October NEWSLETTER

October 2026
Highlights of October IP News

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Iraq – Kurdistan: Further Update on Trademark Protection Term

Further to our previous update regarding the restoration of the 15-year trademark protection period in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, we would like to provide the following clarification based on the latest guidance received from the Kurdistan Trademark Office.

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Bahrain Trademark Office Adopts the 13th Edition of the Nice Classification

We would like to inform you that the Trademark Office in Bahrain has issued a circular confirming the adoption of the 13th Edition of the Nice International Classification of Goods and Services, effective 1 October 2026.

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Gaza Trademark Renewal Deadline Extended Without Penalties

The Trademark Office in Gaza has recently resumed accepting trademark renewal applications and has announced an extension of the renewal deadline for trademarks that became due during the period in which the Office was closed.

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The Qatar Patent Office has Introduced an Official Proprietor Search Service for Patents

The newly launched facility enables businesses and practitioners to conduct searches by applicant/proprietor name and obtain a comprehensive overview of patent applications filed under a specific applicant's name.

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Egypt Introduces Remote Hearings for IP Appeal Proceedings

The Egyptian Intellectual Property Authority (EGIPA) has started incorporating virtual hearings into the appeal process for trademarks and industrial designs, reflecting ongoing efforts to modernize intellectual property procedures in Egypt.

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UAE Waives Intellectual Property Fees to Support Young Innovators

The UAE has exempted student inventors and People of Determination from fees across 29 intellectual property services under Cabinet Resolution No. 136 of 2026.

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Qatar: Important Changes to .qa Domain Registrations

New eligibility requirements for .qa domain names are expected with the launch of Qatar's new registry system, planned for 22 October 2026.

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Saudi Arabia Approves Four New Intellectual Property Laws

Saudi Arabia has taken a step towards reforming its intellectual property (IP) framework following the Council of Ministers' approval of four new laws at a meeting held in Riyadh on October 20, 2026.

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Bahrain to Adopt the Locarno Classification for Industrial Designs

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce of the Kingdom of Bahrain has announced the implementation of the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs, effective 29 October 2026, the date on which the Agreement enters into force for Bahrain.

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Gaza – Further Extension of Trademark Renewal Deadline Without Penalties

The Trademark Office in Gaza has announced on 19 October 2026 further extension of the renewal deadline for trademarks that became due during the period in which the Office was closed.

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