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Updates on Myanmar IP

Chadd Concepcion | 6 August 2019

Agenda

- 1 STATE OF AFFAIRS
- 2 NEW IP LAWS
- 3 TRADEMARK
- 4 STRATEGY
- 5 QUESTIONS

1

Current State of Affairs



Treaties

- ✓ WIPO
- X Berne
- **X** Paris
- ✓ TRIPS
- **X** PCT
- × Madrid

Trademark

Declaration of Ownership

POA (Notarized and legalized) reusable Declaration (Notarized) multi class

Cautionary Notice

Constitutes use of mark Confers ownership

- No examination
- Some marks cannot be registered (Ex: religious symbols)
- No expiry
- Customarily renewed every 3 years
- Declaration is prima facie evidence of ownership

Copyright

- Protection limited to works created in Myanmar, or made by Myanmar citizens
- Limited kind of works protected (1914 law)
- No voluntary registration
- Limited to copyright

New IP Laws

Trademark

- January 2019
- Replaces Registration Law

Industrial Design

- January 2019
- No previous law

Patent

- February 2019
- No previous law

Copyright

- May 2019
- Replaces 1911 Copyright Act



LAWS NOT YET IN EFFECT

IP Department to be established

Est. Q2 2020

IP Laws in Brief







Copyright

- Protects foreign work
- 50y
- MM not Berne Convention CP (but TRIPS)

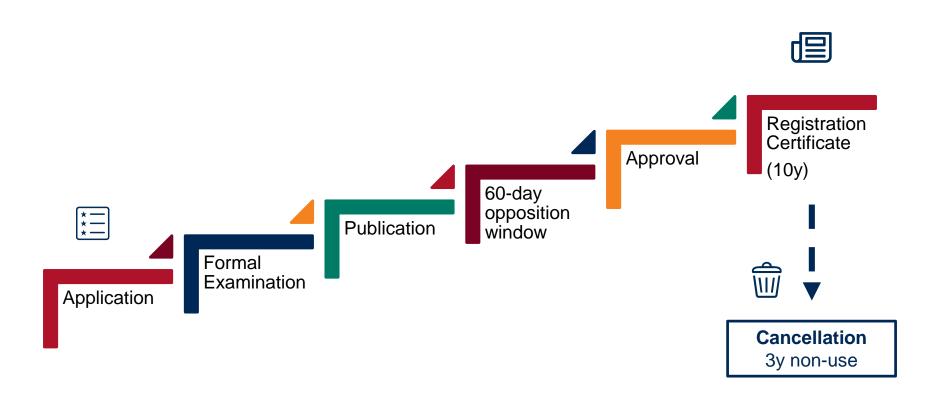
Industrial Design

- First to file
- 5y (+5 +5) 15 max

Patent

- First to file
- Petty/Design Patent
- 20y
- MM not PCT CP

Trademark



Details we know

- All existing trademarks must be re-registered
- Existing registrations can be used to support new re-registration
- Applications can be in English (unless examiner requests Myanmar)
- Priority right will be available (eventually)
- Nice Classification will be adopted
- Well-known marks to be recognized (but likely no registry)
- Geographical Indications will be available
- Recordals will be available
- Licensing of trademarks require recordal

Details unknown

- Documents for registration
- POA?
- Fees
- Online filing
- Timeline ~ Q2 2020

4

Strategy

How to prepare

- Audit portfolio
- Prepare existing all original DOs and CN publications
- Anticipate POA (to be legalized)



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