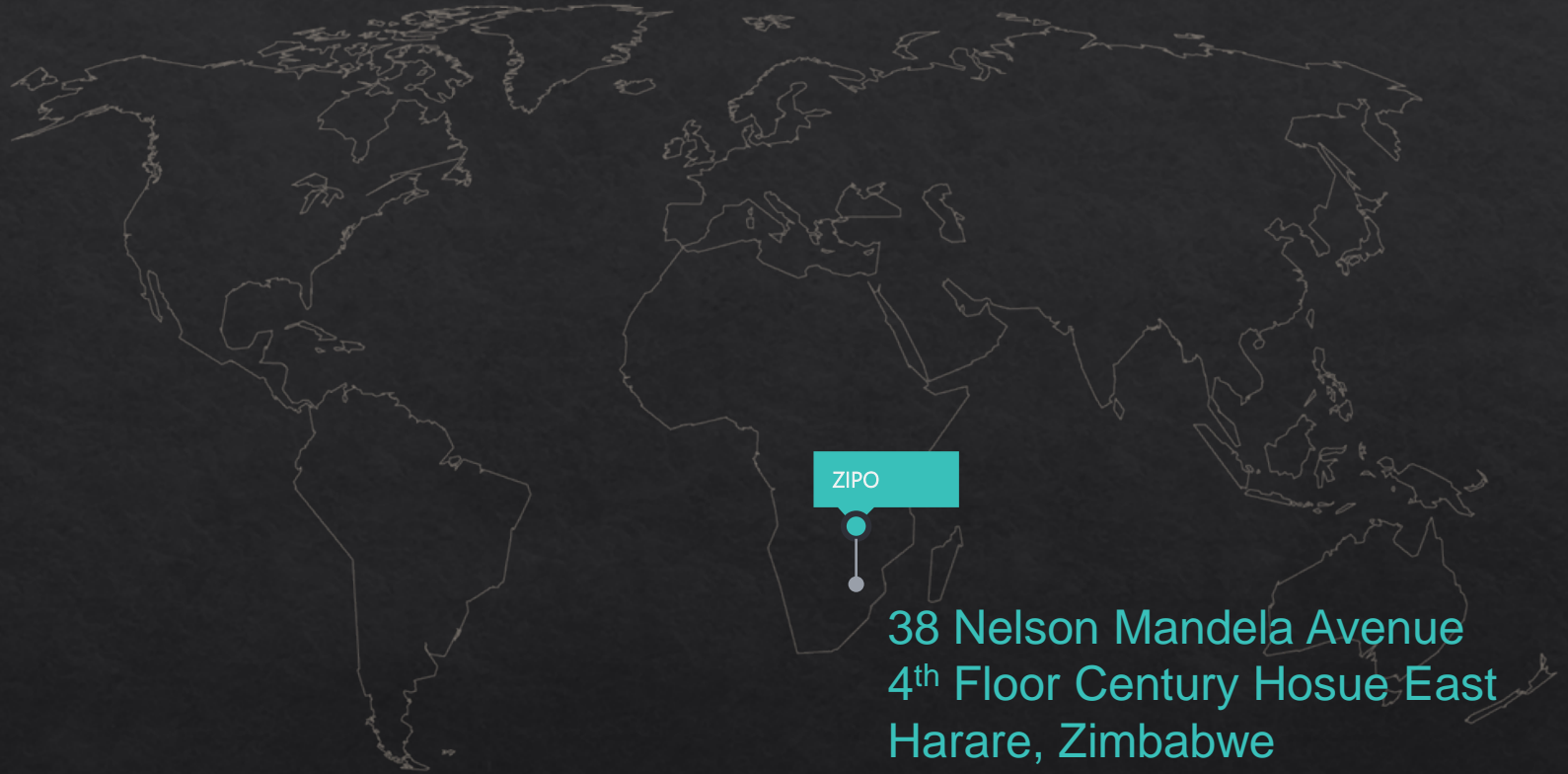


ZIMBABWE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (COUNTRY REPORT)

MORNCLIFF MUDZVATANGI
Senior Examiner – Industrial Property

Ministry Of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs

National IP Office



ZIPO

38 Nelson Mandela Avenue
4th Floor Century Hosue East
Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel: +263-4-775545/6
Web: www.dcip.gov.zw

Brief Background on ZIPO

- Started operations on 7 May 1894.
- Falls under the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs within the Department of Deeds, Companies and Intellectual Property.
- Headed by the Controller of Patents, Trade marks and Industrial Designs.
- The Office acts as a custodian of all records, books, drawings, specifications, documents, and other papers and items relating to intellectual property rights applications filed with the Office.
- Examine applications for IPRs.
- Publish regularly in its own publication the IPR applications received, registered or amended.
- Making national intellectual property registers accessible to the public where necessary
- Promote the use of patent information as a tool for technology development.

Primary Sources of IP Law

- Statute
- Regulations
- Case Law
- Hearing decisions by the Controller
- Legislative History – e.g. creation and objectives/
purpose of Office, administrative decisions
- Intellectual Property Tribunal decisions

- Laws affect all facets of digitisation.

Acts Administered

- The Patents Act Chapter 26:03
- The Trade marks Act Chapter 26:04
- The Copyright and Neighbouring rights Act Chapter 26:05
- The Industrial Designs Act Chapter
- The Integrated Circuits Layout-Designs Act, Chapter 26:07
- The Armorial Bearings, Names, Uniforms and Badges Act Chapter 10:01
- The Geographical Indications Act Chapter 26:06

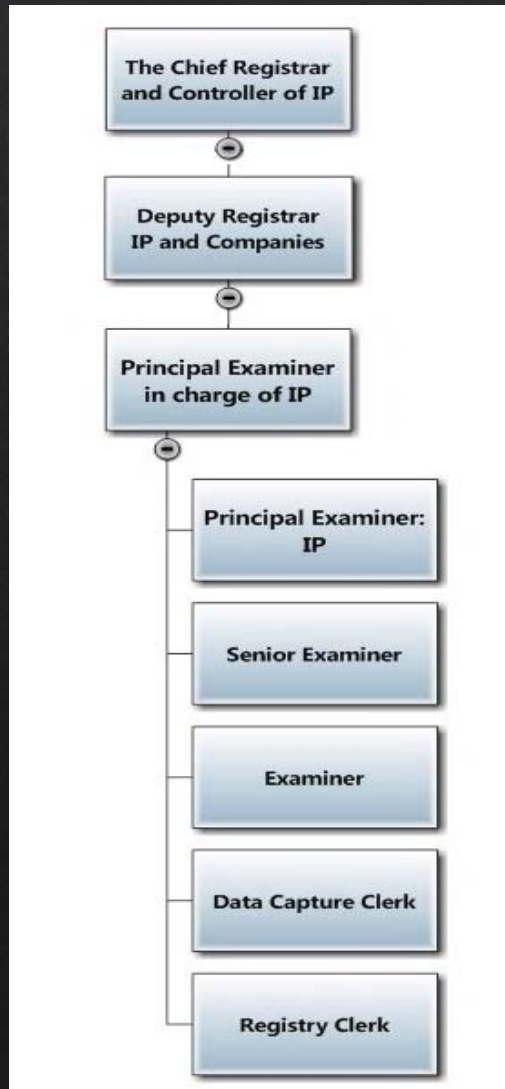
International Memberships

- Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (April 18, 1980)
- Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (April 18, 1980)
- Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (December 29, 1981)
- Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO) (March 5, 1995)
- World Trade Organization (WTO) - Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (1994) (March 5, 1995)
- Patent Cooperation Treaty (June 11, 1997)

Regional Treaties

- Lusaka Agreement on the Creation of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) (November 11, 1980)
- Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs Within the Framework of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) (April 25, 1984)
- Banjul Protocol on Marks Within the Framework of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) (March 6, 1997)
- Swakopmund Protocol on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Folklore within the Framework of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)

IP Office Structure and Staff



7 Examiners

4 Data capturers (contractors)

1 Executive assistant

1 Office assistant

1 Records Clerk (contractor)

ICT Knowledge

All members of staff are generally ICT conversant. All data capturers have BSc's.

IP Statistics since 1897

- Patents 5, 020
- Trade marks 86, 000
- Industrial Designs 950

Bibliographic Data Capturing

■ Trade marks	82000
■ Patents	81
■ Industrial Designs	0

Digitized Records

■ Trade marks	5000
---------------	------

IP Applications Statistics since 2005 - 2015

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Trade marks	1912	1496	1710	1579	1698	1370
Patents	21	21	24	23	22	26
Designs	6	5	7	4	5	4

Outstanding Data to be Captured

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Trade marks	14	18	11	9	3	2
Patents	21	7	3	11	21	0
Designs	6	5	7	4	5	4

Automation Status

- Reception of new applications is done in IPAS (patents and trade marks).
- All applications are captured before distribution
- Digitization of paper is occurring in two ways;
 - i. Project sponsored by Japan Funds in Trust through WIPO
 - ii. Digitization of documents by office
- Journal is generated through IPAS and editing done in MS. Publisher
- Journal is sold and not available online.
- Currently the office does not offer any online services.

Positive impact of ICT solutions on IPO processes

- Efficiency has generally improved across all business processes.
- Examination is much more effective (useful tools available in IPAS e.g phonetic and device search capability)
- Journal production has improved dramatically
- Certificate generation is now very easy
- Easier to trace documents / files
- Reports are generated in minutes

Challenges

- Slow pace in aligning laws to digitization process
- No re-design in job descriptions to cater for digitisation
- Staff compliment is too thin (government has placed a freeze on all posts) – affects data verification, validation and general quality checks
- No IT section nor an ICT policy for office
- Lack of financial resources to sustain systems
- National classification system) (trade marks and designs not yet added to IPAS.

Issues affecting digitization

Law and Policy

National +
International

Standards

WIPO Standards

Digitization

Resources

Financial + Human

Organisational / Political Will

Strategy + Planning

Tools used by ZIPO

Member State Module

- M/S Module - allows electronic-exchange of Patent, Trademark, Utility Models and Design application notifications and other data (e.g. journal and M/S Account information) between ARIPO and Member states. It handles all functions related to interaction between the ARIPO Secretariat and IPOs throughout the granting/registration procedures.

The Module System UI

ARIPO Member States Module

 Remember ID

Forgot your password?

Enter your ID Password to access Member States Manager.

Benefits to Office

- Saves money – postage, fuel, telecommunications, storage and data capturing costs
- Increase efficiency and timeliness – reduces manual work processes /
Minimization of manual paper-intensive procedures
- Files are managed digitally, no physical exchange of documents
- Real time retrieval of records / better access to records
- Increase depth and width of database
- Attract new clients
- Enhancing security and durability of records

Benefits to clients

- Documents processed on time
- Less risks of documents getting lost
- Searches are more accurate
- Database is much bigger – reduces risk of infringing on other proprietors rights

STATISTICS: MEMBER STATE MODULE

Patent Notifications = 1267

Design Notifications = 144

Trade marks - Banjul = 343

Utility Model = 33

IPAS v3.1.1 UI

52.10.162:8080/IpasWeb/Login/Login.do



IPAS

World Intellectual Property Organization

User

Password

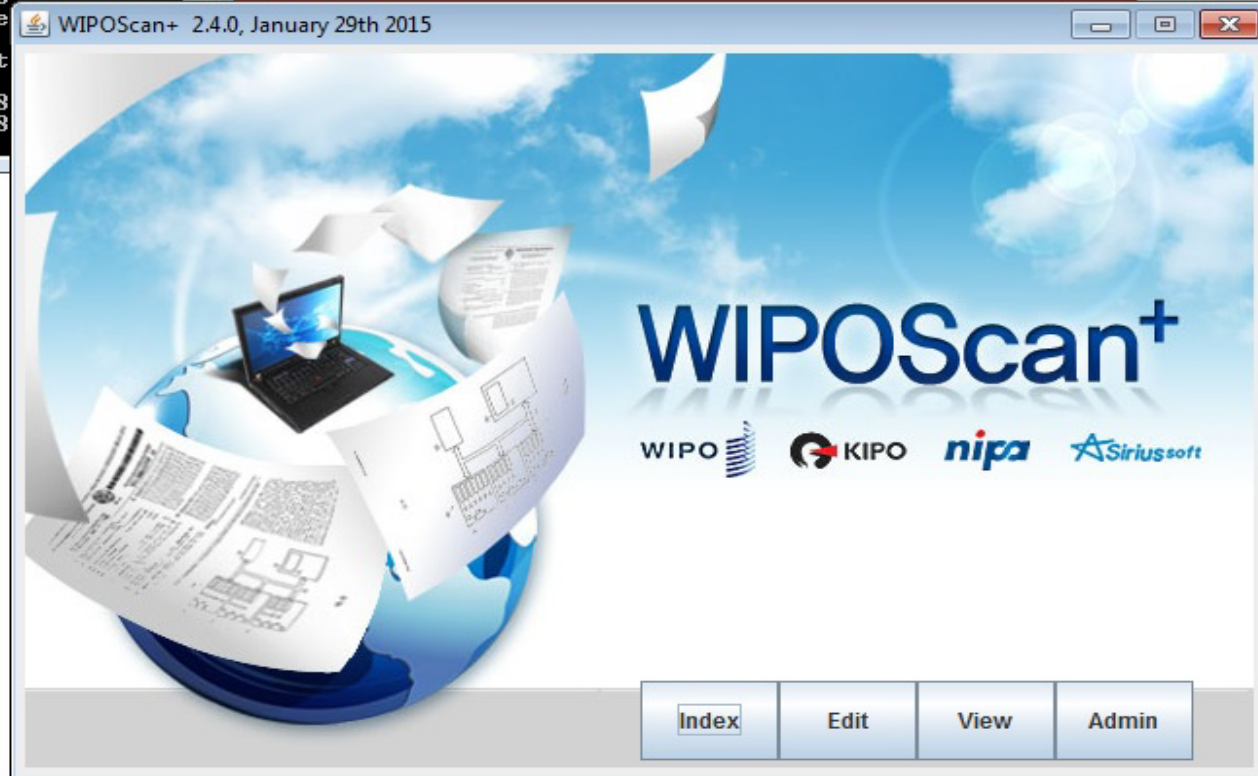
Login

WIPOscan...

```
org.hibernate.type.BasicTypeRegistry - Type regist
@Override overrides previous : org.hibernate.type.Charact
FO org.hibernate.type.BasicTypeRegistry - Type regist
@Override overrides previous : org.hibernate.type.MaterializedC
FO org.hibernate.impl.SessionFactoryObjectFactory - N
no JNDI name configured
RN org.hibernate.util.JDBCExceptionReporter - SQL Err
ROR org.hibernate.util.JDBCExceptionReporter - Io exc
could not establish the connection
nistrator:Administrator@10.252.10.162:8888
RN org.hibernate.util.JDBCExceptionReporte
ROR org.hibernate.util.JDBCExceptionReport
could not establish the connection
nistrator:Administrator@10.252.10.162:8888
nistrator:Administrator@10.252.10.162:8888
```

You have been successfully authenticated.

Logout



WIPOScan+ 2.4.0, January 29th 2015

The main interface features a central graphic of a globe with a laptop and several documents floating around it. To the right of the graphic, the text "WIPOScan+" is displayed in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, there are four logos: WIPO, KIPO, nipa, and Siriussoft. At the bottom of the interface, there is a navigation bar with four buttons: Index, Edit, View, and Admin.

WIPOScan+

WIPO KIPO nipa Siriussoft

Index Edit View Admin

Future ICT related plans

System related

- Link IPAS with the companies database
- Add oppositions and hearing workflow
- Refine Madrid workflow in line with the new regulations
- Add industrial design workflow
- Avail IP data online
- Enabling online lodging and payments in line with government policy of easy of doing business

Human Resources related

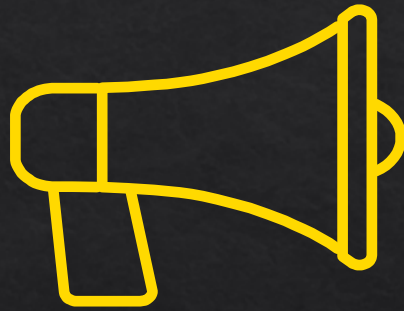
- Strategize on ways to create a formidable verification and validation system anchored on well equipped individuals.
- capacitate the right personnel.

Benefits of Previous WIPO Regional training

- Increased appreciation of IPAS and tools assimilated into it.
- Enabled participant to train fellow staff members
- Help develop ways of creating value from IPAS, e.g. reports, searches and monitoring
- Office was able to identify other Offices of good practise



Thank You!



Any questions?

Contact

Morncliff Mudzvatangi - Senior Examiner
Zimbabwe Intellectual Property Office
Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs

Tel: +263-4-775545/6

Fax: +263-4-777372

Email: mmudzvatangi@justice.gov.zw
mornicon83@live.com