African Regional Intellectual Property Organization

ARIPO ONLINE SERVICES AND THE MS MODULE

ARIPO SECRETARIAT,
HARARE, ZIMBABWE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARIPO-WIPO-KOICA ICT PROJECT FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE ARIPO ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THOSE OF ITS MEMBER STATES

- In August 2013 ARIPO embarked on the Upgrade and Modernization of the ICT Infrastructure of the ZIPO, ARIPO and its Member States project
- The goal of this project was to upgrade and modernize ICT infrastructure of patent offices in ARIPO and 19 Member states
- The main objectives include:

➢ the enhancing of efficiency of the business processing and other administrative work at the ARIPO Office and those of its Member States,

➢ the facilitation of accessibility of Intellectual Property information in the region and in Africa at large

➢ The strengthening of ICT institutional capacity in the ARIPO region and beyond

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARIPO-WIPO-KOICA ICT PROJECT FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE ARIPO ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THOSE OF ITS MEMBER STATES

- The project focused on:
  - upgrading ARIPO's IP administration system
  - development of a member states' module for online electronic data communication and
  - the development and provision of online services to users and the public at large
- the new IP administration system, POLite+, was launched on March 2nd, 2015
- the project was inaugurated on April 24th, 2015

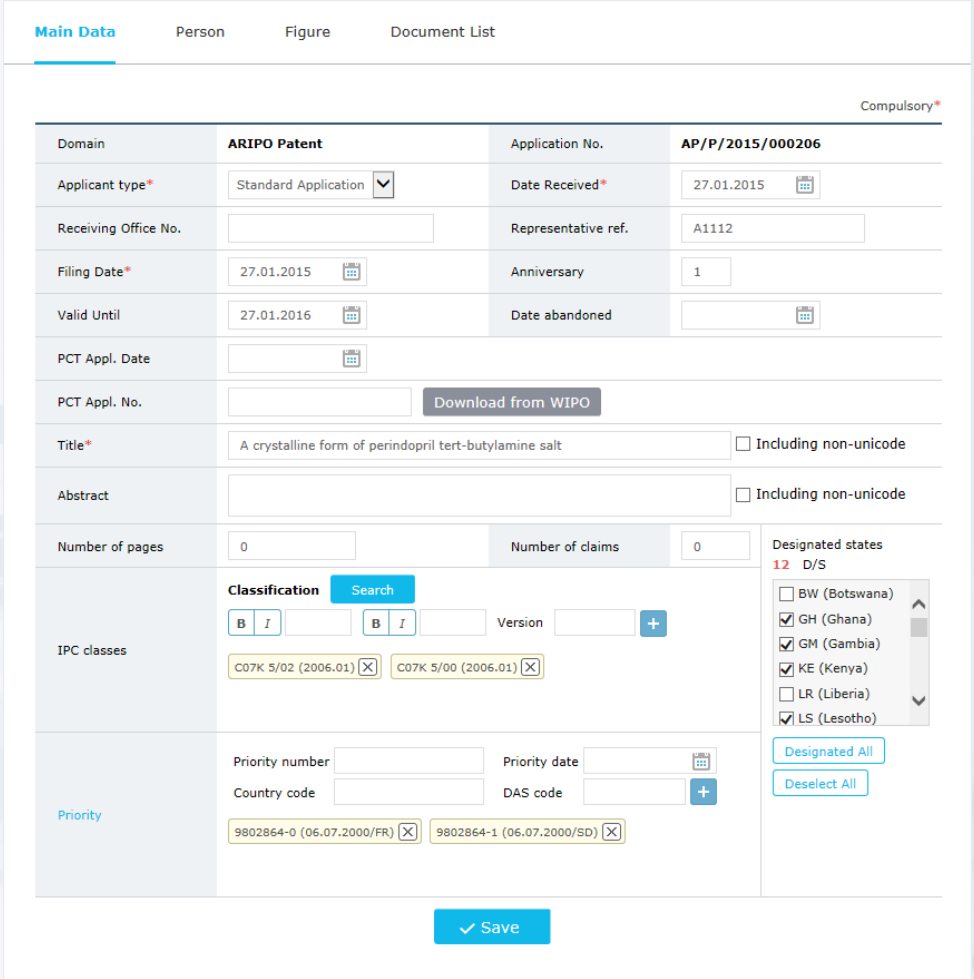
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARIPO-WIPO-KOICA ICT PROJECT FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE ARIPO ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THOSE OF ITS MEMBER STATES

- The expected benefits of the project include:
  - reduction of paper records in IP file processing
  - elimination of duplicate records and processes across the ARIPO region
  - substantial productivity and efficiency gains amongst ARIPO stakeholders
  - significant savings on time and money (shorter processing time for IP applications arising from productivity improvements, cash flows management with online payment, and improved service to stakeholders which will attract more filings)

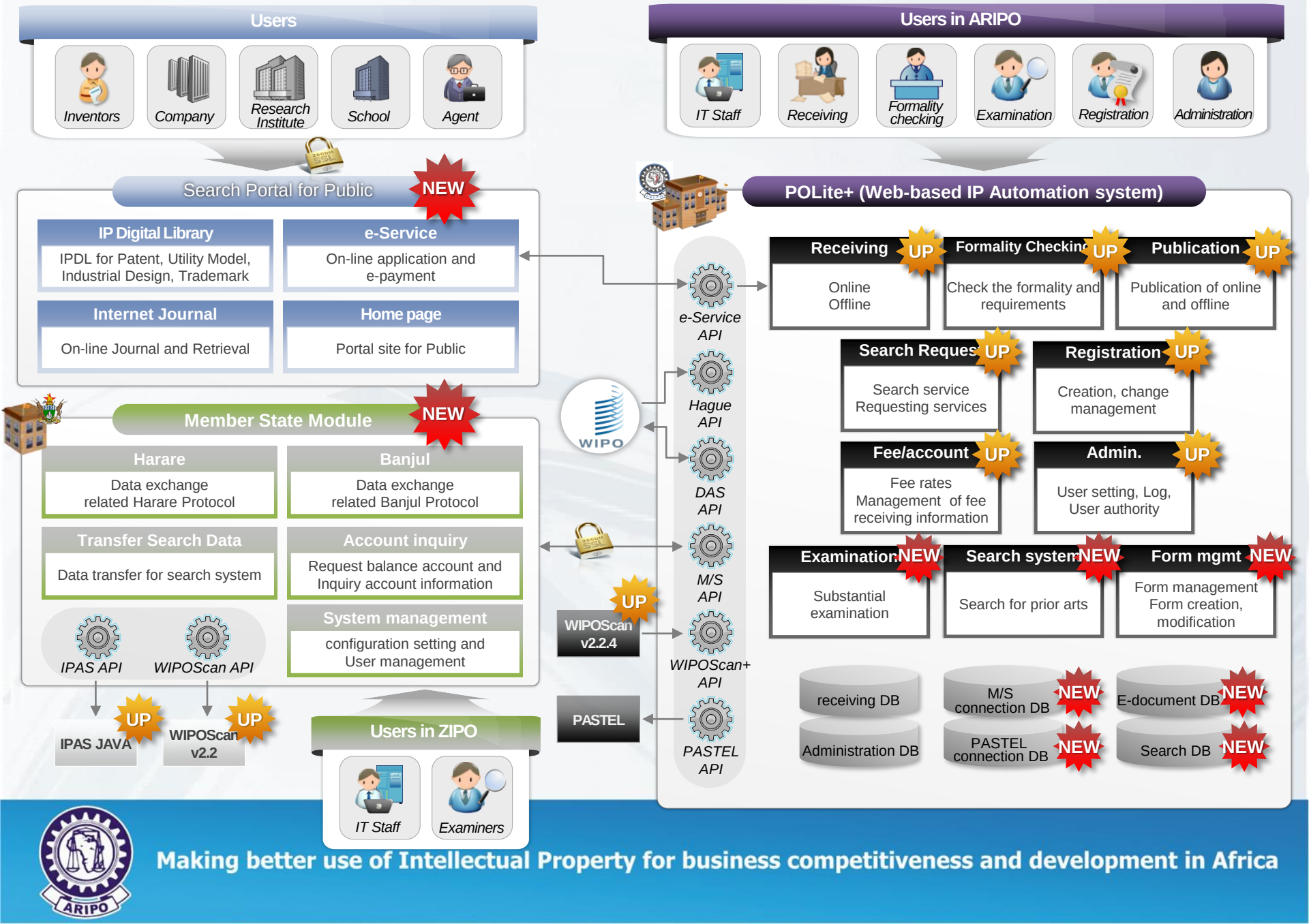
Before POLite+

POLite+

- Web-based IP administration automation system for ARIPO
- As an internal system, POLite+ allows ARIPO to proceed with IP administration work from reception to registration.
- POLite+ provides functions for IP work including application reception, verification, data capturing, formality examination, substantial examination, registration, examiner search, journal publication and fee management.



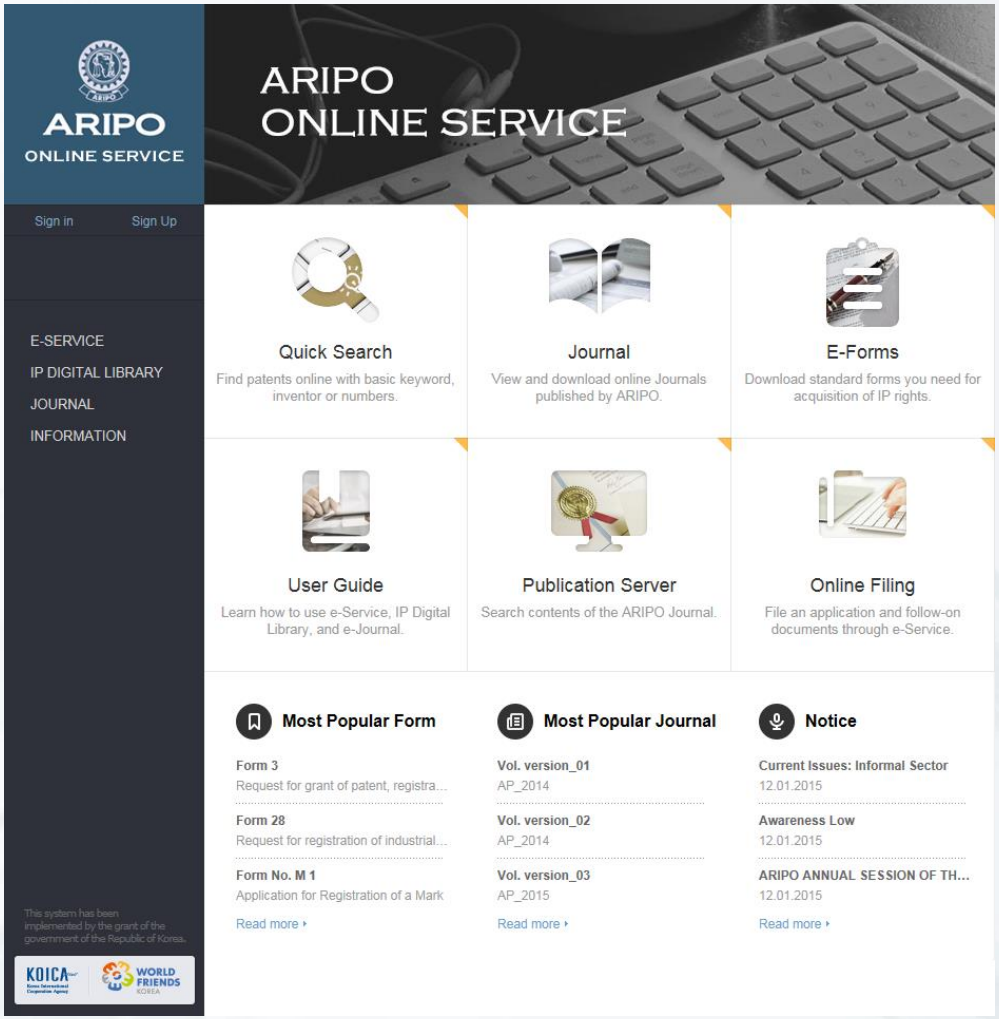
Online Service, M/S Module, POLite+



ONLINE SERVICES MODULE

- The e-Services module is accessible on eservice.aripo.org.
- Applications can be filed online. Online payment is being worked on
- The Intellectual Property Digital Library (IPDL) allows for online data search. For now, only ARIPO data search is possible. MS data can also be searched though the if MS send their data through M/S Module.
- ARIPO journals are available for download free of charge
- Journals of MS would be available for downloading free of charge just like ARIPO's journals once the member states provide their journals for upload onto the e-Service module.

Online Service



- Online Service is IP information service for the general public.
- Online Service allows anyone to submit their IP applications to their local patent offices or ARIPO without physically visiting them by providing e-filing and e-payment through e-service.
- Online Service provides functions of e-service and IPDL(Intellectual Property Digital Library), and allows journal search, and form & fee information download.

Online Service

eservice.aripo.org

- E-SERVICE
  - Online Filing
  - E-PAYMENT
  - Notification
  - My Docket

SSL, double passwords based security

- IP DIGITAL LIBRARY
  - Quick Search
  - Advanced Search

- JOURNAL
  - ARIPO Journal
  - Publication Server
  - Member States Journal

ARIPO Data

National Data

Free of charge

Member States Journal

SOME STATISTICS

- ONLINE APPLICATIONS – 241

- ONLINE USERS REGISTERED – 46
  - AGENTS – 28
  - NATURAL PERSONS – 5
  - LEGAL ENTITIES - 13

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARIPO-WIPO-KOICA ICT PROJECT FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE ARIPO ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THOSE OF ITS MEMBER STATES

- The challenges faced include:
  - reluctance by agents to file applications online
  - challenges implementing the online payments system
  - agents adapting to the new online system
  - publicity
  - the usual new system challenges

MEMBER STATES MODULE

- The Member States (M/S) module was developed as part of the project to Upgrade and Modernize the ICT Infrastructure of the ARIPO office and those of its Member States
- The module has been successfully implemented at ZIPO as a pilot Office for the Member States module project. The next phase will involve implementing the module in all the other 18 Member States
- The module will allow online data exchange between POLite+ of ARIPO and IPAS of its Member States.
- Through the module, ARIPO and its member states will be able to exchange all types of notifications, forms and documents online which are presently delivered by courier

MEMBER STATES MODULE

- Using the M/S module, ARIPO's applications will be input and uploaded onto the MS' IPAS automatically
- Any documents received from ARIPO will be automatically saved onto IPAS that the MS are using.
- ARIPO can add data from its MS onto the search system and journals.
- The module provides notification transmission/reception function as well as national data sending function through the linkage with the IPAS system.
- It also enables MS to check their respective accounts at ARIPO online
- Implementation of the MS module of POLite+ will be facilitated by WIPO, KOICA, KIPO, ARIPO and the MS
- In order to use the M/S Module, the MS should already be running IPAS Java and WIPO Scan.

MEMBER STATES MODULE

- Some of the benefits will be:
  - ➢ Paperless exchange of information with MS
  - ➢ Cost and time savings

- Some of the challenges have been:
  - ➢ Slow implementation of the MS module

THE END