

The Implementing Bylaws for the GCC patent system (law):

Execution of this decision of the Supreme Council during its current session Forty-one held on 21 May The first 1442 AH corresponding to January 5, 2021 AD by agreeing to an amendment to a patent system (law) of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, and according to Article 32 of the law which states the following:

The Commercial Cooperation Committee issues the implementing regulations of this law.

The Commercial Cooperation Committee has approved in its sixtieth meeting held on the 17th Qa'dah 1442 AH corresponding to June 27, 2021 AD, on the implementing regulations approved the executive regulations **for the amended GCC patents system (law), and provided that it shall be effective** three months after the date of its publication. This is after the system is implemented in accordance with the constitutional procedures in each country.

Article (1) Definitions

In the implementation of the provisions of the Regulation, expressions shall have the meanings assigned to them below except where the context otherwise requires:

1/1 Cooperation Council: The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

2/1 System (law) of patents: The law of patents issued by the Patent Office to the owner of the invention so that his invention shall enjoy legal protection within all the Cooperation Council States according to the provisions of this regulation and its Bylaws.

4/1 The application: the patent application deposited in the office in accordance with the provisions of the system (law) and its implementing regulations.

5/1 Trade Cooperation Committee: Ministers concerned with trade affairs in the GCC countries.

6/1 The Committee: The Grievances Committee appointed by the Ministerial Council to carry out its jurisdictions stipulated in this regulation and its Bylaws.

7/1 The Office: The Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab states of the Gulf.

8/1 The specialized authority: The ministry, authority, administration, or national office specialized in patent matters in each of the GCC countries.

Article (2)

1/2 All correspondence with the office must be addressed to it according to the postal address it specifies, or any other means approved and accepted by the office.

2/2 All correspondence with the office must be in writing in the manner in which it is accepted, and the personal presence of the applicant or agent is not required.

3/2 Any correspondence with the Office regarding patent applications or patents must refer to the application or patent number, and any correspondence that does not comply with this, the Office is not obligated to deal with it.

4/2 The office receives electronically the patent applications, or by any other method it accepts, in addition to any documents or correspondence related thereto.

5/2 The Office shall deliver by hand, electronically, registered mail, or any other method accepted by the Office, notifications and correspondence regarding patent applications and patents. All correspondences issued by the office are sent to the applicant or the agent at the address registered with the office, in this way the notifications are considered to achieve their statutory (legal) effects.

6/2 The day of sending the notifications is not counted within the given time limit, and any period ending on weekends or official holidays is extended to the first working day following those holidays.

Article (3)

A. The patent application must include the following:

1. A detailed description of the invention, beginning with the name of the invention and taking into account the following:

1/1 Determine the technical field to which the invention relates.

2/1 A statement of the prior art background that the inventor is aware of and related documents that may be useful for understanding, examining and researching the invention.

3/1 Disclose the invention in words that allow it to be understood in a clear and complete way so that any person with ordinary technical skills can evaluate and implement the invention, with mentioning the beneficial effects of the invention, if any.

4/1 Briefly describe the figures in the drawings, if any.

5/1 Explanation of the best means known to the inventor to implement the invention on the date of submitting the application or on the date of the priority of the application in the case of a claim of priority, provided by listing the examples when necessary, and with reference to the drawings, if any.

6/1 A clear statement of the method of industrial application of the invention, the method of its manufacture and use, or the method of its use only, according to the case. In addition to the results reached, supported by examples and statistics whenever possible.

2. The claims:

1/2 the claim or claims shall determine the scope of the protection sought. The specification and the drawings may be used to interpret the claims.

2/2 the claims shall be clear and concise and shall be fully supported by the specification.

3/2 The number of claims must be proportional to the nature of the invention and numbered sequentially.

4/2 The claims should explain the technical characteristics of the invention.

5/2 the claims should include:

- a) The technical characteristics of the invention necessary to define the invention, which are from the prior art.
- b) The new technical characteristics that are required to be protected are related to the previously mentioned characteristics with words or phrases such as (characterized by) or (distinguished by being) or (includes the improvement that has been made to it) or any phrases that have the same meaning.

6/2 With regard to the technical characteristics of the invention, the claims shall not be based on indications in the specification or in the drawings, unless absolutely necessary. It must not be based in particular on signs such as (as shown in the part of the specification) or (as shown in the figure of the drawings).

7/2 If the application includes drawings, the technical characteristics mentioned in the claims must be followed by references related to these characteristics, and they must be placed in parentheses. Should not use these signs if they do not facilitate faster understanding of claims.

3. Drawings specific to the invention, must be submitted when they are necessary to understand the invention. They may also be submitted if the nature of the invention allows its clarification by drawing, even if this is not necessary to understand the invention.

4. An abstract of the invention not less than (50) words and not more than (200) words used for technical information and shows:

1/4 A summary of what is disclosed in the description, claims, and drawings. It must indicate the technical field to which the invention belongs and be edited in a way that allows a clear idea of the technical problem and the base of solving this problem by the invention, as well as the main uses of the invention.

2/4, When necessary, the chemical formula that characterizes the invention shall be explained in the best way compared to all other formulas mentioned in the application, and the summary shall be accompanied by the best illustrative drawing provided by the applicant.

3/4 The numbers and letters that explain each major technical feature mentioned in the summary and illustrated by a drawing shall be placed, and they must be in parentheses and identical with the numbers and letters of the drawing.

4/4 The abstract does not mention the benefits of the invention, its value claimed by the inventor, or its theoretical application.

B. The application must be accompanied by the following documents and information:

- a) A document evidencing the eligibility of the applicant if he is not the inventor.

- b) The approval of the person concerned if the elements necessary for the invention were obtained from the invention of another person.
- c) Power of attorney if the application is filed by an agent.
- d) A copy of the previous application and the attached documents accompanied by a certificate showing the date and number of its filing and the country in which it was filed, if the application includes a claim of priority for a previous application in another country.

The above-mentioned documents must be duly certified, and they must be accompanied by a translation into Arabic if it is in English, or a translation into Arabic and English if it is in another language.

The documents referred to above must be accompanied by an original and a copy of the application when it is submitted, and the conditions set forth in Articles 4 and 5 of these regulations must be taken into account in the documents and in the application as well.

In case it is not attached to the application during its submission, the applicant must submit a written undertaking form to submit it within 3 months from the date of submitting the application. If he does not submit it within this period, the application shall be considered as if it has not been submitted, with the exception of the document referred to in B (d).

Failure to submit it during this period will result in the applicant's right to claim priority forfeited, and annotation is made in the application register considering the application as if it were not, or the applicant's right to priority shall be forfeited based on a decision by the office.

Article (4)

The following should be taken into account in the drawings:

- (a) The preparation of drawings, with lines that are firm, sufficiently dense and dark, uniformly thick and well defined, without the need for coloring.
- (b) Draw the shapes in an upright position relative to the drawing template as much as possible.
- (c) Writing the letters and numbers used to indicate the parts of the drawing clearly, and using the same letters and numbers in the different situations of the drawing. In the case of writing those letters and numbers out of shape, they must be connected to the parts they refer to with thin lines.
- (d) In the case of drawing more than one shape in one template, a sufficient distance must be left between each shape and the other, and the shapes should be given consecutive numbers
- (e) Not to write any statement related to the name or description of the invention on the drawing templates

Article (5)

- a- Every previous filing in a national office of another country or a regional office shall be considered as originating the right of priority, if it has the right to deposit with that country or office.
- b- The filing is considered valid if it is sufficient to determine the date on which the application was filed in the concerned country or the regional office, regardless of the subsequent status of the application.
- c- The priority dates are twelve Gregorian months, effective from the date of filing the first application, and the filing day is not counted within this period.
- d- If the last day of the deadline is an official holiday or a day in which the office is not open to accept applications, the deadline shall be extended to the first working day that follows.
- e- When claiming priority, the applicant must indicate the following:
 - 1. The date of the previous application.
 - 2. The number of the previous application, and the applicant may submit it within a period not exceeding three months from the date of submitting the application.
 - 3. The international patent classification code that was assigned to the previous application, and if the classification code was not assigned when the application was submitted, the office must be informed of that immediately after the code was assigned.
 - 4. The country or the office in which the previous application was filed if the application was a regional or international.

Article (6)

Taking into account the provisions of Article (10), if the person concerned wishes to obtain a temporary protection certificate for the product that may be the subject of a patent and wishes to display it in any official exhibition held within one of the GCC countries in accordance with the text of Article (2) paragraph (2) of the system (the law), he must submit to the office - before the exposition - an application on the form prepared for that, accompanied by a brief statement of the description of the invention, its drawing and a statement of the products related to it. A certificate must be brought from the competent official authority stating the identity of the exhibited product and the date of its presentation, and duly certified.

Article (7)

The office shall prepare a register of temporary protection certificates in which the applications shall be entered in sequential numbers and shall include the following data:

- 1. Application number.
- 2. The date of application.
- 3. The applicant's name, nationality, address and place of residence or head office if he is a legal entity.

4. Agent's name and address.
5. The chosen place in the concerned country to which correspondence is sent.
6. The exhibition, its place of residence and the date of its opening.
7. The name of the invention.
8. Statement of products related to the invention.
9. The date the products were entered into the exhibition.
10. The number, date and term of the temporary protection certificate.
11. The scope of temporary protection in any of the GCC countries that chose to benefit from the office's services.

Article (8)

The office gives the applicant the temporary protection certificate on the form prepared for this, and this certificate is valid for a period not exceeding six months from the date of the official opening of the exhibition, in accordance with the provisions of the system (law).

Article (9)

The office receives patent applications on behalf of any of the GCC countries that have expressed their desire for the office to perform this service. Patent applications are given serial numbers according to the date and time of their submission after payment of the prescribed fee.

The patent applicant shall be provided with a receipt that includes the serial number of the patent application, the date and time of its submission, a list of the attached documents, and the number and date of the receipt for payment of the prescribed fee.

Article (10)

The office processes patent applications based on the services requested by the countries of the Cooperation Council, according to the following:

1. In case that any of the GCC countries choose the reception service only, the office receives the patent application and examines it formally in accordance with the provisions of the system (the law) and its implementing regulations, and then it is referred - within 120 days from the date of registration of the application - to the competent authority in that country for processing in accordance with its national legislation according to an approved mechanism between the office and the competent authority in that country.
2. In case that any of the GCC countries choose the reception service and the substantive examination service (totally or partially), The office examines the application formally and after it passes the formal requirements in accordance with the provisions of the system (the law) and its implementing regulations, the application is examined substantively to verify

the availability of the conditions for granting the patent stipulated in the system (law) and its implementing regulations. In case the conditions for the regular (legal) grants are met. The office shall notify the competent authority of this, provided that the competent authority is obligated to make observations - if any - regarding the ability to grant within (30) days of notifying the competent authority. In the absence of observations or the failure of the competent authority to respond within the specified period, the office shall refer the application - within 30 days from the end of the examination phase - to the competent authority in that country to complete the procedures for issuing a decision to grant a patent in accordance with its national legislation, and to take the regular (legal) procedures regarding the continuity of the patent and the collection of annual fees thereon.

3. In case that any of the GCC countries chooses all the services (receiving, examination and grants) to be performed by the office on its behalf, the office will process the patent application in accordance with the provisions of the system (law) and its implementing regulations. If the conditions for granting are met, the application is processed according to the following:
 - a) The office shall notify the competent authority in that country of the fulfillment of the conditions for granting the patent application according to the mechanism and the form prepared for this.
 - b) The competent authority must provide the office with its observations within (90) days from the date of the notification issued by the office.
 - c) The office issues a decision to grant the patent if the competent authority approves this.
 - d) In case that the observations of the competent authority are not submitted within the aforementioned period, this is considered an approval to grant the patent, and the office will complete the granting procedures.
 - e) In case that the competent authority submits its observations within the aforementioned period, and the observations indicate that the granting decision was not approved according to the reasons it clarifies, the office shall issue a decision rejecting the application.
 - f) The scope of the patent shall be in any of the GCC countries that have chosen the office to perform reception, examination and grant services on its behalf, and the competent authority in each of those countries has approved the granting of the patent.
 - g) The office shall, before referring the application to the competent authority in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1, 2) above, instruct the applicant to appoint an authorized agent in each of the GCC countries in which the application will be referred to the competent authority, unless the applicant has a place of residence in those countries, according to the national legislation of each country.

Article (11)

The Patent Office shall establish a register for patent applications containing the following particulars:

- a) The application serial number
- b) The application filing date.

- c) The title of the invention.
- d) The applicant's name, nationality, address, chosen domicile and place of residence or headquarters if he is a legal entity.
- e) The name and address of the agent, if any
- f) If priority of an earlier registration is claimed in the application, the name of the country with which the earlier application was filed, and the date and number of the said application.
- g) The date and number of the decision accepting or refusing the application, and the date of its publication.
- h) The country or countries in which protection from the GCC applies.

Article (12)

If the application relates to an invention that requires use of a micro-organism that is not available to the public before the application filing date, the disclosures made by the application shall be considered sufficient and complete in such a way that enables the average skilled person to put the invention in hand, should the following terms be satisfied:

1. Lodging a plantation of the microorganism with one of the approved authorities before the filing date of the application.
2. That the application indicates, upon filing, the characteristics of the microorganism.
3. That the application provides the name of the authority where the microorganism is lodged, and the date and number of lodging.
4. Providing the particulars indicated in par. (3) shall be deemed as a final approval on the part of the applicant, with no reservation as to making the lodged plantation available to any individual that, on the proclamation date of the decision granting the patent, or at a later date, files an accurate request to the authority of lodging to render a sample of the micro-organism. A request shall not be considered as accurate unless it is accompanied with the consent of the Office to deliver the sample to the individual, once the prescribed fee has been paid. The individual requesting the plantation shall submit a promissory note to the Office that he shall not make the plantation available to any other person until the patent has prescribed or ended.

Article (13)

- a) Upon request, the applicant shall advise the Office the dates and numbers of any patent application he has filed with another office for the same invention, or for an invention that is identical to that applied for in the application submitted to the Office.

- b) Upon request, the applicant shall submit to the Office the following documents pertaining to one of the applications referred to in the previous paragraph (a):
1. A copy of each notification received by the applicant in respect to any search report or examination made to the previous application.
 2. A copy of any final decisions rejecting the previous application, or denial of granting the patent subject of the previous application.

Article (14)

In cases other than those previously stated, the Patent Office may request that the applicant provide samples or specimens, as necessary, according to special requirements it may prescribe. In all cases where the samples contain toxic, caustic inflammable, or explosive substances, an indication to that effect must be made on the label.

Article (15)

If the Patent Office find that the invention relates to the security of any of the G.C.C. States, it must inform the competent authority in each of the GCC countries that has chosen that the office performs the examination service on its behalf. In all cases, the office does not initiate the examination of the application and is dealt with in strict confidence. The competent authority must inform the office of the procedures for dealing with the application within (90) days from the date of the office's notification to the competent authority, and the competent authority in each of the GCC countries that chose the office to perform the substantive examination service, wholly or partially, is provided with the areas considered related to national security.

In case that the specified period expires and the competent authority in any of the GCC countries didn't inform the office of the procedures for dealing with the request, this is considered approval of the continuity of the office in the examination procedures for the request.

Article (16)

The Patent Office shall formally examine the application and its enclosures to verify completion of the terms stipulated in the Regulation and in the Implementing Bylaws. Should it be found from the examination that the requirements prescribed in the regulation have not been fulfilled, the Patent Office shall notify the applicant to complete such requirements within at most three

months from reception of the notification, the office shall also notify the competent authority in each of the GCC countries of that report. In case of non-compliance within the specified period, the office issues a decision to drop the application, and notify the applicant with the decision. This decision should be documented in the applications register, and the office notifies the competent authority, provided that this notification includes all relevant application data.

Article (17)

The applicant may request the rectification of drafting or calculation errors in the application or the description. He may also request the amendment or addition of any particulars to the application, including the description or the drawing of the invention. He shall indicate the essence and reasons for such an amendment or addition, provided that no substantial change, as a result thereof, is made to the description or drawing upon filing. No amendment or addition shall be made before payment of the prescribed fee, and the consent of the Patent Office.

Article (18)

Should it be found from the formal examination that the application satisfies the formal requirements, the Office shall estimate the expenses to be incurred by the substantive examination on the basis of an evaluation study. The office shall then send a registered mail notification to the applicant to pay for the said expenses within at most 90 days from the date of receipt of the notification. If the applicant makes the said payment within the fixed date, the Office shall refer the application for the substantive examination. Otherwise, the application shall be considered as void the applicant shall be notified of this decision, and this shall be documented in the application register. In addition, the office shall notify the competent authority, provided that this notification includes all relevant application data.

Article (19)

1. The Office shall notify the applicant of the result of the substantive examination, and the applicant shall submit the amendments to the application in accordance with the examination report, and pay the estimated expenses of the office to examine the application again accordingly to the amendments.
2. After paying the necessary expenses for examining the application again, the office completes the examination procedures.
3. The Office shall notify the applicant of the result of the second examination, and the applicant shall amend the application in accordance with the examination report. The application shall be examined for the third time at the applicant's expense.
4. After paying the necessary expenses for examining the application a third time, the office completes the examination procedures.

5. Should it be found from the third examination that the application does not satisfy the terms of granting the patent, the application shall be rejected. The applicant shall be notified of this decision, and he may appeal against this decision before the committee within three months from the date of the notification, and the office shall notify the competent authority of the rejection decision, provided that this notification includes all relevant application data.
6. Each notification addressed to the applicant by the Office in respect to the substantive examination of the application shall be answered within three months from its date and pay the necessary expenses estimated by the office. If no answer is received within the prescribed date, the application shall be rejected.

Article (20)

Subject to the provisions of Article (10/3), if it appears from the substantive examination that the application meets the requirements stipulated in the Regulation and the Implementing Bylaws, the application is dealt with according to the following:

1. The office notifies the applicant of the payment of the publication and grant fees, within three months from the date of the notification.
2. In case that the applicant does not pay the publication and grant fees within the specified period, the office issues a decision to drop the application and the applicant is notified of this, and the decision is documented in the application record. In addition, the office notifies the competent authority of this decision.
3. If the applicant pays the publication and grant fees within the specified period, the office shall issue a decision granting the patent and publicize the decision, and the publication must include the data mentioned in Article (3/A).
4. Any interested party may submit an objection to the committee against the office's decision to grant the patent within three months from the date of the announcement of the decision, and if an objection is submitted to the committee within the specified period, the patent shall not be handed over to the applicant until the committee decides on this objection.
5. If no objection is submitted to the committee within three months from the date of publication, or an objection is submitted within the specified period and the committee's decision was to reject the objection, the office must issue a decision granting the patent, handing it over to the applicant, and the patent should be recorded in the patent register.

Article (21)

The office periodically issues an official bulletin that includes the following:

1. Patent application numbers for which a decision was issued by the office.

2. Patents issued by the office, including the specification in the form in which it was filed and the search and examination reports.
3. The names of the GCC states, the services provided by the office on their behalf, and any updates thereto.
4. Any publication stipulated in the system (law) or the implementing regulations.

Article (22)

The Patent cover page shall include the following:

1. The application number.
2. The number and date of the decision to grant the Patent.
3. The patent number
4. The patent date of issue.
5. The inventor's name, unless he has expressed in writing his wish not to have his name revealed.
6. The name, nationality, and address of the owner.
7. The title of the invention
8. The international classification.
9. The term of protection and commencement and expiration dates.
10. The number and date of the priority claim, and the country of filing, if the patent refers to such priority.
11. The name of the agent for the patent owner.
12. The number and date of the publication in which the decision granting the patent is proclaimed.
13. The applications, patents, and references cited from prior art.
14. The country or countries in which protection from the GCC applies.

Enclosed with the patent shall be the detailed description, the explanatory graphs, claims, and the abstract.

Article (23)

The particulars mentioned in the previous Article from (1) to (14) as well as any other amendments or actions taken shall be entered in the Patent Register.

Article (24)

1. An annual fee shall be due on the patent application or the patent - according to the enclosed table- and shall be made within three months from the beginning of each year,

- starting from the year that follows the filing date. However, it may be paid within an additional grace period of three months, and an additional fee shall be paid.
2. The Patent Office shall establish a register for patent annual fees, in which the following particulars shall be recorded on a separate page for each patent application:
 - a) The name and address of the applicant.
 - b) The name and address of the agent, if any.
 - c) The number and filing date of the application.
 - d) The number and term of the patent and its term of extension.
 - e) The maturity years of the fees in sequence.
 - f) The deadline for payment without additional fees.
 - g) The deadline for payment with additional fees.
 - h) The number and date of the receipt and the amount paid.
 - i) The expiry date of the patent.
 3. The office transfers the annual fee for the patent granted to the country or countries that have chosen it to do all the services (reception, examination and grant) on its behalf.
 4. In the event that any of the GCC countries does not choose the office to perform all the services on its behalf, then this country, in accordance with its national legislation, collects the following annual fee after referring the application to the competent authority in that country, and the office informs the competent authority of the annual fees collected for that request in advance.

Article (25)

The patent fees shall be fixed according to the enclosed table, and for the purpose of this Article, private establishments and commercial business shall be considered companies.

Article (26)

Grievances or claims shall be submitted to the Committee in an original and copies of the documents, which shall be rendered to the secretariat of the Committee, provided they contain the following:

1. The full name, profession or job title, residence, and the number, date and place of issue of identification card of the petitioner, and the same particulars for the representative of the petitioner, if any.
2. The statement of the merits of the claim or grievances.
3. Substantiating statements and evidence.

Article (27)

The Committee shall set a date expressed in days and hours for the claim or grievance. The Office shall be notified accordingly by virtue of a notification, provided that a period of twenty days at least, starting from the date of receipt of the notification, lapses before the date for appearing before the Committee.

Article (28)

The Secretary of the Committee shall notify the petitioner and the Office of the dates, expressed in days and hours, of the hearings fixed to examine the case, and shall provide the Office with a copy of the petition documents.

Article (29)

The party shall be deemed informed of the date of the subsequent hearing if he or his representative is present at the preceding hearing.

Article (30)

The party shall appear before the Committee in person and may appoint by virtue of a power of attorney a representative having the right to exercise as such under the applicable laws of the host country. However, where the Committee requires that the party be present, he shall act accordingly.

Article (31)

If the petitioner fails to present to the first hearing for no legitimate reason accepted to the Committee, the case shall be dismissed. However, the case may be resumed upon a request made by the petitioner within three months from dismissal. Should the case be dismissed again, it shall be considered void, unless the petitioner produces an excuse acceptable to the Committee. In all cases, if more than three months lapse after the dismissal of the case, it shall be considered void, and the case shall be brought anew for prescribed fee.

Article (32)

If the petitioner fails to present to any of the grievance hearings for no legitimate reason accepted to the Committee, the Committee may dismiss the case, unless the Office present at the hearing requests that the case be maintained and a decision on its merits be rendered. However, if the grievance permits the rendering of a decision, they shall be decided upon in all cases.

Article (33)

If the Office fails to present to the first hearing, the consideration of the grievance shall be adjourned for a second hearing, and the Office shall be notified of the date with a notice to the effect that the decision will be rendered against him as if he was present.

Article (34)

The failure of any party to present shall be established only after the elapsing of at least one hour from the time fixed for the hearing.

Article (35)

Failure to present shall only affect the party who has not furnished a legitimate excuse acceptable to the Committee before the date of the hearing. Where the excuse is accepted, the hearing shall be adjourned to another date of which the parties shall be notified.

Article (36)

In all cases, the Committee shall verify the capacity and validity of representation of the petitioner or his representative.

Article (37)

The parties and their agents shall have access to the file of the grievance, and may make copies thereof in the premises of the Committee.

Article (38)

If the parties submit a paper or a document to be used in evidence in the grievance, it may only be withdrawn with the consent of the Committee after a copy thereof certified by the Committee is kept in the file of the grievance. However, the Committee may accept mere copies of documents to be kept in the file after verification against the original, unless the original is required otherwise.

Article (39)

The chairman of the Committee shall first hear the arguments of the petitioner or his agent, then the Office.

Article (40)

The parties shall present all their claims and defenses once. The Committee may grant the Office a period of time to answer the petition, provided that such period shall only be granted once for each subject matter to be answered, unless serious grounds existed according to the consideration of the Committee.

Article (41)

The Office shall answer the grievance. If he fails to do so or to present for the second time without excuse, the Committee may consider his silence or failure to present for a second time a sufficient cause to decide in favor of the petitioner once he has furnished evidence for his petition.

Article (42)

If the Committee finds that its decision on the merits of the case requires the settlement of another issue which does not fall within its jurisdiction, it shall order the suspension of the proceedings till the settlement of the said issue by the competent authority. Once the ground for the suspension ceases to exist, any of the parties may request the continuation of the proceedings within the thirty days following the date on which the said ground ceased to exist. Otherwise, the grievance shall be considered void.

Article (43)

The dispute shall be discontinued if the petitioner dies or loses his capacity to sue or disqualifies, unless the proceedings allow judgement on merits. The proceedings shall be considered as allowing judgement on merits once the parties have submitted their pleadings and final claims. The proceedings shall be resumed when a person replacing the petitioner because of whom the proceedings were discontinued presents for the date previously set. The proceedings shall also be resumed upon the request of any of the concerned parties. In such case, the other parties or their representatives shall be notified accordingly.

Article (44)

The claims of the petitioner may include the following:

1. A rectification of the original claim, or an amendment of the subject matter thereof according to circumstances appearing or emerging after filing the petition.
2. Any material complementary to, resulting from or integrally linked to the original claim.
3. Any material that includes an addition or a change in the cause of action, maintaining the subject matter of the original claim.

Article (45)

Claims and defenses shall be presented before the Committee in clearly written submissions. However, the Committee may settle for oral pleadings of the parties. It may request the parties to draft petitions, statements and defenses in such a way that elevates ignorance and ambiguity.

Article (46)

The conferences of the Committee members shall be confidential.

Article (47)

The Committee shall render its decisions by absolute majority of the opinions of its attending members. In case of tie vote, the president shall have the casting vote. In all cases, the decisions shall state the reasons thereof and shall be signed by the president and the members.

Article (48)

The Committee shall rectify any material, drafting or calculation error in the decision, by a decision issued at its own initiative, or upon a request made by any of the parties. The rectification shall be inscribed on the original copy of the decision and shall be signed by the president and the members.

Article (49)

The parties may request the Committee to construe any ambiguity in the text of its decision. The construction decision shall be deemed as part of the decision thereby construed.

Article (50)

Upon submission of grievance, the Committee may order the taking of preventive measures against the Office, provided that the petitioner submits the warranties considered by the Committee to secure the right of the Office if the case is dismissed.

Article (51)

If the Committee decides to resort to expert authority, it may bind any of the parties to deposit the amount necessary to cover the estimated cost of such expertise by means of a check certified by an authorized bank on a fixed date. If the party fails to deposit the said amount within the time limit indicated by the Committee, the Committee shall render

judgement on merits of the grievance according to the documents submitted, and the forfeiture shall shoulder the expert expenses.

Article (52)

The committee issues its work rules and procedures to ensure the smooth flow of its work.

Article (53)

The office may issue and amend forms, as he deems adequate for proper performance and development of the Office. The Office shall make reference to such forms in its periodicals.

Article (54)

Patents registered with the Office and any other relevant data may, in the presence of the authorized employee of the Office, be reviewed. Any individual may, after payment of the prescribed fee, obtain a copy thereof, or a copy of the relevant data, a certificate to the contents thereof, or extracts of the register.

Article (55)

Subject to the provisions of Article (10):

1. License contract shall be entered in the register referred to in paragraph (54/3) of this Article, whether its subject was assignment of the license or change of its ownership, or licensing its exploitation. Such entry shall be made upon a request submitted to the Office by any of the contract parties, accompanied by a copy of the contract where signatures of both parties shall be duly authenticated. The contract shall be translated into Arabic if it was drafted in another language, and the applicant shall pay the prescribed entry fee.
2. Requests of license contracts registration shall be given sequence numbers according to their filing dates, and a request shall be marked with its sequence number, filing date, and the date and number of receipt of payment of registration fee. The copy of the contract shall be marked with the sequence number of the request. The Office seal shall stamp the request and the copy of the contract. The applicant shall be furnished with a receipt indicating the request sequence number, filing date, and an inventory of the enclosed documents, and the number and date of the receipt of payment of registration fee.

3. The Office shall establish a register for requests of registration of license contracts. Such register shall contain the following particulars:
 - 3/1. Sequence number and date of request.
 - 3/2. The name, nationality, and address of licensor, and name and address of his agent, if any.
 - 3/3. The name, nationality, and address of licensee, and name and address of his agent, if any.
 - 3/4. Elected domicile of both parties of the contract.
 - 3/5. The contract subject and term
 - 3/6. Date of the decision issued to the rejection of registration and the date of notification of the parties thereof
 - 3/7. Date of the decision issued to the approval of the contract.

4. The Office shall establish a register for license contracts registration of which was granted. Such register shall contain the following particulars:
 - 4/1. The number and date of registration of the contract.
 - 4/2. The date of the decision granting the registration.
 - 4/3. The sequence number and filing date of the request.
 - 4/4. The name, nationality, and address of both parties of the contract, and the agents name and address of each of them, if any.
 - 4/5. The elected domicile for each of them.
 - 4/6. The contract subject and term.

This register shall be marked with all amendments or renewals of the contract, following approval thereof by the office, and payment of prescribed fee for such amendment or renewal.

TABLE OF FEES (SAR)

Description	Individuals	Companies
Patent Application	1.500	3.000
Fees for Grant and Publications	2.500	5.000
Annual Patent Fees		
Year 2	2.000	4.000
Year 3	2.100	4.200
Year 4	2.200	4.400
Year 5	2.300	4.600
Year 6	2.400	4.800
Year 7	2.500	5.000
Year 8	2.600	5.200
Year 9	2.700	5.400
Year 10	2.800	5.600
Year 11	2.900	5.800
Year 12	3.000	6.000
Year 13	3.100	6.200
Year 14	3.200	6.400
Year 15	3.300	6.600
Year 16	3.400	6.800
Year 17	3.500	7.000
Year 18	3.600	7.200
Year 19	3.700	7.400
Year 20	3.800	7.600
Amendment and Addition to the Patent Application	500	1.000
Additional fee for delayed Payment of annual patent fee	500	1.000

Assignment of rights to the application, or Change of Ownership	500	1.000
Obtaining a copy of the application, its registration, or of the patent	100	200
Request of registration of compulsory license	5.000	10.000
Registration of compulsory license	500	1.000
Registration of grievance before the committee	3.000	6.000
Renewal of grievance	1.000	2.000
Request of temporary protection	500	5.000
Request of plantation sample	500	5.000
Performance Search	1.000	2.000
Technical examination	Actual cost	Actual cost