

Madrid Agreement and Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks

Closure of the Forum on Replacement and continued discussions on replacement in the new Madrid System Legal Forum

1. As from November 1, 2007, an open discussion Forum on Replacement, under Article 4*bis*(1) of the Madrid Protocol, has been accessible through the website of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The opening of such forum was announced in Information Notice No. 16/2007, following a request made to the Secretariat during the third session of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”.
2. Following a request made during the eighth session of the Working Group, the International Bureau of WIPO has made available the Madrid System Legal Forum, an online discussion facility for participants in the Working Group and staff of the Offices of the Contracting Parties of the Madrid system, accessible through a link in the “*For Offices Only*” section of the Madrid system website:
https://www3.wipo.int/confluence/login.action?os_destination=%2Fdisplay%2Fmldof.
3. During the ninth session of the Working Group, the Secretariat was requested to close the Forum on Replacement and to take steps to integrate the contributions received into the new online Madrid System Legal Forum.
4. Accordingly, the International Bureau of WIPO will close the online Forum on Replacement, on January 1, 2012, and it will open a discussion thread concerning this issue in the Madrid System Legal Forum. The new thread will include all contributions made to the online Forum on Replacement.
5. Further online discussions on replacement, and on other matters concerning the legal development of the Madrid system, will continue in the Madrid System Legal Forum.

October 13, 2011