

MALI

Status as of May 2005

FEATURES	STATUS	CHANGES IN LAWS SINCE 1990
Types of protection for inventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patents • Utility models 	N.A
Term of protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patents: 20 years • Utility models: 10 years • Extension of patent term is not possible. 	No
Subject matters excluded from patentability or not considered to be inventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following subject matters are excluded from patentability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discoveries - Scientific theories/mathematical methods - Aesthetic creations - Mental acts - Presentation of information - Computer programs - Business methods - Isolated parts of human beings - Animals - Plants - Plant and animal varieties - Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences - Traditional knowledge - Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for the treatment of humans and animals - Inventions contrary to morality/public order 	No
Filing language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filing an application in languages other than official language is not possible. 	No
Certain requirements relating to filing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inventor rarely waives his right to be mentioned in the patent. 	No
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not possible to file provisional applications. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most frequent route used by foreign applicants to file patent applications is the Paris Convention. 	

Link between different inventions in the same application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicable law requires that the claims in a patent application relate to a single invention only. 	No
Publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information related to the application is published or open for public access when the patent is granted. 	No
Classification system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The patent classification system used is the International Patent Classification (IPC) system. 	N.A
Search and examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicable law establishes a substantive search and examination system. Search and examination are separated. The examination is automatic for patents and utility models. During the examination procedure, only novelty is examined for patents and utility models. 	N.A
Specific legal provision regarding ownership of patents derived from public (government) research funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No 	No
Exceptions to exclusive rights conferred by a patent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are exceptions to the exclusive rights conferred by a patent as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compulsory licenses - Governmental use - Research and/or experimental exception - Clinical trials for the purpose of obtaining a generic drug's regulatory approval 	No
Options to challenge a patent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The only option to challenge a patent is court procedure. 	No