

MADRID PROTOCOL

NOTE FOR FILING

MODEL FORM 8 (MF8): INTERIM STATUS OF A MARK

Rule 18*bis* of the Regulations

Use this form to notify the International Bureau that an *ex officio* examination has been completed without finding any grounds for refusal, but where protection of the mark is still subject to opposition or observations by third parties.

This form can also be used when a notification of provisional refusal has been previously communicated.

The Office must further notify the International Bureau under Rules 17 or 18*ter* of the Regulations (using MF3, MF4 or MF5) depending on the situation:

- Where an opposition is filed, the Office should notify of a provisional refusal based on opposition under Rule 17 (using MF3A or MF3B), depending on whether the provisional refusal is total or only partial.
- Where no opposition is filed, the Office should notify of a statement of grant of protection under Rule 18*ter*(1) (using MF4), or notify of a statement of partial or total grant of protection following a provisional refusal under Rule 18*ter*(2) (using MF5).

Please note that if an Office has made the declaration under Article 5(2)(c) to allow the notification of provisional refusal based on opposition after the 18-month time limit, it would be necessary for the Office to use MF1 or MF2 to inform the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 16(1).

[End]