

Free Trademark Recordation at Dubai Economic Department

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## IN THIS ISSUE

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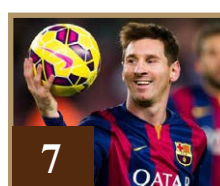
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Egypt Approves Consumer Protection Law



New Law on Incentives to Science, Technology and Innovation in Egypt



Argentine Superstar Lionel Messi Triumphs over Trademark Rights in EU Court



New Amendments to Customs Law in Egypt



# Free Trademark Recordation at Dubai Economic Department

**DUBAI** - The Department of Economic Development (DED) in Dubai introduced a new and free-of-charge online registration service for all brand owners through the Department's registration platform, with the aim to minimize the risk of counterfeiting and its impact on the economy.

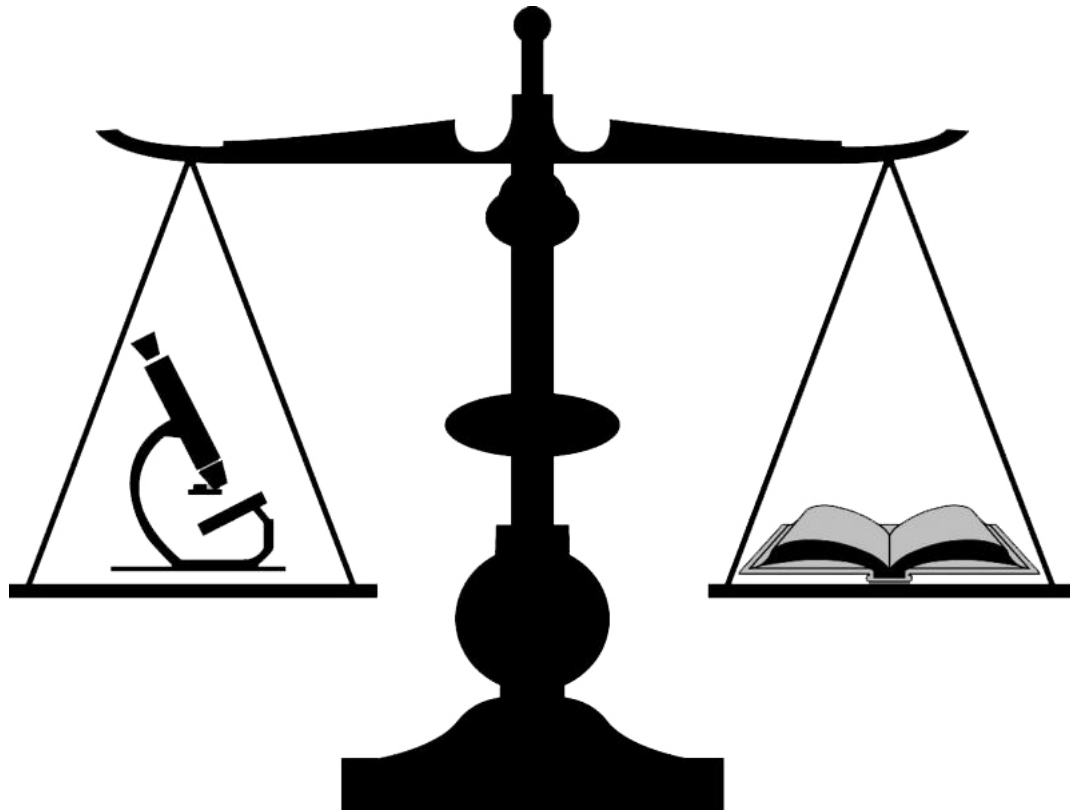
Brand owners are requested to provide copies of the UAE trademark registration certificate and the Power of Attorney in order to be provided with the highest level of protection for their rights in Dubai.

DED is the most active Intellectual Property enforcement agency in Dubai and has its own inspectors who undertake periodical market searches to check any counterfeit products invading Dubai markets.

Official complaints are still required to be filed to take action against infringers. Following the confiscation or seizure of any counterfeit or suspected counterfeit products, DED shall report the matter to the trademark agent in order to file a formal complaint.

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## New Law on Incentives to Science, Technology and Innovation in Egypt

**CAIRO** - Egyptian President Abdul Fattah Al-Sisi signed Law No. 23 of 2018 to issue a new Law on incentives to Science, Technology and Innovation in Egypt.

The provisions of the law shall apply to the higher education and scientific research institutions from governmental and private universities, centers, research institutes and institutions affiliated to the various ministries.

The Prime Minister will issue the implementing regulations of the new law

during three months from the date of entry into force of the law.

The law was published in the Official Gazette on April 21, 2018, and entered into force as of its publication in the Official Gazette.

It is worth mentioning that the new law allows establishing science valleys and technology incubators by public and private Egyptian universities, as well as research centers affiliated with different Egyptian ministries.



## New Amendments to Customs Law in Egypt

**CAIRO** - The Egyptian Council of State concluded reviewing the new draft Customs Law and referred it to the Council of Ministers, in anticipation to its submission to the House of Representatives for deliberation and voting. Judicial sources announced that the Legislation Division concluded its revision of various laws including the amending Customs Law. The sources also noted that the Legislation Division's specialized amendment revision committee did not have major remarks on the articles of the law and most of them were formal rather than substantive.

The amendments to the Customs Law stipulate that factories are required to provide monetary or bank guarantees, and to ban

the disposal of imported goods, only after recourse to the Customs Authority, in order to reduce the smuggling operations and increase the applicable penalty.

Article 130 relevant to overstocking of imported and left goods in ports decreases the applicable period for imported and abandoned goods to 7 months only, whereby such goods shall be disposed after the lapse of this period. Finance Minister, M. Amr Al-Garhi, said that the new customs law addresses the problems of customs evasion, because the approval of the customs authorities to act is a fundamental condition whether for sale to a party exempted entirely or partially from customs duties.



# Egypt Approves Consumer Protection Law

**CAIRO** - The House of Representatives of Egypt has approved, in its public session chaired by Speaker of the House Dr. Ali Abdul Aal, the Consumer Protection Law, after the approval of two-thirds of members of the House.

The House reviewed the report of the Joint Committee of the Economic Affairs Committee and the Offices of the Industry, Planning, Budget, Social Cooperation, Persons with Disability, Constitutions and the Legislative Affairs Committees concerning the draft Law.

"The Law aims at ensuring the continuity and integrity of the economic activity, the prevention of monopoly, the protection of consumer rights, and endeavouring to make available the various products and services needed by consumers, and ensuring the safety and health of consumers upon using the products or availing from services," the report of the Committee provided.

Moreover, the Committee indicated that the Law also aims to educate consumers and raise their awareness regarding their economic rights and obligations, and continuously direct them in regard to consumption and

areas of improvement, so as to enable them to avail from it, in addition to ensuring that the consumer is able to exercise his right in choosing the best products and services as per his preferences.

The Law also aims at introducing certain legal provisions to regulate some new practices in the market that were not regulated under the previous law, such as e-commerce, misleading advertisements in selling real estate properties, service and maintenance centres and remote contracting. The Law also increases the penalties applicable on the violations of law to ensure discipline in the market, and obliges real estate companies to refrain from marketing and promoting its products or selling units before attaining building license or at least acquiring ministerial approval for the project.

The report of the committee also noted that the draft Law compels producers to replace any substantially defective products within the first year of purchase without any cost on the consumer, with the view of addressing a large amount of the complaints received by the Consumer Protection Agency against engineering goods and automotive sectors.





## Argentine Superstar Lionel Messi Triumphs over Trademark Rights in EU Court

**MADRID** - The Spanish brand Massi raised a concern, saying that Messi and Massi were almost identical visually and phonetically and some people would find it difficult to tell the two apart, but the EU General Court disagreed.

The soccer “player’s fame counteracts the visual and phonetic similarities” with the other brand, the EU General Court said, in a decision in Luxembourg.

According to the court’s decision, Messi should get the EU trademark for the logo, which consists of an emblem featuring the letter M with the name Messi underneath.

Messi has fought since 2011 to get the EU trademark rights for the logo, which is used for sports clothing and shoes.

The football star is a world renowned player, having scored his 600th professional goal last month. He is also the record four-time world player of the year.

Messi is earning 126 million euros (\$154m) in salary, bonuses and commercial revenue for the current season, while his great Real Madrid opponent is making 94m euros.

*Source: [sputniknews.com](http://sputniknews.com)*

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