

**UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES  
BUREAU (URSB)**

**AS  
DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICE**

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**List of abbreviations:**

Office: Uganda [Registration Services Bureau \(URSB\)](#)

UPL: The Patents Statute, 1991

UPR: The Patents Regulations, 1993

**SUMMARY****Designated  
(or elected) Office****SUMMARY****UG****UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES  
BUREAU (URSB)****UG****Summary of requirements for entry into the national phase**

Time limits applicable for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22(1): 30 months from the priority date Under PCT Article 39(1)(b): 31 months from the priority date
Translation of international application required into: <sup>1</sup>	English
Required contents of the translation for entry into the national phase: <sup>1</sup>	Under PCT Article 22: Description, claims (if amended, as amended only, together with any statement under PCT Article 19), any text matter of drawings, abstract  Under PCT Article 39(1): Description, claims, any text matter of drawings, abstract (if any of those parts has been amended, only as amended by the annexes to the international preliminary examination report)
Is a copy of the international application required?	No
National fee: <sup>1</sup>	Currency: Uganda shilling (UGS) For patent: National processing fee: UGS 180,000 Grant and publication fee: UGS 300,000 Annual fee for the second year: <sup>2</sup> UGS 48,000 For utility certificate: National processing fee: UGS 60,000
Exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee:	None
Special requirements of the Office (PCT Rule 51 <i>bis</i> ): <sup>3</sup>	Appointment of an agent if the applicant is not resident in Uganda
Who can act as agent?	Any agent who has the right to represent applicants before the Office. A list of registered agents may be obtained from the Office.
Does the Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49 <i>ter</i> .2)?	Yes, please refer to the Office for the applicable criteria and/or any fee payable for such requests

<sup>1</sup> Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

<sup>2</sup> This fee is due, where PCT Article 22 applies, within 30 months from the priority date; where Article 39(1) applies, it is due within 31 months from the priority date. Late payment of annual fees is permitted subject to the payment of a surcharge.

<sup>3</sup> If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

## THE PROCEDURE IN THE NATIONAL PHASE

**UG.01 TRANSLATION (CORRECTION).** Errors in the translation of the international application can be corrected with reference to the text of the international application as filed (see National Phase, paragraphs 6.002 and 6.003).

**UG.02 FEES (MANNER OF PAYMENT).** The manner of payment of the fees indicated in the Summary and in this Chapter is outlined in Annex UG.I.

PCT Art. 28  
41  
UPL Section 16

**UG.03 AMENDMENT OF THE APPLICATION; TIME LIMITS.** The applicant may amend or correct the claims, description and drawings of the international application at any time before the grant of the patent, provided that the scope of the subject matter of the application is not broadened thereby.

UPL Section 21  
UPR Reg. 28

**UG.04 EXAMINATION.** The Office will examine or provide for the examination of patent applications as to substance. No request is necessary and no special fee is payable.

UPR Reg. 12-13

**UG.05 REPRESENTATION.** Where the ordinary residence or principal place of business of the applicant is outside Uganda, an agent who is a resident of Uganda and who has the right to represent applicants before the Registrar must be appointed for the purposes of national processing.

UPL Section 33(1)-(4)  
UPR Reg. 31

**UG.06 ANNUAL FEES.** Annual fees must be paid for each year following the international filing date. For the due date of annual fees for the second year, see the Summary. Payment of the subsequent annual fees must be made before the expiration of the month containing the anniversary of the international filing date. Payment can still be made, together with a 20% surcharge for late payment, before the expiration of the sixth month after the month containing the anniversary of the international filing date. Failure to pay annual fees before the expiration of this grace period will result in the application being considered withdrawn or the patent lapsing. The amounts of the annual fees are indicated in Annex UG.I. Annual fees may be paid not earlier than three months before the due date.

UPL Section 32(2)  
UPR Reg. 32

**UG.07 EXTENSION OF PATENT TERM.** The normal patent term expires at the end of the 15th year after the date of the grant of the patent, but may be extended by a period of five years. A request for such an extension must be made and the prescribed fee must be paid not less than one month before the expiration of the patent term. The request must prove to the satisfaction of the Registrar that the invention is being worked in Uganda at the date of the request or that there is a legitimate reason for failing to work it.

PCT Art. 24(2)  
48(2)  
PCT Rule 82bis  
UPL Section 33(5)-(8)  
UPR Reg. 33

**UG.08 EXCUSE OF DELAYS IN MEETING TIME LIMITS.** Reference is made to paragraphs 6.022 to 6.027 of the National Phase. Applications which have been considered to have been withdrawn and patents which have lapsed for failure to timely pay the prescribed annual fees may be restored, subject to a request which must be submitted within 12 months from the expiration of the grace period for payment of annual fees. The request for restoration, which may be made by any interested person, must be accompanied by evidence to support the request and the restoration fee indicated in Annex UG.I. If the Registrar is satisfied that the failure to pay the annual fees was unintentional and that all annual fees due have been paid, he will order the restoration of the application or the patent.

UG.09 An application which has become abandoned for failure to comply with a time limit during the international phase or for failure to prosecute before the Office may be revived as a pending application if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Registrar that the delay was unavoidable or unintentional. Any petition to revive such an application must be filed in writing and contain an explanation of the causes of the delay. Petitions for revival of unintentionally abandoned applications should be accompanied by the fee for revival. Additionally, at the Registrar's discretion, the applicant may be given an extension of any time limits. Such extensions may be granted although the applicable time limits have already expired.

PCT Art. 25  
PCT Rule 51

UG.10 **REVIEW UNDER ARTICLE 25 OF THE PCT.** The applicable procedure is outlined in paragraphs 6.018 to 6.021 of the National Phase. If, upon review under PCT Article 25, the Office denies an error or omission on the part of the receiving Office or the International Bureau, an appeal against this decision may be lodged with the Office.

UPL Section 23

UG.11 **APPEALS.** An applicant may appeal to the High Court against a decision by the Registrar according a filing date to an application, rejecting an application or treating an application as if it had not been filed.

PCT Rule 49bis.1(c)  
76.5  
UPL Sections 42-44  
UPR Reg. 35 and 36

UG.12 **UTILITY CERTIFICATE.** If the applicant wishes to obtain a utility certificate instead of a patent in Uganda on the basis of an international application, for international applications filed before 1 January 2004, it must have been indicated in the international application (in Box No. V of the request) when filed; for international applications filed on or after 1 January 2004, since the request form no longer provides for the furnishing of such an indication, the applicant, when performing the acts referred to in Article 22 or 39, shall so indicate to the Office.

UG.13 Annual fees for utility certificates are payable for the first and each subsequent year following the international filing date (see Annex UG.I), the fee for the first year being paid simultaneously with the grant fee. Utility certificates expire, without any possibility of renewal, at the end of the seventh year after grant.

UPL Section 45  
UPR Reg. 36(3)  
and (4)

UG.14 **CONVERSION.** Once the requirements for entry into the national phase have been complied with the applicant may convert his application for a patent, upon payment of the prescribed fee, into an application for a utility certificate and vice versa. Conversion of patent applications may be requested at any time before the decision to grant or refuse to grant the patent or the notification of registration of the application; conversion of applications for utility certificates may be requested at any time before the grant of the utility certificate or of the notification of rejection of the application. An application may not be so converted more than once. The fee for conversion is indicated in Annex UG.I.

**FEES****(Currency: Ugandan Shillings)****Patents**

National processing fee .....	180,000
Grant and publication fee .....	300,000
Fee for correction of application .....	12,000
Annual fees:	
– for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year .....	48,000
– for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year .....	60,000
– for the 4 <sup>th</sup> year .....	72,000
– for the 5 <sup>th</sup> year .....	84,000
– for the 6 <sup>th</sup> year .....	96,000
– for the 7 <sup>th</sup> year .....	108,000
– for the 8 <sup>th</sup> year .....	120,000
– for the 9 <sup>th</sup> year .....	132,000
– for the 10 <sup>th</sup> year .....	144,000
– for the 11 <sup>th</sup> year .....	156,000
– for the 12 <sup>th</sup> year .....	168,000
– for the 13 <sup>th</sup> year .....	180,000
– for the 14 <sup>th</sup> year .....	192,000
– for the 15 <sup>th</sup> year .....	204,000
Surcharge for the late payment of annual fees .....	20% of the amount due
Restoration fee .....	36,000
Fee for conversion of application for patent into application for utility certificate .....	12,000
<b>Utility certificates</b>	
National processing fee .....	60,000
Grant and publication fee .....	100,000
Fee for correction of application .....	4,000
Annual fees:	
– for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year .....	16,000
– for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year .....	20,000
– for the 4 <sup>th</sup> year .....	24,000
– for the 5 <sup>th</sup> year .....	28,000
– for the 6 <sup>th</sup> year .....	32,000
– for the 7 <sup>th</sup> year .....	36,000

Surcharge for the late payment of annual fees . . . . .	20% of the amount due
Fee for conversion of application for utility certificate into application for patent . . . . .	12,000

**How can payment of fees be effected?**

The payment of fees must be effected in Ugandan Shillings. All payments must indicate the application number (national, if already known; international if the national number is not yet known), the name of the applicant and the category of fee being paid. All fees must be paid to the Office by bank draft, international money order (or cash, at the Office only) made payable to "Registrar General, Uganda Administration".