

# THE GAMBIA

**SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE  
DEVELOPMENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF IP  
STATISTICS FOR ARIPO MEMBER STATES  
FROM 14<sup>TH</sup> TO 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2016**



**PREPARED BY:  
ABDOULIE COLLEY  
&  
YUSUPHA M. CHAM**

# OUTLINE



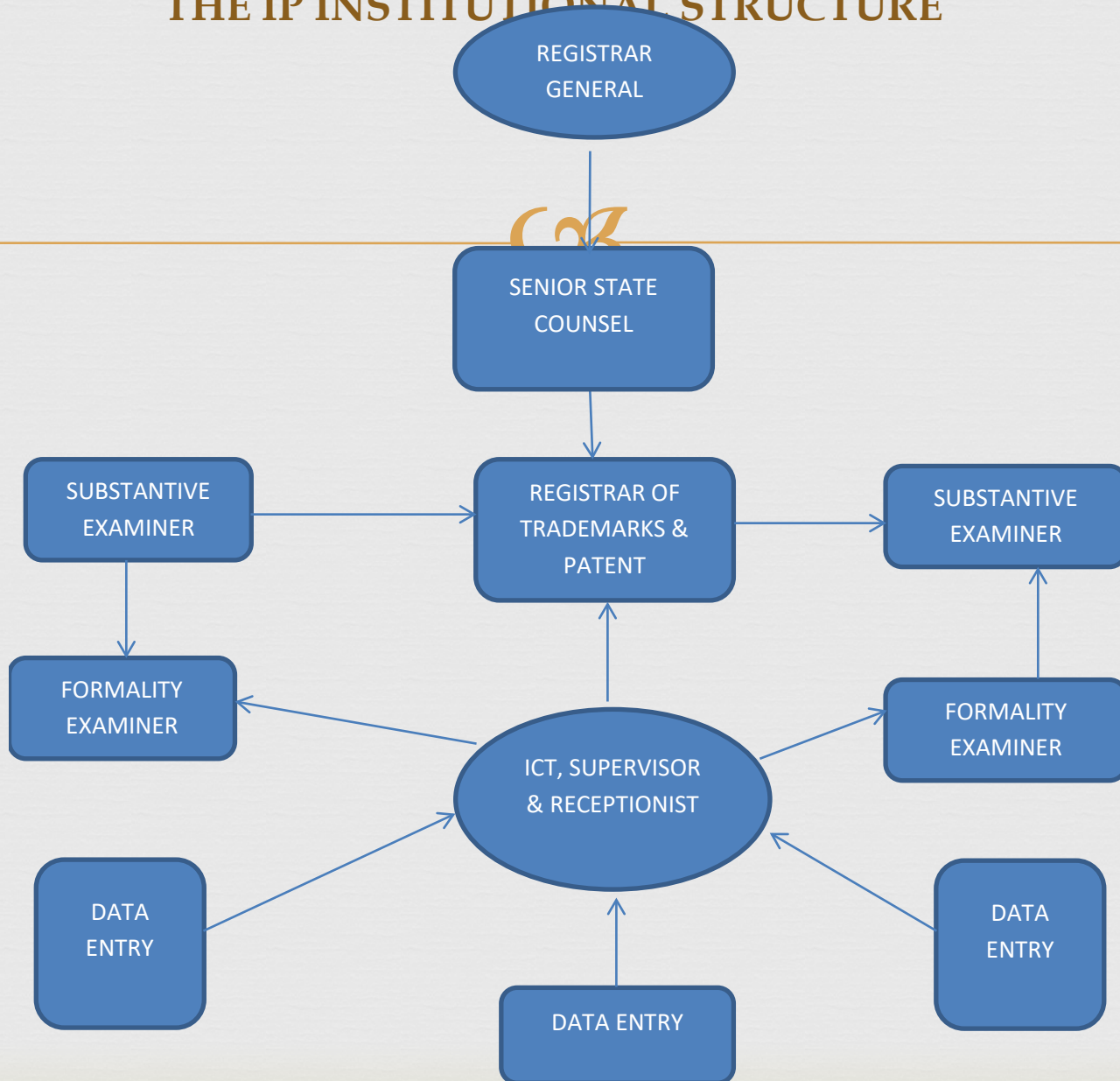
- ❧ INTRODUCTION
- ❧ THE IP INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE
- ❧ WORKLOAD IN TERMS OF APPLICATIONS
- ❧ DATA STORAGE OF INFORMATION/STATISTICS
- ❧ USAGE OF IP STATISTICS BY OTHER MINISTRIES/  
INDUSTRIES / PRIVATE SECTOR
- ❧ CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING RELIABLE AND  
ANALYTICAL DATA FOR USE NATIONALLY AND  
INTERNATIONALLY.
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# INTRODUCTION

- ❧ The Gambia IP office is directly under the Attorney General's Chambers Ministry of Justice.
- ❧ It is headed by an Ag. Registrar General who is also the Head of Registry of deeds, Civil and Christian Marriage registry
- ❧ Rights registered are:
  - Trade marks
  - Collective marks
  - Patents
  - Utility models
  - Industrial designs
- ❧ IPAS deployed in 2010
- ❧ Earliest Registration in 1916



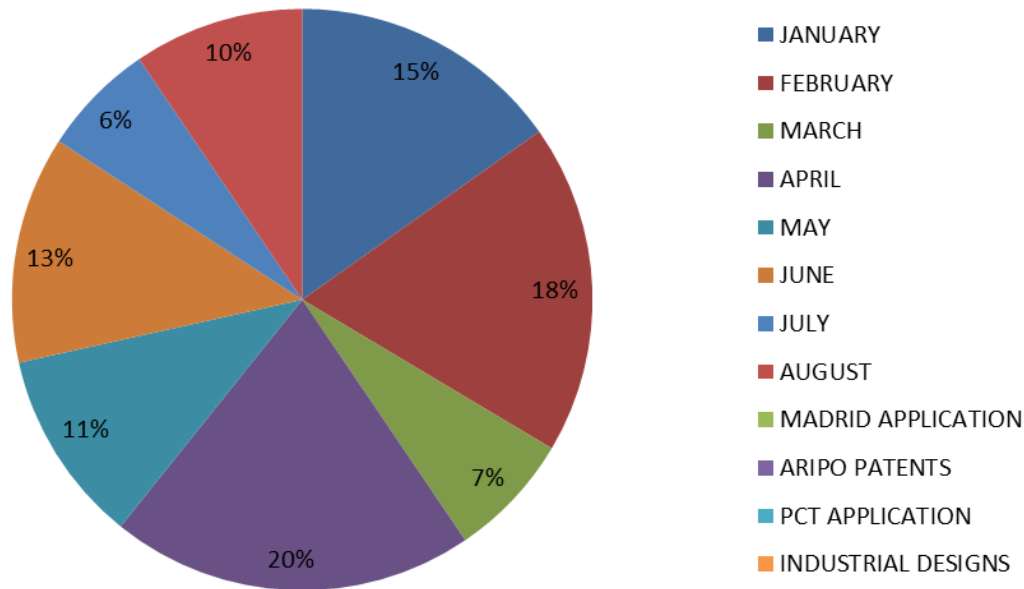
# THE IP INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE



# WORKLOAD IN TERMS OF APPLICATIONS



## TRADEMARKS



# DATA STORAGE OF INFORMATION/STATISTICS

- ❧ CURRENTLY, WE ARE DOING DATA BACKUP IN THE MAIN SERVER ITSELF
- ❧ FURTHER, A SECONDARY DRIVE AND ANOTHER EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE ARE USED AS AUXILIARY BACKUPS. BACKUP IS DONE EVERY TWO WORKING DAYS.
- ❧ 19,000 TRADE MARKS RECORDED IN THE IPAS SYSTEM AND STILL DOING DATA CAPTURE.
- ❧ WE HAVE EFFECTIVELY BEEN INVOLVED IN THE IP DATA VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION AND CURRENTLY WE HAVE VALIDATED & VERIFIED 4000 TRADE MARK RECORDS AND PENDING 15,000 RECORDS.
- ❧ THE PROCESSING OF THIS INFORMATION IS SLOW BECAUSE WE HAVE INADEQUATE HUMAN RESOURCES.
- ❧ IN 2016, FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST WE HAVE SEEN A DROP IN TRADEMARK REGISTRATION , CURRENTLY WE HAVE 179 FILINGS.
- ❧ WITH THE HELP OF IPAS SYSTEM WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PUBLISH 3 QUARTERLY PUBLICATIONS
- ❧ ISSUED 140 CERTIFICATES AND STILL WORKING ON CLEARING THE BACKLOG.

# USAGE OF IP STATISTICS BY OTHER MINISTRIES/ INDUSTRIES / PRIVATE SECTOR

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- ❧ **THERE IS LIMITED USE OF IP STATISTICS BY OTHER MINISTRIES, INDUSTRIES, PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO LACK OF AWARENESS ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE OF IP STATISTICS**
- ❧ **FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF IP OFFICE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GAMBIA USED IP STATISTICS DURING STATE OPENING OF 2016 LEGISLATIVE YEAR AND THE REGISTRATION OF THE GAMBIA COUNTRY BRAND “ **THE SMILING COAST OF AFRICA**”**



# CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING RELIABLE AND ANALYTICAL DATA FOR USE NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

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- ❧ **BACKLOG IN DATA ENTRY**
- ❧ **DELAPIDATED REGISTERS**
- ❧ **INABILITY TO UPLOAD AND DOWNLOAD INFORMATION FROM WIPO MADRID MODULE AND ARIPO (CDs)**
- ❧ **POOR INTERNET CONNECTION TO UPGRADE TO THE IPAS VERSION**
- ❧ **LACK OF APPROPRIATE SKILLS**
- ❧ **LOST FILES**



# CONCLUSION



- ❧ **DUE TO INCREASE IN IP EXPERTS IN THE GAMBIA THERE IS HOPE IN TERMS OF BETTER USE OF IP STATISTICS FOR DEVELOPMENT**
- ❧ **THERE ARE THREE WIPO TRAINED IP EXPERTS AT THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND ONE AT MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
- ❧ **THE GAMBIA IP POLICY AND STRATEGY WHICH IS IN THE PIPELINE WILL SUGGEST WAY FORWARD IN TERMS OF BETTER USE OF STATISTICS**



**THANK YOU**