

Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks

Withdrawal of Notifications Made Under Rule 40(6) and (8) of the Regulations and Notification under Rule 17(7) of the Regulations: Cuba

1. On August 20, 2026, the Government of Cuba communicated to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) the withdrawal of the notifications made under Rule 40(6) and (8) of the Regulations under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks ("Regulations"). In addition, the Government of Cuba notified WIPO of the new time limit for responding to a notification of provisional refusal, in accordance with Rule 17(7) of the Regulations.

Withdrawal of the Notification under Rule 40(6) of the Regulations

2. In March 2019, the Government of Cuba notified the Director General of WIPO of the incompatibility of Rule 27ter(2)(a) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement, which corresponds to Rule 27ter(2)(a) of the Regulations, with the law of Cuba. Consequently, Cuba could not accept requests under that Rule for the merger of international registrations resulting from division.

3. Following the withdrawal of the notification referred to in paragraph 2, above, the Government of Cuba now accepts requests under Rule 27ter(2)(a) of the Regulations for the merger of international registrations resulting from divisions.

Withdrawal of the Notification under Rule 40(8) of the Regulations

4. In January 2025, the Government of Cuba notified the Director General of WIPO that it would continue to apply Rules 17(2)(vii) and 18(1)(e) of the Regulations as in force on November 1, 2021. Consequently, the two-month minimum time limit required under Rule 17(2)(vii) of the Regulations for replying to notifications of provisional refusal, and, where applicable, to rectified notifications sent under Rule 18(1)(e) of the Regulations, did not apply to notifications issued by the Office of Cuba.

5. The Government of Cuba has withdrawn the notification referred to in paragraph 4, above, with effect from August 8, 2026. Consequently, the two-month minimum time limit requirement applies to notifications of provisional refusal under Rule 17 of the Regulations issued by the Office of Cuba on or after that date, and, where applicable, to rectified notifications under Rule 18(1)(e) of the Regulations relating to those notifications.

Notification under Rule 17(7) of the Regulations

6. The Government of Cuba has informed the Director General of WIPO of the entry into force, on August 8, 2026, of Decree-Law 103/2025, a new trademarks and trade names law. This law provides for a new time limit for responding to notifications of provisional refusal issued by the Office of Cuba under Rule 17(1) of the Regulations. In accordance with Rule 17(7) of the Regulations, the Government of Cuba has notified the Director General of WIPO that this new time limit is 60 calendar days, counted from the date on which WIPO transmits a copy of the notification to the holder. This new time limit applies to notifications issued by the Office of Cuba on or after August 8, 2026.

7. Users of the Madrid System may contact the Office of Cuba for further information on the changes introduced by the new law referred to in paragraph 6, above.

September 23, 2026