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| INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 4/2018 |

**Madrid Agreement and Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks**

**Amendments to the Administrative Instructions for the Application of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating Thereto as from April 1, 2018**

 In accordance with Rule 41(1)(a) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement, the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has, after consulting the Offices of the Contracting Parties, amended the Administrative Instructions for the Application of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating Thereto (the Administrative Instructions).

 Sections 4 and 11 of the Administrative Instructions have been amended to require the publication on the WIPO website of the official forms as well as of the particulars regarding electronic communications between the International Bureau of WIPO and applicants and holders.

 Access to the official forms as well as information on the Madrid Portfolio Manager (MPM) and Contact Madrid service, through which electronic communications from applicants and holders to the International Bureau of WIPO must take place, are available at the following address: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/customerservice/.

 In addition, Sections 8, 9 and 10 of the Administrative Instructions have been deleted to discontinue communications via telefacsimile (fax) with the International Bureau of WIPO. As a result, communications under the Madrid System may no longer be addressed to the International Bureau of WIPO by fax.

 Therefore, applicants and holders must address communications under the Madrid System to the International Bureau of WIPO either by post or through the above-mentioned MPM or Contact Madrid service. Offices of the Contracting Parties must address the said communications either by post or by electronic means, in the way agreed upon with the International Bureau of WIPO.

 The modified Administrative Instructions, as amended and reproduced in the Annex to the present information notice, entered into force on April 1, 2018.

April 18, 2018

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE MADRID AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF MARKS AND THE PROTOCOL RELATING THERETO**

**Administrative Instructions for the Application of the**

**Madrid Agreement Concerning the International**

**Registration of Marks and the Protocol**

**Relating Thereto**

(as in force on April 1, 2018)

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[…]

**Part Two**

**Forms**

[…]

*Section 4: Publication of Forms*

The International Bureau shall publish the complete list of all available prescribed and optional forms, as referred to in Sections 2 and 3, on the website of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

[…]

**Part Three**

**Communications with the International Bureau; Signature**

[…]

*Section 8: [Deleted]*

Section 9: [Deleted]

Section 10: [Deleted]

Section 11: Electronic Communications; Acknowledgement

and Date of Receipt of Electronic Transmission

by the International Bureau

(a) (i) Where an Office so desires, communications between that Office and the International Bureau, including the presentation of the international application, shall be by electronic means in a way agreed upon between the International Bureau and the Office concerned.

 (ii) Communications between the International Bureau and applicants and holders may take place by electronic means, at a time and in a manner and format to be determined by the International Bureau, the particulars of which shall be published on the website of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

[…]

[End]