

WIPO SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR PATENT EXAMINERS ON UTILIZATION OF EXAMINATION RESULTS OF OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICES

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UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIRECTORATE

UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU

- The Uganda Registration Services Bureau is an autonomous statutory body established by Chapter 210 Laws of Uganda in 1998.
- The Bureau was created to take over the functions of the Registrar General's Office under the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.
- The Act came into force on the 16th of August, 2004 and the self-accounting status was granted in July, 2010.

URSB (continued.....)

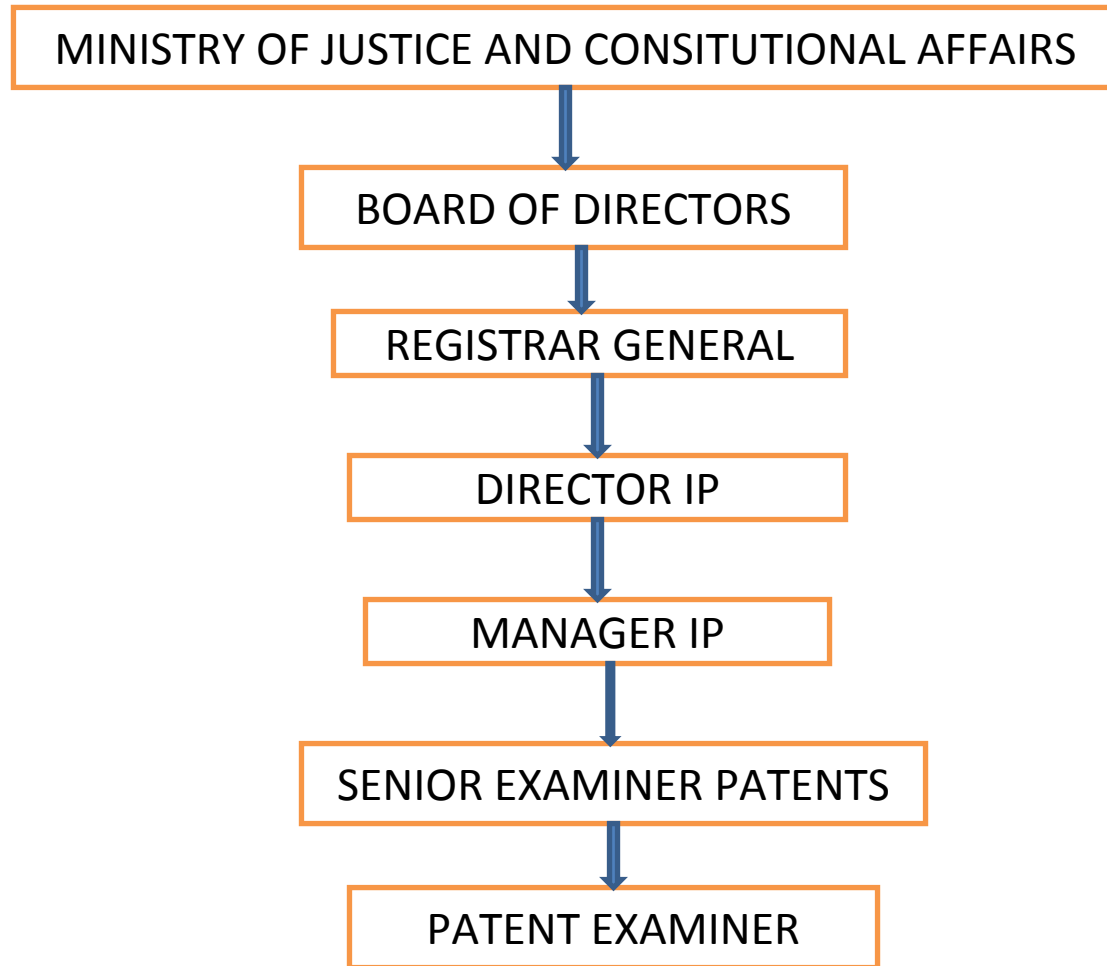
- The bureau is governed by the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer is the Registrar General.
- For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the functions of the bureau are stipulated under Section 4(2) of the URSB Act.
- Carrying out of all registrations required under the relevant laws is one of its core functions.

URSB(Continued.....)

REGISTRATIONS:

- Business registration
- Civil registration
- Intellectual property registration (Trademarks, copyright and patents)

ORGANISATION (Directorate)



STAFF INFORMATION FOR THE IP DIRECTORATE

POST	NUMBERS
DIRECTOR	1
MANAGER	1
SENIOR REGISTRAR IP	1
SENIOR EXAMINER IP	1
SENIOR RECORDS OFFICER	1
REGISTRAR IP	1
PATENT EXAMINERS	2
RECORDS OFFICER	1
RECORDS ASSISTANTS	2

BACKGROUND OF EXAMINERS

- Electrical engineering
- Telecommunication engineering
- Pharmacy/Biochemistry

PATENT APPLICATIONS

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
UGANDA	2	9	2	8	5	2	3	3
FOREIGN	18	65	102	129	83	91	90	6

GRANTED APPLICATIONS

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
UGANDA	1	1	2	0	2	0	2	3
FOREIGN	18	65	102	129	83	91	90	6

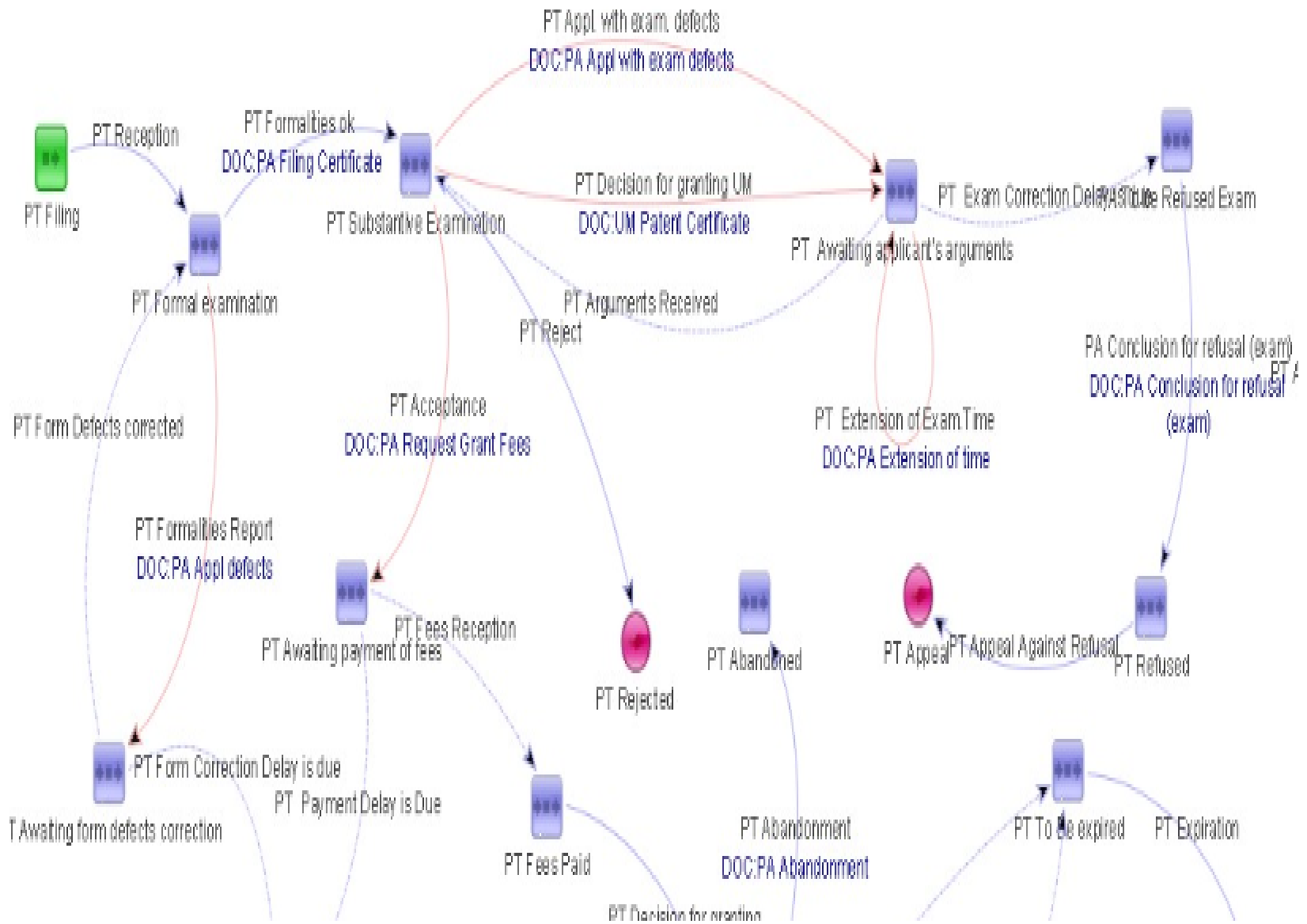
LAW GOVERNING THE GRANT OF PATENTS IN UGANDA

- The Patents Act Cap 216; provides for the grant, registration and protection of patents and for other purposes incidental thereto.
- The Patents (Amendment) Act, 2002: This provides for international applications and connected matters by giving effect in Uganda to the provisions of the Patent Corporation Treaty (PCT).

LAWS CONTINUED.....

- The Patent Regulations, Statutory instrument 216-1: provides for procedures for patent grant and registration.
- These laws are administered by the Registrar General.

PATENT PROSECUTION



STATUS OF PATENTS

- Previously- Patents were handled through the manual filing system
- June 2012- IPAS JAVA application
 - Web-based based application that will eventually enable us to process patents.
 - Created the workflow, but its not yet tested in a real work environment
 - ARIPO applications will be updated automatically
 - In the process of creating a database for local patent applications

CHALLENGES

- Few local applications
 - Limited wareness
 - Are locals not innovative?
- Weak linkages between directorate and the R&D institutions/Innovators
- Limited expertise in patent examination
- Limited funding of the IP office
- Weak linkages between IP offices in the region

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increased funding to both the IP offices and R&D institutions/ Innovators-
- Intensive training of Patent Examiners
- Awareness programs to R&D institutions/ Innovators
- Formation of direct linkages between the bureau and the RND institutions/Innovators
- Strengthening linkages between IP offices in the region

THANK YOU

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