

**BELIZE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
OFFICE**  
AS  
DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICE

**CONTENTS**

THE ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE—SUMMARY

THE PROCEDURE IN THE NATIONAL PHASE

ANNEXES

Fees .....	Annex BZ.I
Power of Attorney (Form No. 2B) .....	Annex BZ.II

**List of abbreviations:**

- Office: Belize Intellectual Property Office
- PA: Patents Act (Cap. 253)
- PR: Patents Regulations, 2002

**SUMMARY****Designated  
(or elected) Office****SUMMARY****BZ BELIZE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE BZ****Summary of requirements for entry into the national phase**

Time limits applicable for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22(1): 30 months from the priority date Under PCT Article 39(1)(a): 30 months from the priority date <sup>1</sup>
Translation of international application required into:	English
Required contents of the translation for entry into the national phase: <sup>2</sup>	Under PCT Article 22: Description, claims (if amended, both as originally filed and as amended), any text matter of drawings, abstract Under PCT Article 39(1): Description, claims, any text matter of drawings, abstract (if any of those parts has been amended, both as originally filed and as amended by the annexes to the international preliminary examination report)
Is a copy of the international application required?	The applicant should only send a copy of the international application if he has not received Form PCT/IB/308 and the Office has not received a copy of the international application from the International Bureau under PCT Article 20. This may be the case where the applicant expressly requests an earlier start of the national phase under PCT Article 23(2).
National fee:	Currency: Belize dollar (BZD) For patent: Filing fee: <sup>2</sup> BZD 300 Annual fees for the first three years: BZD 600 For utility model: Filing fee/Grant fee: <sup>2</sup> BZD 300
Exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee:	None
Special requirements of the Office (PCT Rule 51 <i>bis</i> ): <sup>3</sup>	Name and address of the inventor if they have not been furnished in the "Request" part of the international application <sup>4</sup> Statement justifying the applicant's right to the patent if he is not the inventor <sup>4</sup>
Who can act as agent?	Any patent attorney entitled to practice before the Office
Does the Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49 <i>ter.2</i> )?	Yes, the Office applies both the "unintentional" and the "due care" criteria to such requests

<sup>1</sup> May be extended upon written request of the applicant.

<sup>2</sup> Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

<sup>3</sup> If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

<sup>4</sup> This requirement may be satisfied if the corresponding declaration has been made in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17.

## THE PROCEDURE IN THE NATIONAL PHASE

- BZ.01 **TRANSLATION (CORRECTION).** Errors in the translation of the international application can be corrected with reference to the text of the international application as filed (see paragraphs 57 and 58 of the General Part of this Volume).
- PR Regulations 4  
8 BZ.02 **FEES (MANNER OF PAYMENT).** The manner of payment of the fees indicated in the Summary and in this Chapter is outlined in Annex BZ.I.
- BZ.03 **POWER OF ATTORNEY.** An agent must be appointed by filing a power of attorney. A model is given in Annex BZ.II.
- PA Sec. 28(2) BZ.04 **ANNUAL FEES.** They are payable before the first and each subsequent anniversary of the international filing date. Where the applicant failed to pay by the due date, payment can still be made, together with a surcharge for late payment, within the six months following the due date. The amounts of the annual fees are indicated in Annex BZ.I.
- PA Sec. 55(11) BZ.05 **FEE FOR GRANT.** A fee for grant must be paid before the grant of the patent. The amount of the said fee is indicated in Annex BZ.I.
- PCT Art. 28  
41  
PA Sec. 19 BZ.06 **AMENDMENT OF THE APPLICATION; TIME LIMITS.** Amendments may be made in the national phase up to the grant of the patent, provided that the scope of the subject matter of the application is not broadened thereby.
- PCT Art. 25  
PCT Rule 51  
PA Sec. 62 BZ.07 **REVIEW UNDER ARTICLE 25 OF THE PCT.** The applicable procedure is outlined in paragraphs 63 to 66 of the General Part of this Volume. If, upon review under PCT Article 25, the Office denies an error or omission on the part of the receiving Office or the International Bureau, an appeal against this decision may be lodged to the Supreme Court by a notice of motion within two months from the date of the decision.
- PCT Art. 24(2)  
48(2)  
PR Regulation 44  
PA Sec. 59 BZ.08 **EXCUSE OF DELAYS IN MEETING TIME LIMITS.** Reference is made to paragraphs 67 to 71 of the General Part of this Volume. Where the applicant failed to comply with a time limit during the international phase or before the Office, he may request extension of the time limit. Such request must be addressed to the Office together with an affidavit setting forth the relevant facts and is subject to the payment of a special fee (see Annex BZ.I). Extension of time limits may be requested either before or after the expiration of the time limit. The extension may be granted by the Office for such period as the Office thinks suitable in the circumstances of the case.

When the Registrar of Intellectual Property is satisfied that the circumstances justify it, he is empowered, under the Belize Patents Act, upon the written request of any interested person, to extend the time limit for any act or any proceeding under the Belize Act and Regulations. The extension may be granted even though the corresponding time limit has expired. The notice of any extension to the parties concerned shall be given in writing by the Registrar.

**FEES****(Currency: Belize dollar)****Patents**

Filing fee . . . . .	300
Fee for grant . . . . .	300
Annual fees:	
— before the 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	100
— before the 2 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	200
— before the 3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	300
— before the 4 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	400
— before the 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	500
— before the 6 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	600
— before the 7 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	700
— before the 8 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	800
— before the 9 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	900
— before the 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,000
— before the 11 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,100
— before the 12 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,200
— before the 13 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,300
— before the 14 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,400
— before the 15 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,500
— before the 16 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,600
— before the 17 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,700
— before the 18 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,800
— before the 19 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of filing . . . . .	1,900
Surcharge for late payment of annual fee . . . . .	100
Fee for extension of time . . . . .	50
Fee for restoration of the right of priority . . . . .	150

**Utility models**

Filing/Grant fee . . . . .	300
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**How can payment of fees be effected?**

Payment must be made in Belize dollars, but the equivalent amount in a foreign currency that is convertible in Belize may be accepted. All payments must indicate the application number (national, if already known; international, if the national application number is not yet known), the name of the applicant and the type of fee being paid. Fees may be paid by cheque, bank draft or money order to the Belize Intellectual Property Office (endorsed in the name of the Government of Belize) or by cash at the Office or by bank transfer (PR Regulations 4 and 8).

PATENTS ACT (CAP. 253)

FORM NO. 2B

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I (We)

(Name and address)

do hereby authorize

to represent me(us) as applicant(s)  
in all proceedings related to the processing

of all my(our) patent applications

of international application No.

(check the applicable box)

before the Belize Intellectual Property Office and to make or receive payments on  
my(our) behalf.

Place:

Date:

Signature: