

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
BUREAU OF ARCHIVES, PATENTS,
TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT
(LIBERIA)
AS
DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICE**

CONTENTS

THE ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE—SUMMARY

THE PROCEDURE IN THE NATIONAL PHASE

ANNEXES

Fees	Annex LR.I
Power of attorney	Annex LR.II
Oath by inventor	Annex LR.III

List of abbreviations:

Office: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bureau of Archives, Patents, Trade Marks and Copyright (Liberia)

LPL: September 1994 Draft Industrial Property Law for the Republic of Liberia

SUMMARY**Designated
(or elected) Office****SUMMARY****LR****MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF ARCHIVES, PATENTS,
TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT
(LIBERIA)****LR****Summary of requirements for entry into the national phase**

Time limits applicable for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22(1): 30 months from the priority date Under PCT Article 39(1)(b): 31 months from the priority date
Translation of international application required into: ¹	English
Required contents of the translation for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22: Description, claims (if amended, as amended only, together with any statement under PCT Article 19), any text matter of drawings, abstract Under PCT Article 39(1): Description, claims, any text matter of drawings, abstract (if any of those parts has been amended, only as amended by the annexes to the international preliminary examination report)
Is a copy of the international application required?	No
National fee: ¹	Currency: Liberian dollar (LRD) Filing fee: LRD 75
Exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee:	None
Special requirements of the Office (PCT Rule 51 <i>bis</i>): ²	Appointment of an agent if the applicant is not resident in Liberia Oath or declaration of the inventor ³
Who can act as agent?	Any attorney registered by the Legal Bar Association
Does the Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49 <i>ter.2</i>)?	Yes, please refer to the Office for the applicable criteria and/or any fee payable for such requests

¹ Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

² If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

³ This requirement may be satisfied if the corresponding declaration has been made in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17.

THE PROCEDURE IN THE NATIONAL PHASE

LR.01 TRANSLATION (CORRECTION). Errors in the translation of the international application can be corrected with reference to the text of the international application as filed (see National Phase, paragraphs 6.002 and 6.003).

LR.02 FEES (MANNER OF PAYMENT). The manner of payment of the fees indicated in the Summary and in this Chapter is outlined in Annex LR.I.

LR.03 REPRESENTATION. An agent must be appointed by filing a power of attorney if the applicant is not resident in Liberia. A model is given in Annex LR.II. If the power of attorney is not filed at the time of entry into the national phase, it may be filed within two months from the expiration of the time limit applicable under Article 22 or 39(1).

PCT Rule 51*bis*
LPL Sec. 3
4

LR.04 OATH BY INVENTOR. For details, see the sample of the oath in Annex LR.III.

LR.05 EXAMINATION. The Office will examine or provide for the examination of patent applications as to substance. No request is necessary and no special fee is required.

PCT Art. 28
41
LPL Sec. 5(2)

LR.06 AMENDMENT OF THE APPLICATIONS; TIME LIMITS. Amendments and corrections to the description, claims and drawings may be made at any time during the patent procedure before the grant of the patent provided that the scope of the subject matter of the application is not broadened thereby.

LPL Sec. 11
14(10)(v)

LR.07 ANNUAL FEES. Annual fees must be paid in advance to maintain the patent or the patent application for each year, starting from the first anniversary of the international filing date. Any maintenance fee which falls due during the international phase need not be paid until the expiration of the applicable time limit under PCT Article 22 or 39(1). Subject to the payment of a surcharge, annual fees may be paid up to six months after the due date.

PCT Art. 24(2)
48(2)
PCT Rule 82*bis*
LPL Sec. 39

LR.08 EXCUSE OF DELAYS IN MEETING TIME LIMITS. Reference is made to paragraphs 6.022 to 6.027 of the National Phase. An application abandoned for failure to comply with a time limit during the international phase or for failure to prosecute before the Office, may be revived as a pending application if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Office that the delay was unavoidable or unintentional. Any petition to revive such an application must be filed in writing and contain an explanation of the causes of the delay. Petitions seeking revival of unintentionally abandoned applications should be accompanied by a fee. Further, in the Director's discretion, the applicant may be given an extension of any time limits. Such extensions may be granted although the time limits have already expired.

PCT Art. 25
PCT Rule 51
LPL Sec. 40
41

LR.09 REVIEW UNDER ARTICLE 25 OF THE PCT. The applicable procedure is outlined in paragraphs 6.018 to 6.021 of the National Phase. If, upon review under PCT Article 25, the Office denies an error or omission on the part of the receiving Office or the International Bureau, an appeal against this decision may be lodged with the Office.

LR.10 APPEALS. Appeals from a decision of the Office may be made to the Legal Counsel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs within 30 days from the transmittal of the decision. No fee is required.

- LPL Sec. 15
16 **LR.11 UTILITY MODEL.** Subject to what is said in paragraph LR.12, if the applicant wishes to obtain a utility model instead of a patent in Liberia on the basis of an international application, it must be indicated in the international application (in Box No. V of the request) when filed. The requirements for the national phase are basically the same as for patents. The term of protection of utility models in Liberia is seven years from the filing date of the application. Annual fees for utility model certificates are payable in accordance with the indications set out in Annex LR.I
- LPL Sec. 17 **LR.12 CONVERSION.** An international application for a patent may be converted into a utility model application, and vice versa, at any time before the grant or refusal of a patent or a utility model certificate. Conversion is subject to the payment of a fee which is indicated in Annex LR.I. An application may not be converted more than once.

FEES

(Currency: Liberian Dollar)

Patents

Fee for national processing¹ 75

How can payment of fees be effected?

The payment of fees must be effected in Liberian dollars and should be made by bank draft payable to the Patent and Trade Mark account at the National Bank of Liberia in Monrovia. All payments must give the application number (national if already known; international if the national number is not yet known).

¹ For the amounts of all other fees the Office or the agent should be consulted.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

PETITION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

**IN THE MATTER OF application for granting
and issuing of LETTERS PATENT in Liberia**

Your Petitioners,
..... (name of Company) a corporation organized and existing under the laws
oflocated at
.....
pray that LETTERS PATENT may be granted to them in Liberia as assignees of
..... 's invention for
..... as set forth
in the annexed specification and claims.

AND we do hereby retain, constitute and appoint
..... with full powers of substitution and revocation as our
agents and attorneys, to apply for and obtain from the Government of Liberia an exclusive privilege of LETTERS
PATENT for
.....
.....

AND we authorise the said agents or their substitute to sign our name to such papers and writings, and do such
acts, including substitution or revocation as may be necessary or expedient, and lastly, we request that all official
communications now or hereafter relating to the same may be addressed to said agents at their above address, and
that they be recognised as our authorised agents in all proceedings incidental thereto.

Dated this day of 19.....

Signed, sealed and delivered at
thisday of 19.....

in the presence of :

.....
.....

OATH BY INVENTOR

In re: Application for granting and issuing
Letters Patent in Liberia in the name of

.....

I/We

of

MAKE OATH AND SAY:

That I am/we are the original, first and only inventor(s) of an invention entitled:

.....

described and claimed in the annexed specification; that I/we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used for patented or described in a book or other publication or in public use or on sale in Liberia before my/our invention or discovery thereof.

That I/we do hereby sell and assign to

.....

having a place of business at

.....

all my/our rights, title and interest in and to my/our invention for new and useful

.....

and request that an exclusive privilege or Letters Patent for said invention in Liberia may issue to said

..... in accordance with this assignment.

Signature

Dated day of 19