

ANNEX II

CERTAIN ASPECTS OF NATIONAL/REGIONAL PATENT LAWS*

(1) Prior Art

Country	Prior Art
Albania	1. Everything made available to the public before filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Albanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Algeria	Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Andorra	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Andorra patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Argentina	All technical knowledge made public by oral or written description, exploitation or other means of dissemination or communication before the filing date (priority date).
Armenia	1. All information available before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published or granted Armenian applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Australia	1. Information from documents made publicly available or information made publicly available through doing an act before the filing date (priority date), whether in Australia or elsewhere. 2. For deciding whether an invention is novel, information contained in a subsequently published Australian patent application (including all international applications) with an earlier filing date (priority date), if the information was also contained in the application at its filing date.
Austria	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Austrian, European and international patent applications and Austrian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bahrain	Everything disclosed to the public by means of written or oral disclosure, use, or any other way before the filing date (priority date).

* Information is gathered from the primary legislation (for example, a patent law of an intellectual property code). The secondary legislation, such as Regulations under the primary legislation, has not been consulted.

Country	Prior Art
Barbados	Everything disclosed to the public in a tangible form by oral description or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Belarus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Belarus patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belgium	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain subsequently published Belgian, European and international patent applications and Belgian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belize	Anything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bolivia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Bolivian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Bosnia and Herzegovina, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Brazil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or by any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Brazilian and certain international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bulgaria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Bulgarian, European and international patent applications designating Bulgaria with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Canada	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Canadian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Country	Prior Art
Chile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, sale or marketing or use, or in any other manner, before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Chilean patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
China	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public disclosure in any publication, or anything which has been publicly used or made known to the public in China by any other means, before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Chinese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Colombian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Costa Rica	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) but only if said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing.
Croatia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Croatian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Cyprus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, or by oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Cyprus applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Czech Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Czech, European and international patent applications and Czech utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Denmark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Danish, European and international patent applications and Danish utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

Country	Prior Art
Dominica	Everything disclosed to the public by oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Ecuador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Ecuador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Egypt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Egyptian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
El Salvador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published El Salvador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Estonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Estonian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Finland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Finnish, European and international patent applications, and Finnish utility model applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
France	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of French patent applications and European and international patent applications designating France with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Georgia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data made available to the public from a written or verbal description, public use or other source before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Georgian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Germany	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain German, European and international patent with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

Country	Prior Art
Ghana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Ghana patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
Greece	Anything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Guatemala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) and published after the filing date (priority date) of the patent application under question.
Hungary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written description, oral communication, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Hungarian patent and utility model applications, and certain European and international applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Iceland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Icelandic, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
India	Publication in any document or used in India or elsewhere in the world before the filing date (priority date).
Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of earlier Indonesian patent applications published on or after filing date (priority date).
Ireland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of earlier Irish patent applications published on or after filing date (priority date).
Israel	Anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date) by a written, visual, audible or any other description, use, exploitation or exhibition.
Italy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Italian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.

Country	Prior Art
Japan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything which, before the filing date (priority date), was publicly known or worked, published, or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines. 2. Contents of certain Japanese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Jordan	Everything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Kenya	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Kenyan and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public.
Kyrgyz Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information generally available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Kyrgyz patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Latvia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or use before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published Latvian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Liechtenstein	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything published or publicly used before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Lithuanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Luxembourg	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Luxembourg, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Malaysia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Malaysian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Malta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain subsequently published Malta, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Mauritius	Everything disclosed to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Prior Art
Mexico	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The body of technical knowledge that has been made public by oral or written description, by use or by any other means or dissemination of information both within the country and abroad; 2. All patent applications filed in Mexico prior to the filing date (priority date) and still pending, even though the publication referred to in article 52 occurs at a later date.
Moldova (Republic of)	Everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Mongolia	Any prior product or process.
Morocco	Everything accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date).
Mozambique	Everything made available to the public by verbal description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Netherlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of previously filed Netherlands patent applications entered on the patent register on or after the filing date (priority date), and of certain European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
New Zealand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contents of granted patents published before the filing date (priority date) and dated within 50 years before the filing date. 2. Other documents published before the filing date (priority date), other than foreign patent applications filed more than 50 years before the filing date and abridgments and extracts of such applications. 3. Any use in New Zealand before the filing date (priority date).
Nicaragua	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made accessible to the public in any form before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Nicaraguan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Nigeria	Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Norway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Norwegian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Oman	Everything disclosed to the public anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing date (priority date).

Country	Prior Art
Pakistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by publication in tangible form or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of complete specifications and priority documents published in respect of Pakistan applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Panama	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made accessible to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Panama patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Papua New Guinea	Everything disclosed to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Peru	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Peru patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Philippines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Philippines patent, utility model and industrial design applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Poland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, displaying or disclosure in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Polish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Portugal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available, inside or outside the country, to the public by description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of non published patent and utility model requests of a previous date than that of the patent application with effect in Portugal.
Republic of Korea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions publicly known, worked, described in a publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently laid open or published Republic of Korea patent or utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Country	Prior Art
Romania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All knowledge that has been made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications filed with OSIM and international applications that have been entered in the national phase in Romania or certain European patent application designating Romania, as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Russian Federation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published Russian Federation patent and utility model applications and grants, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Saint Lucia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Serbia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Serbia and Montenegro patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Singapore	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovak Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Slovak, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by publication, exhibition, demonstration or use before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Slovenian, foreign patent and international applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public after that date.
South Africa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of South African and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are or become open to public inspection. 3. Inventions used secretly on a commercial scale in South Africa before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Prior Art
Spain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in Spain or abroad by means of a written or oral description, by use, or by any other way, before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Spanish patent or utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published.
Sri Lanka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written publication to the public anywhere in the world, or in Sri Lanka by oral disclosure, use or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Sri Lankan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Sweden	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date) in writing, in lectures, use or otherwise. 2. Contents of certain Swedish, European and international patent applications an earlier filing date (priority date) subsequently made available to the public.
Switzerland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Syrian Arab Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Syrian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions widely known or used in Thailand before the filing date (priority date). 2. Printed publications and other documents publicly disclosed before the filing date (priority date). 3. Thai and foreign patents and petty patents granted before the filing date (priority date). 4. Contents of Thai and foreign patent and petty patent applications published before the filing date (priority date). 5. Contents of foreign patent applications and petty patent applications filed more than 18 months before the filing date but not granted.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Macedonian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Trinidad and Tobago	Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Tunisia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Tunisian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

Country	Prior Art
Turkey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Turkish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Ukraine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Ukraine and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United Kingdom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of UK patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United States of America	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An invention which was known or used by others in US, or patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country, before the invention by the applicant; 2. An invention which was patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in US, more than one year before the filing date; 3. An invention abandoned by the applicant; 4. An invention which was patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate filed by applicant or his legal representatives or assignees in a foreign country more than 12 months prior to the filing date; 5. An invention which was described in a published US patent application by another or in a patent filed by another before the invention by the applicant (for the PCT international applications, only if they designate US and are published in English language); 6. During the course of interference, another inventor establishes that, before the invention date, he/she invented the invention and not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention; or another inventor made the invention in US before the invention date and he/she had not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention.
Uruguay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other method of dissemination or information before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Uruguay patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Uzbekistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information generally accessible before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of withdrawn Uzbekistan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Regional Offices	Prior Art
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	Anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	Everything made available to the public by means of written disclosure, use or exhibition before the filing date (priority date).
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Anything made available before the filing date (priority date).2. Contents of Eurasian patent applications and international applications entered into the regional phase with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).2. Contents of European patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

(2) Novelty

Country	Novelty
Albania	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public before filing date (priority date), and contents of subsequently published Albanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Algeria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Andorra	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Andorran patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Argentina	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of all technical knowledge made public by oral or written description, exploitation or other means of dissemination or communication before the filing date (priority date).
Armenia	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of all information available before the filing date (priority date), and contents of subsequently published or granted Armenian applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Australia	The invention is novel when compared with the prior art. The prior art consists of information from documents or acts publicly available before the filing date (priority date), whether in Australia or elsewhere and information contained in a subsequently published Australian patent application (including all international applications) with an earlier filing date (priority date), if the information was also contained in the application at its filing date.
Austria	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date), and contents of certain Austrian, European and international patent applications and Austrian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bahrain	The invention does not form part of the state of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by means of written or oral disclosure, use, or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Barbados	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public in a tangible form, by oral description or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Belarus	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and contents of Belarus patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Country	Novelty
Belgium	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and contents of certain subsequently published Belgian, European and international patent applications and Belgian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belize	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of anything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bolivia	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Bolivian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Bosnia and Herzegovina, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Brazil	The invention is not part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or by any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain subsequently published Brazilian and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bulgaria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Bulgarian, European and international patent applications designating Bulgaria with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Canada	The subject matter of the invention had not been disclosed: (a) to the public, more than one year before the filing date by the applicant or by a person who obtained knowledge from the applicant; (b) to the public, before the filing date (priority date) by a person not mentioned in (a); (c) in a Canadian patent application with an earlier filing date (priority date) filed by a person other than the applicant.
Chile	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, sale or marketing or use, or in any other manner, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Chilean patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.

Country	Novelty
China	The invention had not been previously disclosed, used, made known or described, i.e., public disclosure in any publication, or anything which been publicly used or made known to the public in China by any other means, before the filing date (priority date). The contents of subsequently published Chinese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Colombia	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Colombian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Costa Rica	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date) and contents of previous non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) in so far as said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing.
Croatia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Croatian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Cyprus	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, or by oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Cyprus patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Czech Republic	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Czech, European and international patent applications and Czech utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Denmark	The invention is new in relation to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Danish, European and international patent applications and Danish utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Dominica	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Ecuador	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Ecuador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.

Country	Novelty
Egypt	The invention has not previously been disclosed, used or claimed in prior art. The prior art consists of anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Egyptian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
El Salvador	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published El Salvador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Estonia	The invention is not anticipated by the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Estonian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Finland	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Finnish, European and international patent applications, and Finnish utility model applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
France	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of French patent applications and European and international patent applications designating France with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Georgia	The invention does not relate to the existing state of the art. The state of the art consists of data made available to the public from a written or verbal description, public use or other source before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Georgian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Germany	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain German, European and international patent with an earlier filing date published on or after that date.
Ghana	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Ghana patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
Greece	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Novelty
Guatemala	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date) and contents of previous non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) in so far as said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing.
Hungary	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, oral communication, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Hungarian patent and utility model applications, and certain European and international applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Iceland	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Icelandic, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
India	The invention is not anticipated by the publication in any document or used in India or elsewhere in the world before the filing date (priority date), i.e., the subject matter has not fallen in public domain or that it does not form part of the state of the art.
Indonesia	The invention is not the same as any previous technological disclosure. The previous technological disclosure consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of earlier Indonesian patent applications published on or after that date.
Ireland	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of earlier Irish patent applications published on or after that date.
Israel	The invention was not published in the prior art. The prior art consists of anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date) by a written, visual, audible or any other description, use, exploitation or exhibition.
Italy	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Italian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Japan	The invention was not publicly known or has not been publicly worked, published, or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Japanese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Jordan	The invention is novel with regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Novelty
Kenya	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Kenyan and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public.
Kyrgyz Republic	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of any information generally available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Kyrgyz patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Latvia	The invention is not comprised in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or use before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of published Latvian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Liechtenstein	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything published or publicly used before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Lithuanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Luxembourg	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Luxembourg, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Malaysia	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Malaysian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Malta	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain subsequently published Malta, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Mauritius	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Mexico	The invention is new if it is not in the state of the art.

Country	Novelty
Moldova (Republic of)	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Mongolia	The invention is not anticipated by a product or process of the same design. The prior art consists of any prior product or process.
Morocco	The invention does not form part of the state of the industrial art. The state of the industrial art consists of everything accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date).
Mozambique	The invention has no precedent in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by verbal description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Netherlands	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of previously filed Netherlands patent applications entered on the patent register on or after the filing date (priority date), and of certain European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
New Zealand	The invention has not been previously been published or used in the prior art. The prior art consists of the contents of granted patents published before the filing date (priority date) and dated within 50 years before the filing date, other documents published before the filing date (priority date) (other than foreign patent applications filed more than 50 years before the filing date and abridgments and extracts of such applications), and any use in New Zealand before the filing date (priority date).
Nicaragua	The invention is not anticipated by the current state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public in any form before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Nicaraguan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Nigeria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Norway	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Norwegian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Oman	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public, anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing date (priority date).

Country	Novelty
Pakistan	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything made available to the public by publication in tangible form or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the priority date, and the contents of complete specifications and priority documents published in respect of Pakistani applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Panama	The invention is not anticipated by the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Panama patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Papua New Guinea	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Peru	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Peru patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Philippines	The invention does not form part of a prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Philippines patent, utility model and industrial design applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Poland	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, displaying or disclosure in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Polish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Portugal	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available, inside or outside the country, to the public by description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of non published patent and utility model requests of a previous date than that of the patent application with effect in Portugal.
Republic of Korea	The invention was not publicly known or has not been publicly worked, described in a publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date). The contents of subsequently laid open or published Republic of Korea patent or utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Romania	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of all knowledge made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or any other means, before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of patent applications filed with OSIM, international applications that have been entered in the national phase in Romania and certain European patent application designating Romania, as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.

Country	Novelty
Russian Federation	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of published Russian Federation national patent and utility model applications and grants, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Saint Lucia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Serbia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Serbia and Montenegro patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Singapore	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovak Republic	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Slovak, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovenia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by publication, exhibition, demonstration or use before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Slovenian, foreign patent and international applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public after that date.
South Africa	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of South African and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are or become open to public inspection, and inventions used secretly on a commercial scale in South Africa before the filing date (priority date).
Spain	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in Spain or abroad by means of a written or oral description, by use, or by any other way, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Spanish patent or utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published.
Sri Lanka	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written publication to the public anywhere in the world, or in Sri Lanka by oral disclosure, use or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Sri Lankan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Country	Novelty
Sweden	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date). The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date) in writing, in lectures, use or otherwise, and the contents of certain Swedish, international and European patent applications an earlier filing date (priority date) subsequently made available to the public.
Switzerland	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Syrian Arab Republic	The invention has not previously been disclosed, used or claimed in prior art. The prior art consists of anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Syrian and foreign patents granted, and application filed, before the filing date (priority date).
Thailand	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of inventions widely known or used in Thailand before the filing date (priority date); printed publications and other documents publicly disclosed before the filing date (priority date); Thai and foreign patents and petty patents granted before the filing date (priority date); the contents of Thai and foreign patent and petty patent applications published before the filing date (priority date); and the contents of foreign patent and petty patent applications filed than 18 months before the filing date (priority date) but not granted.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Macedonian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Trinidad and Tobago	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Tunisia	The invention not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Tunisian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Turkey	The invention is not part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date, and the contents of Turkish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Ukraine	Invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Ukraine and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United Kingdom	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of UK patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

Country	Novelty
United States of America	<p>A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:</p> <p>(a) the invention was known or used by others in US, or patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country, before the invention by the applicant;</p> <p>(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in US, more than one year before the filing date;</p> <p>(c) he has abandoned the invention;</p> <p>(d) the invention was patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate filed by applicant or his legal representatives or assignees in a foreign country more than 12 months prior to the filing date;</p> <p>(e) the invention was described in a published US patent application by another or in a patent filed by another before the invention by the applicant (for the PCT international applications, only if they designate US and are published in English language);</p> <p>(f) during the course of interference, another inventor establishes that, before the invention date, he/she invented the invention and not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention; or another inventor made the invention in US before the invention date and he/she had not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention.</p>
Uruguay	<p>The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other method of dissemination or information before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Uruguay patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).</p>
Uzbekistan	<p>The invention is not known from the prior art. The prior art consists of any information generally accessible before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of withdrawn Uzbekistan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).</p>
Regional Offices	Novelty
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	<p>The invention has not been anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).</p>
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	<p>The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by means of written disclosure, use or exhibition before the filing date (priority date).</p>
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	<p>The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Eurasian patent applications and international applications entered into the regional phase with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.</p>
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	<p>The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of European patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.</p>

(3) Inventive Step (Obviousness)

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Albania	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art at the priority date having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public before filing date (priority date) and contents of subsequently published Albanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Algeria	The invention is the result of inventive activity which does not derive in an obvious manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Andorra	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Argentina	The invention cannot readily be deduced by a person of average skill in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of all technical knowledge made public by oral or written description, exploitation or other means of dissemination or communication before the filing date (priority date).
Armenia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art from the prior art. The prior art consists of all information available before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of subsequently published or granted Armenian applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Australia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the relevant art in the light of the common general knowledge in Australia when compared with the prior art. The prior art consists of information from documents and acts publicly available before the filing date (priority date), whether in Australia or elsewhere, so long as the skilled person would have ascertained, understood and regarded it as relevant.
Austria	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bahrain	The invention is not obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed to the public by means of written or oral disclosure, use, or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Barbados	The invention is not obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consist of everything disclosed to the public in a tangible form, by oral description or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Belarus	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Belgium	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Belize	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of anything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bolivia	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to a person with average skills in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bosnia and Herzegovina	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Brazil	The invention is not derived from the state of the art in an evident or obvious way to a person skilled in the art from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or by any other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bulgaria	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Canada	The invention must not be obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to information disclosed to the public: (a) more than one year before the filing date by the applicant or by a person who obtained knowledge from the applicant; and (b) before the filing date (priority date) by a person not mentioned in (a).
Chile	The invention is neither obvious to a person of average skill in the art nor obviously derived from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, sale or marketing or use, or in any other manner, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Chilean patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
China	The invention has prominent substantive features and represents a notable progress compared with existing technology, consisting of public disclosure in any publication, or anything which been publicly used or made known to the public in China by any other means, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Chinese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Colombia	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to a person with average skills in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Costa Rica	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to an average expert in the respective field. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date) and contents of previous non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) in so far as said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing.
Croatia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Cyprus	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, or by oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Czech Republic	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Denmark	The invention differs essentially from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Dominica	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Ecuador	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to a person with average skills in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Egypt	Inventive step is not defined.
El Salvador	For a person having ordinary skill in the technical field concerned, the invention would not have been obvious or could not obviously have been derived from the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published El Salvador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Estonia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Finland	The invention differs essentially from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
France	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, public use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Georgia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of data made available to the public from a written or verbal description, public use or other source before the filing date (priority date).
Germany	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Ghana	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date).
Greece	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Guatemala	The invention is not derived from the state of the art in an obvious way to a person skilled in the art from the pertinent state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date) and contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) and published after the filing date (priority date) of the patent application under question.
Hungary	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, oral communication, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date),
Iceland	The invention differs essentially from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date).
India	A feature of an invention that involves technical advance as compared to the existing knowledge or having economic significance or both and that makes the invention not obvious to a person skilled in the art.
Indonesia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art taking into account the state of the art at the time of the filing date (priority date).
Ireland	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Israel	The invention does not appear obvious to an average skilled person in the light of information published before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Italy	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Japan	The invention could easily have been made by a person with ordinary skill in the art on the basis of the prior art. The prior art consists of anything which, before the filing date (priority date), was publicly known or worked, published, or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines.
Jordan	The invention is not obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Kenya	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date).
Kyrgyz Republic	The invention does not derive obviously from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of any information generally available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Latvia	A specialist in the corresponding field could establish that the invention has not obviously arisen from a prior technical level, consisting of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or use before the filing date (priority date).
Liechtenstein	The invention does not derive in an obvious manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.
Luxembourg	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date.
Malaysia	The invention would not have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Malta	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Mauritius	The invention is not obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Mexico	The invention shall result from an inventive activity. The inventive activity means the creative process the results of which are not obviously deducible from the state of the art by a person skilled in the relevant art.
Moldova (Republic of)	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Mongolia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the relevant field.
Morocco	For a person skilled in the art, the invention does not derive in an obvious manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date).
Mozambique	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by verbal description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Netherlands	The invention is the result of inventive activity which does not derive in an obvious manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
New Zealand	The invention is obvious and clearly does not involve any inventive step having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of the contents of granted patents published before the filing date (priority date) and dated within 50 years before the filing date, other documents published before the filing date (priority date) (other than foreign patent applications filed more than 50 years before the filing date and abridgments and extracts of such applications), and any use in New Zealand before the filing date (priority date).
Nicaragua	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the corresponding technical field and cannot obviously be deduced from the current state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public in any form before the filing date (priority date).
Nigeria	The invention does not obviously follow from the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Norway	The invention differs essentially from the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). However, with respect to certain earlier applications (secret prior art), it is sufficient that the new application shows novelty.
Oman	The claimed invention as a whole would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the filing date (priority date) having regard to the differences and similarities between the claimed invention and the prior art.
Pakistan	The invention is not obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by publication in tangible form or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the priority date.

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Panama	To a person of average skill in the technical field concerned, the invention is neither obvious nor obviously derived from the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Panama patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Papua New Guinea	The invention is the result of inventive activity which, in the light of common general knowledge, does not derive in an obvious manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Peru	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to a person with average skills in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Philippines	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Philippines patent, utility model and industrial design applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Poland	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, displaying or disclosure in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Portugal	The invention is not obvious from prior art to a person skilled in the art. The prior art consists of everything made available, inside or outside the country, to the public by description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Republic of Korea	The invention could easily have been made by a person having ordinary skill in the art on the basis of the prior art. The prior art consists of inventions publicly known, worked, described in a publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date).
Romania	The invention shall be considered as involving an inventive step if it is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of all knowledge made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or any other means, before the filing date (priority date).
Russian Federation	Invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Saint Lucia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Serbia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Singapore	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Slovak Republic	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
Slovenia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by publication, exhibition, demonstration or use before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Slovenian or foreign patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public after that date.
South Africa	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Spain	The invention does not result from the state of the art in a manner obvious to a person skilled in the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in Spain or abroad by means of a written or oral description, by use, or by any other way, before the filing date (priority date).
Sri Lanka	The invention would not have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written publication to the public anywhere in the world, or in Sri Lanka by oral disclosure, use or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Sri Lankan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Sweden	The invention differs essentially from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date) in writing, in lectures, use or otherwise.
Switzerland	The invention does not follow in an evident manner from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date).
Syrian Arab Republic	The invention is not obvious from the state of the art to a person with average skills in the technical field concerned. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Thailand	The invention is not obvious to a person ordinary skilled in the art.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Macedonian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Trinidad and Tobago	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Tunisia	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Turkey	The invention is not obviously deducible by a person skilled in the technical field concerned from the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Ukraine	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date).
United Kingdom	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
United States of America	<p>1. The differences between the invention and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art. The prior art consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an invention which was known or used by others in US, or patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country, before the invention by the applicant; (b) an invention which was patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in US, more than one year before the filing date; (c) an invention abandoned by the applicant; (d) an invention which was patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate filed by applicant or his legal representatives or assignees in a foreign country more than 12 months prior to the filing date; (e) an invention which was described in a published US patent application by another or in a patent filed by another before the invention by the applicant (for the PCT international applications, only if they designate US and are published in English language); (f) during the course of interference, another inventor establishes that, before the invention date, he/she invented the invention and not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention; or another inventor made the invention in US before the invention date and he/she had not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention. <p>2. Subject matter developed by another person as referred to in 1.(e) and (f).does not preclude patentability where the relevant prior art is owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment to, the same person.</p>

Country	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
Uruguay	The invention does not result from the state of the art in a manner obvious to a person skilled in the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other method of dissemination or information before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Uruguay patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Uzbekistan	The invention is not obvious from the prior art. The prior art consists of any information generally accessible before the filing date (priority date).
Regional Offices	Inventive Step (Obviousness)
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	The invention is not obvious to a person having ordinary knowledge and skill in the art having regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date).
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	The inventive step is not defined.
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of anything made available before the filing date (priority date).
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	The invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art having regard to the state of art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

(4) Grace Period

Country	Grace Period
Albania	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the inventor or any other person who had right to the patent; (b) by a third party who had obtained information from applicant; (c) in a patent application with the same inventor which should not have been disclosed by Office; (d) in a patent application filed without the knowledge or consent of the inventor by a person who obtained the information from the inventor. <p>2. The effect of the grace period may be invoked at any time. In the event of a dispute, burden of proof is on applicant or patent owner.</p>
Algeria	<p>Disclosure within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) not considered accessible to the public, if due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an act by the applicant or his predecessor in title, or 2. an abuse by a third party in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Andorra	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 6 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the inventor or his successor in title; (b) of information in an application filed by the inventor which should not have been disclosed by the Office; (c) of information in an application filed, without the knowledge or consent of the inventor, by a person who obtained the information from the inventor; (d) a person who obtained the information from the inventor. <p>2. The effect of the grace period may be invoked at any time.</p>
Argentina	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by the inventor or his successor in title by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any medium of communication; (b) display at a national or international exhibition. <p>2. The application shall be accompanied by documentary supporting evidence.</p>
Armenia	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the applicant or inventor; (b) any other person who obtained the information from the applicant or inventor. <p>2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.</p>

Country	Grace Period
Australia	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) within six months before the filing date (priority date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) by showing, use or publication of the invention at a recognized exhibition; (ii) in a paper written by the inventor and read before, or published with the inventor's consent by or on behalf of, a learned society; (b) within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by working the invention in public for the purposes of reasonable trial due to the nature of the invention; (c) within 12 months before the filing date in Australia with the consent of the patentee or predecessor in title or without consent and the information disclosed was derived from the patentee or predecessor in title; (d) at any time before the filing date, if the information disclosed was given by or with the consent of the patentee or predecessor in title, to the Commonwealth or a State or Territory, an authority thereof or person authorized thereby, to investigate the invention; and anything done for the purpose of such investigation. <p>2. In the cases of 1.a.(i), the applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) when filing the application, state that the invention has been disclosed at the exhibition; (b) before the publication of the application, file a statement issued by the exhibition authority.
Austria	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) due to an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) by display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) when filing the application, state that the invention has been displayed at the exhibition; (b) within four months after the filing date, file a certificate and a description of the invention attested by the exhibition management, and indicate the exhibition opening date and the date of the first disclosure.
Bahrain	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by display of the invention at a national or international exhibition; 2. by an action by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 3. due to an evident abuse or unfair act by another person.
Barbados	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date)::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an abuse by a third party.

Country	Grace Period
Belarus	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the applicant or inventor; (b) a person who obtained the information from the inventor or applicant. <p>2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.</p>
Belgium	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall state in the application, at time of filing, that the invention has been so displayed, and file a certificate to that effect within a prescribed time limit.</p>
Belize	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an abuse by a third party.
Bolivia	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the inventor or his successor in title; 2. an Office which incorrectly published the contents of the patent application filed by the inventor or his successor in title; 3. a person who obtained the information from the inventor or his successor in title.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the patent applicant or his legal predecessor, or (b) display of the invention at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall indicate in the application at time of filing that the invention has been so displayed, and submit a certificate within a prescribed time limit.</p> <p>[Anyone who exhibits an invention at an officially recognized exhibition or fair of international nature may, within three months following the closing date of the exhibition or fair, claim in his application the priority right as of the first day of showing of the invention (exhibition priority rights).]</p>

Country	Grace Period
Brazil	<p>1. Disclosure not to be considered as part of the state of the art if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the inventor; (b) publication by the Office of a patent application based on information obtained from the inventor and filed without his consent; (c) by another person based on information obtained from the inventor. <p>2. The Office may require a statement relating to the disclosure, possibly accompanied by proof.</p>
Bulgaria	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date) in consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at a official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall indicate in the application at the time of filing that the invention has been so displayed, and submit evidence within three months from the filing date.</p>
Canada	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within one year before the filing date by the applicant, or by a person who obtained knowledge from the applicant.</p>
Chile	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date in consequence of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. practices, experiments or construction of machinery or apparatus by the applicant; 2. display of the invention at an official or officially recognized exhibition by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 3. abuse and unfair practices in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title
China	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. display of the invention at an international exhibition sponsored or recognized by the Chinese Government; 2. making the invention public at a prescribed academic or technological meeting; 3. any person without the consent of the applicant.
Colombia	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the inventor or his successor in title; 2. an Office which incorrectly published the contents of the patent application filed by the inventor or his successor in title; 3. a third party who obtained the information from the inventor or his successor in title.

Country	Grace Period
Costa Rica	<p>The state of the art does not include disclosure of an invention within one year before the filing date (priority date) resulting from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acts done directly or indirectly by the inventor or his successor in title; or 2. non-performance of a contract or illicit acts against any of them. 3. publication of applications by an industrial property Office where the applications were made by a party which does not have a right to a patent or the applications were published despite the Office should not have done so.
Croatia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date due to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the patent applicant or his predecessor in title; (b) display of the invention at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. 2. The applicant shall indicate in the application at time of filing that the invention has been so displayed, and submit a certificate within four months from the filing date.
Cyprus	No provision.
Czech Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor, (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially-recognized international exhibition. 2. The applicant shall indicate in the application at time of filing that the invention has been so displayed, and submit a certificate within four months from the filing date.
Denmark	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date in consequence of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title, 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.
Dominica	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an abuse committed by a third party in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; or 2. acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title.

Country	Grace Period
Ecuador	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the inventor or his successor in title; 2. an Office which incorrectly published the contents of the patent application filed by the inventor or his successor in title; 3. a person who obtained the information from the inventor or his successor in title; 4. an official order; 5. a manifest abuse to the detriment of the inventor or his successor in title; 6. an officially recognized exhibition or publication of academic or research purposes. In that case the person concerned shall, on filing his application, submit a declaration stating that the invention actually was shown, together with the appropriate certificate.
Egypt	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date by the display of the invention in a national or international exhibition.</p>
El Salvador	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the inventor or his successor in title; 2. due to an abuse of confidence, breach of contract or other unlawful act against the inventor or his successor in title,; 3. by publication of a patent specification filed by a person not entitled to grant; 4. by publication of a patent specification as a result of an error by an Office.
Estonia	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. a person who obtained information from the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Finland	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.

Country	Grace Period
France	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>(a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title;</p> <p>(b) display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.</p> <p>2. The applicant shall declare at the time of filing that the invention has been so displayed, and furnish proof to that effect within a prescribed time limit.</p>
Georgia	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by the inventor or his successor in title, or by a person who obtained the information from the inventor.</p>
Germany	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>(a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title;</p> <p>(b) display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition notified in the Federal Law Gazette.</p> <p>2. The applicant shall state when filing the application that the invention has been so displayed, and file a certificate within four months.</p>
Ghana	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date:</p> <p>1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title;</p> <p>2. due to an evident abuse committed in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title.</p>
Greece	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>(a) an evident abuse of the rights of the applicant or predecessor in title;</p> <p>(b) display of the invention at an officially recognized international exhibition.</p> <p>2. The applicant shall state when filing the application that the invention has been so displayed, and shall file a certificate.</p>
Guatemala	<p>The state of the art does not include disclosure of an invention within one year before the filing date (priority date) resulting from:</p> <p>1. acts done directly or indirectly by the inventor or his successor in title;</p> <p>2. non-performance of a contract or illicit acts against any of them; or</p> <p>3. publication of applications by an industrial property Office where the applications were made by a party which does not have a right to a patent or the applications were published despite the Office should not have done so.</p>

Country	Grace Period
Hungary	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an abuse of the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at a exhibition published in the Official Gazette.
Iceland	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially organized exhibition.
India	<p>An invention shall not be deemed to have been anticipated by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosures at any time before the filing date (priority date) of matter obtained from, and published without the consent of, the inventor or his successor in title (provided that the invention was not commercially worked in India, otherwise than for the purpose of reasonable trial, and that a patent application for the invention was filed in India or a convention country as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter). 2. Other applications made in contravention of the rights of the inventors or his successor in title or public use or publication of the invention without the consent of the inventor or his successor in title by the applicants of such other applications or by any other person in consequence of the disclosure. 3. Disclosures due to the communication of the invention to the Government or to any person authorized by the Government to investigate the invention or its merits, or for the purpose of that investigation. 4. Disclosures within 12 months before the application is made (calculated from the opening of the exhibition or the reading or publication of the paper) by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) display or use of the invention with the consent of the inventor or his predecessor in title at an industrial or other exhibition notified in the Official Gazette; (b) publication of the invention in consequence of such display or use; (c) use of the invention during the period of the exhibition without the consent of the inventor or his predecessor in title; (d) description of the invention in a paper read by the inventor before a learned society, or published with his consent in the transactions of such a society. 5. Disclosures within one year before the filing date (priority date) by public working the invention for reasonable trial, by or with the consent of the applicant or his predecessor in title.

Country	Grace Period
Indonesia	<p>1. Disclosure shall not be deemed to be announced if it occurred within six months before the filing date by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) display of the invention at an official or officially recognized international exhibition, or in an official or officially recognized national exhibition in Indonesia; (b) use in Indonesia by the inventor for research or development. <p>2. Disclosure shall not be deemed to be announced if it is occurred within 12 months before the filing date by any other person in breach of a confidentiality obligation.</p>
Ireland	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a breach of confidence or agreement in relation to the invention; (b) the unlawful obtaining of information concerning the invention; (c) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall state, when filing the application, that the invention has been so displayed, and file a certificate within a prescribed period.</p> <p>3. The Ministry may prescribe a period other than the six months and circumstances other than (a), (b), and (c) to give effect to any treaty or international conventions.</p>
Israel	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred at any time before the filing date of matter obtained from the applicant or his predecessor in title and published without his consent (provided that the patent application was filed within a reasonable time after the publication became known to the applicant).</p> <p>2. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date (calculated from the exhibition opening date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an officially notified industrial or agricultural exhibition in Israel, or at a recognized exhibition in a Convention State; (b) publication by the applicant or his predecessor in title of a description of the invention at the time of a said exhibition; (c) use of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at, and for the purposes, of the exhibition; (d) use of the invention at the time of the exhibition (either at the exhibition or outside it and with or without the applicant's consent). <p>3. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date (calculated from the date of the lecture or publication) by a lecture by the inventor before a scientific society, or by publication of the lecture in official transactions of the society, subject to prior notice to the Registrar.</p>

Country	Grace Period
Italy	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse to the prejudice of the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention at an official or officially recognized exhibition.
Japan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within six months before the filing date: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the person having the right to obtain a patent conducting an experiment, making a presentation in a printed publication or through electric telecommunication lines, or making a presentation in writing at a scientific body study meeting held by a scientific body designated by the Commissioner; (b) against the will of the person having the right to obtain a patent; (c) display of the invention by the person having the right to obtain a patent at a prescribed national or international exhibition. 2. The applicant shall submit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a written statement to that effect with the application; (b) proof, within 30 days of the filing date, that the disclosure was in respect of the invention (in the case of 1(a) and (c) above).
Jordan	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor; 2. due to an abuse made by third parties against the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Kenya	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an evident abuse committed by a third party in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Kyrgyz Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the applicant or inventor; (b) a person who obtained the information from the applicant or inventor. 2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.

Country	Grace Period
Latvia	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the inventor or his successor in title; (b) due to incorrect disclosure by the Office of information in another application filed by the same inventor, and the Office was not permitted to disclose this information; (c) in an application filed, without the inventor's knowledge or permission, by a person who obtained the information from the inventor; (d) by a person who obtained the information from the inventor. <p>2. The effect of the grace period may be invoked at any time. In the event of a dispute, burden of proof is on applicant or patent owner.</p>
Liechtenstein	<p>Disclosure within six months before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an obvious abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>(in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))</p>
Lithuania	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the inventor or his successor in title; (b) due to an abuse with respect to the inventor or his successor in title; (c) by display of the invention by the inventor or his successor in title at an official or officially recognized exhibition. <p>2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.</p>
Luxembourg	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall state when filing the application that the invention has been so displayed, and file a certificate within a prescribed period.</p>
Malaysia	<p>Disclosure disregarded from the prior art if it occurred within one year before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. an abuse of the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title; 3. a pending application in UK as at the date of coming into force of the Act (Patents Act 291 of 1983).

Country	Grace Period
Malta	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the inventor; 2. incorrect disclosure by an Office of information contained in another application filed by the applicant; 3. publication of an application filed, without the knowledge or consent of the inventor, by a person who obtained the information from the inventor; 4. a person who obtained the information from the inventor.
Mauritius	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an abuse committed by a third party with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Mexico	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure of an invention shall not establish lack of novelty when, within the 12 months prior to the filing date (priority date), the inventor or his successor in interest has made the invention known by any means of communication, by putting the invention into practice or by having displayed it at a national or international exhibition. 2. When the corresponding application is filed, the evidentiary documents shall be included. The publication of an invention contained in a patent application or patent granted by a foreign office shall not be considered as included in the circumstances referred to in this article.
Moldova (Republic of)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred in respect of creation of invention within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the inventor or applicant; (b) a person who obtained the information from the inventor or applicant. 2. The effect of the grace period may be invoked at any time. In the event of a dispute, the burden of proof is on applicant or patent owner.
Mongolia	No provision.
Morocco	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any disclosure within six months before the filing date. 2. Disclosure resulting from publication, after the filing date, of an application with an earlier filing date (priority date) due to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. 3. The applicant shall state when filing the application that the invention has been so displayed.

Country	Grace Period
Mozambique	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <p>(a) by the inventor or his successor in title, to a scientific or professional institution or publication, or in official or officially recognized competition, exhibition or trade fair;</p> <p>(b) due to an obvious abuse against the inventor or his successor in title.</p> <p>2. In the case of 1(a) above, the inventor shall, when filing the application, submit a written declaration that the invention was exhibited or disclosed, and provide evidence to that effect within three months after the filing date.</p>
Netherlands	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>(a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor, or</p> <p>(b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.</p> <p>2. The applicant shall state, when filing the application, that the invention has been so displayed, and submit proof within a prescribed period.</p>
New Zealand	<p>An invention shall not be deemed to have been anticipated by:</p> <p>1. Disclosure at any time before the filing date (priority date) of matter obtained the applicant or his predecessor in title and published without his consent, provided that:</p> <p>(a) where the applicant or his predecessor in title learned of the publication beforehand, the application or application in a convention country was filed as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter; and</p> <p>(b) the invention was not commercially worked in New Zealand before the filing date (priority date) by, or with the consent of, the applicant or his predecessor in title (other than for the purpose of reasonable trial).</p> <p>2. Disclosure at any time before the filing date (priority date);</p> <p>(a) in any other application for a patent in respect of the same invention, contravening the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title;</p> <p>(b) by use or publication of the invention without the consent of the applicant or his predecessor in title in consequence of any disclosure of the invention by the applicant for the other application.</p> <p>(c) by the communication of the invention to a Government Department or person authorized thereby to investigate the invention, or of anything done for that investigation.</p>

Country	Grace Period
New Zealand (cont'd.)	<p>3. Disclosure within six months before the filing date (priority date) (calculated from the opening of the exhibition or the reading or publication of the paper) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) display or use of the invention with the consent of the inventor at a declared international or industrial exhibition; (b) publication of the invention in consequence of the display or use of the invention at such exhibition; (c) use of the invention during the period of the exhibition without the consent of the true and first inventor; (d) in a paper read by the inventor before a learned society or published with his consent in the transactions of such a society; <p>4. Disclosure within one year before the filing date (priority date) by public working of the invention by, or with the consent of, the applicant or his predecessor in title for the purpose of reasonable trial.</p>
Nicaragua	<p>Disclosure not to be considered as the state of the art if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. publication of a patent application due to an error on the part of the Office; 2. publication of a patent application filed by a person not entitled to the grant of a patent; 3. acts, other than filing a patent application, by the inventor or his successor in title; 4. acts committed in breach of contract or unlawfully against the inventor or his successor in title.
Nigeria	<p>Disclosure not to be deemed to have been made available to the public if it occurred within six months before the filing date by display of the invention by the inventor or his successor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.</p>
Norway	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition as described in the Convention Relating to International Exhibitions of 22 November 1928, as last amended on 24 June 1982.
Oman	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by reason or inconsequence of acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an abuse committed by a third party with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Pakistan	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. matter obtained unlawfully or in breach of confidence; 2. display of the invention by the inventor at an international or official exhibition.

Country	Grace Period
Panama	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. publication of an application filed by a person not entitled to the grant of a patent; 2. publication of an application due to an error on the part of the Office. 3. an act engaged in by, or in committed in breach of trust or contract or unlawfully against, the inventor or his successor in title.
Papua New Guinea	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining prior art if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2.. due to an abuse committed with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Peru	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within one year before the filing date in the member country [of the Cartagena Agreement]:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the inventor or his successor in title; 2. due to incorrect publication by an Office of a patent application filed by the inventor or his successor in title; 3. by a person who obtained the information from the inventor or his successor in title.
Philippines	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the inventor or his successor in title; 2. due to incorrect publication by an Office of a patent application filed by the inventor; 3. in an application filed, without the knowledge or consent of the inventor, by a person who obtained the information from the inventor; 4. by a person who obtained the information directly or indirectly from the inventor or his successor in title.
Poland	No provision.
Portugal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure of the invention shall not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurs within 6 months before the date of filing the application at an official or officially recognized exhibitions within the term of the Convention on international exhibitions. 2. Obvious abuse with respect to the inventor or his successor in title, or improper publication by INPI. 3. In the case of 1 above, the applicant shall file a certificate within 1 month from the filing date.

Country	Grace Period
Republic of Korea	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within six months before the filing date</p> <p>(a) by the applicant or his successor in title (excluding the disclosure made by a national or foreign Office according to legislations or international treaties);</p> <p>(b) contrary to the intention of the applicant or his successor in title.</p> <p>2. In the case of 1(a) above, the applicant shall submit a written statement to that effect with the application and, within 30 days of the filing date, a document proving the relevant facts.</p>
Romania	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date:</p> <p>(a) due to an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor;</p> <p>(b) by display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized exhibition.</p> <p>The applicant shall:</p> <p>(a) when filing the application, state that the invention has been displayed at the exhibition;</p> <p>(b) within four months after the filing date, file a certificate and a description of the invention attested by the exhibition management, and indicate the exhibition opening date and the date of the first disclosure.</p>
Russian Federation	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date by:</p> <p>(a) the inventor or applicant;</p> <p>(b) a person who obtained information from the inventor or applicant.</p> <p>2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.</p>
Saint Lucia	No provision.
Serbia	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>(a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor,</p> <p>(b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an officially recognized exhibition.</p> <p>2. The applicant shall state, when filing the application, that the invention has been so exhibited, and shall file a certificate within four months of the filing date.</p>
Singapore	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date due to:</p> <p>1. matter directly or indirectly obtained unlawfully or in breach of confidence from, the inventor;</p> <p>2. display of the invention by the inventor displaying at an international exhibition;</p> <p>3. a description of the invention in a paper read by, or with the consent of, the inventor before a learned society, or published with his consent in the transactions of a learned society.</p>

Country	Grace Period
Slovak Republic	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially-recognized international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall declare, when filing the application, that the invention has been so exhibited, and shall file a certificate to that effect within four months of the filing date.</p>
Slovenia	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by publication or other form of public presentation directly by the inventor.</p> <p>2. Disclosure at any time before the filing date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in a patent application filed by the inventor which should not have become publicly available; (b) in an application filed by a person who obtained the information from the inventor without his knowledge or consent; (c) by a person who acquired the information from the inventor.
South Africa	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred any time before the filing date (priority date) due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. knowledge or matter obtained from the applicant or his predecessor in title and disclosed or used without his knowledge or consent (provided that, where the applicant learnt of that disclosure, use or knowledge before the filing date (priority date), he then applied for protection with reasonable diligence); 2. working the invention in South Africa, by the applicant or his predecessor in title, for reasonable technical trial or experiment.
Spain	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining the state of the art if it occurred during the six months preceding the filing date and if it was due to, or in consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; 2. the fact that the applicant or his legal predecessor has displayed the invention at an official or officially recognized exhibition. The applicant shall declare, when filing the application, that the invention has in fact been exhibited and, in support of his statement, he shall submit the corresponding certificate within the period and under the conditions laid down in the regulations; 3. tests carried out by the applicant or by his legal predecessor, provided that they do not imply working the invention or offering it for sale.

Country	Grace Period
Sri Lanka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date by the applicant or his predecessor in title. 2. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to an abuse of the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Sweden	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.
Switzerland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date) due to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a manifest abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; (b) display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition. 2. The applicant shall declare, when filing the application, that the invention has been so exhibited, and produce sufficient supporting evidence in good time.
Syrian Arab Republic	No provision.
Thailand	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. matter obtained unlawfully; 2. disclosure made by the inventor; 3. display of the invention by the inventor at an international or official exhibition.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized exhibition.
Trinidad and Tobago	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. due to an abuse committed by a third party with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title.
Tunisia	Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) due to a manifest abuse practiced on the applicant or his predecessor in title.

Country	Grace Period
Turkey	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred at any time before the filing date (priority date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by the inventor; (b) in an application filed by the inventor which should not have been disclosed by the Office; (c) in an application filed, without the knowledge or consent of the inventor by a third party who obtained the information from the inventor; (d) by a third person who acquired information from the inventor.
Ukraine	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the inventor; (b) a person who obtained information from the inventor. <p>2. The burden of proof is on the applicant or patent owner.</p>
United Kingdom	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) matter directly or indirectly obtained unlawfully or in breach of confidence from the inventor; (b) display of the invention by the inventor at an international exhibition. <p>2. The applicant shall state, when filing the application, that the invention was displayed, and furnish written evidence within a prescribed time limit.</p>
United States of America	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining novelty and inventive step if it occurred within one year before the filing date in the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. inventions patented or described in a printed publication in the US or abroad; 2. public use or on sale in the US.
Uruguay	<p>Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within one year before the filing date (priority date) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the inventor or his successor in title; 2. a person who obtained information from the inventor.
Uzbekistan	<p>1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the inventor or applicant; (b) a person who received information from the inventor or applicant. <p>2. The inventor or applicant shall prove the circumstances of the disclosure.</p>

Regional Offices	Grace Period
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within 12 months before the filing date (priority date) due to: 1. an obvious abuse in relation to the applicant or his predecessor in title; 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his predecessor in title at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date), by display of the invention at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	1. Disclosure not to be taken into account in determining patentability if it occurred within six months before the filing date (priority date) by: (a) the inventor or applicant; (b) a person who obtained the information from the inventor or applicant. 2. The burden of proof is on the applicant.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	Disclosure not to be taken into consideration in determining the novelty if it occurred within six months before the filing date due to: 1. an evident abuse in relation to the applicant or his legal predecessor, or 2. display of the invention by the applicant or his legal predecessor at an official or officially recognized international exhibition.

(5) Sufficiency of Disclosure

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Albania	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Algeria	The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Andorra	The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Argentina	The application shall: 1. describe the invention with sufficient clarity and completeness for it to be carried out by an expert with average knowledge in the field concerned; 2. include a clear and accurate account of the best known method of carrying out and implementing the invention; 3. indicate the materials and components used.
Armenia	The description shall set out the invention in sufficient detail for it to be carried out.
Australia	An application shall: 1. describe the invention fully; 2. include the best method known to the applicant of performing the invention.
Austria	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Bahrain	The description shall include: 1. a full statement of the subject matter; 2. the best way to enable a person skilled in the art to implement the invention.
Barbados	The description shall: 1. be sufficiently clear and complete to enable the invention to be evaluated and tested by a person having ordinary skill in the art; 2. indicate at least one mode known to the applicant for using the invention.
Belarus	The description shall disclose the claimed invention in sufficient detail for it to be carried out.
Belgium	The description shall be sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Belize	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner which is sufficiently clear and complete to permit a person having ordinary skill in the art to carry out the invention; 2. indicate at least one mode known to the applicant in which the invention can be carried out.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Bolivia	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete to be understood and for a person skilled in the technical field to be able to carry it out; 2. disclose the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention; 3. include the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the previous technology known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and precise for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.</p>
Brazil	<p>An application shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. clearly and sufficiently describe the invention, so as to permit its reproduction by a person skilled in the art; 2. indicate, where applicable, the best way of carrying it out.
Bulgaria	<p>The description shall contain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a clear and adequate disclosure of the essential technical features of the invention and its advantages, in such manner that the invention may be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. at least one example of an embodiment of the invention in support of its industrial applicability.
Canada	<p>A specification shall correctly and fully describe the invention and its operation or use in sufficiently full, clear, concise and exact terms to enable any person skilled in the art to carry it out.</p>
Chile	<p>The description shall be sufficiently clear and complete for an expert or a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention without need for any other information.</p>
China	<p>The description shall be sufficiently clear and complete to enable a person skilled in the relevant field of technology to carry it out.</p>
Colombia	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete to be understood and for a person skilled in the technical field to be able to carry it out; 2. disclose the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention; 3. include the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the previous technology known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Costa Rica	The description shall specify the invention in a sufficiently clear and complete manner that a person skilled in the art can carry it out and shall in particular indicate the best way the applicant knows how to carry it out, giving, if possible, one or more concrete examples and identifying, if applicable, that one which would give the most satisfactory results in terms of industrial exploitation.
Croatia	The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and precise for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Cyprus	The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Czech Republic	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Denmark	The description shall be sufficiently clear to enable a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
Dominica	The description shall: (a) be sufficiently clear to enable a person having ordinary skill in the art to carry out the invention; (b) indicate at least one mode for carrying out the invention.
Ecuador	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete to be understood and for a person skilled in the technical field to be able to carry it out; 2. disclose the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention; 3. include the following information: (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the previous technology known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.
Egypt	The description shall include: 1. a full statement of the subject matter of the invention; 2. the best way to enable an expert person to carry it out.
El Salvador	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be evaluated and for a person skilled in the art to carry it out; 2. state: (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the prior art known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and the manner in which it may be produced or used in any activity; (c) the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Estonia	The description shall disclose the subject matter of the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Finland	The description shall be sufficiently clear to enable a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
France	The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Georgia	The description shall be sufficiently complete to enable the skilled person in the art to carry out the invention.
Germany	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Ghana	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be evaluated, carried out or worked by a person possessing average skill in and average knowledge of the art; 2. indicate the best mode known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.
Greece	The description shall be sufficient to enable the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Guatemala	The description shall specify the invention in a sufficiently clear and complete manner that a person skilled in the art can carry it out and shall in particular indicate the best way the applicant knows how to carry it out.
Hungary	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and detailed for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Iceland	The description shall be sufficiently clear to enable a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
India	An application shall: 1. fully and particularly describe the invention and its operation or use and the method by which it is to be performed; 2. disclose the best method of performing the invention which is known to the applicant.
Ireland	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Israel	An application shall describe the invention in a manner which enables it to be performed by a skilled person to perform it.
Italy	The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by any person skilled in the art.
Japan	The application shall describe the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art.
Jordan	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art; 2. state the best mode known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Kenya	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person having ordinary skills in the art to make use and to evaluate the invention; 2. include at least one mode for carrying out the invention.
Kyrgyz Republic	<p>The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.</p>
Latvia	<p>The description of the invention shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. be clear and complete enough for a specialist to implement the invention without supplementary inventive work; 2. describe the technical level, as known to the applicant.
Liechtenstein	<p>An application shall describe the invention in a manner which enables it to be carried out by a man skilled in the art.</p>
Lithuania	<p>An application shall disclose the invention in such full and clear terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to use the invention.</p>
Luxembourg	<p>The patent application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.</p>
Malaysia	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in such terms that it can be understood and in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be evaluated and to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art, and state any advantageous effects of the invention with reference to the background art; 2. briefly describe the best mode contemplated by the applicant for carrying out the invention; 3. specify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the technical field to which the invention relates; (b) the background art; (c) the way in which the invention is industrially applicable and can be made and used.
Malta	<p>The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.</p>
Mauritius	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner which is sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art; 2. indicate at least one mode known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.
Mexico	<p>The description of the invention shall be sufficiently clear and complete to be fully understood and where appropriate to serve as a guide for a person with average skill in the art to make it; it shall also mention the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention when this is not clear from the description thereof.</p>

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Moldova (Republic of)	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. indicate the best mode for carrying out the invention known to the inventor.
Mongolia	Content of description not prescribed.
Morocco	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. include the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the prior art known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides; its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability; (c) at least one method of carrying out the invention.
Mozambique	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. indicate at least one way of carrying it out.
Netherlands	The description of the invention shall be clear and complete and be of such a nature as to enable a person skilled in the art to understand it and carry it out the invention.
New Zealand	<p>An application shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. particularly describe the invention and the method by which it is to be performed; 2. disclose the best method of performing the invention known to the applicant.
Nicaragua	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be understood and carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. include the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the prior art known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability; (c) the best method of carrying out the invention known to the applicant.
Nigeria	The description shall disclose the relevant invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Norway	The description shall be sufficiently clear and complete to enable a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
Oman	The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art.
Pakistan	The application shall: 1. fully and particularly describe the invention and the methods by which it is to be performed; 2. disclose the invention which is known to the applicant.
Panama	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be evaluated and carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. disclose the best method of carrying out the invention known to the applicant; 3. include the following information: (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the prior art known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.
Papua New Guinea	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art; 2. indicate the best method known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.
Peru	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete to be understood and for a person skilled in the technical field to be able to carry it out; 2. disclose the best method known to the applicant of carrying out the invention; 3. include the following information: (a) the area of technology to which the invention relates and the previous technology known to the applicant; (b) the technical problem and solution the invention provides, its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.
Philippines	The application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Poland	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. specify the technical field to which the invention relates and the background art known to the applicant; 3. present the invention in a detailed manner, and indicate the way(s) of carrying it out.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Portugal	The description shall indicate in a clear and concise manner everything of which consists the invention, including at least one detailed explanation of how a person skilled in the art can carry it out.
Republic of Korea	The description shall state the purpose, construction, and effect of the invention in such a manner that it may easily be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art.
Romania	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Russian Federation	The description shall disclose the claimed invention in sufficient detail for it to be carried out.
Saint Lucia	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner which is sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Serbia	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner that is sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Singapore	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner which is clear and complete for the invention to be performed by a person skilled in the art.
Slovak Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art. 2. The description shall contain the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the technical field which the invention relates and the existing state of the art; (b) the nature of the invention, its advantages or, possibly, disadvantages as against the existing state of the art and its methods of industrial application; (c) examples of performing the invention.
Slovenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An application shall describe the invention with sufficient clarity and detail to enable a person skilled in the art to apply it in a given field. 2. The description shall present the problem to be solved, the prior art and its deficiencies, and the solution to the problem.
South Africa	<p>An application shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. fully describe and ascertain the invention and the manner in which it is to be performed; 2. disclose the best method of performing the invention known to the applicant.
Spain	The invention shall be described in the patent application in a sufficiently clear and comprehensive manner to enable a person skilled in the art to carry it out.
Sri Lanka	<p>The description shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be evaluated, and to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art; 2. indicate the best mode known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.

Country	Sufficiency of Disclosure
Sweden	The description shall: 1. be sufficiently clear for a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention; 2. indicate how the invention can be industrially exploited.
Switzerland	The application shall disclose the invention in such a way that a person skilled in the art may carry it out.
Syrian Arab Republic	1. An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art. 2. Indicate the best way of carrying it out. 3. The technical problem and solution the invention provides its differences and advantages in relation to the earlier technology and its industrial applicability.
Thailand	The description shall: 1. be sufficiently complete, concise, clear and exact to enable any person ordinarily skilled in the art to make and use the invention; 2. disclose the best mode of carrying it out contemplated by the inventor.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and precise for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
Trinidad and Tobago	An application shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner which is clear and complete enough for it to be performed by a person skilled in the art; 2. indicate at least one mode known to the applicant for carrying out the invention.
Tunisia	The description shall be sufficiently clear and complete for a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
Turkey	The description shall be sufficiently explicit and comprehensive for a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention.
Ukraine	The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.
United Kingdom	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner which is clear and complete enough for it to be performed by a person skilled in the art.
United States of America	The description shall disclose: 1. the manner and process of making and using the invention in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to make and use it; 2. the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying it out.
Uruguay	The application shall contain a clear and full description of the invention.
Uzbekistan	The description shall disclose sufficient information for the invention to be carried out.

Regional Offices	Sufficiency of Disclosure
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	The description shall disclose the invention so clearly and completely that a person having ordinary knowledge and skill in the art could carry it out.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	The description shall: 1. disclose the invention in such terms that it can be understood; 2. set forth at least the best mode contemplated by the applicant for carrying out the invention 3. state: (a) its advantageous effects, if any, with reference to the background art. (b) the technical field to which the invention relates; (c) the background art known to the applicant; (d) the way in which the invention is industrially applicable and can be made and used.
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	An application shall: 1. disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art; 2. specify the technical field, the background art, the technical problem to be solved, the technical result of the invention and how it can be achieved, and the advantage over the background art.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	An application shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.

(6) Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Albania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information 6. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 7. Nuclear substances for military purposes. 8. Surgical, diagnostic and therapeutic methods for treating humans and animals. 9. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Algeria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Principles, theories, scientific discoveries and mathematical methods. 2. Plans, principles and methods for intellectual activities and playing games. 3. Methods and systems of teaching, organization, administration and management. 4. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Computer programs. 7. Aesthetic creations. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production. 9. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 10. Inventions harmful to the health or life of humans or animals, preservation of plants, or protection of the environment.
Andorra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business, and programs for computers. 4. Presentation of information. 5. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Argentina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, artistic or scientific works. 3. Aesthetic creation. 4. Schemes, rules or methods for performing intellectual activities, playing games or engaging in economic and business activities. 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals. 8. Combinations which do not produce anon—obvious result. 9. Living material and substances already occurring in nature. 10. Inventions contrary to the public good or morality, 11. Inventions detrimental to human or animal the health or life, plant conservation or the environment. 12. Biological and genetic material occurring in nature or derived therefrom by reproduction, and genetic reproduction processes replicating nature.
Armenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Methods of economic organization and management. 3. Symbols, schedules and rules. 4. Methods and rules for performing mental acts. 5. Algorithms for computers. 6. Projects and plans for structures, buildings and land development. 7. Aesthetic creations. 8. Plant and animal varieties.
Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Matter that is not a “manner of manufacture”. This generally includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discoveries and abstract ideas • Aesthetic creations • Schemes, rules and plans 2. Humans and the biological processes for their generation.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Austria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 7. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microorganisms and microbiological processes and products.
Bahrain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 2. Inventions harmful to human, animal or plant life or health or the environment. 3. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 4. Plants and animals and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microorganisms. 5. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals.
Barbados	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for carrying on of business, performing mental acts or playing games. 3. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 4. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for production of plants, other than microbiological processes and products. 5. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 6. Inventions the commercial exploitation of which would be detrimental to human or animal health, plant life or the environment.
Belarus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Algorithms and computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Plant and animal varieties. 7. Topographies of integrated circuits. 8. Inventions contrary to public interest, humanitarian principles or morality.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Belgium	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Plant species and plant and animal varieties. 7. Essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than microbiological processes or products. 8. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 9. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Belize	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 3. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 4. Inventions contrary public order or morality. 5. Inventions the commercial exploitation of which would be detrimental to human, animal or plant life or health or the environment.
Bolivia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Natural biological materials. 3. Literary, artistic works and other works protected by copyright. 4. Plans, rules and methods for pursuit of intellectual activities, playing games, or conduct of economic and business activities. 5. Computer programs and software. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Inventions the commercial exploitation of which would be detrimental to human, animal life or health, plant preservation or the environment 9. Plants, animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than non-biological and microbiological processes. 10. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 11. New uses of patented products and processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Rules, instructions and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Inventions contrary to law or morality. 7. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Brazil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods. 2. Abstract conceptions. 3. Schemes, plans, principles or methods of a commercial, accounting, financial, educational, publishing, lottery or fiscal nature. 4. Literary, architectural, artistic and scientific works; 5. Aesthetic creation. 6. Computer programs. 7. Presentation of information. 8. Rules of games. 9. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 10. Natural living beings, in whole or in part, and biological material, including the genome or germ plasm of any natural living being, when found in nature or isolated therefrom, and natural biological processes. 11. Inventions contrary to morals, standards of respectability and public security, order and health. 12. Nuclear processes and products. 13. Living beings, in whole or in part, other than transgenic microorganisms. 14. Patents for pharmaceutical products and processes require prior consent of the national agency.
Bulgaria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and concepts. 2. Mathematical methods and formulae. 3. Results of artistic work. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to social order or morality. 8. Plant or animal varieties or essentially biological processes for producing them, other than microbiological methods and products.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Canada	Scientific principles and abstract theorems (by law); methods of medical treatment, higher life forms, aesthetic creations (by jurisprudence).
Chile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Plant and animal except microorganisms. Plant varieties. Essentially biological process for the production of plants and animals except microbiological process. 3. Economic, financial, easily verified trade and taxation systems, methods, principles or plans. 4. Rules for performing mental or intellectual activities or playing games. 5. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 6. Part of living being as exists in the nature, biological process, biological material existing in the nature including genome and germplasma (nevertheless, where biological material or a product directly obtained therefrom meets the patentability requirements, is described adequately and the industrial applicability is described in the application, they are susceptible of patent protection). 7. Inventions contrary to the law, public policy, state security, morality or proper practice. 8. New uses of articles, objects or elements and changes of shape, dimensions, proportions or materials in which do not involve an essential alteration or solve a technical problem.
China	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific discoveries. 2. Rules and methods for mental activities. 3. Methods for diagnosis and treatment of diseases. 4. Animal and plant varieties. 5. Nuclear products.
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Natural biological materials. 3. Literary, artistic works and other works protected by copyright. 4. Plans, rules and methods for pursuit of intellectual activities, playing games, or conduct of economic and business activities. 5. Computer programs and software. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Inventions whose commercial exploitation would be detrimental to human, animal life or health, plant preservation or the environment. 9. Plants, animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than non-biological and microbiological processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Colombia (cont'd.)	10. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 11. New uses of patented products and processes.
Costa Rica	1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods, computer programs as such 2. Aesthetic creations, literary and artistic works 3. Schemes, rules or economic methods of advertisements or business and those referring to purely mental or intellectual activities or to games 4. Juxtaposition of known inventions or mixtures of known products, or alteration of the form, use, dimensions or material thereof, except where in reality they are so combined or managed that they cannot function separately, or where their qualities or characteristic functions have been so modified as to produce an industrial result not obvious to a person skilled in the art 5. Inventions the commercial exploitation of which shall be forbidden for objective and necessary reasons to protect the ordre public, morality, health or life of persons or animals, or to preserve plants and to avoid severe damage to the environment 6. Methods for surgical or therapeutic treatment or for diagnosis, for the treatment of human beings or animals 7. Plants and animals 8. Essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals 9. The new varieties of plants will be protected by a special law
Croatia	1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Rules, instructions or methods for performing mental activity, playing games or doing business. 4. Presentation of information. 5. Computer programs. 6. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products. 7. Inventions contrary to the public order or morality. 8. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Cyprus	1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Czech Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Denmark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Artistic creations. 3. Plans, rules or methods for intellectual activity, for games or for business activity. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties, other than inventions whose technical feasibility of the invention is not confined to a particular plant or animal variety. 9. Essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) microbiological processes and products; (b) products consisting of or containing biological material; (c) processes producing, processing or using biological material; (d) biological material isolated from its natural environment or produced by a technical process, even if previously occurring in nature. 10. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development or the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process. 11. Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Dominica	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 3. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 4. Inventions contrary to public order or morality, or prejudicial to the environment or human, animal or plant life and health.
Ecuador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Natural biological materials. 3. Literary, artistic works and other works protected by copyright. 4. Plans, rules and methods for pursuit of intellectual activities, playing games, or conduct of economic and business activities. 5. Computer programs and software. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Inventions whose commercial exploitation would be detrimental to human, animal life or health, plant preservation or the environment 9. Plants, animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than non-biological and microbiological processes. 10. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 11. New uses of patented products and processes.
Egypt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions contrary to public order or morality, or prejudicial to the environment or human, animal or plant life and health. 2. Discoveries, scientific theories, mathematical methods, programs and schemes. 3. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for humans and animals. 4. Plants and animals and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microorganisms and non-biological and microbiological processes. 5. Organs, tissues, live cells, natural biological substances, nucleic acids and genomes.
El Salvador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental or intellectual acts or playing games. 3. Methods for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery, therapy or diagnosis. 4. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Estonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries (including the description of the formation or development of the human body or a human gene sequence or part thereof), scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules, instructions and methods for performing economic and mental acts. 3. Projects and schemes of structures, buildings and land development. 4. Conventional signs. 5. Algorithms and computer programs. 6. Design solutions. 7. Presentation of information. 8. Plant and animal varieties. 9. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 10. Methods for treatment of the human or animal body and diagnostic methods practiced on the human or animal body. 11. Integrated circuit layout designs. 12. Biological processes for cloning humans; modifying the genetic identity of humans; using human embryos for commercial purposes; modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes. 13. Processes for producing biological materials or plant or animal varieties, other than microbiological processes for deriving microorganisms. 14. Biotechnological inventions which can be used solely for one particular plant or animal variety.
Finland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations: 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties, other than inventions whose technical feasibility of the invention is not confined to a particular plant or animal variety.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Finland (cont'd.)	<p>9. Essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) microbiological processes and products; (b) products consisting of or containing biological material; (c) processes producing, processing or using biological material; (d) biological material isolated from its natural environment or produced by a technical process even if previously occurring in nature. <p>10. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development or the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process.</p> <p>11. Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes.</p>
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business, 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to the dignity of the human person, public policy or morality; 8. The human body, at the different stages of its formation and development, as well as the mere discovery of one of its elements. 9. Processes for cloning human beings, processes for modifying the genetic identity of the human being, the use of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes and complete or partial gene sequences. 10. Animal breeds and plant varieties. 11. Essentially biological processes for producing plants and animals which require natural phenomena such as cross-breeding or selection. 12. Processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit to humans or animals, and also animals resulting from such processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Georgia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Results of artistic design. 3. Computer programs and algorithms. 4. Educational methods and systems, grammatical language systems, methods for performing mental acts, rules for games or doing business. 5. Economic organizations and managing methods. 6. Plans and schemes of structures, buildings, territories. 7. Presentation of the information. 8. Inventions which may cause inhuman, immoral and/or anti-social action. 9. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 10. Plant and animal varieties and methods for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Germany	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Programs for computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and methods for their production of plants or animals, other than microbiological processes and products.
Ghana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific and mathematical theories. 2. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products. 3. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 4. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Computer programs. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Products and processes excluded by law for national security, economy, health or any other national concern.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Greece	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules, and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Guatemala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simple discoveries; 2. Materials and energies in the form which exist in the nature 3. Biological process occurred in the nature without human intervention, except microbiological process 4. Scientific theories and mathematical methods; 5. Pure aesthetic creations, literary and artistic works; 6. Schemes, principles, rules or economic methods of advertisements or business and those referring to purely mental or intellectual activities or to games 7. Computer programs 8. Methods for surgical or therapeutic treatment or for diagnosis, for the treatment of human beings or animals 9. Inventions the exploitation of which is contrary to ordre public and morality, provided that the contradiction to ordre public and morality shall not be considered merely by the reasons of prohibition, limitation and conditions by legal or administrative provisions; 10. Inventions the commercial exploitation of which shall be prevented in order to preserve health or life of persons, animals, plants or the environment
Hungary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computers programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Iceland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. The presentation of information 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to morality or public order. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions which are frivolous or obviously contrary to well established natural law. 2. Inventions use or commercial exploitation of which is contrary to law or morality or causes serious prejudice to human, animal, or plant life or health or to the environment. 3. Discoveries of a scientific principle or formulation of an abstract theory or discovery of any living thing or non-living substance occurring in nature. 4. Mere discovery of a new form of a known substance which does not enhance known efficacy, or the mere discovery of any new property or new use for a known substance or of the mere use of a known process, machine or apparatus unless such known process results in a new product or employs at least one new reactant. 5. Substance obtained by a mere admixture resulting only in the aggregation of the properties of the components thereof or a process for producing such substance. 6. Mere arrangement or re-arrangement or duplication of known devices each functioning independently in a known way. 7. Agricultural and horticultural methods. 8. Any processes for medicinal, surgical, curative, prophylactic, diagnostic, therapeutic or other treatments of humans or any process for a similar treatments of animals or plants to render them free of disease or increase economic value. 9. Plants and animals in whole or any part thereof other than microorganisms, but including seeds, varieties and species and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants and animals. 10. Mathematical or business method or a computer program per se or algorithms. 11. Literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work or any other aesthetic creation whatever. 12. Mere scheme or rule or method of performing mental act or method of playing game. 13. Presentation of information.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
India (cont'd.)	14. Topography of integrated circuits. 15. Invention which, in effect, is traditional knowledge or which is an aggregation or duplication of known properties of traditionally known component(s). 16. Inventions relating to atomic energy.
Indonesia	1. Inventions contrary to rules, regulations, religious morality, public order or ethics. 2. Methods of examination, treatment, medication, and/or surgery applied to humans and animals. 3. Scientific and mathematical theories and methods. 4. Living creatures, other than microorganisms. 5. Biological processes or producing plant or animal, other than microbiological process.
Ireland	1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing a game or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Israel	1. Therapeutic treatment on the human body. 2. Plants and animal varieties, other than microbiological organisms not derived from nature.
Italy	1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business and programs for computers. 3. Presentation of information. 4. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 5. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 6. Plant or animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Japan	1. Inventions contrary to public order, morality or public health. 2. Methods for the treatment of humans.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Jordan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions detrimental to public order or morality. 2. Inventions necessary to protect the life and health of humans, animals and plants or to avoid severe damage to the environment. 3. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 4. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 5. Plants and animals, other than microorganisms. 6. Biological methods for reproducing plants and animals, other than microbiological methods.
Kenya	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 3. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 4. Presentation of information. 5. Designated methods for the prevention or treatment of serious health hazards and life threatening diseases. 6. Plant varieties, other than parts thereof and products of biotechnological processes. 7. Inventions contrary to public order, morality, public health and safety, principles of humanity and environmental conservation.
Kyrgyz Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Methods of economic organization and management. 3. Symbols, schedules and rules. 4. Methods for performing mental acts. 5. Computer programs and algorithms. 6. Projects and plans for structures, buildings and land development. 7. Aesthetic creations. 8. Topographies of integrated circuits. 9. Plant varieties and animal breeds. 10. Inventions contrary to the public interest, humanitarian principles or morality, or detrimental to the environment.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Latvia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 2. Discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods. 3. Designs. 4. Schemes, methods for performing mental acts, rules and methods for playing games and conducting business, 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or the morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.
Liechtenstein	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products. 2. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 3. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Designs of products. 3. Schemes, rules and methods of games, intellectual and economic activities. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Methods of treatment of people and animals, diagnostics and prevention of diseases. 7. Plant and animal varieties and biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes. 8. Inventions contrary to public interest, humanitarian principles or morality.
Luxembourg	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes and products.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Malaysia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Plant or animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than man-made living microorganisms and microbiological processes and products. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 4. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 5. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.
Malta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Animal varieties and essentially biological processes for production of plants and animals, other than microbiological processes and products.
Mauritius	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 3. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 4. Plants and animals and essentially biological processes for their production. 5. Literary, dramatic, musical or artistic works. 6. Aesthetic creations. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.
Mexico	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Essentially biological processes for the production, reproduction and propagation of plants and animals, biological and genetic material as found in nature, animal breeds, the human body and the living parts composing it, and plant varieties; 2. Theoretical or scientific principles; 3. Discoveries that consist in making known or revealing something that already existed in nature, even though it was previously unknown to man; 4. Schemes, plans, rules and methods for carrying out mental processes, playing games or doing business, and mathematical methods; 5. Computer programs; 6. Forms of presenting information;

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Mexico (cont'd.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Esthetics creations and artistic or literary works; 8. Methods of surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic treatment applicable to the human body and to animals; 9. Juxtaposition of known inventions or mixtures of known products, or alteration of the use, form, dimensions or material thereof, except where in reality they are so combined or managed that they cannot function separately, or where their characteristic qualities or functions have been so modified as to produce an industrial result or use not obvious to a person skilled in the art.
Moldova (Republic of)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Conventional signs, timetables and rules. 3. Schemes for performing mental acts. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business. 5. Computer programs and algorithms. 6. Projects and plans for buildings and constructions and for territorial planning. 7. Aesthetic creations 8. Integrated circuit topographies. 9. Inventions necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health or to avoid serious damage to the environment. 10. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.
Mongolia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Computer programs and algorithms. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 4. Inventions contrary to public health or environmental protection. 5. Methods of treatment, diagnosis and prophylaxis of human and animal diseases. 6. Plant and animal varieties produced biologically, other than microbiological methods and products.
Morocco	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant products.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Mozambique	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Systems, plans, rules and methods for the performance of intellectual activities, playing games or economic activities. 3. Computer programs. 4. Aesthetic creations 5. Artistic and literary works. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals. 8. Atomic substances and processes. 9. Inventions contrary to morality, good behavior, public safety, public order or public health. 10. Living beings and parts thereof, other than microbiological processes and products.
Netherlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 7. Plant and animal varieties produced by biological processes for their production, other than permitted microbiological methods and products. 8. Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals.
New Zealand	Inventions which are not a “manner of new manufacture”.
Nicaragua	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Substances and matter found in nature. 3. Biological processes for the production of plants and animals not involving human intervention, other than microbiological processes. 4. Aesthetic creations 5. Literary and artistic works. 6. Economic, advertising and business plans, 7. Principles, rules and methods for mental and intellectual acts and playing games. 8. Computer programs. 9. Animals. 10. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 11. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 12. Inventions for the protection of human, animal or plant health or life or the preservation of the environment.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Nigeria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products. 2. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 3. Scientific principles and discoveries.
Norway	<p>Something which merely consist of the following (1-5) is not considered as an invention:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. <p>Patents are not granted for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods, practiced on humans or animals. 2. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development of the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process. 3. Inventions whose commercial exploitation would be contrary to morality or public order. Patents cannot on this basis be granted for <i>inter alia</i>: Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and process for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes. 4. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for production of plants and animals.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Oman	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing purely mental acts or playing games. 3. Natural substances; this provision shall not apply to the processes of isolating those natural substances from their original environment. 4. Known substances for which a new use has been discovered; this provision shall not apply to the use itself, where it constitutes an invention as defined in the law. 5. Animals other than microorganisms, and essentially biological processes for the production of animals and their parts, other than non-biological and microbiological processes. 6. Inventions contrary to order public and morality. <p>Exclusions shall not apply to the following inventions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. process inventions which, in whole or in part, consist of steps that are performed by a computer and are directed by a computer program b. process inventions consisting of elements of a computer-implemented invention, including in particular <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) machine-readable computer program code stored on a tangible medium such as a floppy disk, computer hard drive or computer memory; and (ii) a general purpose computer whose novelty over the prior art arises primarily due to its combination with a specific computer program.
Pakistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, dramatic, musical and artistic and works. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business, performing mental acts and playing games. 5. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 6. Plants and animals and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Panama	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, theories and scientific principles. 2. Plans, schemes, principles and methods for economics, business, mental acts and games. 3. Computer programs. 4. Presentation of information. 5. Aesthetic creations. 6. Artistic and literary works. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 8. Combinations or alterations of known inventions and products which do not function separately or produce a non-obvious industrial result. 9. Inventions contrary to national laws, health, public policy, morality, proper practice or State security. 10. Essentially biological means of producing plants and animals contrary to morality or human integrity or dignity. 11. Plant and animal varieties. 12. Naturally occurring biological material. 13. Live material forming part of the human body.
Papua New Guinea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business performing mental acts and playing games. 3. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 4. Inventions contrary to public order or morality or which seriously damage the environment 5. Presentation of information.
Peru	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Natural biological materials. 3. Literary, artistic works and other works protected by copyright. 4. Plans, rules and methods for intellectual acts, playing games, or economic and business activities. 5. Computer programs and software. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Inventions whose commercial exploitation would be detrimental to human, animal life or health, plant preservation or the environment 9. Plants, animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than non-biological and microbiological processes. 10. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 11. New uses of patented products and processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Philippines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, rules and methods of performing mental acts, playing games or doing business, and programs for computers. 3. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 4. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products. 5. Aesthetic creations. 6. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.
Poland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, doing business and playing games. 4. Creations contrary to generally accepted scientific principles. 5. Comport programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products. 9. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Portugal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Materials or substances which already exist in nature and nuclear substances. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods of intellectual activities for games or commercial activities and computer programs as such. 5. Presentations of information. 6. Patents shall not be granted in respect of inventions the commercial exploitation of which would be contrary to the Law, <i>ordre public</i>, public health or morality, an exploitation not being deemed to be prohibited merely because it is prohibited by law or administrative regulation. 7. Processes for cloning human beings. 8. Processes for modifying the germ line genetic identity of human beings. 9. Uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes. 10. Processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit to man or animal, and also animals resulting from such processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Portugal (cont'd.)	<p>11. The human body, at the various stages of its formation and development, and the simple discovery of one of its elements, including a sequence or partial sequence of a gene, cannot constitute patentable inventions.</p> <p>12. Plant varieties or species of animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals.</p> <p>13. Methods for surgical or therapeutic treatment or for diagnosis, practiced on human beings or animals, shall not be regarded as inventions, either. This provision shall not prevent the grant of patents for products, including substances and compounds, for use in any of such methods.</p>
Republic of Korea	<p>1. Inventions contrary to public order or morality or damaging to public health.</p> <p>2. Inventions detrimental to public health.</p>
Romania	<p>1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods.</p> <p>2. Aesthetic creations.</p> <p>3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business.</p> <p>4. Computer programs.</p> <p>5. Presentation of information.</p> <p>6. Inventions, the exploitation of which would be contrary to public order or morality, including those being detrimental to human, animal or plant life, or health or the environment, the exclusion not being deemed to be prohibited merely because the exploitation is prohibited by law.</p> <p>7. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microorganisms.</p> <p>8. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans and animals.</p> <p>9. The human body, at any stage of its formation and the simple discovery of its elements, including the sequence or partial sequence of a gene.</p>
Russian Federation	<p>1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods.</p> <p>2. Aesthetic creations.</p> <p>3. Rules and methods of games, intellectual or business activities.</p> <p>4. Computer software.</p> <p>5. Presentation of information.</p> <p>6. Plant and animal varieties.</p> <p>7. Integrated circuit topographies.</p> <p>8. Inventions contrary to public interest, humanitarian principles or morality.</p>

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Saint Lucia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing a game or doing business. 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Serbia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development, and the simple discovery of one of its elements, including gene sequences of genes. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals 8. Inventions contrary to public order or morality, in particular: processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes. 9. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological process for their production, other than. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) biotechnological processes whose technical feasibility is not confined to a particular plant or animal variety; (b) microbiological and other technical process and products.
Singapore	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions encouraging offensive, immoral or anti-social behavior. 2. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Slovak Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Slovak Republic (cont'd.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Inventions contrary to public interest, including principles of humanity and morality. 7. Methods for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of human and animal disease. 8. Plant and animal varieties and biological processes for the production and improvement, other than biotechnological processes and products and industrial microorganisms.
Slovenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Computer programs. 3. Rules, schemes, methods and processes for performing mental acts. 4. Inventions contrary to law or morality. 5. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
South Africa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions which encourage offensive or immoral behavior. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological process and products. 9. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.
Spain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary or artistic works or any other aesthetic creation and scientific works. 3. Schemes, rules or methods for intellectual activity, for games or for economic commercial activity. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality 8. Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Spain (cont'd.)	<p>9. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for production of plants and animals, other than microbiological and products thereof.</p> <p>10. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development or the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process.</p>
Sri Lanka	<p>1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods.</p> <p>2. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products.</p> <p>3. Schemes, rules, and methods for doing business, performing mental acts and playing games.</p> <p>4. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.</p>
Sweden	<p>1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods.</p> <p>2. Aesthetic creations.</p> <p>3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business.</p> <p>4. Computer programs.</p> <p>5. Presentation of information.</p> <p>6. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.</p> <p>7. Inventions contrary to morality or public order.</p> <p>8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for production of plants and animals, other than microbiological processes and products.</p> <p>9. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development or the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process.</p> <p>10. Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes.</p>
Switzerland	<p>1. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products.</p> <p>2. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.</p> <p>3. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.</p> <p>4. Processes for forming chimeras and hybrids using human gametes or human totipotent cells; parthenogenic processes using germ line human material; processes for modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans clones, hybrids, chimeras; parthenogenic offspring and germ line cells thus obtained; unmodified human stem cells and unmodified lines of stem cells.</p>

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Syrian Arab Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The invention is not new. 2. The invention regards a purely theoretical or purely scientific method, without having a specific industrial application. 3. The title of the invention submitted by the inventor intentionally demonstrates something which is not the invention itself. 4. The invention's description, drawings, specifications and computations are not sufficient to put the invention into use. An additional certificate unrelated to the original certificate is also considered invalid. 5. The certificate of invention shall not be granted on financial schemes, inventions openly violating the public order, ethics or constitutions and pharmaceutical combinations.
Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Naturally occurring microorganisms and their components. 2. Animals, plants and extracts therefrom. 3. Scientific or mathematical rules or theories. 4. Computer programs. 5. Methods of diagnosis, treatment or cure of human and animal diseases. 6. Inventions contrary to public order, morality, health or welfare.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Plans, rules and procedures for performing intellectual activities, playing games and doing business. 4. Computer programs. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological methods and products. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 8. Inventions contrary to public order or morality.
Trinidad and Tobago	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 5. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 8. Inventions detrimental to human, animal or plant life or health or the environment.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Tunisia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aesthetic creations. 2. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for mental acts, games or economic activity. 4. Software. 5. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Live substances occurring in nature. 8. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than biological methods used in medicine and their products. 9. Inventions contrary to morality, public policy or whose exploitation is prejudicial to public health or the protection of the environment.
Turkey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories, mathematical methods. 2. Plans, methods and rules for performing mental acts, conducting business activities and playing games. 3. Computer programs. 4. Literary and artistic works, scientific works, 5. Aesthetic creations. 6. Methods of collecting, arranging, presenting and transmitting information with no technical features. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 8. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 9. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production.
Ukraine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated circuits topographies. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Plant and animal varieties. 4. Essentially biological processes for reproduction of plants and animals, other microbiological processes.
United Kingdom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works. 3. Aesthetic creations. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 5. Computer programs. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 8. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
United Kingdom (cont/d.)	<p>9. Plant and animal varieties and essentially biological processes for their production, other than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) microbiological methods and products; (b) inventions whose technical feasibility of the invention is not confined to a particular plant or animal variety; (c) products consisting of or containing biological material; (d) processes producing, processing or using biological material; (e) biological material isolated from its natural environment or produced by a technical process, even if previously occurring in nature. <p>10. The human body, at any stage of its formation and development or the simple discovery of its elements, including gene sequences, other than elements isolated from the human body or produced by a technical process.</p> <p>11. Processes for cloning humans; modifying the germ line genetic identity of humans; uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes; and processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which are likely to cause them suffering without any substantial medical benefit, and animals resulting from such processes.</p>
United States of America	No expressly prescribed exclusions, but abstract ideas, natural phenomena and laws of nature excluded by case law.
Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Schemes, plans, rules for playing games, business, accounting, financial, educational, publicity, lottery or taxation principles or methods. 3. Literary, artistic and scientific works. 4. Aesthetic creations. 5. Computer programs. 6. Methods of reproducing information. 7. Plants and animals and essentially biological processes for their production, other than microbiological processes. 8. Biological or genetic material occurring in nature. 9. Diagnostic, therapeutic or surgical methods for treating persons or animals. 10. Inventions contrary to public order or morality 11. Inventions detrimental to public health, food supply, safety or the environment.

Country	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Uzbekistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Organizational and management methods. 3. Designations, schedules and rules. 4. Rules and methods for carrying out intellectual operations. 5. Algorithms and computer programs. 6. Plans and diagrams for buildings, constructions and land. 7. Aesthetic creations. 8. Topographies of integrated circuits. 9. Plant and animal varieties. 10. Inventions contrary to public interests, principles of humanity and morality.
Regional Offices	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions contrary to public policy or morality. 2. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 3. Plant varieties, animal species and essentially biological processes for breeding plants or animals, other than microbiological processes and products. 4. Schemes, rules and methods for doing business, performing mental acts or playing games. 5. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals. 6. Presentation of information. 7. Computer programs. 8. Ornamental works. 9. Literary, architectural and artistic works. 10. Aesthetic creations.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	No prescribed exclusions but a designated State may, within six months from notification of grant, declare that the ARIPO patent has no effect in its territory because a patent for such inventions cannot be granted under its national law.

Regional Offices	Exclusions from Patentable Subject Matter
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Presentation of information. 3. Methods of economic organization and management. 4. Symbols, schedules and rules. 5. Methods for performing mental acts. 6. Algorithms and computer programs. 7. Topographies of integrated circuits. 8. Projects and plans for structures, buildings and land development. 9. Aesthetic creations. 10. Plant and animal varieties. 11. Inventions, the prevention of the commercial exploitation of which is necessary to protect <i>ordre public</i> or morality, including to protect human, animal or plant life or health, or to avoid serious prejudice to the environment.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods. 2. Aesthetic creations. 3. Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business. 4. Programs for computers. 5. Presentation of information. 6. Inventions contrary to public order or morality. 7. Plant or animal varieties and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than microbiological processes and products. 8. Therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods for treating humans or animals.

(7) Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Albania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market by, or with consent of, patent owner. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts for experimental purposes or scientific research. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by doctors, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) was using the invention for commercial purposes in Albania, or was making effective and serious preparations for such purposes. 6. Certain uses on foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 7. Non-voluntary licenses. 8. Exploitation authorized by the Minister for the purposes of national security or public safety, subject to remuneration.
Algeria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for scientific research. 3. Acts concerning products licitly put into commerce. 4. Use on foreign ships, spacecraft, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Continued prior use by person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) made or used the invention, or had made serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Andorra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in Andorra or other prescribed country by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by doctors, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Use on foreign spacecraft, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Continued prior use by person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) was using the invention for business purposes, or had made serious preparations for such purposes. 7. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Argentina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private or academic scientific or technological research for non-profit making experimental, testing or teaching purposes. 2. Preparation of prescribed drugs by an authorized professional person, and acts concerning those drugs. 3. Acts concerning products lawfully put on the market in any country by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 4. Use on foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles temporarily or accidentally traveling on national territory. 5. Exploitation by an authorized third party to counter anti-competitive practices. 6. Exploitation ordered by the National Executive for purposes of health emergency or national security. 7. Other limited exceptions introduced by the Office at the reasoned request of a competent authority. 8. Exploitation by a third party allowed by the Office without the authority of patent owner, subject to remuneration.
Armenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for scientific experiment or research. 2. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign vehicles temporarily or inadvertently located on national territory. 4. Personal use for non-profit making purposes. 5. Acts concerning products and processes introduced into Armenia or made available in another country by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 6. Continued prior use by person who, before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Armenia independently of the inventor, or had made necessary preparations for that purpose. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Continued prior use by person who, at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Australia independently of the patent owner or his predecessor in title, or was taking definite steps for that purpose. 3. Acts for obtaining regulatory approval for pharmaceuticals. 4. Compulsory licenses where necessary to meet reasonable requirements of the public or to remedy other anti-competitive practices, subject to remuneration. 5. Exploitation or acquisition by the Commonwealth where necessary for the proper provision of services or in the interest of national security, subject to remuneration.
Austria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in Austria, or had made necessary arrangements for that purpose. 2. Use on vehicles which temporarily enter national territory. 3. Expropriation by federal administrative authorities for the purposes of the armed forces, public welfare or other compelling federal interest, subject to payment of remuneration. 4. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Bahrain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private use for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Use for scientific research. 3. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), industrially exploited the invention in Bahrain, or had made serious preparations for that purpose. 4. Certain uses on foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts for obtaining a license to market pharmaceutical products after patent expiration. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Barbados	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for scientific research. 2. Acts concerning products put on the market in Barbados by, or with consent, of, the patent owner. 3. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith, before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or vehicles which accidentally or temporarily enter national territory. 5. Exploitation authorized by the Minister in the interests of national security, national health, national nutrition, development of an essential sector of the national economy, or other public interest, subject to remuneration. 6. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive exploitation, subject to remuneration. 7. Non-voluntary licenses.
Belarus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft, spacecraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Acts for scientific research or experimentation. 3. Use in exceptional circumstances or force-majeure (subject to payment of remuneration). 4. Private use for non-commercial purposes. 5. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 6. Acts concerning products lawfully put on the market in Belarus. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) devised or used the invention in Belarus, or had made necessary preparations to do so. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Belgium	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of an essential element of the invention by a person unaware that it was for that purpose. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Acts concerning products put on the market in Belgium by, or with consent, of patent owner. 7. Continued prior use by person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) used or possessed the invention in Belgium. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Belize	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in Belize by, or with consent, of the patent owner. 2. Use on foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in Belize, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Exploitation authorized by the Minister in the public interest, in particular national security, nutrition, health, national nutrition and development of vital sectors of the national economy, subject to payment of remuneration. 7. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive exploitation, subject to payment of remuneration. 8. Non-voluntary licenses.
Bolivia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-profit making purposes. 2. Acts for experimentation, teaching or scientific or academic research. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Acts concerning products put on the market in Bolivia or other country by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Non-repeated use of biological material, other than plants, to obtain viable new material. 7. Biological material obtained by reproduction, multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for research and experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had exploited or manufactured the invention in Bosnia and Herzegovina, or made real and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Acts concerning products put on the market in Bosnia and Herzegovina by, or with consent, of patent owner. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Brazil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes not prejudicial to patent owner. 2. Experimental acts for scientific or technological study or research. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines by a qualified person, and medicines so prepared. 4. Acts concerning products put on the market in Brazil by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Non-commercial use of living material as an initial source of variation or propagation. 6. Acts in respect of living material put on the market by the patent holder or licensee, other than for commercial multiplication or propagation of that living material. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith, used the invention in Brazil before the filing date (priority date). 8. Compulsory licenses.
Bulgaria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes not prejudicial to patent owner. 2. Experimental acts for research or development. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts concerning products put on the market in Bulgaria by the patent owner or with his consent. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith, used the invention before the filing date (priority date), or had made necessary preparations for that purpose. 7. A person who, after the lapse of a patent, has used the invention, or has made the necessary preparation for such use, may continue to use the invention in the same volume after the renewal of the patent under Article 26(2) (reinstatement of right after the lapse of a patent). 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Canada	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Acts of obtaining required regulatory approval for manufacture, construction, use or sale of a product under Canadian or foreign law. 3. Private non- commercial acts. 4. Acts for experimental purposes. 5. Continued prior use or sale by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), purchased, constructed or acquired the invention. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Chile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commercial acts by third parties who adequately obtained a product which was legitimately introduced in the market in any country by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 2. Non-voluntary licenses.
China	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in China by, or with knowledge of, the patent owner. 2. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in China, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 3. Certain uses in respect of foreign means of transport which temporarily enter national territory. 4. Use for scientific research and experimentation purposes. 5. Use or sale of products obtained from a legitimate source but made and sold without authorization of patent owner. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-profit making purposes. 2. Acts for purposes of experimentation, teaching or scientific or academic research. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Acts concerning products put on the market in Colombia or other country by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Non-repeated use of biological material, other than plants, to obtain viable new material. 7. Biological material obtained by reproduction, multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Costa Rica	<p>In the case the following exceptions do not compromise in a unjustifiable manner the normal exploitation of the patent nor do they cause unjustifiable damage to the legitimate interests of the patent holder or his licensee, the rights granted by the patent do not extend to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legal acts of any nature done in a private environment and for non-commercial purposes 2. Acts done for experimental purposes relating to the subject-matter of the patented invention 3. Acts done exclusively for the purpose of teaching or scientific or academic investigation with respect to the subject-matter of the patented invention 4. Acts of sale, offering for sale, use, usufruct, import or any way of commercialization of a patent-protected product or obtained by a patented process once it has been put on the market of any country with the patent holder's or the license holder's consent 5. The necessary use for investigation, processing or any other requirements for obtaining sanitary approval with a view to commercialize the product following patent expiration 6. Continued use prior to the filing date of the application, or prior to the date of granted priority exploited or manufactured in the country 7. Compulsory licenses
Croatia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for research and development. 3. Acts for obtaining registration of the medical, veterinary and plant protection products. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), exploited or manufactured the invention in Croatia for business purposes, or had made real and serious preparations for such purposes. 6. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 7. Acts concerning products put on the market in Croatia by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Cyprus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in Cyprus by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes not prejudicial to patent owner. 3. Acts for experimental purposes or scientific research. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Non-voluntary licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Czech Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in Czech Republic by, or with consent of, the patent owner, unless patent right is extended to those acts. 2. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), had worked the invention independently of the inventor, or made preparation for that purpose. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Acts for non-commercial purposes. 6. Acts relating to the subject matter of the invention done for experimental purposes including experiments and tests necessary, pursuant to the special legal regulation, before placing a medicine on the market. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Denmark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts concerning products put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for further multiplication or propagation. 6. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for multiplication or propagation on own farm. 7. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for own agricultural activity, but not sale for commercial reproduction. 8. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention commercially in Denmark, or had made substantial preparation for that purpose. 9. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 10. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Dominica	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in respect of products put on the market in Dominica by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 2. Use of articles on foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention commercially in Dominica, or had made effective and substantial preparations for that purpose. 6. Exploitation authorized by the Minister in the public interest, in particular for national security, nutrition, health or development of vital sectors of the national economy. 7. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive exploitation. 8. Use of an essential element of the invention by person who was unaware it was for that purpose. 9. Non-voluntary licenses.
Ecuador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-profit making purposes. 2. Acts for purposes of experimentation, teaching or scientific or academic research. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Acts concerning products put on the market in Ecuador or other country by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Non-repeated use of biological material, other than plants, to obtain viable new material. 7. Biological material obtained by reproduction, multiplication or propagation of material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Egypt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in respect of products put on the market in any country by, or with the authorization of, the patent owner. 2. Acts for scientific research purposes. 3. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date, used the invention in Egypt, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 4. Indirect uses of production processes to obtain other products. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Acts for obtaining a license to market a product after patent expiration. 7. Acts not prejudicial to normal exploitation of the patent, or the interests of patent owner and third parties. 8. Non-voluntary licenses. 9. Expropriation approved by ministerial committee for the purposes of national defense or in cases of emergency.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
El Salvador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Objects and goods in transit through national territory, but not put on the market there. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts for experimental purposes or scientific, academic or educational research. 4. Marketing or use of products legally placed on the market in El Salvador. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in El Salvador, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Estonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Experimental use. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and use of those medicines. 4. Private non-commercial use not prejudicial to patent owner. 5. Use, distribution, sale or offering for sale in Estonia by, or with consent of patent owner. 6. Propagation or multiplication of biological material put on the market by, or with consent of, the patent owner for that purpose, other than for other multiplication or propagation purposes, and biological material derived therefrom. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), industrially used the invention in Estonia, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 8. Use of products put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with consent, of patent owner. 9. Compulsory licenses.
Finland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of an essential element of the invention by person who was unaware it was for carrying out the invention. 2. Non-commercial use. 3. Use of products put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with consent, of patent owner. 4. Experimental use. 5. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 6. Propagation or multiplication of biological material put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with consent of, the patent owner for that purpose, other than for other multiplication or propagation purposes. 7. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for multiplication or propagation on own farm. 8. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for pursuing own agricultural activity, but not sale for commercial reproduction.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Finland (cont'd).	<p>9. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention commercially in Finland, or had made substantial preparation for that purpose.</p> <p>10. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or other means of transport which temporarily enter national territory.</p> <p>11. Compulsory licenses.</p>
France	<p>1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes.</p> <p>2. Acts for experimental purposes.</p> <p>3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines.</p> <p>4. Studies and papers required to obtain authorization for placing the medicinal product on the market, as well as the actions that are necessary to carry them out and to obtain authorization.</p> <p>5. Acts concerning products put in circulation in the European Economic Area by, or with consent of, the patent owner.</p> <p>6. Continued prior use by a person who was, in good faith, in possession of the invention before the filing date (priority date).</p> <p>7. Compulsory licenses.</p> <p>8. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for propagation on their own farm.</p> <p>9. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for their own agricultural activity, but not for commercial reproduction.</p> <p>10. Objects to be launched into space from French national territory.</p>
Georgia	<p>1. Products put into economic circulation by, or with consent, of the patent owner.</p> <p>2. Private use for non-commercial purposes.</p> <p>3. Certain uses concerning marine, air and land transport facilities which temporarily or casually enter national territory.</p> <p>4. Use in natural calamity, catastrophe, epidemic or other emergency situation.</p> <p>5. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made preparation for that purpose.</p> <p>6. Compulsory licenses.</p>
Germany	<p>1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes.</p> <p>2. Acts done for experimental purposes relating to the subject matter of the patented invention.</p> <p>3. Use of biological material for the purpose of breeding, discovery and development of new variety of plants.</p> <p>4. Studies and trials necessary for obtaining pharmaceutical marketing authorization.</p> <p>5. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines.</p>

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Germany (cont'd.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), had used the invention in Germany, or made arrangements for that purpose. 8. Exploitation in the interest of public welfare or security ordered by the Federal Government or by, or on the instruction of, a supreme federal authority, subject to remuneration. 9. Compulsory licenses.
Ghana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Scientific research; 3. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Ghana by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 4. Use on foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Exploitation by, or on behalf of a government agency, in the public interest, in particular, national security, health or development of vital sectors of the national economy. 6. Compulsory licenses.
Greece	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use for non-professional or research purposes. 2. Certain uses concerning automobiles, trains, vessels or airplanes which temporarily enter national territory. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), had used the invention in Greece , or made arrangements for that purpose. 5. Non-contractual licenses.
Guatemala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts done in a private environment and for non-commercial purposes 2. Acts done exclusively for the purpose of experiments relating to the subject-matter of the patented invention 3. Acts done exclusively for the purpose of teaching or scientific or academic investigation, without commercial purposes, with respect to the subject-matter of the patented invention 4. Acts referred to in article 5^{ter} of the Paris Convention 5. Acts concerning products once it has been put on the market of any country with the patent holder's or the license holder's consent 6. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of the patented biological material put on the market of any country with the patent holder's or the license holder's consent with a condition that the multiplication or propagation necessarily results from the application for which the material was introduced to the commerce and that the material derived from such application is not used for the purpose of multiplication and propagation 7. Compulsory licenses

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Hungary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-economic activities. 2. Acts for experimental purposes, including experiments and tests necessary for the registration of medicines. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), had made or used the invention for commercial purposes in Hungary, or made serious preparations for such purposes. 5. Certain uses concerning means of communication and transport in transit in national territory, and foreign goods not intended to be put on the market there. 6. Acts in respect of products put on the market in Hungary by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Iceland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non- commercial use. 2. Use of products put on the market within the European Economic Area by, or with consent, of the patent owner. 3. Experimental use. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention commercially in Iceland, or had made substantial preparation for that purpose. 6. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which enter national territory temporarily or by chance. 7. Exploitation by the State or other party directed by the Minister, in event of an emergency due to natural disaster, war or imminent risk of war, subject to remuneration. 8. Compulsory licenses.
India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The grant of a patent is subject to the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) importation or manufacture of articles and uses of processes by, or on behalf of the Government for its own use; (b) importation of medicines and drugs by the Government for its own use or for distribution in dispensaries, hospitals or other medical institutions maintained by, on behalf of or specified by the Government; (c) use for purposes merely of experiment or research, including the imparting of instructions to pupils. 2. Act of making, constructing, using, selling or importing a patented invention solely for uses reasonably related to the development or submission of information required under any law that regulates the manufacture, construction, use, sale or importation of any product. 3. Importation of patented products from a person who is duly authorized under the law to produce and sell or distribute the product. 4. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued prior use by a person who was exploiting the invention at the filing date (priority date). 2. Use for purposes of education, research, experiment or analysis not prejudicial to the patent owner. 3. Exploitation by the Government by Presidential Decree for the purposes of the defense and security of the State or urgent public interest. 4. Compulsory licenses.
Ireland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts which cannot be prevented by the patent owner under European Communities law. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), had used the invention for commercial purposes in Ireland, or made serious preparations for such purposes. 7. Assignment by a Minister on behalf of the State, subject to remuneration. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Israel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non- commercial acts. 2. Experimental acts for obtaining a marketing license after patent expiration. 3. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), exploited the invention in Israel, or had made actual preparations for that purpose. 4. Exploitation, authorized by the minister, by a Government departments or State contractor in the interests of national security or maintenance of essential supplies and services, subject to remuneration. 5. Compulsory licenses.
Italy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes or experimental purposes. 2. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and medicines so prepared. 3. Continued prior use by a person who used the invention in his business in the 12 months preceding the filing date (priority date). 4. Exploitation, by Presidential decree, by the State, for national military defense or other public interest reasons, subject to remuneration. 5. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Japan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-commercial use. 2. Use for experiment or research purposes. 3. Vessels and aircraft passing through Japan. 4. Products existing in Japan before the filing date (priority date). 5. Preparation of patented medicines by mixing two or more medicines in accordance with the prescription of physicians or dentists, and medicines so prepared. 6. Non-exclusive license available as of right in the case of prior use or working of the invention prior to the filing date (priority date). 7. Compulsory licenses.
Jordan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use for scientific research, development and obtaining marketing permits. 2. Compulsory licenses.
Kenya	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts necessary to obtain approval or registration for commercializing products after expiry of patent. 2. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes in Kenya, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 3. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 4. Acts for scientific research. 5. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Kenya or any other country or imported into Kenya. 6. Use on foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter the territory of Kenya. 7. Variants or mutants of living forms or replicable living matter which are distinctively different from the patented original and deserve a separate patent. 8. Exploitation, ordered or authorized by the Minister, by a Government Ministry, Department, agency or other person, in the public interest (in particular, national security, nutrition, health, environmental conservation, or development of other vital sector of the national economy), not subject to remuneration. 9. Compulsory licenses.
Kyrgyz Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use for research or scientific experimentation purposes and manufacture, experimentation and testing of prototypes. 2. Certain uses concerning foreign means of transport (by sea, river, air, land or in space) which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Use in exceptional circumstances (natural disasters, catastrophes, serious accidents), subject to payment of remuneration. 4. Use and disposal of devices lawfully put on the market with authorization of patent owner. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), had independently conceived and used the invention in Kyrgyz Republic, or made preparations for that purpose. 6. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Latvia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use not for commercial purposes or profit. 2. Use for scientific experiments or research purposes, and testing the invention. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in a pharmacy. 4. Exploitation of products put into economic circulation in Latvia by patent owner or licensee. 5. Certain uses relating to foreign means of transport which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes in Latvia, or making and serious preparations for such purposes. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Liechtenstein	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention in Liechtenstein, or made special preparations for that purpose. 2. Certain uses relating to foreign vehicles temporarily located in Liechtenstein. 3. Exploitation by order of the Federal Council in the public interest. 4. Compulsory licenses. <p>(in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))</p>
Lithuania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private non-commercial acts not prejudicial to patent owner. 2. Acts for experimental purposes or scientific research. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and use of those medicines. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels or air or land carriers which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Exploitation, authorized by Government resolution, by a central or local government institution, natural or legal person or enterprise without legal personality for the purposes of public need, national security, public health protection or development of an economically important sector, subject to remuneration. 7. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Luxembourg	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), possessed in Luxembourg a justified right in the prior use of the invention, and acts concerning the products thereof. 6. Acts concerning products put on the market in the European Economic Community by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 7. Exploitation, licensed by Grand Ducal Order, in the public interest, subject to remuneration. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Malaysia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for scientific research. 3. Acts in respect of products put on the market by the patent owner or other authorized person. 4. Use on foreign vessels, aircraft, spacecraft or land vehicles temporarily in Malaysia. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Malaysia, or had made serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Acts related to development and submission of information to drug regulatory authority. 7. Exploitation by Federal or State Government, Ministry or Government department or any person authorized thereby, subject to remuneration. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Malta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts concerning products put on the market in Malta or other specified territory by, or with consent of, the patent owner, or with his express consent. 2. Private non-commercial acts not prejudicial to patent owner. 3. Acts for experimental purposes or scientific research. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Malta for business purposes, or had made effective and serious preparations for such purposes. 6. Exploitation, authorized by the Minister, by a Government agency or designated person for national security or public safety, subject to remuneration. 7. Non-voluntary licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Mauritius	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Mauritius or in any other country by, or with consent, of patent owner or other authorized party. 2. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Mauritius or in any other country or imported into Mauritius. 3. Use on foreign ships, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Acts for research and experimental purposes. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date) was using the invention in Mauritius, or made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Exploitation, authorized by the competent authority, by a Government agency or third person in the public interest (including, national security, nutrition, health or the development of other vital sectors of the national economy), subject to remuneration. 7. Non-voluntary licenses.
Mexico	<p>The right conferred by a patent shall not have any effect against:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A third party who, in the private or academic sphere and for non-commercial purposes, engages in scientific or technological research activities for purely experimental, testing or teaching purposes, and to that end manufactures or uses a product or a process identical to the one patented 2. Any person who markets, acquires or uses the patented product or the product obtained by the patented process after the said product has been lawfully placed on the market; 3. Any person who, prior to the filing date (priority date), uses the patented process, manufactures the patented product or has made the necessary preparations for such use or manufacture; 4. The use of the patented invention in transportation vehicles of other countries when it forms part of such vehicles and when the vehicles are in transit on the national territory; 5. A third party who, in the case of patents relating to live material, makes use of the patented product as an initial source of variation or propagation to obtain other products, except where such use is made in repeated form; 6. A third party who, in the case of patents relating to products consisting of live material, uses, brings into circulation or markets the patented products for purposes other than multiplication or propagation, after the said products have been properly placed on the market by the owner of the patent or by a licensee 7. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Moldova (Republic of)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign means of transport which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Use for research or scientific experimentation. 3. Use for non-commercial purposes. 4. Use in extraordinary cases, such as natural disasters, catastrophes and epidemics or other circumstances of extreme urgency. 5. Preparation of prescribed medicines. 6. Use for private non-profit making purposes. 7. Acts in good faith by public authorities related to enforcement of industrial property laws. 8. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), had exploited the invention independently of the inventor, or made necessary preparations for that purpose. 9. Compulsory licenses.
Mongolia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of articles put on the market in Mongolia by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 2. Use for scientific research or experimental purposes. 3. Use on a foreign means of transport which temporarily or accidentally enters national territory. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 5. Compulsory licenses.
Morocco	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private non-commercial acts. 2. Experimental acts. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Morocco by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Morocco, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 7. Exploitation, authorized by the competent authority, for the purposes of public health or the national economy. 8. Compulsory licenses. 9. Expropriation by order of the President of the Statutory Tribunal.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Mozambique	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for purposes of scientific research. 2. Acts related to products placed on the market in Mozambique by, or with consent of, patent owner. 3. Use on foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels temporarily or accidentally entering national territory. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith, at the filing date (priority date) was using the invention, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 5. Compulsory licenses.
Netherlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for purposes of scientific research. 2. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 3. Certain acts concerning products put on the market in the European Union, the European Economic Area or the Netherlands Antilles by, or with consent, of patent owner. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Continued use of products manufactured before grant of the patent. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes independently of the applicant, or had made preparations for that purpose. 7. Exploitation, authorized by Royal Decree, for national defense.
New Zealand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and submission of information for regulatory approval. 2. Use for services of the Crown by, or authorized by, a Government Department, in particular for the purposes of national defense, security or emergency, subject to remuneration. 3. Compulsory licenses.
Nicaragua	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimentation. 3. Acts for teaching or scientific or academic research purposes in relation to the subject matter of the patented invention. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft and land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts in relation to products put on the market by, or with consent of, the patent owner or person economically connected with him. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes, or had made genuine and effective preparations for that purpose, unless the knowledge was obtained unlawfully.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Nicaragua (cont'd.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Non-repeated use of biological material for producing viable new biological material. 8. Reproduction or propagation by farmers on their farms of products obtained from reproductive or vegetative propagating material, and marketing of those products for agricultural use or human consumption. 9. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, but not used for multiplication or propagation purposes. 10. Compulsory licenses.
Nigeria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts in relation to products lawfully sold in Nigeria, other than acts specially provided for in the patent. 3. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes, or had made serious preparations for such purposes. 4. Exploitation, authorized by the Minister, for the service of a government agency, in particular in a period of emergency. 5. Compulsory licenses.
Norway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Exploitation of products put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 3. Experimental use which concerns the invention. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market in the European Economic Area by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 6. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for multiplication or propagation on own farm. 7. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for agriculture purposes on own farm, but not sale for commercial reproduction. 8. Use of biological material already existing in nature which is not necessary for the industrial application specified in the patent. 9. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention commercially in Norway, or had made substantial preparation for that purpose. 10. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 11. Assignment of the patent by the King to the Government or other designated party because of war or danger of war and crisis situations connected therewith, subject to remuneration. 12. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Oman	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Acts in respect of articles which have been put on the market in Oman by the owner of the patent or with his consent, consequently exhausting the patent owner's rights. However, the Minister shall have the authority, <i>ex officio</i> or at the request of any interested party, of declaring the patent rights exhausted, and thus of authorizing others to import the patented product or a product manufactured directly or indirectly by means of the patented invention from another territory under certain conditions.2. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national airspace, territory or water.3. Acts done only for experimental purposes relating to a patented invention.4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in Oman, or had made serious preparations for that purpose.5. Acts of making, constructing, using, or selling the patented invention solely for uses reasonably related to the development and submission of information required under any law of Oman or a country other than Oman that regulates the manufacture, construction, use or sale of any product, provided that any product produced under such authority shall not be made, used, or sold in Oman other than for purposes related to generating such information, and that the product shall only be exported outside Oman for purposes of meeting marketing approval requirements of Oman.6. Compulsory licenses. <p>With respect to patents granted for plants and plant varieties, the rights shall not extend to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) acts done privately and for non-commercial purposes;(ii) acts done for experimental purposes;(iii) acts done for the purpose of breeding other varieties, including essentially derived varieties;(iv) within reasonable limits and safeguarding of the legitimate interests of the patent owner, any acts practiced by farmers to use for propagating purposes, on their own holdings, the product of the harvest which they have obtained by planting, on their own holdings, the patented variety or an essentially derived variety.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Pakistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in respect of articles put on the market by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 2. Use of articles on foreign aircraft, vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 5. Exploitation, authorized by the Minister, by a Government agency or other person in the public interest (in particular national security, nutrition, health, or development of vital sectors of the national economy) , subject to remuneration. 6. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive practices, subject to remuneration. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Panama	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Use for experimental purposes or scientific or educational research. 3. Acts concerning products lawfully put on the market. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention, or made necessary preparations for that purpose.
Papua New Guinea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in respect of articles been put on the market in Papua New Guinea by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 2. Certain uses relating to foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention in Papua New Guinea, or making effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 5. Acts performed by any person who proves that he was unaware, that the patent existed. 6. Exploitation, authorized by the Minister, by a Government agency or other person in the public interest (in particular national security, nutrition, health, or development of other sectors of the national economy) , subject to remuneration. 7. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive practices, subject to remuneration.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Peru	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-profit making purposes. 2. Acts for purposes of experimentation, teaching or scientific or academic research. 3. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Acts concerning products put on the market in Peru or other country by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 6. Non-repeated use of biological material, other than plants, to obtain viable new material. 7. Biological material obtained by reproduction, multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Philippines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of products put on the market in the Philippines by, or with consent of, the product owner. 2. Private non-commercial acts not prejudicial to the patent owner. 3. Acts for the purpose of experiments. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by medical professionals, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention for business purposes, or had made serious preparations for such purposes. 7. Exploitation, authorized by the Government, by a Government agency or other person in the public interest (in particular national security, nutrition, health, or development of other sectors of the national economy), subject to remuneration. 8. Exploitation authorized by the Government to counter anti-competitive practices subject to remuneration. 9. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Poland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exploitation by any person in the public interest, after three years from patent grant, where the supply to home market is of inadequate quality or quantity or excessively expensive. 2. Certain uses concerning means of transport temporarily located on national territory. 3. Articles in transit through national territory. 4. Exploitation for national purposes to prevent or eliminate a state of emergency relating to vital State interests (in particular security or public order), subject to remuneration. 5. Use for purposes of research, experiment, evaluation, analysis or teaching. 6. Use for registration or marketing authorization, in particular for pharmaceutical products. 7. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by medical professionals. 8. Acts in relation to products lawfully put on the market in Poland or other prescribed State by, or with consent of, the patent owner or person economically connected with him. 9. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had exploited the invention in Poland, or made substantial preparations for that purpose. 10. Compulsory licenses.
Portugal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts done for non-commercial purposes. 2. Preparation in a pharmacy of a medicinal product according to a prescription in individual cases or acts concerning the medicinal product so prepared. 3. Acts done for experimental purposes relating to the subject-matter of the patented invention including those for the preparation of the necessary administrative procedures for approval by the competent authorities, without, however, the ability to start industrial or commercial exploitation before verification of patent expiration. 4. Use on board of vessels of other Union or WTO members of the patented invention in the vessel's body, machinery, tackle and other accessories when it temporarily or accidentally enters this country provided that such invention is used exclusively for the needs of the vessel. 5. Use of the subject of the patent in the construction or operation of aircraft or land vehicles of other Union or WTO members, or of accessories of such aircraft or land vehicles, when those aircraft or land vehicles temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Acts provided for in art 27 of the Convention of International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944 if they concern aircrafts of another state to whom, however, the provision of the referred article are applied.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Republic of Korea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Use for purposes of research or experiment. 3. Certain uses concerning vessels, aircraft or vehicles passing through national territory. 4. Articles existing in the Republic of Korea at the filing date (priority date). 5. Manufacture of medicines in accordance with national law, and medicines so manufactured. 6. Non-exclusive license for continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), was commercially working the invention in the Republic of Korea, or had made preparations for that purpose. 7. Exploitation by, or authorized by, the Government for national defense or other emergency, subject to remuneration. 8. Non-exclusive licenses in the public interest.
Romania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), used the invention in Romania, independently of the patent owner, or had taken real and effective steps for that purpose. 3. Private use for non-commercial purposes. 4. Commercialization or offering for sale within the European Union territory of specimens of the product subject matter of the invention, previously sold by, or with the consent of the patent owner. 5. Experimental purposes. 6. Exploitation in good faith or taking real and effective steps towards exploiting the invention by third parties in the interval between the patent owner's loss of rights and the reinstatement of the patent. 7. Exploitation by third parties of the invention or part of the invention in respect of which protection has been renounced. 8. Compulsory licences.
Russian Federation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign vehicles (river and marine, air, automobile and railway transport, spacecraft) which are temporarily or accidentally located on national territory. 2. Scientific research or experiments. 3. Use in emergency situations (natural calamities, catastrophes, accidents), subject to payment of remuneration. 4. Use for private, family, domestic or other non-business purposes not for profit. 5. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 6. Certain uses of products put on the market in the Russian Federation by, or with authorization of, the owner. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date) independently of the inventor, had conceived and was using the invention in the Russian Federation, or making necessary preparations for that purpose. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Saint Lucia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by medical professionals, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign ships, aircraft, hovercraft or vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Certain acts in relation to products produced by or with the consent, of the patent owner or licensee in any country. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was exploiting the invention in Saint Lucia, or had made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 7. Exploitation by, or authorized, by a Government department, in particular for the purposes of public health, defense or atomic energy. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Serbia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, but not used for multiplication or propagation purposes without authorization. 2. Use for personal, non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts related to research and development, including acts obtaining an authorization to market drugs and medicinal products. 4. Preparation of prescribed drugs in pharmacies and placement of such drug on the market. 5. Use and disposal of product is placed on the market in Serbia and Montenegro by, or with the consent of, the patent owner. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), exploited the invention in Serbia and Montenegro, or made all necessary preparations for that purpose. 7. Certain uses concerning foreign ships, aircraft, hovercraft or vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Singapore	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and dealings with those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign ships, aircraft, hovercraft or vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Certain acts in relation to products produced by or with the consent, of the patent owner or licensee in any country. 6. Exploitation authorized by a Government department, in particular in respect of national security, defense or civil defense emergency, subject to remuneration. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), exploited the invention in Singapore, or made effective and serious preparations for that purpose. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Slovak Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), had already worked the invention independently, or made preparations for that purpose. 2. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by medical professionals. 4. Compulsory licenses.
Slovenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for research and experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies or by medical professionals, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Compulsory licenses.
South Africa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 2. Acts solely for the purposes reasonably related to the obtention, development and submission of information required under any law that regulates the manufacture, production, distribution, use or sale of any product. 3. Exhaustion 4. Compulsory assignment to the Minister of Defense of inventions relating to armaments. 5. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Spain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts carried out in private and not for any commercial purpose. 2. Acts carried out for experimental purposes. 3. The extemporaneous preparation of medicines in pharmacies carried out singly in making up a prescription and acts related to the medicines thus prepared. 4. Certain acts concerning foreign vessels, aircraft, spacecraft, or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Exploitation of products put on the market in Spain by, or with his consent of, the patent owner. 6. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date) was using the invention commercially in Spain, or had made substantial preparations for that purpose. 7. Compulsory licenses.
Sri Lanka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for purposes of scientific research. 3. Certain acts concerning foreign vessels, aircraft, spacecraft, or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 4. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), exploited the invention in Sri Lanka, or had made serious preparations for that purpose.
Sweden	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-commercial acts. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Exploitation of products put on the market in the European Economic Area by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Multiplication or propagation of biological material put on the market by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for further multiplication or propagation. 6. Biological material obtained by multiplication or propagation of the material put on the market in the European Economic Area by the patent owner for that purpose, other than for multiplication or propagation purposes. 7. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for multiplication or propagation on own farm. 8. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for agriculture purposes on own farm, but not sale for commercial reproduction. 9. Continued prior use by a person who, at the filing date (priority date) was using the invention commercially in Sweden, or had made substantial preparations for that purpose.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Sweden (cont/d.)	<p>10. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or other means of communication which temporarily enter national territory.</p> <p>11. Surrender of patent right, by Government decree, to the State or other designated party, in case of war or danger of war, subject to remuneration.</p> <p>12. Compulsory licenses.</p>
Switzerland	<p>1. Acts in the private sphere for non-commercial purposes.</p> <p>2. Acts for experimental and research purposes to obtain knowledge about the subject of the invention including its possible uses; in particular all scientific research concerning the object of the invention is permitted.</p> <p>3. Acts for obtaining a marketing authorization for pharmaceutical products.</p> <p>4. Use of the invention for the purpose of teaching in educational establishments.</p> <p>5. Use of biological material for the purposes of production, discovery or development of a plant variety.</p> <p>6. Biological material obtained in the field of agriculture by chance or through an unavoidable technical process.</p> <p>7. Continued prior use by a person who, before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention professionally in Switzerland, or had made special preparations for that purpose.</p> <p>8. Farmers who acquired plant propagated material placed on the market by the patentee or with his consent may propagate on own farm the harvested product obtained from such material.</p> <p>9. Farmers who acquired animals or animal reproductive material placed on the market by the patentee or with his consent may reproduce on own farm the animal raised from such acquired animals or material.</p> <p>10. Vehicles temporarily in Switzerland and their equipment.</p> <p>11. Expropriation of the patent by the Federal Council in the public interest.</p> <p>12. Compulsory licenses.</p>
Syrian Arab Republic	<p>1. Acts that take place under special and non-commercial purposes and business-related purposes of scientific research.</p> <p>2. Preparation of medicine in pharmacy immediately and individually on the basis of medical prescription and work on formulas in this way.</p> <p>3. A person who has been manufacturing a product, using a method of making a particular product or arranging serious preparations for that purpose in Syria, in good faith, prior to the date of submission of a patent application from another person on the same product or method of manufacture may, despite the issuance of the patent right, continue to do so. The above benefit applies continued use in its business, only in doing the same work without expansion, and the prior user may not waive the right to carry out these acts or may transfer this right only with other elements of the business.</p> <p>4. Indirect uses of patented methods of production to obtain other products.</p>

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Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Syrian Arab Republic (cont'd.)	<p>5. Use of the invention in the means of road, sea or air transport of a State or entity members of the convention of industrial property in force in Syria or of a State under reciprocity, if any of these means temporarily or accidentally entered in Syria.</p> <p>6. To manufacture, install, use or sell a product during the term of protection in order to obtain a license to market the product in Syria after the expiry of patent protection.</p> <p>7. Actions by third parties other than the above, provided they do not unreasonably conflict with the normal use of the patent, and not unreasonably harm the legitimate interests of the patent holder, taking into account the legitimate interests of others.</p>
Thailand	<p>1. Acts committed before patent grant unless the application was already published, or the person concerned knew, or had been informed in writing, that the application had been filed.</p> <p>2. Acts for purposes of study, research, experimentation or analysis.</p> <p>3. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention, or acquired equipment for that purpose.</p> <p>4. Preparation of prescribed medicines by pharmacist or medical practitioner, and acts concerning those medicines.</p> <p>5. Acts for registering pharmaceutical products for production, distribution or importation after patent expiration.</p> <p>6. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory.</p>
Thailand (cont'd.)	<p>7. Certain acts concerning products produced or sold with consent of patent owner.</p> <p>8. Expropriation by the Prime Minister with the approval of the Cabinet, for the purposes of national defense or security, subject to remuneration.</p> <p>9. Compulsory licenses.</p>
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<p>1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes.</p> <p>2. Acts for purposes of research and development.</p> <p>3. Acts for registration of medical, veterinary and plant protection products.</p> <p>4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines.</p> <p>5. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention non-publicly in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, or made necessary preparations for that purpose.</p> <p>6. Certain uses concerning foreign ships, airplanes or road vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory.</p> <p>7. Compulsory licenses.</p>

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Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Trinidad and Tobago	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts done privately and for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Use on foreign aircraft, land vehicles or vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts in respect of articles put on the market in Trinidad and Tobago by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 6. Exploitation, by a State agency or other person authorized by the Minister, for the services of the State in an national emergency or other circumstance of extreme urgency, subject to remuneration. 7. Exploitation authorized by the Minister to counter anti-competitive practices, subject to remuneration. 8. Non-voluntary licenses.
Tunisia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain acts concerning products lawfully put on the market by, or with consent of, the patent owner. 5. Acts relating to manufacture generic drugs for commercial exploitation after patent expiration. 6. Use of objects on foreign aircraft, land vehicles and vessels which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 7. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), was using the invention in Tunisia, or had made serious preparations for that purpose. 8. Exploitation, by third parties authorized or ordered by the Minister, in the public interest (in particular, the national economy, safeguarding the environment or public health). 9. Compulsory licenses.
Turkey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes. 2. Acts for experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 4. Certain acts concerning foreign vessels, spacecraft, aircraft or land vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 5. Acts concerning products placed on sale in Turkey by, or with consent of, the patent owner.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
Turkey (cont'd.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith, between the filing date and the priority date, worked the invention in Turkey, or had made genuine and effective preparations for that purpose. 7. Acts for obtaining a license to market medicines after patent expiration. 8. Compulsory licenses.
Ukraine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had commercially used the invention, or made serious preparations for that purpose. 2. Certain acts concerning foreign vehicles temporarily or occasionally situated in national territory. 3. Use for non-commercial purposes. 4. Use for scientific or experimental purposes. 5. Use in emergency conditions (natural disaster, accident, epidemic etc.) 6. Acts relating to products manufactured or put on the market by, or with permission of, the patent owner. 7. Use, by a person authorized by the Cabinet of Ministers, to protect the health of population, ecological safety or other public interests. 8. Compulsory licenses.
United Kingdom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts which cannot be prevented by the patent owner under provisions of the Community Patent Convention relating to exhaustion of the rights. 2. Private acts for non-commercial purposes. 3. Acts for experimental purposes. 4. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies, and acts concerning those medicines. 5. Certain uses concerning foreign ships, aircraft, hovercraft or vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 6. Use by farmers of harvested plant propagating material for multiplication or propagation on own holding. 7. Use by farmers of breeding stock or other animal reproductive material for own agricultural activity, but not sale for commercial reproduction. 8. Continued prior use by a person who, in good faith at the filing date (priority date), had used the invention in the United Kingdom, or made effective or serious preparations for that purpose. 9. Exploitation, by a government department or other person authorized by the Secretary of State, in particular for the purposes of defense, medicines, atomic energy, war or other emergency. 10. Compulsory licenses.

Country	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
United States of America	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solely for uses reasonably related to the development and submission of information under the Federal law which regulates the manufacture, use or sale of drugs and veterinary biological products, other than those products primarily manufactured using certain genetic manipulation techniques. 2. Certain uses concerning foreign vessels, aircraft or vehicles which temporarily or accidentally enter national territory. 3. As regards business method patents, continued use by a person who in good faith, had put the invention into practice at least one year before the filing date (priority date) and commercially used it before that date.
Uruguay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private acts for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes not prejudicial to patent owner. 2. Preparation of prescribed medicines under the supervision of authorized professionals. 3. Acts for experimental purposes (including acts anticipating future commercial exploitation) carried out within year before patent expiry. 4. Acts for teaching, scientific or academic research purposes. 5. Importation or entry of small quantities of non-commercial goods in personal effects of passengers or sent in small packages. 6. Acts relating to products manufactured or put on the market in Uruguay by, or with consent of, the patent owner or with legal authorization. 7. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith, before the filing date (priority date), had exploited the invention in Uruguay, or had made serious preparations for that purpose. 8. Expropriation by the State in accordance with prescribed rules, in particular for the needs of the State. 9. Exploitation, by persons authorized by a special resolution of the Executive, in special situations (in particular, the general interest, defense or national security, the economic, social and technological development of strategic sectors strategic, urgent health reasons or other public interest reasons), subject to remuneration. 10. Compulsory licenses.
Uzbekistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses concerning foreign means of transport temporarily or accidentally located on national territory. 2. Use for purposes of scientific research or an experiment. 3. Use in cases of natural calamities, disasters, epidemics and other exceptional circumstances. 4. Use of products lawfully introduced into civilian circulation. 5. Non-profit use for personal reasons. 6. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 7. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention independently of the inventor, or made necessary preparations for that purpose. 8. Compulsory licenses.

Regional Offices	Exceptions and Limitations of the Rights
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acts in relation to products put on to the market in an OAPI Member State by, or with consent, of the patent owner. 2. Use of objects on board foreign aircraft, land vehicles or ships that temporarily or accidentally enter the territory of an OAPI Member State. 3. Acts for experimental purposes in scientific and technical research. 4. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith, before the filing date (priority date), had exploited the invention in an OAPI Member State, or made effective and genuine preparations for that purpose. 5. Exploitation, by an administration or organization authorized by the Minister of the Member State concerned, for the purposes of vital economic interest, public health, defense or the country's needs, subject to remuneration. 6. Non-voluntary licenses.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	National law issue
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certain uses in relation to means of transportation that temporarily or accidentally enter the territory of an EAPO Member State. 2. Use for scientific research and experimental purposes. 3. Preparation of prescribed medicines in pharmacies. 4. Private use for non-profit making purposes. 5. Use of products put on to the market of a Contracting State by, or with consent, of the patent owner. 6. Continued prior use by a person who in good faith, before the filing date (priority date), had used the invention on the territory of a Contracting State, or made necessary preparations for that purpose. 7. Continued use by a person who in good faith has used or made necessary preparations for using an invention which is the subject of a published Eurasian patent application or Eurasian patent in the course of the period between the loss of rights to that application or patent and the publication of the mention of re-establishment of those rights. The right of subsequent use is applied only on the territory of a Contracting State where the subsequent use has taken place and the legislation of which provides for such a right. 8. Compulsory licenses.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	National law issue

[Annex III follows]