



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

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MADRID AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF MARKS

Declarations made under Article 5(2)(b) and (c) of the Protocol and Rule 17(5)(d) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol: Syrian Arab Republic

1. On December 21, 2009, the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) received from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic the declaration referred to in Article 5(2)(b) and (c) of the Protocol, whereby the time limit of one year to notify a provisional refusal of protection is replaced by 18 months, and a provisional refusal resulting from an opposition may be notified after the expiry of the 18-month time limit.
2. This declaration shall enter into force on March 21, 2010.
3. Furthermore, in a declaration addressed to the Director General of WIPO on the same date, the Syrian Arab Republic made the notification provided for by Rule 17(5)(d) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, in accordance with which:
 - (i) any provisional refusal that has been notified to the International Bureau by the Directorate of Commercial and Industrial Property Protection of the Ministry of Economy and Trade is subject to review by that Office (whether or not such review has been requested by the holder of the international registration), and
 - (ii) the decision taken on the said review may be the subject of a further review or appeal before that Office.
4. The effect of such a declaration is that the decision taken by the Directorate of Commercial and Industrial Property Protection of the Ministry of Economy and Trade at the conclusion of its *ex officio* review shall be immediately sent to the International Bureau as a statement of grant of protection following a provisional refusal, in accordance with Rule 18*ter*(2), or a confirmation of total provisional refusal, in accordance with Rule 18*ter*(3), notwithstanding the fact that all procedures before that Office relating to the protection of the mark may not have been completed.

5. It also follows from that declaration made by the Syrian Arab Republic that, subsequent to the decision referred to in paragraph 3(ii) above, any further decision affecting the protection of the mark (whether such decision has been taken by the Directorate of Commercial and Industrial Property Protection of the Ministry of Economy and Trade or by an external authority) shall be sent to the International Bureau, to the extent that the Office is aware of such decision, in accordance with Rule 18^{ter}(4), i.e., in the form of a further statement indicating the goods and services for which the mark is protected in that country.

6. This declaration entered into force on December 21, 2009.

February 9, 2010