



6 December 2021

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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS
UNDER ARTICLE 63.2 OF THE TRIPS AGREEMENT**

JAPAN: DESIGN ACT (ACT NO. 125 OF 1959)

Latest revision: Act No. 42 of May 21, 2021

Notifying Member	JAPAN
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Details of the notified legal text

Title	Design Act (Act No. 125 of 1959) - Latest revision: Act No. 42 of May 21, 2021
Subject matter	Industrial designs
Nature of notification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main dedicated intellectual property law or regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Other law or regulation
Link to legal text*	https://ip-documents.info/2021/IP/JPN/21_7486_00_e.pdf https://ip-documents.info/2021/IP/JPN/21_7486_00_x.pdf
Notification status	<input type="checkbox"/> First notification <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment or revision to notified legal text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replacement or consolidation of notified legal text(s)
Previous notification(s) referred to	IP/N/1/JPN/55 , IP/N/1/JPN/D/13
Brief description of the notified legal text <p>1. The revised act is to allow the parties subject to oral proceedings for a trial or appeal to complete required procedures using a video conference system without physically appearing in the trial court for the proceedings, provided that the chief administrative judge indicates his/her decision to allow such options.</p> <p>2. The revised act is to simplify the procedures for informing applicants of the decisions on registration of their designs filed as international applications (e.g., allowing the JPO to electronically send such notifications via the International Bureau instead of sending them by postal mail which may stop in response to the expansion of the COVID-19 pandemic).</p> <p>3. The revised act is to stipulate a new rule for the exemption of the registration surcharges during a predetermined period targeting right holders who, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, or other similar reasons, have failed to meet the due date for the payment of registration fees.</p>	
Language(s) of notified legal text	English, Japanese

Entry into force	1 October 2021
Other date	Adoption: 21 May 2021

Notification details

Submission date of notification	29 November 2021
Other information	
Agency or authority responsible	International Policy Division Japan Patent Office 3-4-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8915 Japan Telephone: +81-3-3581-1101 Fax: +81-3-3581-0762

* Links are provided to texts of laws and regulations notified under the TRIPS Agreement in the form supplied by the Member concerned; the WTO Secretariat does not endorse or revise their content.