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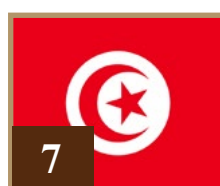
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TAG-Legal Participates in Dubai Customs' Workshop on Fighting Counterfeiting

DUBAI - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Legal (TAG-Legal) has recently participated in a workshop on Enforcing Intellectual Property Rights and Fighting Counterfeiting organized on November 7, 2017 by the IPR Department of Dubai Customs.

The event was held at Armani Hotel, Khalifa Tower, Dubai with the attendance of sea, air, and land border officers from Dubai Customs and other relevant government bodies across the UAE, as well as local law firms and business owners.

TAG-Legal coordinated with Dubai Customs Department to hold this gathering to increase its clients' awareness on the significance of protecting their trademarks.

During the workshop, the attending brand owners underlined the features distinguishing their genuine products highlighting at the same time the negative and harmful effects of counterfeit goods on consumers and businesses alike.

The workshop, the third to be held since the beginning of 2017, aimed at increasing the awareness of Customs inspectors on IP enforcement and protection, as well as strengthening cooperation between the governmental authorities and both local law firms and business owners.

If you wish to participate in future workshops or have further inquiries, please contact our office in Dubai: Mr. Ziad Jibril, at the following address:

[**uae@tag-legal.com**](mailto:uae@tag-legal.com)

Fines to Replace Court Trials in Dubai in Minor Offences

Dubai: Starting from next month, prosecutors in Dubai will issue fines instead of referring cases to court in minor offences.

It is announced that prosecutors in Dubai from December 4 will be able to fine suspects involved in certain types of misdemeanour and minor offences, including some bounced cheque and cursing cases, instead of referring them to court.

Essam Eisa Al Humaidan, Dubai's Attorney-General, issued decision No. 88 of 2017, according to which prosecutors of the of Deira, Bur Dubai, and Family and Juveniles prosecution wings can start issuing criminal orders starting December 4.

Members of the three prosecution wings can fine suspects involved in specific minor offences rather than indicting them and referring them to the Dubai Misdemeanours Court to stand trial, according to Al Humaidan's decision.

The list of misdemeanours is limited to certain minor offences including bounced cheques [up to Dh200,000], failing to pay for food, car rent or room rent [up to Dh50,000], defamation and cursing [excluding government sector employees], attempted suicide and disturbing victims through the use of telecommunication systems.

Dubai is a major international tourist hub attracting millions of visitors every year, many of whom could get involved in misdemeanours.

The criminal order assists Dubai Public Prosecution in achieving its goals to make procedures faster and easier to complete for litigants in cases pertaining to specific minor crimes.

According to the Attorney-General's decision, Prosecutor-General Yousuf Foulad, head of the Deira Prosecution; and Prosecutor-General Sami Al Shamsi, head of the Bur Dubai Prosecution, are entitled to assign a prosecutor to issue, amend or cancel a criminal order.

Source: theuaenews.com





New Trademarks Fees in Iraq

BAGHDAD – Pursuant to new directives issued by the Iraqi Trademarks Office on October 30, 2017, new trademarks official fees will be applied in Iraq related to publication of renewals, recordals of change of name & address, merger and assignment, etc.

The new fees entered into force as from November 1, 2017.

According to this decision, an official fee of (IQD 200000 equivalent to US\$ 169.49) will be incurred for the above-mentioned actions and will be applied for newly filed applications and retroactively for pending applications which have not yet been issued with their certificates.

For more information, please contact our office in Iraq at: iraq@agip.com

Source: Agip.com





Qatar Introduces E-Filing of Trademark Applications

DOHA - The Qatari Trademark Office started today receiving and processing trademark applications in electronic form.

The Trademark Office announced that it will include all other trademark services to be filed online shortly.

The E-filing is expected to reduce timeframe required for completing the trademark services and procedures at the TM Office.

For more information, please contact our office in Qatar at: qatar@agip.com

Source: Agip.com





Tunisia to Apply E-Filing System

TUNIS – Following the meeting held between the Tunisian Office for Normalization and Industrial Property (INNORPI) and the main agents of patents and trademarks in Tunisia, the E-Filing system for trademarks and patents will be adopted in Tunisia.

In the meeting chaired by the General Manager of INNORPI, Ms. Amel Ben Farhat, and attended by managers of Trademarks and Patents Office, it was decided that the employees of the agents will receive training on the new filing system.

It is expected that the new system will officially begin operation on January 2018 starting with trademarks.

The electronic filing system in Tunisia is expected to ensure timely receipt and processing of trademarks and patents applications, and will translate into significant efficiency gains for both the Trademarks Office and the agents.

Source: Agip.com

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