



Swaziland IP Office Automation Status and Road Map Presentation

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Company Name Intellectual Property Office

IP OFFICE OVERVIEW



- The Intellectual Property office in Swaziland falls under the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade
- The total budget allocated for ICT - none
- The office has a staff compliment of 9 officers, who are all IP staff members
- The total number of ICT staff is two, these two belong to the Ministry of ICT in the department of computer services centralized at their office to assist all the Government Ministries)
- The level of familiarization or knowledge of ICT

Cont.



- among the IP staff and current National legislation is limited
- IP functions: The office is in charge of protecting and registering Trademarks, Patents, Industrial Designs and Copyright.

IP Volumes Since Creation OF IP Office



Trademarks – 27496

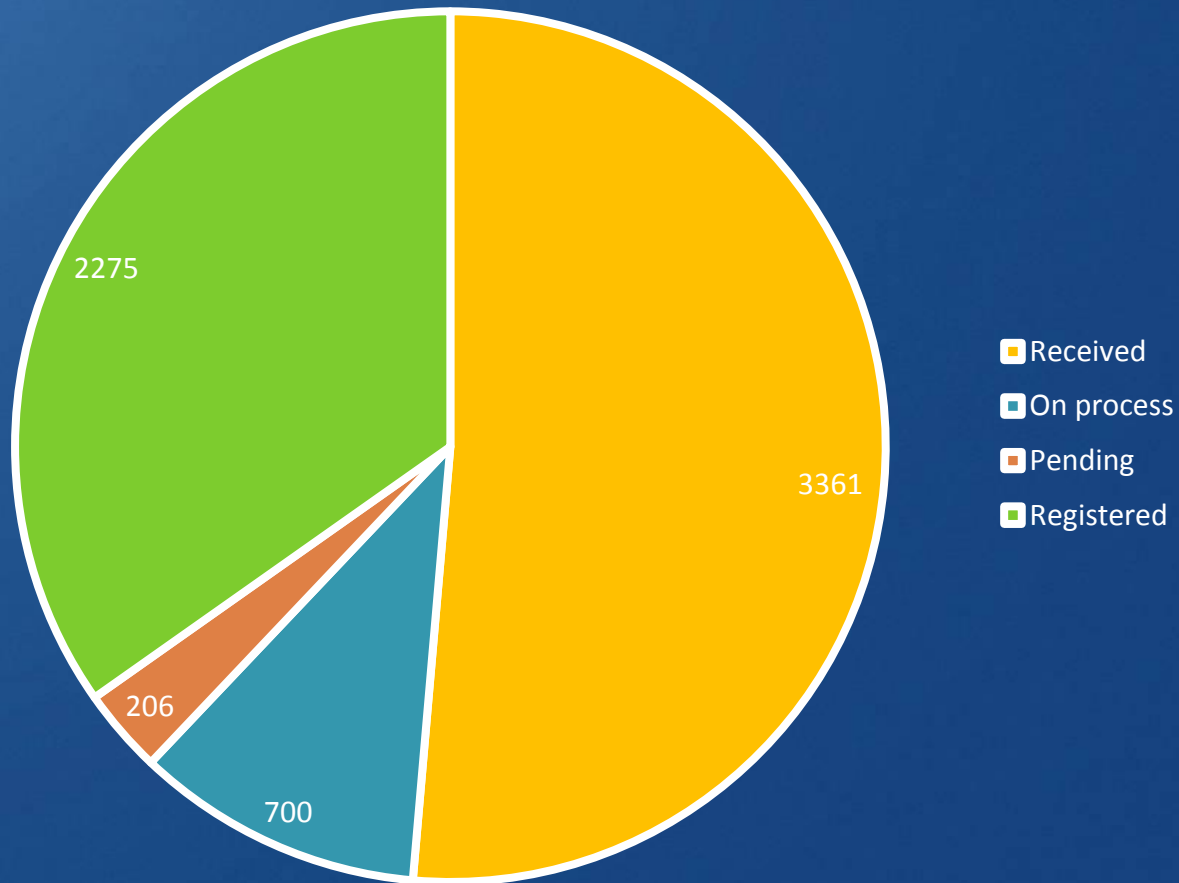
Patents – 1046

Designs - 182

IP VOLUMES SINCE 2010 – TRADEMARKS



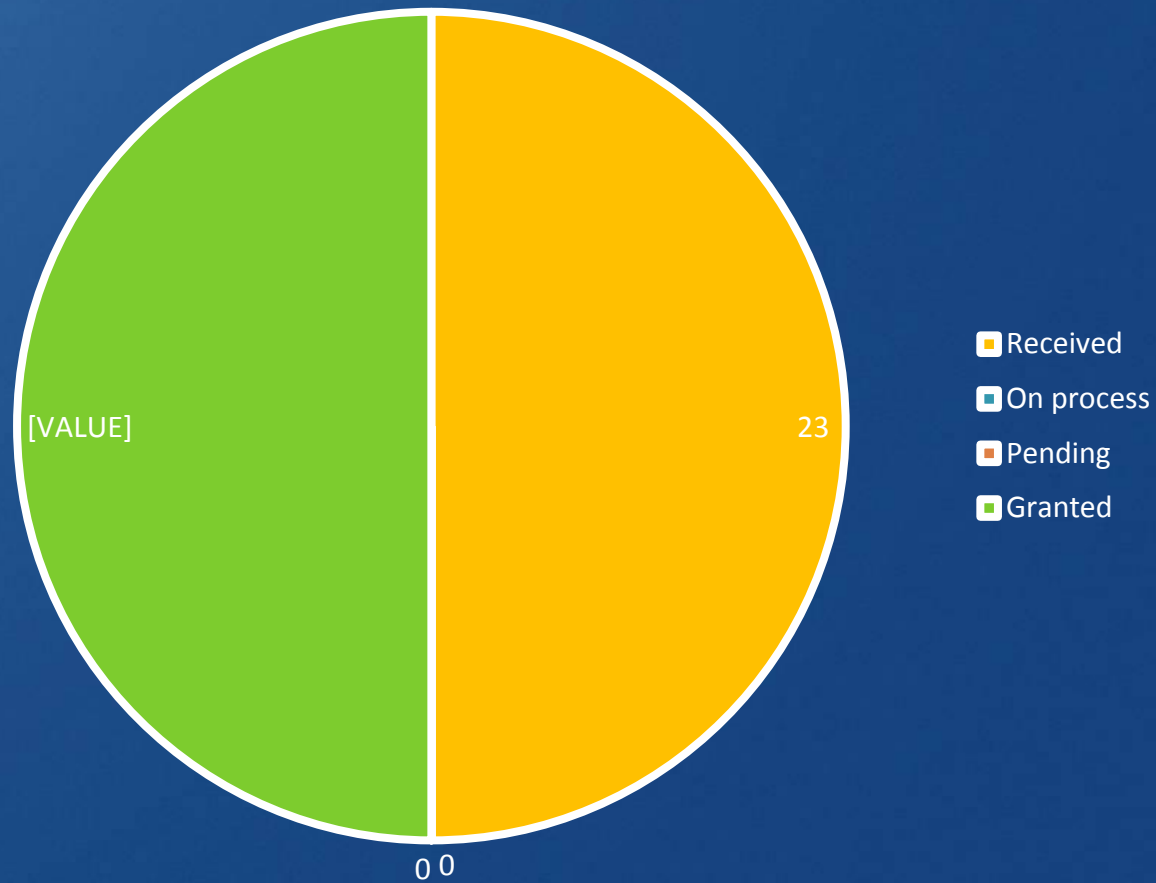
Trademarks



IP VOLUMES SINCE 2010 – PATENTS



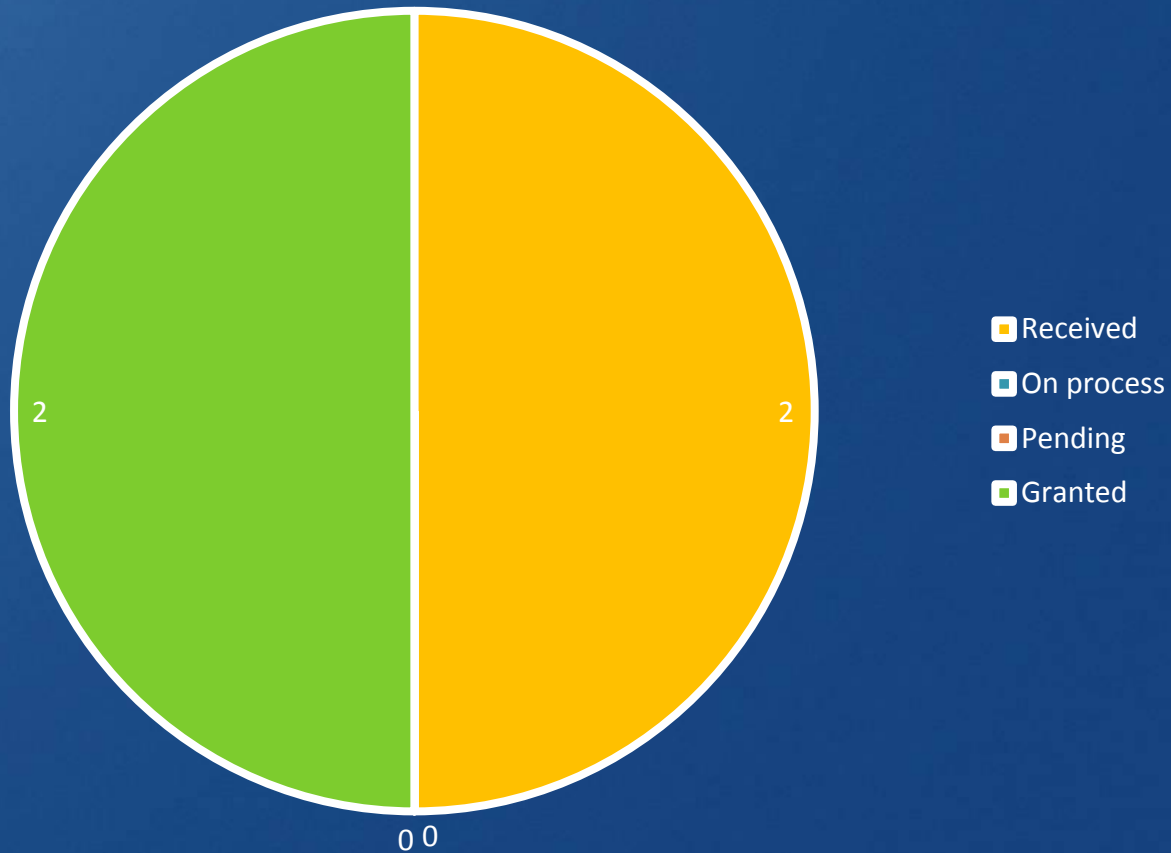
Patents



IP VOLUMES SINCE 2010 – INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS



Industrial Designs





- The backlog is that we are still capturing all the files into the system . It is going to take us long to finalize this process as we have limited human resource because the staff who are tasked with their responsibility are also expected to perform their other daily duties.

Current Automation Status into the



- Reception of new applications/user documents – All new applications are captured into the system
 - Data capture processes and procedures – we process all applications through the system
- Digitization of paper document - not applicable at the moment
 - Data validation and verification functions/procedures processes if exists this does not yet exist
- Journal production processes - semi manual
- Journal publication is still on paper format
- Journal publication is for a fee
- Data exchange programs with cooperating partners



- e.g. WIPO, EPO etc - there are no data exchange programs with the said cooperating partners, however, we do provide data whenever requested by WIPO and ARIPO
- Type of online services - presently there are none offered to the public
- Implementing challenges - the only challenge is with the old files that are presently not in the system including the International registrations on Madrid and Banjul.



- Staff compliment: the office has a very low number of staff due to the long process of establishing new posts in government
- There is no ICT related Policy in our office
- Communication/transmission of data undertaken the with regard to International Treaties – We are still in the process of updating the Madrid registration into the system (IPAS)
- Any experiences & best practices that may be useful



- useful to other IP offices – we are still in the learning curve as we have joined IPAS recently (December 2015) otherwise we are looking forward to the filing of electronic applications, electronic payments and on-line searches.

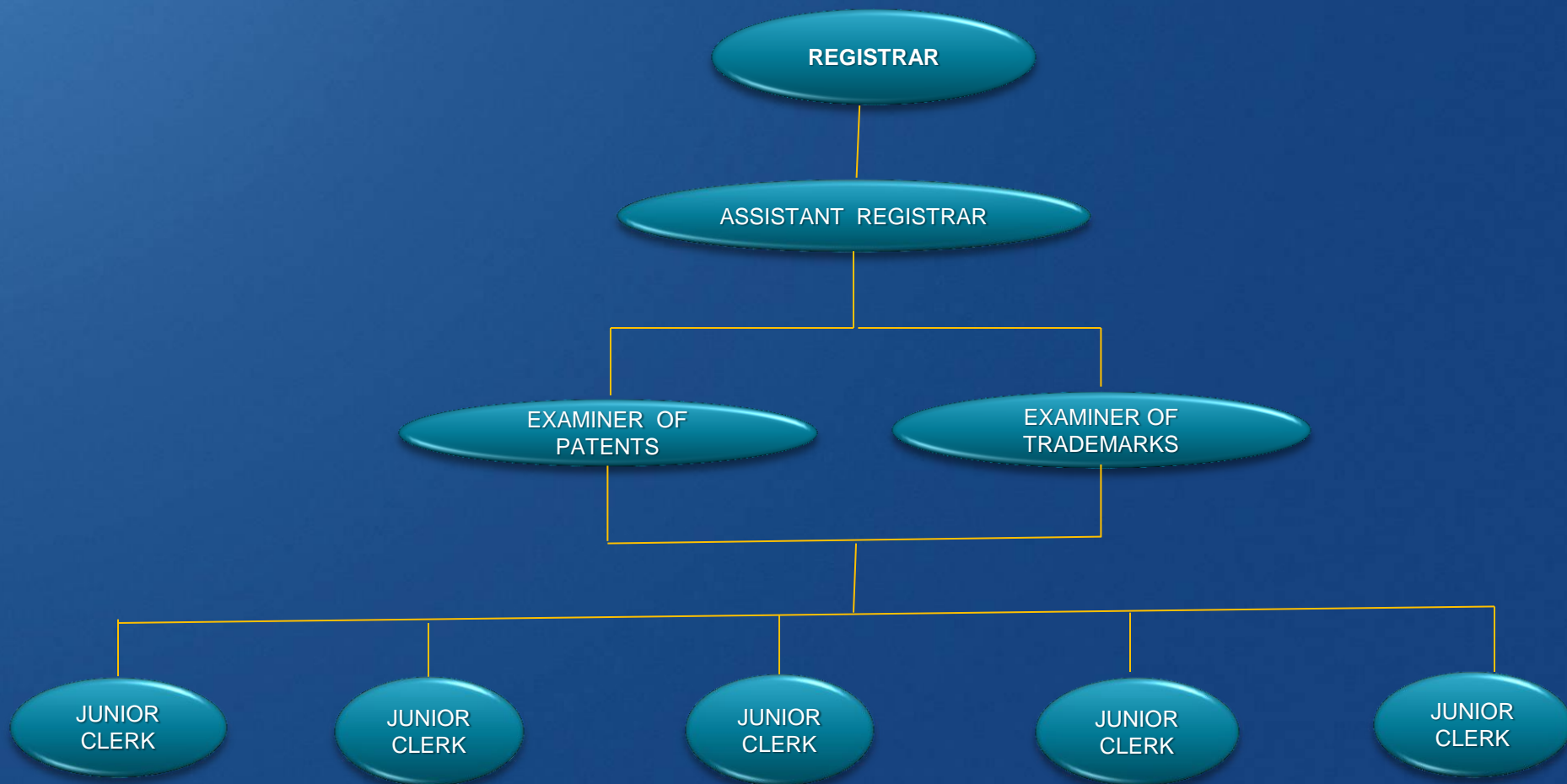
Benefits from Previous WIPO Regional Training Workshops

- Even though we participated in previous WIPO Training Workshops we have not benefitted much since we had not joined IPAS by then



- Yes the office has a further plan or strategy for modernization with regard to automation
 - - short term - capture all files into the system
 - - medium term - to do searches online
 - - long term - paying electronically and also establishing an office website
- Procurement of modern equipment (e.g. computers, color printers, scanners and photocopiers).

SWAZILAND IP OFFICE STRUCTURE





- End of Report
- Thank you for your attention