



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY FOR DEVELOPMENT, COMPETITIVENESS,
INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & NETWORKS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF COMMERCE
DIRECTORATE OF COMMERCIAL &
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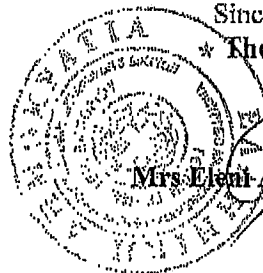
Subject: Protection of country names in the field of registration of trademarks

In response to your questionnaire regarding protection of country names in the field of registration of trademarks we would like to provide you with the following answers.

- Names of countries cannot be registered according art. 123 paragraph 3(a) law 4072/2012 (Greek trademark law).
- The Greek office refuses ex officio trademark applications which consist solely or are comprised of a country name based on an absolute ground of refusal. Nevertheless, governments officially represented can oppose or request cancellation of possible accepted trademarks including their country name.
- The provisions of law 4072/2012 concern both country names as the only element of the application and country names as part of the trademark application.
- Protection is granted for the official names.

Sincerely yours,

The Director



Mrs. Eleni ALEXANDRIDOU