ARIPO Online Tools and Services and Cooperation with WIPO

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OBJECTIVES

• ARIPO is using various ICT tools to:
  • enhance the efficiency of business processing and other administrative work at the ARIPO Office and those of its Member States,
  • facilitate the accessibility and use of Intellectual Property information in the region and in Africa at large
  • strengthen ICT institutional capacity in the ARIPO region and beyond
Online Service, M/S Module, POLite+

**Users**
- Inventors
- Company
- Research Institute
- School
- Agent

**Users in ARIPO**
- IT Staff
- Receiving
- Formality checking
- Examination
- Registration
- Administration

**Search Portal for Public**
- IP Digital Library
  - IPDL for Patent, Utility Model, Industrial Design, Trademark
- e-Service
  - On-line application and e-payment
- Internet Journal
  - On-line Journal and Retrieval
- Home page
  - Portal site for Public

**Member State Module**
- Harare
  - Data exchange related Harare Protocol
- Banjul
  - Data exchange related Banjul Protocol
- Transfer Search Data
  - Data transfer for search system
- Account inquiry
  - Request balance account and Inquiry account information
- System management
  - configuration setting and User management

**Users in MS**
- IPAS JAVA
- WIPOScan v2.2

**POLite+ (Web-based IP Automation system)**
- Receiving
  - UP
  - Online
  - Offline
- Formality Checking
  - UP
  - Check the formality and requirements
- Publication
  - UP
  - Publication of online and offline
- Search Request
  - UP
  - Requesting services
- Registration
  - UP
  - Creation, change management
- Fee/account
  - UP
  - Fee rates Management of fee receiving information
- Admin.
  - UP
  - User setting, Log, User authority
- Examination
  - NEW
  - Substantial examination
- Search system
  - NEW
  - Search for prior arts
- Form mgmt
  - NEW
  - Form management Form creation, modification

**System mgmt**
- configuration setting and User management

**Database**
- receiving DB
- M/S connection DB
- E-document DB
- Search DB
- PASTEL
- Administration DB
- PASTEL connection DB

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• Web-based IP administration automation system for ARIPO

• As an internal system, POLite+ allows ARIPO to proceed with IP administration work from reception to registration.

• POLite+ provides functions for IP work including application reception, verification, data capturing, formality examination, substantial examination, registration, examiner search, journal publication and fee management.
ONLINE SERVICES MODULE

- The e-Services module is accessible on http://eservice.aripo.org
- Applications can be filed online
- Online payment
- The Intellectual Property Digital Library (IPDL) allows for online data search. For now, only ARIPO data search is possible. MS data can also be searched if MS send their data to ARIPO
- ARIPO journals are available for download free of charge
- Journals of MS would be available for downloading free of charge just like ARIPO’s journals once the member states provide their journals for upload onto the e-Service module.
  For now only Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania have made their journals available
Online Service provides IP information service for the general public.

Online Service allows applicants to submit their IP applications without physically visiting the ARIPO offices by providing e-filing and e-payment through e-service.

Online Service provides functions of e-service and IPDL (Intellectual Property Digital Library), and allows journal search, and download of forms & fees information.
Online Service

eservice.aripo.org

- E-SERVICE
  - Online Filing
  - E-PAYMENT
  - Notification
  - My Docket

SSL, double passwords based security

- IP DIGITAL LIBRARY
  - Quick Search
  - Advanced Search

- JOURNAL
  - ARIPO Journal
  - Publication Server
  - Member States Journal

ARIPO Data
Free of charge
National Data
Member States Journal

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### ONLINE FILING STATISTICS

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MEMBER STATES MODULE

• The Member States (M/S) module was developed as part of the project to Upgrade and Modernize the ICT Infrastructure of the ARIPO office and those of its Member States

• The module has been successfully implemented in 7 Member States (Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The next phase will involve implementing the module in all the other Member States.

• The module allows for online data exchange between POLite+ of ARIPO and IPAS of its Member States.

• Through the module, ARIPO and its member states are able to exchange all types of notifications, forms and documents online.
MEMBER STATES MODULE

- Documents that used to be exchanged via mailing system can be exchanged more easily thanks to the M/S Module.
- Provides notification transmission/reception function
The objective is to create a centralized database where the published titles of ARIPO and those of its Member States can be viewed centrally.

A pilot database has been setup with more than 400,000 published IP titles from ARIPO, Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
REGIONAL COPYRIGHT DATABASE

- Architecture of the proposed Regional Copyright Database
The project involved digitization of ARIPO’s IP physical files lodged before 2nd March 2015 due to the fact that the digitization of the front files commenced with the deployment of POLite+

- Project was concluded on 31 July 2018
- The objectives of the digitization project included:
  - The automation of all business processes at the ARIPO Office and those of its Member States;
  - Provision of greater flexibility in the flow of documents with the consequent reduction in processing times;
  - Improvement in the quality of search results;
  - Provision of secure access to documents. The system would place verifiable accounts of the date of right holders and their works on record.
TMVIEW AND DESIGNVIEW PLATFORMS

- ARIPO’s published trademark data was made available on the TMview platform on 7 December 2015 and published design data made available on the DesignView platform on 31 October 2016.
- The objective is to support the availability of IP information to the public
- TMview and DesignView are online search tools providing centralized access to published trademarks and registered designs from participating offices
- The platforms only provide centralized access
- ARIPO joined TMClass as from 9 April 2018
ARIPO’s new thinking: Establishment of IP ICT HUB for shaping the IP landscape in Africa

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<th>Project</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Repository for TK/GR</td>
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BENEFITS

• On-line filing of IP applications to improve accessibility.
• Automation has so far brought a great improvement in service delivery and can still be leveraged to increase customer satisfaction;
• Reduced costs & processing time for applications;
• Fewer errors in the business processing of applications
• Increased uptake of IP
CHALLENGES

• Most of the Member States have not made their journals available for upload on the online services platform
• Some banks are still issuing cards which are not 3D secure
• There are still a number of agents who have not signed up for online filing
• Internet accessibility
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