

LIBERIA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (LIPO)

AS
DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICE

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List of abbreviations:

Office: Liberia Intellectual Property Office (LIPO)

LPL: [Liberia Intellectual Property Act, 2016](#)

LPR: [Administrative Regulation on Patent, 5 September 2019](#)

SUMMARY**Designated
(or elected) Office****SUMMARY****LR****LIBERIA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
OFFICE (LIPO)****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: US dollar (USD) Filing fee: USD 400
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 certified by the Liberia Intellectual Property Office (LIPO) and registered by the Legal Bar Association or any IP agent certified by LIPO
Does the Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49 <i>ter.2</i>)?	Yes, the Office applies both the “unintentional” and the “due care” criteria to 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.

LPR Sec. 7.2 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).

LPR Sec. 11.1 LR.04 EXAMINATION. The Office will examine or provide for the examination of patent applications as to substance. A request for examination must be filed which is subject to the payment of a fee. The request shall be deemed to have been filed when the examination fee has been paid. Failure to make the request within the prescribed time limit will cause the application to lapse.

**PCT Art. 28
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LPL Sec. 13.6(e) LR.05 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. 13.12(b)
LPR Sec. 18 LR.06 ANNUAL FEES.** In order to maintain the patent or the patent application, annual fees must be paid in advance for each year starting one year after the international filing date. The annual maintenance fee shall become due on the eve of each anniversary of the international filing date. A period of grace of six months shall be allowed for the late payment of the annual fee on payment of the prescribed surcharge fee. If an annual fee is not paid, the patent application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn or the patent shall lapse.

**PCT Rule 49.6
LPL Sec. 13.24
LPR Sec. 21.1-21.3 LR.07 REINSTATEMENT OF RIGHTS.** Reinstatement of rights may be requested where the applicant, in spite of due care required by the circumstances having been taken, failed to perform the acts referred to in Article 22(1) or 39(1)(a) within the applicable time limit. Any request for reinstatement of rights, shall be filed in writing within two months of the removal of the cause of non-compliance with the period, but at the latest within six months of expiry of the unobserved time limit. The request for reinstatement of rights shall not be deemed to have been filed until the prescribed fee has been paid. The request shall state the grounds on which it is based and shall set out the facts on which it relies. The omitted act shall be completed within the relevant period for filing the request.

**PCT Art. 25
PCT Rule 51 LR.08 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.

- LPL Sec. 13.25 **LR.09 RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF PRIORITY.** Where the international application claims the priority of an earlier application and has an international filing date which is later than the date on which the priority period expired but within the period of two months from that date, the Office shall, upon request of the applicant and payment of the prescribed fee, restore the right of priority with respect to that international application if the Office finds that the failure to file the international application within the priority period was unintentional or occurred in spite of due care required by the circumstances having been taken. The Office shall not refuse, totally or in part, a request for restoration of the right of priority without giving the applicant the opportunity to make observations on the intended refusal within a time limit, which shall not be less than three months counted from the date of notification.
- LPR Sec. 12.2 **LR.10 APPEALS.** The applicant may lodge an appeal against a decision of the Registrar General to the Director General within two months after the date of notification of the decision to him by the Office. No fee is required.
- LPL Sec. 13.28 **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, he shall so indicate to the office when performing the acts referred to in PCT Article 22 or 39. A utility model certificate shall expire at the end of the 10th year after the date of the grant of the utility model, and shall not be renewable.
- LPL Sec. 13.29 **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: **US** dollar)

Patents

Fee for national processing	400
Publication fee	150
– surcharge for every additional page after 20 pages	30
Grant fee for patent	10
Conversion of patent to utility model	50
Conversion of utility model to patent	50

How can payment of fees be effected?

The payment of fees must be effected in **US** dollar and should be made by bank draft payable to the Patent and Trade Mark account at the **Central** 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).

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