




WIPO SEPTEMBER 2017 WORKSHOP ON PCT
NATIONAL PHASE EXAMINATION AND WORK SHARING

ZIMBABWE


UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES
BUREAU

21/09/2017

UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU (URSB)


- URSB- autonomous statutory body established by Chapter 210 Laws of Uganda in 1998.
 - Was created to take over the functions of the Registrar General's Department under the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.
 - Came into force on the 16th of August, 2004 and the self-accounting status was granted in July, 2010.
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URSB (continued.....)

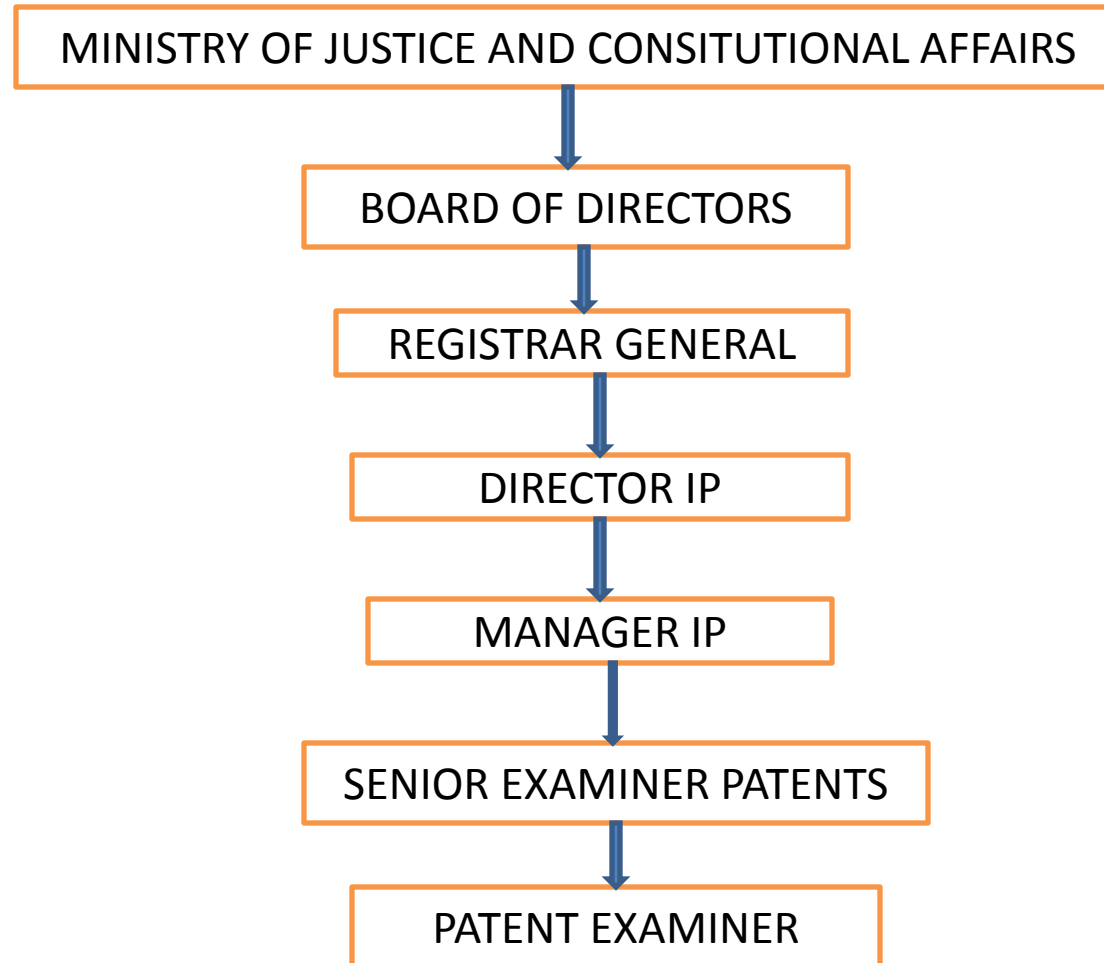
- URSB is governed by the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer is the Registrar General.
 - For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the functions of the bureau are stipulated under Section 4(2) of the URSB Act.
 - Carries out of all registrations required under the relevant laws as one of its core functions.
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URSB (continued.....)

REGISTRATIONS:

- Business registration
 - Civil registration
 - Intellectual property
registration (Trademarks, copyright
and patents)
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ORGANISATION (Directorate)



PATENT EXAMINERS


- **3 Patent Examiners**
 - Two electrical Engineers
 - One Telecom Engineer
- **6 Registrars (Lawyers)**




APPLICABLE LAW

- The Industrial Property Act (2014)

Introduces

- Examiners- “examiner” means an examiner of patents designated as examiner of patents under the Uganda Registration Services Bureau Act;
 - Industrial Designs, Technovations
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LAWS CONTINUED....

- The Industrial Property Regulations (2017) provide for procedures for patent grant and registration.
 - These laws are administered by the Registrar General.
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EXAMINATION OF FOREIGN APPLICATIONS


- Current practice- Rely entirely on the ISR
- Amended applications- ARIPO for re-examination
 - After this training- Use work of other national offices
 - Examine for applications in the fields of the examiners



STATISTICS

- 2016: 16 patent applications
- 2015: 11 patents applications, 1 utility model
- 2014: 5 patent applications
- 2013: 9 patent applications
- 2012: 5 patent applications, 1 utility model

* Numbers are exclusive of PCT applications



USED DATA BASES

The office currently uses non commercial databases


- Patentscope
 - Espacenet
 - Uspto
 - Google patents
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BACKLOG

- No backlog for PCT applications in the national office
 - No definition for backlog since the office has no backlog



CHALLENGES

- Low levels of awareness on IP
 - Capacity issues- (only three examiners yet they are also involved in TISC, general IP awareness, legal reforms etc)
 - Poor quality of applications due to lack of patent drafting professionals
 - Delays in receiving examination reports
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THANK YOU!!

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