

COUNTRY REPORT

PHILIPPINES

WIPO Observation Program on Madrid System in the Japan Patent Office

04-06 August 2009, Tokyo, Japan

Country Representative:

Nathaniel S. Arevalo, Attorney VI and Head, Office of the Legal Counsel, Office of the Director General, Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines

Responsibilities:

- Provide legal services, legal study, advisory, opinion, crafting of rules and regulations, position papers and commentaries on proposed legislation and policies on IP
- Legal review of transactions, documents, instruments, contracts, agreements and all relevant matters and concerns
- Manages the Legal Staff and appellate function of the Office of the Director General

Organization/Agency Profile: The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines

- Created by Rep. Act No. 8293, also known as the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines
- Took over from the functions of the defunct Bureau of Patents, Trademarks and

Technology Transfer of the Department of Trade and Industry

- Primary and lead government agency on IP and IP-related matters
- Autonomous but attached to the Department of Trade and Industry on policy matters
- Headed by a Director General, assisted by two (2) Deputies Director General
- Six (6) bureaus and other offices under the Office of the Director General, including the SIPIAC-NCIPR, Office of the Legal Counsel, Public Relations Office, IP Research and Training Institute
- Organizational chart, Directory, Contact details (see website: <http://www.ipophil.gov.ph>)

Trademark Registration and Administration

- Handled by the Bureau of Trademarks
- Oppositions and cancellations of trademark registrations handled by the Bureau of Legal Affairs
- Refusal/rejection of applications appealable to the Director General
- Decisions on opposition and cancellation proceedings appealable to the Director General
- Decisions of the Director General appealable to the Court of Appeals (Judiciary)

Trademark-Related Data/Statistics (2006-2008)

Subject	CY 2006			CY 2007			2008		
	Local	Foreign	Total	Local	Foreign	Total	Local	Foreign	Total
TM applications filed	8,267	6,227	14,494	8,621	6,450	15,071	6,227	5,561	11,788
Registrations	4,335	9,092	13,427	7,568	10,559	18,167	3,635	4,133	7,768
TM applications filed by Japanese	509			501			472		
Registrations of Japanese TMs	683			977			365		
Appeals from refusal/rejection	4			2			4		
Oppositions filed	184			332			312		

Government efforts towards the Country's accession to Madrid System and Stakeholders' Support

- Consultations with stakeholders
- Seminars/training (capacity building activities) for Trademark examiners and other relevant personnel of the IPO