



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

*Fostering creativity & innovation for economic growth in Africa*



# **ARIPO Annual Report 2016**

**ARIPO  
Harare, Zimbabwe  
2017**

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# FOREWORD

In 2006, ARIPO rolled out the Value and Growth Transformation Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Although it is still too early to evaluate the impact of the new strategy, preliminary assessments show that on a number of initiatives that were undertaken, positive outcomes are being recorded in the Organization’s different strategic areas.

One of the strategic areas in 2016 was the organization restructuring. We undertook a highly successful organizational restructuring exercise, which was intended to align all staff members to a sustainable growth path envisaged by the strategic plan. The exercise saw a team of heads of departments being set up to lead the roll out of this growth and transformation strategy.

ARIPO has a mammoth task of educating Africa on the importance of using IP in their economic and research and development endeavors. To this end, the Organization has embarked on a sustained programme of national roving seminars in selected Member States each year for the purpose of awareness creation and imparting practical Intellectual Property (IP) administration skills to the national offices’ personnel. In 2016, these seminars were conducted in Botswana, Namibia and Uganda. From 2013 to date, a total of 2000 participants in 14 Member States have benefited from the programme. While other national IP offices of the Member States were engaged during the roving seminars, officials from other national offices came to the ARIPO secretariat for the same practical training.

Cooperation with strategic partners is at the heart of our activities and in 2016, ARIPO



sealed four cooperation agreements with the following partners; the French National Seeds and Seedlings Association (GNIS), the Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal, the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and National Institute of Copyright (INDAUTOR), which is an agency within the Ministry of Culture of the United Mexican States. These agreements will facilitate collaboration, information, knowledge and technical skills exchange between ARIPO and the respective parties.

ARIPO celebrated its 40th anniversary on 9 December 2016. To celebrate this milestone, and having come of age, ARIPO unveiled a new logo to enhance its visibility as well as to fully capture its thrust in view of the new mandates given to it by its Member States over the years. The highlight of the 40th anniversary was the unveiling of ARIPO’s new headquarters building. The new building has more office space and a state of the art auditorium with excellent conference facilities. The emblematic modern new building

# FOREWORD

will certainly change the face not only of the Organization but also its neighborhood.

As Africa gears itself in attaining the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 Agenda, intellectual property and innovation systems are crucial in that regard. These can play a major role in ensuring innovation and technology driven economic development. ARIPO is thus geared to provide regional leadership and guidance to Africa at large on issues of IP, especially on how it can play a positive role in the socio-economic growth. IP has become a key driver of economic growth globally, and if harnessed properly, can be a valuable game-changer to deliver sustained competitive advantage for both enterprises and economies. However, this has not been widespread in Africa as we still find very little coming from the continent in terms of applications and registrations. We continue to bemoan the reality as represented by facts and figures that Africa continues to contribute less than 1% of the global IP applications. However, as we have always realized, Africa is inventing and creating new intellectual property products outside the IP system. This is a challenge ARIPO is grappled with. One starting point for ARIPO has been to increase IP ambassadors on the continent by offering a Master's Degree in Intellectual Property at the Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe in partnership with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The new IP knowledge and resource pool which currently stands at over 218 graduates since inception is expected to be the

leading light or foot soldier for IP development on the continent.

ARIPO at the same time shifted its focus onto tertiary education as well as research and development institutions for IP education as these are directly involved in technology development. We believe if we continue with a sustained programme of engagement with them, IP knowledge and appreciation will develop even faster on the continent.

ARIPO also continues to strengthen its IP tools by regularly reviewing its protocols and IP administrative systems to make them respond to the emerging and ever changing needs in the global IP environment. In the year under review, ARIPO made some amendments to the Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs (Harare Protocol) to accommodate new developments with regard to substantive examination and re-establishment of rights. The ARIPO e-service platform has improved our IP administration system and has made our business transactions eco-friendly. We have managed to shorten the response time and also reduced paper use in our communications with the users.

We celebrate the achievements made in 2016, which provide us with a solid pedestal from which we look ahead with confidence for an even better 2017.

**Fernando dos Santos**  
**Director General**



**VISION**  
To be Africa's leading intellectual property hub.

**MISSION**  
To foster creativity and innovation for economic growth and development in Africa.

**OUR CORE VALUES**  
Client-focus Engagement  
Innovation Integrity  
Accountability

# 2. ORGANS OF ARIPO

## 2.1 OVERVIEW

The African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) is governed through various organs. These organs are; the Council of Ministers, Administrative Council, Board of Appeal and the Secretariat. The Administrative Council has subsidiary bodies, namely Finance Committee, Audit Committee, Staff Affairs Committee and Technical Committees.

### Council of ministers

It comprises Ministers of governments of ARIPO Member States who are responsible for the administration of intellectual property laws in their respective countries. It is the supreme organ of the Organization. The Republic of Zambia is the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

### Administrative Council and its Subsidiary Committees

The Administrative Council is composed of heads of offices responsible for industrial property and copyright in Member States. The Administrative Council is subordinate to the Council of Ministers. The Republic of Zambia is also the current Chairman of the Administrative Council.

### Subsidiary Committees of the Administrative Council

The Administrative Council has subsidiary Committees in place to administer the affairs of ARIPO. These come under two broad categories namely; Technical and Administrative Committees. Under the former, there are three Committees namely; Technical Committee on Industrial Property, Technical Committee on Copyright & Related Rights and one on Plant Varieties Protection. Similarly, under Administrative Committees, ARIPO also has three Committees for Audit, Finance and Staff Affairs.

### Board of Appeal

The Board of Appeal is established to hear and review appeals against the administrative decisions of the Office in the implementation of the ARIPO protocols. It is independent of any organ of the Organization.

### Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for the day to day activities of the Organization and implementation of policies issued by the Administrative Council or/and the Council of Ministers. It is headed by a Director General who is the principal executive officer of the Organization. The holder of the office must be a citizen of an ARIPO Member State. The current incumbent is Mr. Fernando A. dos Santos, a national of Mozambique.

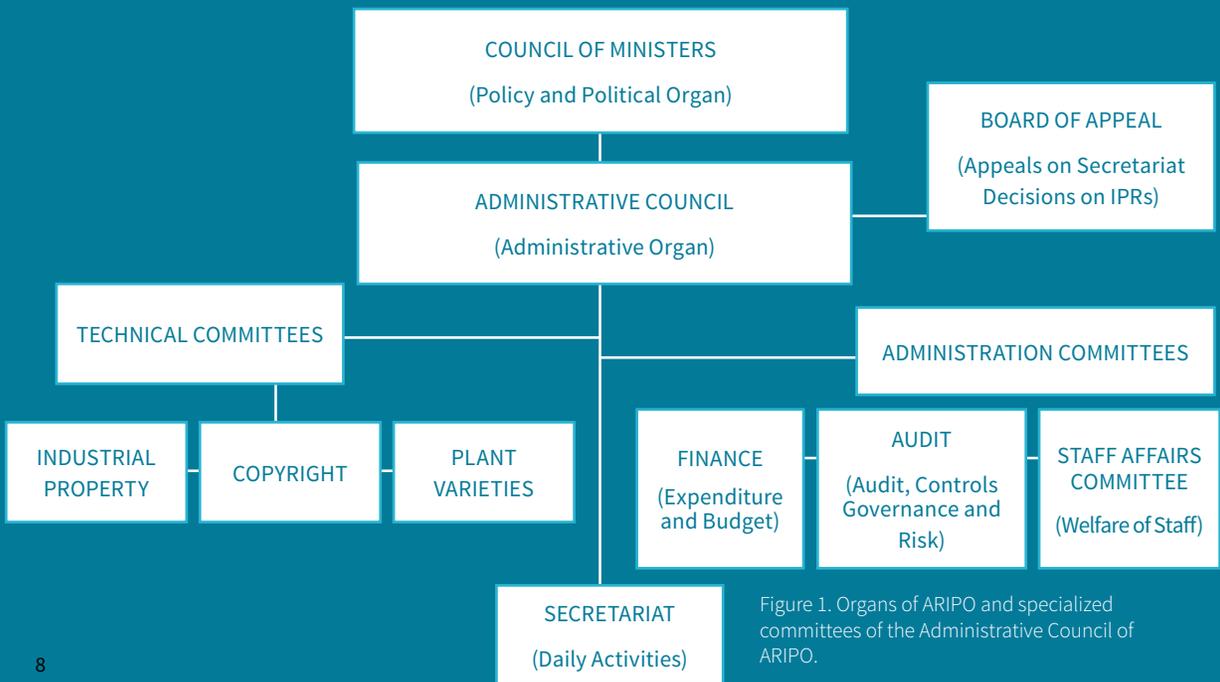


Figure 1. Organs of ARIPO and specialized committees of the Administrative Council of ARIPO.

# 3. ARIPO'S LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

## Lusaka Agreement

ARIPO was established under the Lusaka Agreement, which was signed in Lusaka, Zambia, on 9 December 1976. The objectives are, *inter alia*, to promote, harmonize and develop intellectual property systems in Africa. To carry its functions, ARIPO administers four Protocols.

## The Harare Protocol

The Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs (the Harare Protocol) was adopted on 25 April, 1984 empowering ARIPO to grant patents and register industrial designs as well as utility models on behalf of the Protocol's contracting states. Currently, the Protocol is in force in all the Member States except Somalia.

## The Banjul Protocol

Adopted in 1993, this Protocol empowers ARIPO to register marks on behalf of the Protocol's contracting states. Ten countries are currently party to the Protocol.

## Swakopmund Protocol

The Swakopmund Protocol on the Protection of

Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Folklore was adopted in 2010 and entered into force on 25 May 2015. The protocol aims to protect the overall traditional knowledge and folklore of Africa and to ensure that the same is properly utilized for the welfare of her people. It has eight ratifications so far.

## The Arusha Protocol

The Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants is the newest of the ARIPO protocols having been adopted by a Diplomatic Conference that was held in Arusha, Tanzania on 6 July 2015. The protocol will provide Member States with a regional plant variety protection system that recognizes the need to provide growers and farmers with improved varieties of plants in order to ensure sustainable agricultural production.

By the end of 2016, the Protocol had received five signatures from The Gambia, Ghana, Mozambique, São Tomé & Príncipe, and the United Republic of Tanzania. However, the protocol will only enter into force 12 months after four States have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession.

# 4. CURRENT ARIPO MEMBERSHIP

## 4.1 Membership

Membership to ARIPO is open to Member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) or the African Union (AU). As at 31 December 2016, ARIPO was

comprised of 19 Member States and these are listed below and dates of their membership and contracting status with regards to the ARIPO Protocols that are in effect.

MEMBER STATE	LUSAKA AGREEMENT	HARARE PROTOCOL	BANJUL PROTOCOL	SWAKOPMUND PROTOCOL
<b>Botswana</b> 	6 February, 1985	6 May, 1985	29 October, 2003	28 March, 2012
<b>The Gambia</b> 	15 February, 1978	16 January, 1986		11 February, 2015
<b>Ghana</b> 	15 February, 1978	25 April, 1984		
<b>Kenya</b> 	15 February, 1978	24 October, 1984		
<b>Lesotho</b> 	23 July, 1987	23 October, 1987	12 February, 1999	
<b>Liberia</b> 	24 December, 2009	24 March, 2010	24 March, 2010	25 October, 2016
<b>Malawi</b> 	15 February, 1978	25 April, 1984	6 March, 1997	20 December, 2012
<b>Mozambique</b> 	8 February, 2000	8 May, 2000		
<b>Namibia</b> 	14 October, 2003	23 April, 2004	14 January, 2004	11 February, 2015
<b>Rwanda</b> 	24 June, 2011	24 September, 2011		16 July, 2012

MEMBER STATE	LUSAKA AGREEMENT	HARARE PROTOCOL	BANJUL PROTOCOL	SWAKOPMUND PROTOCOL
<b>São Tomé &amp; Príncipe</b> 	19 May, 2014	19 August, 2014	27 November, 2015	
<b>Sierra Leone</b> 	5 December, 1980	25 February, 1999		
<b>Somalia</b> 	10 December, 1981			
<b>Sudan</b> 	2 May, 1978	25 April, 1984		
<b>Swaziland</b> 	17 December, 1987	17 March, 1988	6 March, 1997	
<b>Tanzania</b> 	12 October, 1983	1 September, 1999	1 September, 1999	
<b>Uganda</b> 	8 August, 1978	25 April, 1984	21 November, 2000	
<b>Zambia</b> 	15 February, 1978	26 February, 1986		28 August, 2015
<b>Zimbabwe</b> 	11 November, 1980	25 April, 1984	6 March, 1997	22 April, 2013

Table 1. Member States and dates when they became contracting states to ARIPO Protocols.



**MEMBER STATES 19**

Figure 2. Member States of ARIPO.

## 4.2 DISTRIBUTION OF Member States of ARIPO

ARIPO’s membership of 19 states is distributed across the continent as shown in figure 2. According to The World Bank Estimates, this represents an intellectual property market population of 315 Million.

# 5. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

All the subsidiary committees of the Administrative Council met as scheduled in Harare, Zimbabwe. These are Administrative Committees (for Finance, Audit, Staff Affairs) and Technical Committees as sub-committees on (Industrial Property, Copyright and Related Rights and on Plant Varieties Protection). The committees met separately.

## 5.1 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

### I. Audit Committee

The Audit Committee met for its Third and Fourth Sessions from 22 to 24 May and 21 to 23 June respectively. For its Fifth and Sixth Sessions, it met from 26 to 28 September and 21 to 22 November respectively.

The Third Session, reviewed the first drafts of the Investigation Manual and the Risk Management Policy. The Audit Committee also considered the appointment of the Head of Internal Audit and the Internal Audit Report.

The Fourth Session reviewed the first draft of the ICT Policy, and the second drafts of the Investigation Manual and Risk Management Policy. The Committee further considered the appointment of the External Auditors and a Report of the Internal Auditor's Activities for the quarter.

At its Fifth Session (26 to 28 September), the Committee discussed the Rules and Procedures of the Administrative Committees; submission of the ICT Policy and appointment of the External Auditors to the Administrative Council; and report of the Internal Audit Activities which covered Expenditure, Travel Management, Bank and Cash Management and Budget Performance; and the proposed Audit Plan of 2017.

The Sixth Session (21 and 22 November) discussed the External Auditor's Report, Financial Statements;



*The Audit Committee (seated) with the Director General. Standing: Some members of staff of ARIPO.*

the Internal Audit Report; and the proposed Audit Plan for 2017.

### Appointment of External Auditors

In line with a recommendation by previous sessions of the Administrative Council to regularly change the Organization's external auditors in order to avoid the risk of familiarity, ARIPO's contract with Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) as the Organization's external auditors ended with the auditing of the Organization's financial statements of 2015. BDO Chartered accounting firm was appointed as the new external auditors of ARIPO from 2017. The firm will be contracted to offer the external audit services for the next five years.



## II. Finance Committee

From 26 to 28 September the Finance Committee met for its Twenty-Third Session in Harare. First, the Committee deliberated on its proposed terms of reference. After this, it reviewed the audited financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2015. The Committee was also apprised of financial statements for the year 2016 vis-à-vis the year's approved work-plan and was asked to consider the 2017 proposed budget and programme of activities that were to be presented to the 40th Session of the Administrative Council for approval. The Session further deliberated on the proposed new fee structure for the Harare Protocol.

The committee was again asked to preview the following financial policy documents that the Secretariat had produced. Amended Financial Regulations of ARIPO, ARIPO Fixed Asset Policy, and the ARIPO Financial and Accounting Procedures Manual.



*Members of the Audit, Finance and Staff Affairs Committees pose in a group photo after the joint official opening of their respective committees sessions in Harare.*

## III. Staff Affairs Committee

The committee met in its Fifteenth Session in Harare from 26 to 28 September. The Committee was given an update on staff movements that happened early in the year; proposed recruitments to fill some vacancies in the year 2017; also an update on the implementation of the People and Organizational Transformation Strategy 2016-2020; and other staff welfare issues.

## IV. Special Projects Committee

The Special Projects Committee held its 2nd session on 20 October. This committee was created to oversee construction work on the expansion of the ARIPO headquarters. The Committee assessed the progress on the ground on the extension of the ARIPO headquarters building that commenced in May 2015.



*Members of the Special Projects Committee touring to assess progress of the construction work.*

## 5.2 TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The various Technical Committees of the Organization held their respective meetings in Harare, Zimbabwe in the year.

### I. Industrial Property

The Technical Committee on Industrial Property met on 17 to 19 August for its 6th Session and deliberated on areas pertaining to the administration of industrial property at ARIPO, the recommendations

of which were subsequently adopted by the Fortieth Session of the Administrative Council. The session came out with proposals to amend; the Rules of Procedure of the Technical Committees to incorporate specific functions of the committee on industrial property; the Harare Protocol in order to bring it in line with international best practices; the Protocol's fee structure; and proposals to amend the Swakopmund Protocol. The proposed amendments were approved by the Fortieth Session of the Administrative Council and would come into force in January 2017.



Members of the Technical Committee on Industrial Property (standing) pose for a photo with the Director General of ARIPO, Mr. Fernando dos Santos (seated centre), the Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Zimbabwe (seated second right), an Official from the Embassy of the Republic of Ghana (seated second from left) and two members of the Administrative Council of ARIPO, namely; Swaziland (extreme left) and Zimbabwe (extreme right).



Members of the Technical Committee on Copyright & Related Rights (standing) pose for a photo with the Director General of ARIPO, Mr. Fernando dos Santos (seated centre), the Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Zimbabwe (seated second right), an Official from the Embassy of the Republic of Ghana (seated second from left) and two members of the Administrative Council of ARIPO, namely; Swaziland (extreme left) and Zimbabwe (extreme right).

## II. Copyright & Related Rights

The Technical Committee on Copyright and Related Rights met in Harare for its 3rd Session from 17 to 19 August. In this session, the Committee discussed the following matters:

- Amendment of the rules of procedure of the Technical Committee to incorporate specific functions of the Technical Committee on Copyright & Related Rights;
- Report on Copyright and related rights activities for 2016;
- Report on the comparative study on the copyright laws of certain ARIPO Member States;
- Proposed establishment of a regional voluntary copyright registration and notification system; and
- Progress report on the regional ICT projects for IP business processes: regional copyright database.

### Regional Voluntary Copyright Registration and Notification System

ARIPO has come up with a roadmap for the establishment of a regional voluntary copyright registration and notification system which is premised on observed centralized regional and international approaches that link the user to the right holder and their works to promote licensing as well as the unique identifiers that facilitate

secondary licensing. The UK Copyright Hub provides very good models for the envisaged ARIPO system. Some ARIPO Member States, such as Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia, provide within their laws for voluntary registrations.

## III. Plant Variety Protection

The Technical Committee on Plant Variety Protection (PVP) met in its First Session in Harare from 17 to 19 August. The Committee deliberated on proposed amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Technical Committee to incorporate specific functions of the Technical Committee on PVP; draft regulations for implementing the Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants; revised list of agricultural crops with historical practice of farm saved seeds in the Member States; and, proposed competent institutions, quality audits and arrangements for Distinction, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) testing.



Technical committee on PVP in session.

# 6. THE ARIPO ASSEMBLIES

## 6.1 THE FORTIETH SESSION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The Fortieth Session of the Administrative Council of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) was held in Harare, the Republic of Zimbabwe from 5 to 7 December 2016.

Seventeen Member States of the Organization were represented at the Session, namely; Botswana, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A number of inter-governmental organizations and co-operating partners of the Organization were also represented. These were: the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (OAPI), European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), French National Association for Seeds and Seedlings (GNIS) and the International Federation for Reproduction Rights Organizations (IFFRO). Representatives of these cooperating partners addressed the Session.



*Mrs Virginia Mabhiza, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe.*

In attendance as well were patent agents. These were: Adams and Adams of South Africa, Adams and Adams of Mozambique, B.W. Kahari, B. Matanga Attorneys, Gill Godlonton and Gerrans, Roland Intellectual Property Consultants, Honey and Blackenburg, Kisch and Spoor and Fisher of South Africa.

The Guest of Honour, Mrs. Virginia Mabhiza, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Constitutional Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe addressed and officially opened the Fortieth Session.



*Delegates who attended the 40th Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO in Harare, Zimbabwe.*

## 6.2 MAJOR DECISIONS OF THE FORTIETH SESSION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The various committees of the Administrative Council made proposals to the 40th Session of the administrative Council for adoption and or review. A number of these proposals pertained to the amendment of the ARIPO legal instruments. Amongst these were proposals to amend the Harare and Swakopmund Protocols and proposals to amend the rules of procedure to incorporate specific functions of the Technical and Administrative Committees.

### Amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Administrative and Technical Committees

The Fortieth Session approved the setting up of generic Rules of Procedure with specific Terms of Reference for each individual Technical Committee as well (i.e. on Industrial Property, Copyright and Related Rights, Plant Variety Protection, and for the Administrative Committees namely; Finance, Audit and Staff Affairs).

### Amendment of the Harare and Swakopmund Protocols

It also approved the proposed amendments to the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs including the revised fee structure.

Further, the 40th Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO approved proposals to amend the Swakopmund Protocol on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Folklore.

### Harmonization of the ARIPO and Member States Laws

With regard to efforts towards the harmonization of ARIPO and Member States laws, the 40th session of the Administrative Council tasked the Organization to come up with a perfect regional legislation to which Member States will align their own national laws.

### Harare Protocol Fee Structure

ARIPO now has a new fee structure for the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs taking effect in 2017. The review will not only result in fees being increased all round, but also in a reduction in fees for other items.

Patent fees have been increased by US\$10 for each anniversary year translating to a percentage increase of between 5% to 15% while the other basic fees would be increased by 15%.

The review is for the meantime limited to patents in a deliberate bid to encourage utility model filings, which come mainly from local applicants.



*The 5th Session of the Working Group for the Revision of the ARIPO Protocols in session.*

## Roadmap for Implementing Swakopmond Protocol

It also approved a roadmap for effectively implementing the Protocol, in which ARIPO with anticipated assistance from its partners will begin establishing databases of registered traditional knowledge, associated genetic resources, expression of folklore as well as existing and publicly available information in the form of scientific publications, pharmacopeia, cultural heritage inventories, museum and archival collections, etc.

## Copyright and Related Rights Plan of Action

With regard to Copyright matters, the Session considered and approved the proposed activities for 2017; proposed roadmap for the establishment of a Regional Voluntary Copyright Registration and Notification System and the establishment of a regional copyright database.

## Draft Regulations for Implementing the Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

The 40th Session of the Administrative Council referred the draft Regulations for implementing the Arusha Protocol for the protection of new varieties of plants back to the Technical Committee on PVP for a further review of sticking issues that were raised by delegates and members of the Civil Society Organizations (CSO). The draft regulations had earlier in the year been reviewed by a meeting of experts on PVP including members of the Civil Society.

## Consideration of Revised List of Agricultural Crops with Historical Practice of Farm Saved Seeds in the Member States

In consultation with Member States, the Secretariat developed a list of agricultural crops with historical practice of farm saved seeds with a view to exempting them from the protection sought under the Arusha Protocol. The 40th session postponed its determination on this list as the matter was also referred back to the Technical Committee on PVP.

## Progress in the Implementation of the Arusha Protocol

The Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants was adopted in Arusha, Tanzania in 2015. As reported earlier in the report, the protocol has so far received five signatures from The Gambia, Ghana, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe and the United Republic of Tanzania. It will however only enter into force twelve months after four Member States have deposited their instruments of accession or ratification.

## Progress in the implementation of the mandate on Geographical Indications

With regard to the mandate on Geographical Indications (GIs), ARIPO participated in the Working Group for the Preparation of Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement that was held in Geneva, from 7 to 9 June 2016. ARIPO also participated in the workshop for the review and validation of African Union continental strategy and action plan for Geographical Indications in Africa that was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 22 to 25 November 2016. Detailed proposals to support Member States in the review of the GIs legal framework and identification of potential GIs in ARIPO Member States were developed for further mobilization of resources during the course of 2017.



*Expert Review Meeting which was meant to finalize the draft regulation for the implementation of the Arusha Protocol which was held in Harare.*

# 7. CAPACITY BUILDING

ARIPO is expected by its Member States to play a leading role in creating awareness of IP and providing the critical human resource base on matters of intellectual property.

To this end, the Organization created the ARIPO Academy to oversee the implementation of that mandate. In the year 2016, a number of activities were pursued all with the aim of improving IP literacy and administration in Africa.

## Masters of Intellectual Property Program

In efforts to build a strong knowledge base with regard to IP matters in Africa, the ARIPO Academy continued to collaborate and cooperate with Africa University and the WIPO Academy in the delivery of a Masters in Intellectual Property (MIP) degree program. The Program is now in its ninth cohort. By end of the year 2016, the MIP program had produced 218 graduates from the first to eighth cohort, with an overall graduation rate of 91%. In 2016, the ninth Cohort of 34 MIP Students was enrolled and this will graduate in 2017. ARIPO has since the launch of the MIP program in 2008, offered sponsorships to 54 students.

The initiative is aimed at building and strengthening a competent intellectual property skills base and capacity in Africa. This skills base is very important for Africa as it can readily be taped on to advance other critical areas such as research and advocacy on matters related to IP in Africa.



*Students in the 9th Cohort of MIP program inspect a water pump during the practical phase of their studies in Harare.*

## Training Workshops

The ARIPO Academy undertakes initiatives aimed at improving IP administration in the national IP offices as well as nurturing IP knowledge and skills in research and development institutions in the Member States. In 2016, a number of activities were organized in fulfilment of this initiative.

On Promotion of IP Teaching in Police Academies, ARIPO engaged members of police academies in the member states to help them incorporate the teaching of IP in their curricula. Some Member States' police academies, namely, in The Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia have introduced IP courses in their training curricula while other Member States' academies are also in the process of doing the same.

Two ARIPO officials conducted some practical training on the administration of IP under the Harare and Banjul Protocols at the national IP office of the Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe from 11 to 13 April 2016 in São Tomé. Further, ARIPO hosted officers from Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) and also offered the same training. This training was conducted from 19 to 29 April at the ARIPO headquarters.

Both training programmes sought to capacitate the officers on the proper procedures for handling of ARIPO IP files and how they are expected to deal with the communications emanating from the Secretariat.

To nurture IP knowledge and development, a model institutional intellectual property policy evaluation matrix and implementation framework for universities, research and development institutions in the ARIPO Member States was also developed. This initiative is aimed at making these institutions embrace IP systems as a valuable aspect of their research and teaching pursuits.

## Roving Seminars

The ARIPO flagship program “ARIPO Roving Seminars” were organized in three countries namely: Botswana, Namibia and Uganda. The number of countries that benefitted from this initiative since the beginning of the programme in 2014 is 14 and the total number of participants who benefitted directly from the programmes is 2000. The media coverage through broadcasts that accompanied the roving seminars made the beneficiary population even more larger than those who participated directly.

## Technical Assistance to National IP Offices

The Office is supporting the IP Offices of the Member States in the administration of IP. ARIPO officers trained members of Staff of the São Tomé & Príncipe IP Office and hosted officers from URSB, Uganda. The overall objective of these initiatives is to capacitate officers of these IP Offices to handle ARIPO files properly and to improve their skills in the administration of intellectual property rights in their respective offices. Upon request, the Office assisted in the review of the copyright bill of

Swaziland and the Namibia draft regulations under the Industrial Property Act of the respective state.

The Office participated in a number of initiatives related to IP at the ARIPO headquarters, in the Member States and worldwide. The Office also engaged the users by attending meetings organized by them and attending exhibitions. As a response to an ever growing visibility of the organization, a number of users also visited the ARIPO headquarters in Harare.

Further in the review year, ARIPO and WIPO jointly organized a study visit by representatives of Liberia, Namibia, Swaziland and Uganda to the Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO) and to some Collective Management Organizations in Kenya. The visit took place from 29 August to 1 September 2016.

ARIPO and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) organized another study visit by representatives of Lesotho and Zambia to the USPTO, US Copyright Office, Library of Congress and the USPTO Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) from 19 to 23 September 2016.

ARIPO further awarded prizes in copyright competitions held during the Roving Seminars in Namibia and Uganda.



*Roving Seminar in Botswana.*



*Roving Seminar in Uganda.*



*Roving Seminar in Namibia.*

## Joint Capacity Building Initiatives with Strategic Partners

In 2016 the following activities were undertaken with strategic partners in Harare, Zimbabwe:

	Name of Workshop	Host Country and City	Date Held
1	Zimbabwe National Seminar on Copyright and Related Rights	Harare, Zimbabwe	28 to 29 January
2	Workshop on Copyright as a catalyst to growth of Zimbabwe Music Industry	Harare, Zimbabwe	23 February
3	Experts meeting to conclude the Regulations for the Arusha Protocol	Harare, Zimbabwe	14 to 17 June
4	24th Junior Parliament Session and the African Child Commemorations	Harare, Zimbabwe	18 June
5	IP Statistics Sub-Regional Workshop for ARIPO member states	Harare, Zimbabwe	14 to 16 September
6	Digital Licensing and Documentation Workshop for music collective management organisations from ARIPO Member States	Harare, Zimbabwe	8 to 9 November

*Table 2. Activities with strategic partners at ARIPO headquarters.*

A number of other initiatives were undertaken jointly with strategic partners in ARIPO Member States or Observer States, as follows:

	Name of Workshop	Host Country and City	Date Held
1	WIPO Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)	Blantyre, Malawi	25 to 26 January
2	WIPO-NORCODE Follow-up of the Training Program 2015	Windhoek, Namibia	1 to 5 February
3	Training Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT),	Pretoria, South Africa	1 to 3 March
4	Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)	Beira and Maputo, Mozambique	18 to 21 April
5	WIPO Workshop on Effective IP Asset Management by SMEs	Victoria, Seychelles	4 to 6 July
6	WIPO Regional Training Workshop on Data Quality Management, Exchange and Online Services	Maputo, Mozambique	11 to 15 July
7	Back-to-back Workshops on Transparency Accountability and Good Governance (TAG), WIPO Connect, Marrakesh and Beijing Treaty for Copyright Offices and Collective Management Organizations of ARIPO Member States	Gaborone, Botswana	25 to 29 July
8	WIPO Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT),	Kigali, Rwanda	17 to 18 August
9	WIPO Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)	Mbabane, Swaziland	7 to 9 September

Table 3. Capacity building activities done with strategic partners in the Member States.

## Engagements with the Member States of ARIPO

In pursuance of its responsibilities to assist Member States in the development and strengthening of their IP systems, the ARIPO office continuously engages them. Below are some of the initiatives undertaken in 2016 in fulfilment of that objective.

	Name of Engagement	Host Country and City	Date Held
1	Award of prizes in copyright competitions held during the Roving Seminar sessions in Uganda	Kampala, Uganda	28 March to 1 April
2	Award of prizes in copyright competitions held during the Roving Seminar sessions in Namibia	Windhoek, Namibia	16 to 20 May
3	Training on the operations of the Harare and Banjul Protocols for the National Office of the Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe	São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe	11 to 13 April
4	Hosting of the delegation of Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal	Harare, Zimbabwe	12 to 15 April
5	Training of Officers from Uganda Registration Services Bureau	Harare, Zimbabwe	19 to 29 April
6	Hosting of the delegation of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) (Acting DG and Chairman Board of Directors)	Harare, Zimbabwe	31 May to 2 June
7	Review of the Swaziland copyright bill	Virtual	31 May to 13 June
8	Review of Namibia draft regulations under the Industrial Property Act	Harare, Zimbabwe	15 to 16 August

Table 4. Capacity building activities with Member States.

Some of the initiatives undertaken targeted specifically universities and research institutions located in ARIPO Member States. These were as tabled below.

Name of Initiatives/Meetings		Host Country and City	Date Held
1	Meeting with Researchers at the Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation	Gaborone, Botswana	14 March
2	East Africa Innovation Workshop and Boot Camp (Strathmore University, Centre For Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law - CIPIT)	Nairobi, Kenya;	24 to 26 May
3	Masvingo Polytechnic Inaugural Research and Innovation Conference	Masvingo, Zimbabwe	28 to 29 July
4	Participation in the Public Awareness and Capacity Building Program on Intellectual Property Rights in Mozambique	Maputo, Mozambique	20 to 21 October
5	Educational visit from students of the Chinhoyi University (Zimbabwe)	Harare, Zimbabwe	6 May

Table 5. Capacity building activities in universities.

## Engagement with Users

The ARIPO Office embarked on the initiative of sensitizing and attracting more users to file applications through the ARIPO route. To realise that, missions and participation in trade events and users meetings was prioritized. In 2016, ARIPO participated in the following users meetings.

Name of Meeting		Host Country and City	Date Held
1	Africa Roadshow in New York	New York, USA	2 to 7 April
2	Joint celebration of the World Intellectual Property (IP) Day ARIPO/ Zimbabwe Institute of Patent & Trademark Agents (ZIPTA)	Harare, Zimbabwe	26 April
3	INTA 138th Annual Meeting	Orlando, USA	21 to 25 May
4	Adams & Adams Africa Network Meeting	Pretoria, South Africa	11 to 12 August
5	INTA_BASCAP Intermediaries Conference	Cape Town, South Africa	31 August
6	INTA Africa Forum "Building Africa with Brands Conference"	Cape Town, South Africa	1 to 2 September

Table 6. Users meetings attended.

As a response to an ever growing visibility of the Organization, a number of users also flocked to Harare to acquaint themselves with the operations of the organization, among others:

User Delegations Received		Host Country and City	Date Held
1	Economic and Public Finance Management Institute (IGEF)	Harare, Zimbabwe	16 February
2	Adams & Adams Mozambique	Harare, Zimbabwe	24 February
3	Thomson Reuters	Harare, Zimbabwe	25 April
4	Experts from ARIPO Member States participated in the 5th Session of the Working Group on the Improvement of the Banjul and Harare Protocols	Harare, Zimbabwe	3 to 4 May
5	South African Patent Agent (Honey & Blanckenberg)	Harare, Zimbabwe	2 June

Table 7. Users delegations recieved at ARIPO.

## Participation in National and International IP Fora

ARIPO officers attended a number of events related to intellectual property in different parts of the World. In view of the special relationship and the central role played by WIPO in the administration of IP worldwide, events organized by WIPO were given priority. Below are the WIPO organized meetings in which ARIPO took part:

	Activity Undertaken	Host Country and City	Date Held
1	29th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC)	Geneva, Switzerland	15 to 19 February
2	9th Session of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group and the 29th Session of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation	Geneva, Switzerland	17 to 20 February
3	4th Session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)	Geneva, Switzerland	21 to 24 March
4	17th Session of the WIPO Development Agenda	Geneva, Switzerland	11 to 15 April
5	WIPO Conference on the Global Digital Content Market	Geneva, Switzerland	20 to 22 April
6	32nd Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)	Geneva, Switzerland	9 to 13 May
7	9th Session of the Working Group on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)	Geneva, Switzerland	17 to 20 May
8	WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources	Geneva, Switzerland	26 to 29 May
9	30th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore	Geneva, Switzerland	30 May to 3 June
10	5th Session of the Working Group for the Preparation of the Common Regulations Under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement	Geneva, Switzerland	7 to 9 June
11	11th Session of WIPO's Advisory Committee on Enforcement	Geneva, Switzerland	5 to 7 September
12	56th Series of Assemblies of WIPO	Geneva, Switzerland	3 to 11 October
13	36th Session of the IPC Working Group	Geneva, Switzerland	31 October to 4 November
14	Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)	Geneva, Switzerland	31 October to 4 November
15	Brands and the Madrid International Trademark System - Commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Madrid System	Qingdao, China	15 to 16 November

Table 8. International IP fora participated in.

## Activities of Other Cooperating Partners

ARIPO officers attended other initiatives organized by other partner organizations as per the list below:

	Activity Undertaken	Host Country and City	Date Held
1	6th China IP International Annual Forum	Beijing, China	20 to 25 January
2	1st National Conference on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)	Harare, Zimbabwe	28 to 29 January
3	The African Seed Trade Organization (AFSTA) Sixth Annual Congress 2016	Nairobi, Kenya	1 to 3 March
4	Global Dialogue on Promoting Innovation and Access to Medicines, Vaccines, Diagnostics and Related Health Technologies	Johannesburg, South Africa	17 March
5	Expert Meeting on the Development of the Gene Bank Standards for Animal Genetic Resources In Africa	Kigali, Rwanda	21 to 23 April
6	Emerging Issues in the Domain Name Industry in Africa	Harare, Zimbabwe	9 to 10 May
7	Creating a Virtuous Circle: Developing Intellectual Property and Innovation Policy and Strategies in Public Research and Development Institutions and Universities to Facilitate the Transfer of Technology to Industry	Casablanca, Morocco	11 to 12 May
8	Sub-regional IP Workshop for Young African Inventors: From Ideas to the Market Place	Gaborone, Botswana	22 to 23 June
9	Launch of UNECA Reports (on innovation)	Nairobi, Kenya	17 to 19 July
10	USPTO Annual Copyright Symposium	Alexandria, Virginia	19 to 23 September
11	50th Ordinary Session of the UPOV Council and the 73rd Session of UPOV Administrative and Legal Committee	Geneva, Switzerland	25 and 28 October
12	IFRRO World Congress and General Meeting	Amsterdam, Netherlands	31 October to 4 November
13	Cities as Innovation hubs for Africa's Transformation	Pretoria, South Africa	2 to 4 November
14	WTO Workshop on Developed Country Incentives to Transfer Technology to LDCs	Geneva, Switzerland	7 November
15	WTO TRIPS Council	Geneva, Switzerland	8 to 9 November
16	WTO Workshop on Supporting LDCs in making effective use of IPRs	Geneva, Switzerland	10 to 11 November
17	OECD IP Statistics for Decision Makers Conference	Sydney, Australia	15 to 16 November
18	Validation Workshop on the Draft Continental Geographic Indications Policy Framework for Africa	Nairobi, Kenya	21 to 25 November

Table 9. Activities of cooperating partners attended.

### Engagement with Users

The ARIPO Office embarked on the initiative of sensitizing and attracting more users to file applications through the ARIPO route. To realise that, missions and participation in trade events and users meetings was prioritized. In 2016, ARIPO participated in the following users meetings.

### China IP Annual Forum & Conference

ARIPO attended the 6th China IP Annual Forum & 2016 Annual Conference, which was held from 22nd to 24th January 2016, in Beijing, China. The conference brought together Intellectual Property Attorneys, judges, corporate IP managers, industrial experts and scholars from China and around the world to discuss Intellectual Property (IP) trends, new insights and

strategies. The conference theme was “IP Route and Strategy: Internationalization of Chinese Enterprises”.

## International Trademark Association (INTA)

The 138th annual meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA) which was held in Orlando, Florida, United States of America from 21 to 25 May provided ARIPO with an opportunity to participate in a number of discussions on trademark related topics through one on one meetings, networking, exhibitions and social events organized for the occasion. By participating, ARIPO got a rare opportunity to directly meet international trademark owners explaining to them about the ARIPO trademark system administered under the Banjul Protocol as well as clearing some unfortunate misconceptions about the system. The engagements were aimed at boosting the confidence of trademark owners and their agents in the system.



*The Director General holding a meeting with INTA Board Members in Orlando, Florida, USA.*

## Meeting with Praxi Intellectual Property

In efforts to promote the use of the ARIPO route in the protection of intellectual property rights in Africa through direct engagements with the users, on 10 October, 2016, the Director General of ARIPO, Mr. Fernando dos Santos met officials of Italian IP firm Praxi Intellectual Property, SPA at its headquarters in Turin. The firm’s activities are focused on all facets of intellectual property — patents, trademarks, designs, utility models and copyrights — including search procedures, registration and granting of rights, management of cases or actions aimed at preventing counterfeiting as well as economic and asset-related valuation of intangible assets.

Mr. Dos Santos apprised Praxi Intellectual Property of the current trends of sustained economic growth and development in Africa and the opportunities this offers in terms of the need for protection of IPRs in that region.



*The Director General addressing the China Annual IP Forum and Conference.*



*The Director General meeting with Senior Management of Praxi IP.*

In an effort to directly engage with the current and potential users of the ARIPO system, the office participated in a number of trade exhibitions in Zimbabwe and in the region. The exhibitions provided ARIPO with the opportunity to popularize and explain its products and activities to users.

### Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF)

ARIPO participated as an exhibitor at the 57th edition of the ZITF that was held in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe from 26 to 30 April under the theme, “Innovate, Integrate, Industrialize”. The majority of the visitors apparently were from Zimbabwe’s institutions of higher learning who said that they were challenged by the country’s Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education to start patenting if they were to be taken seriously. Because of this new challenge from the ministry, there was much interest from the institutions about ARIPO and on intellectual property issues.

### Zambia International Trade Fair

In an effort to also enhance its visibility in the Member States, ARIPO with the kind facilitation of the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) took part as an exhibitor at the 52nd edition of the Zambia International Trade Fair that was held in Ndola from 29 June to 05 July 2016. The event ran under the theme, “Enhanced Value Addition for Job Creation”. The ARIPO exhibition booth received huge numbers of people who included academics, students and reporters from print and broadcast media houses. The highlight of the activities at the ARIPO stand was a visit by the Guest of Honor, and Mozambican President, His Excellency, Filipe Jacinto Nyusi and the host President, His Excellency Edgar Chagwa Lungu accompanied by the Zambian Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Honourable Margaret Mwanakatwe.

### Zimbabwe International Book Fair

Zimbabwe International Book Fair (ZIBF) is one of Africa’s premier book and publishers fairs, showcasing a large and diverse annual exhibition of books as well as printing and publishing technology. Held annually in Harare, Zimbabwe since 1983, the fair is a meeting place for various stakeholders in the book industry and ultimately the place to disseminate information related

to copyright. The 2016 edition of the fair was held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 25 to 29 July. Zimbabwe’s Minister of Education, Dr Lazarus Dokora, visited the ARIPO stand and expressed his desire to engage the Organization in the development of the new national schools’ curriculum.

### Harare Agricultural Show

During the Harare Agricultural Show, ARIPO took the opportunity to visit exhibitions by Higher and Tertiary Education institutions to see the kind of inventions they were exhibiting. The survey revealed that while the majority of the institutions were engaged in various projects on potentially patentable products there was little information or awareness of the need for them to subject their research outcomes to preliminary examinations for novelty. As such, ARIPO shared with most of them information on how this could be done. Following this engagements, ARIPO received direct invitations from three local institutions to participate in their respective research expos.

### SMEs International Expo

ARIPO participated as an exhibitor at the 2016 edition of the SMEs International Expo that took place in Harare under the theme, “Enhancing investments in SMEs to unlock value and new markets beyond borders”. The participating entities from the SMEs sector showcased their products, which confirmed the creative capacity of many of those enterprises. ARIPO was disseminating information and had face-to-face discussions on how the SMEs could benefit from the patent information services available to enhance their competitiveness as well as their innovative capacity. They were also encouraged to enhance the market presence of their products through branding and trademarks in this increasingly competitive environment.



Guest of Honor, H.E. President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique and Zambian President, H.E. Edgar Lungu, at the ARIPO stand in Ndola, Zambia

# 9. HUMAN RESOURCES

The effective delivery of the Value and Growth Transformation Strategic Plan 2016-2020, which the Organization adopted lies in effective talent management. In pursuit of this ARIPO undertook a staff placement exercise wherein, employees and positions were realigned with the Organization's mission, vision, strategy, objectives and key measures which in turn provide the Organization with measurable cash returns

through the improvement of people performance.

## Managerial Appointments

The Director General, Mr. Fernando dos Santos appointed a new management team responsible for assisting him in steering the Value and Growth Transformation Strategic change process over the next five years. The team is composed of the pictured officers below and their designations.



**Mr. Fernando dos Santos**  
Director General



**Mr. Christopher Kiige**  
Director: Intellectual Property



**Mr. Emmanuel Sackey**  
IP Development Executive



**Mr. John Kabare**  
IP Operations Executive



**Ms Flora Mpanju**  
Head: Substantive Search & Examination



**Mr. Muziwoxolo Bukhwele**  
Head: Administration, Documentation & Communication



**Mr. Charles Pundo**  
Head: Formality Examination



**Ms Palesa Kaibe**  
Head: Finance



**Mr. Graham Mhlakaza**  
Head: Human Resources



**Ms Maureen Fondo**  
Head: Copyright & Related Rights



**Mr. Grey Njowola**  
Head: ICTs



**Mr. Pierre Runiga**  
Head: Policy, Legal & International Cooperation



**Mr. Letu Shilongo**  
Head: Internal Audit



Mr Omiti

### Recruitment of New Staff

Two vacant positions were filled in 2016. These positions were for Patent Examiner, Mechanical Engineering, which was taken up by Mr. John Fredrick Onunga Omiti, a national of the Republic of Kenya who joined the Organization on 1 March 2016. The position of Receptionist was filled by Ms Samantha David, a national of the Republic of Zimbabwe who joined the Organization on 9 May 2016.



Ms David

### Internships

Four interns were recruited on short-term basis in line with the Organization’s thrust to provide students with practical work experience while at the same time providing valuable human resource support to ARIPO’s activities as follows:



Martha Cossa  
(Mozambique) Policy,  
Legal and International  
Cooperation



Lawrence Hoba  
(Zimbabwe) Copyright  
and Related Rights



Aneth Kirenga  
(Tanzania) Information  
and Communication  
Technologies



Tendai Muhamba  
(Zimbabwe)  
Finance



Miss Thoko Chimulu

### Separation

Former Receptionist, Ms Thokozile Chimulu, resigned from the Organization with effect from 31 March 2016 after 10 years of service.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

### RPET Program

Mr Said Ramadhan, Senior Patent Examiner, Biotechnology successfully completed the Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) in 2016 whereas Mr Ahmed Ibrahim, Senior Patent Examiner, Electronics successfully completed the same in December 2016, bringing the number of ARIPO's certified examiners to three.

RPET is a modern, comprehensive and intensive competency based training program, with a focus

on enhancing the consistency and quality of patent examination under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and contribute to greater confidence in IP rights that are granted and ultimately facilitate trade and technology transfer in the region.

### Other Staff Development Programmes

A total of eleven (11) members of staff attended various continuing professional development and skills development workshops and continuing professional development programmes in the fields of Intellectual Property, Procurement, Information Communication Technologies as well as people management.

Training Programme Attended		Host Country and City	Date Held
1	WIPO Industrial Property Examination Training	Tokyo, Japan	18 to 29 January
2	IP Seminar on Procedural and evidentiary issues	Alicante, Spain	2 to 4 March
3	WIPO Workshop on Patent Law and Examination	Daejeon, Republic of Korea	23 March to 1 April
4	WIPO advanced distance learning course of Intellectual Property Management		5 April to 10 July
5	Fundamentals of Procurement and Fraudulent Analytics Management Strategies Workshop	Johannesburg, South Africa	18 to 22 April
6	UPOV Train-the-trainer Course on Plant Variety Protection	Geneva, Switzerland	9 to 13 May
7	Advanced International Course of IP Panorama Multimedia Contents organized by Korean Intellectual Property Office		19 May to 1 July
8	Supervisors Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Workshop	Canberra, Australia	31 May to 3 June
9	2016 PwC IFRS update seminar	Harare, Zimbabwe	24 August
10	Study visit to the Kenya Copyright Board	Nairobi, Kenya	29 August to 1 September
11	IP Seminar on IP Rights other than Trade Marks and Designs	Alicante, Spain	13 to 15 September
12	Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Trainee Workshop at IP	Canberra, Australia	31 October to 11 November
13	WIPO/USPTO Advanced Workshop on Management and Administration of IP Offices	Alexandria, Virginia, USA	14 to 18 November

Table 10. Staff development activities undertaken.

### Staff Retreat

The year started off with an all staff working retreat that was held from 12 to 15 February 2016 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. During the retreat, staff was inducted on the Value and Growth Transformation Strategic Plan 2016-2020 by the consultants from Deloitte Advisory Services (Private) Limited who engaged staff and introduced the Value & Growth Transformation Strategy as well as the

People and Organizational Transformation Strategy.

### Employee Wellness

The Organization introduced the Employee Wellness Program (EWP) in May 2016 in collaboration with Innovate High Performance Centre. The EWP will be ongoing and seeks to cater for employees personal health and fitness.



ARIPO staff members discussing the ARIPO Value and Growth Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020, during the staff retreat programme in Victoria Falls.



ARIPO members of staff going through physical exercises at the launch of the employee wellness programme.



Mrs Naniso Manjengwa receives her certificate and shield for being the winner of the 2016 employee of the year award.

### Most Outstanding Employee Awards

The Monthly “Most Outstanding Employee Award” award was conferred to six (6) outstanding employees from January to November 2016. On 9 December, 2016, ARIPO honored the employee of the year. Mrs Naniso Manjengwa, Senior Finance Associate won the employee of the year award for 2016 whilst Mr Thomas Jackson, Messenger was the first runner up and Mr Muziwoxolo Bukhwele, Head, Administration Documentations and Communications was the second runner up.

### Employee Long Service Awards

On 9 December 2016, ARIPO recognized some of its members of staff who had served the Organization for various lengths of time ranging from 5 years to 30 years.

# 10. INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

## INAUGURATION OF THE NEW ARIPO HEADQUARTERS

On 9 December, ARIPO inaugurated the extension of its headquarters. The project was started in May 2015. The new building, which has changed the face of ARIPO comprises of more offices, 150 seater state of the art Auditorium with modern interpretation facilities, three meeting rooms, canteen, archive, mail registry and enough parking space for both staff and visitors. Member States are expected to adopt some of the rooms or donate artefacts and ornaments to exhibit the multi-cultural face of the Organization.

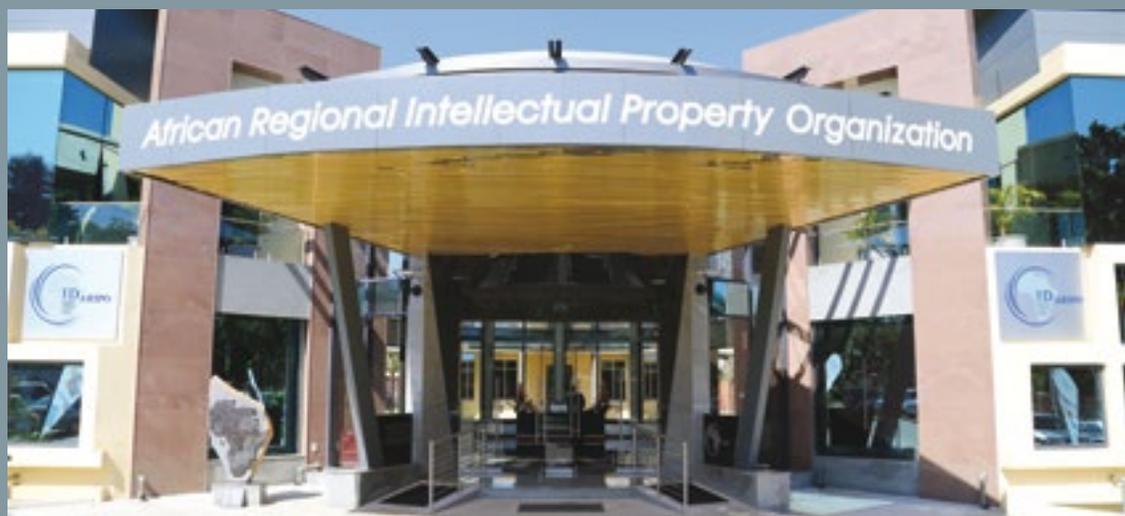
The Vice-President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Honourable Emmerson Mnangagwa was the Guest of Honour at the inauguration ceremony. Also in attendance were members of Council of Ministers of ARIPO headlined by its Vice-Chairman, who is also Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Liberia, Honourable Axel M. Addy and ministers from Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and Sierra Leone. Other dignitaries and guests who witnessed the event were members of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to Zimbabwe, members of the Administrative Council of ARIPO, representatives of ARIPO's international and regional cooperating partners, senior government officials from Zimbabwe and the Member States and intellectual property practitioners.



*V.P. Mnangagwa officially inaugurates the new headquarters.*



*V.P. Mnangagwa unveils the plaque at the inauguration ceremony.*



*The new ARIPO Headquarters.*

# 11. 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARIPO

On 9 December, ARIPO celebrated its 40th Anniversary at a colourful ceremony held concurrently with the inauguration of the new ARIPO headquarters building. The Anniversary celebrations were also officiated by the Vice-President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Honourable Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa.

Members of the Council of Ministers of the Organization, who are ministers responsible for intellectual property matters in the member states, attended the 40 years celebrations. Also in attendance were members of the Organization’s Administrative council, who are themselves heads of the national IP offices of the Member States. To make the celebrations more reflective on the history of the Organization, former Directors General of ARIPO participated in the celebration which were also attended by members of the diplomatic community stationed in Zimbabwe and the cooperating partners of ARIPO who delivered their congratulatory messages to mark both the anniversary celebrations and the inauguration of the new headquarters building. These cooperating partners included the WIPO, IFRRO, Japan Patent Office (JPO), State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of the Republic of China, GNIS, EPO, EUIPO, Africa University, African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI-Mexico).



V.P. Mnangagwa officially launching the Anniversary celebrations.



SHAPING THE IP LANDSCAPE IN AFRICA



Vice-Chairman of the ARIPO Council of Ministers and Minister of Industry of the Republic of Liberia, Honorable Axel Marcel Addy delivering his Speech to mark 40th Anniversary Celebrations.



Vice-Chairman of the ARIPO Council of Ministers and Minister of Industry of the Republic of Liberia, launches the ARIPO@40 book.



V.P. Mnangagwa release balloons into the air during the 40th Anniversary celebrations.

# 12. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

ARIPO regularly embarks on ICT projects to improve its operations and making them compatible with global trends in the field. These project aim to provide efficiency in IP business processing, support the availability of IP information, encourage IP conscious scientific research and IP rights protection and enforcement. Such projects are also essential in fulfilment of the Organization's objectives, which is to establish such common services desirable for the co-ordination, harmonization and development of the industrial property activities in the Member States. In 2016, ARIPO undertook projects in the following ICTs areas:

## The POLite+ System

Following the inauguration of the new POLite+ system in 2015, the Organization has realized several benefits from the system in the administration of IP. Some of these benefits include the reduction of paper records in IP file processing, elimination of duplicate records and processes across the ARIPO region, substantial productivity and efficiency gains amongst ARIPO stakeholders, significant savings on time and money. As a result of the implementation of the system, processing time has been reduced by 50%, communication costs between Member States and the ARIPO Office have been reduced by 80%. Online filing uptake and communication with applicants has increased to 40% and it is envisaged that this will soon increase to 90% of all filings by end of 2017.

## ARIPO POLite+ Member States Module

The next phase of the project is the implementation of the Member States (M/S) module. The module will allow online data exchange between POLite+ of ARIPO and IPAS that is currently in use in the national IP offices of the Member States. Through the module, ARIPO and

its member states will be able to exchange all types of notifications, forms and documents online which are presently delivered by courier. By end of 2016, the module had been successfully implemented at the Zimbabwe IP Office (ZIPO), which was the pilot office as well as in Mozambique with support from WIPO. The module will be implemented in all the other member states as from the coming year 2017. ARIPO and WIPO are working on a checklist of requirements necessary for implementation of the module in the member states, based on the experiences in Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

## ARIPO/WIPO Digitization Project

ARIPO with the technical and financial support from WIPO undertook a project of digitizing ARIPO's physical IP files lodged before 2 March, 2015, when the new POLite+ was deployed. The ARIPO/WIPO digitization project commenced in March 2016 and is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2017.

## WIPO/ARIPO Regional IP Database Project

Another project that ARIPO embarked on is the WIPO/ARIPO Regional IP Database Project whose objective is for ARIPO to create a centralized database for its published IP titles and those of its Member States. The ARIPO Regional IP database has now been setup with assistance from WIPO and can be accessed on <http://regionalip.aripo.org>. The ARIPO Secretariat has now started the process of collecting the relevant published IP titles from Member States to populate the ARIPO Regional IP database.

The project also includes an inventory and regional digital library/ database on traditional knowledge and regional copyright database.

## **Upload of ARIPO Trademark Data onto EUIPO's TMVIEW and ARIPO Industrial Designs onto DESIGNVIEW Platforms**

In an effort to support the availability of IP information to the public, ARIPO's published trademark data was made available on the TMview platform and published design data made available on the DesignView platform.

TMview is an online search tool allowing internet users to search, free of charge, the trademarks of the 56

participating official trademark offices. The platform provides information and access to more than 40 million trademarks.

DesignView is a centralized access point to view the registered design information from 50 participating offices and contains more than 9.6 million designs.

The project for the upload of published ARIPO Trademark and Designs bibliographic data onto the TMview and DesignView platforms respectively was financed by EUIPO.

# 13. MARKETING AND CORPORATE SERVICES



*The new ARIPO Logo which was launched in 2016.*

## **ARIPO New Logo**

ARIPO rebranded in 2016 in an effort to correctly represent its enlarged mandate and vision. To mark its 40th anniversary year, ARIPO unveiled a fresh, new, modern and continentally embracing logo on 12 February 2016. The Logo was also formally registered under Article 6-ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property on 30 September 2016 allowing for its worldwide protection.

The logo is a visual representation of the brand ARIPO and embodies the new ARIPO (vision, mission and values) that is focused on becoming the leading intellectual property hub for Africa and beyond. It allows customers, partners and stakeholders to identify with the organisation more intimately. It is modern and trendy and also allows for ease of use and application.

## **Social Media Marketing**

The ARIPO website was upgraded and is now updated regularly and provides information on the events and other initiatives of the Organization. Further, accounts on Facebook and other platforms such as LinkedIn and Flickr were created as new ways of disseminating information about the Organization and ensuring its continuous engagement with the stakeholders. These new media platforms are being given special attention under the new marketing plan as they afford instant interaction and communication with our different stakeholders.

# 14. MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

In furtherance of Article VI of the Lusaka Agreement, four cooperation agreements were concluded in the year 2016 with the following partners.

## 1. GNIS

ARIPO and the French National Seeds and Seedlings Association (GNIS), signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 13 April aimed at promoting an effective system for the protection of new varieties of plants and encouraging development of seed industry in the Member States of ARIPO. A plan of activities was subsequently drawn from the MoU.



## 2. Industrial Property Tribunal

ARIPO also signed a MoU with the Industrial Property Tribunal of the Republic of Kenya (IPT), on 14 April. The MoU seeks to facilitate cooperation in the administration, management and enforcement of Industrial Property in their respective organizations.



## 3. EUIPO

On 3 October ARIPO and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) signed a new 5 year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on mechanisms for bilateral cooperation in activities related to trademarks and industrial designs as well as enforcement. The agreement calls for the two parties to cooperate on areas that include; the publication of trade mark and industrial design data on EUIPO online information and classification systems; harmonization of trade mark and design examination practices and on awareness raising activities, such as seminars on the protection of trademarks and designs and also on enforcement related matters.



## 4. INDAUTOR

ARIPO also signed a MoU with the National Institute of Copyright (INDAUTOR) an agency within the Ministry of Culture of the United Mexican States during the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)'s General Assemblies in Geneva on 6 October 2016. Areas of cooperation will include development and organization of activities focused on copyright and related rights and establishment, strengthening and support for collective management societies.

*MoU Signing. From top to bottom: Mr. Fernando dos Santos with officials of IPT (Kenya), EUIPO and INDAUTOR.*

# 15. LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

## Library

The ARIPO library received a donation of 495 IP textbooks from a consignment of IP textbooks donated to both African University and ARIPO by Mr. Kingsley Egbuonu. A further 13 textbooks specifically on IP issues were procured for the library. The library also continued to benefit from patent and non-patent documentation and literature from the following partners, World Intellectual Property Organization, European Patent Office, China Patent Information Centre, the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China, Japan Patent Office, Managing IP and IP documentation from the Member States.

## Publications

During the course of the year, the Office also managed to revise its publications and have them published bearing the new logo. The Office also managed to translate some of its key information brochures into Portuguese for distribution in those Member States that use the language. The monthly ARIPO industrial property journal continued to be consistently published and made accessible free of charge from the ARIPO e- service platform. Most of the ARIPO publications have also been made accessible on the ARIPO website for downloading by the public free of charge.

## Copyright Titles Published

Five titles of copyright publications as well as awareness building dice and puzzle games. The publications are as follows:

- Survey on the Status of Collective Management Organizations (CMOs) in ARIPO Member States;
- Guidelines for the Domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty;
- Copyright Awareness Raising Guide;
- Frequently Asked Questions on Copyright and Related Rights;
- Comparative Study on Copyright Laws of ARIPO Member States and their Adherence to International Instruments on Copyright and Related Rights Volumes 1 and 2. Volume 1 has six countries, namely; Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Uganda, while Volume 2 covers eight countries, which are The Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Sudan, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- A dice game and copyright timed word puzzle to learn basic concepts on copyright and related rights.

## ARIPO@40 Book

Also in the year, the ARIPO@40 book was published and launched during the 40th Anniversary celebrations. This book traces the history of the organization and activities in the 40 years that it has been in service to Africa as far as intellectual property matters are concerned.

## Directory of IP Experts

The ARIPO Academy also developed for publishing a Directory of Intellectual Property Experts, a Tracer Study report, documenting the history of the first five years of the MIP program and compiled the Capacity Building activities carried out by ARIPO since its establishment.

## African Journal of Intellectual Property (AJIP)

On 9 December 2016, the Academy together with Africa University launched a biannual, scholarly peer-reviewed journal - the African Journal of Intellectual Property (AJIP). The journal responds to the need for documentation and dissemination of intellectual property research and authorship in Africa. Accessibility of such research will strengthen efforts towards evidence - based policy formulation and legislative development and improve learning in and across IP related organizations, industry, policy research and development as well as academic institutions.

# 16. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Article VI of the ARIPO Financial Regulations highlights that ARIPO shall establish a general fund for the purpose of accounting for expenditures of the organization. The article further highlights that the organization can establish trust and special funds which their purpose shall be defined by the Administrative Council.

Currently, the Secretariat administers four funds, namely the ARIPO General Fund, Member States Trust Fund, Reserve Fund and the Staff Provident Fund.

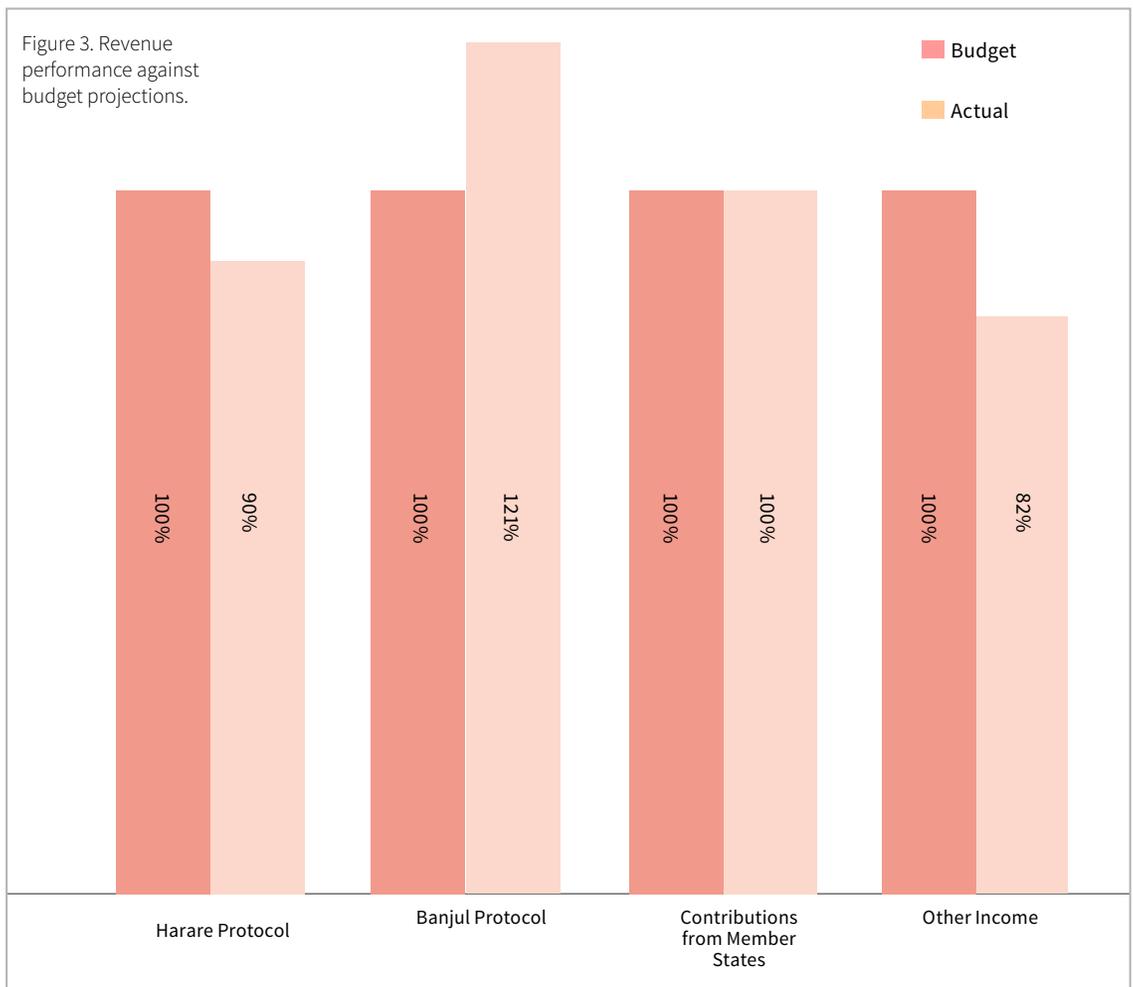
## ARIPO GENERAL FUND

The fund’s main purpose is to account for the

Organization’s yearly revenue and expenditure as per the ARIPO Financial Regulation 6.1.

## Revenue

During the 2016 financial year, the Organization had set its revenue targets mainly from its two main sources of income namely income from the Protocols and income from the Member States Contributions. The overall total revenue realised was 92% of the overall targeted revenue and the graph below highlights how each revenue stream performed against its target.



Furthermore, the pie chart below further gives a highlight of the ARIPO revenue streams and how much each stream generates towards the overall Organization’s revenue.

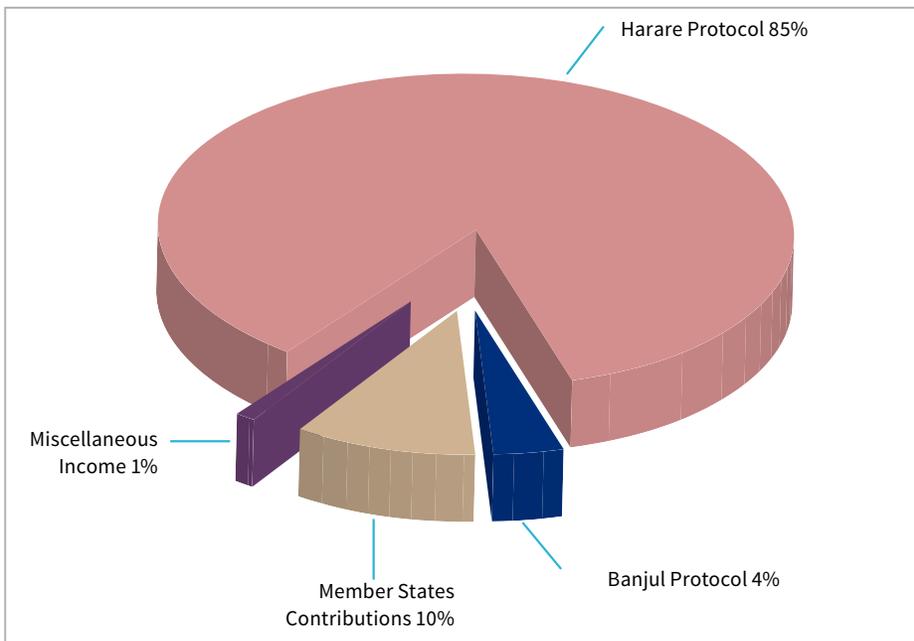


Figure 4. Contributions from the ARIPO revenue streams.

## Expenditure

The Administrative Council approved the Organization’s annual expenditure budget totalling US\$5.2 million including acquisition of the fixed assets. During the financial year 2016, the Organization celebrated a number of milestones it had achieved including the inauguration of the new headquarters building as well

as the celebration of the forty years of its existence. Figure 5 below gives detailed information on how each programme performed against the budget. For training and mission costs, the expenditure overran the approved budget due to the unexpected expenditure towards the inauguration of the new headquarters building as well as the celebration of the fortieth ARIPO anniversary.

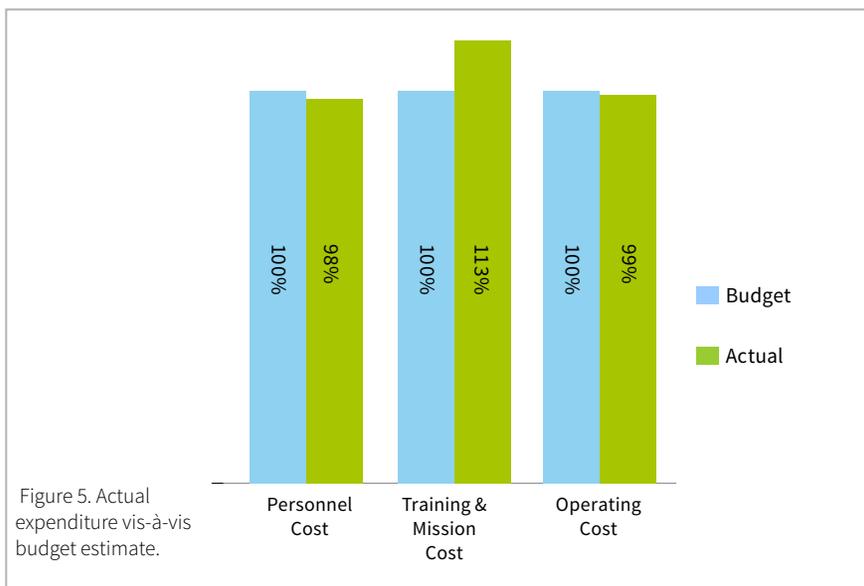
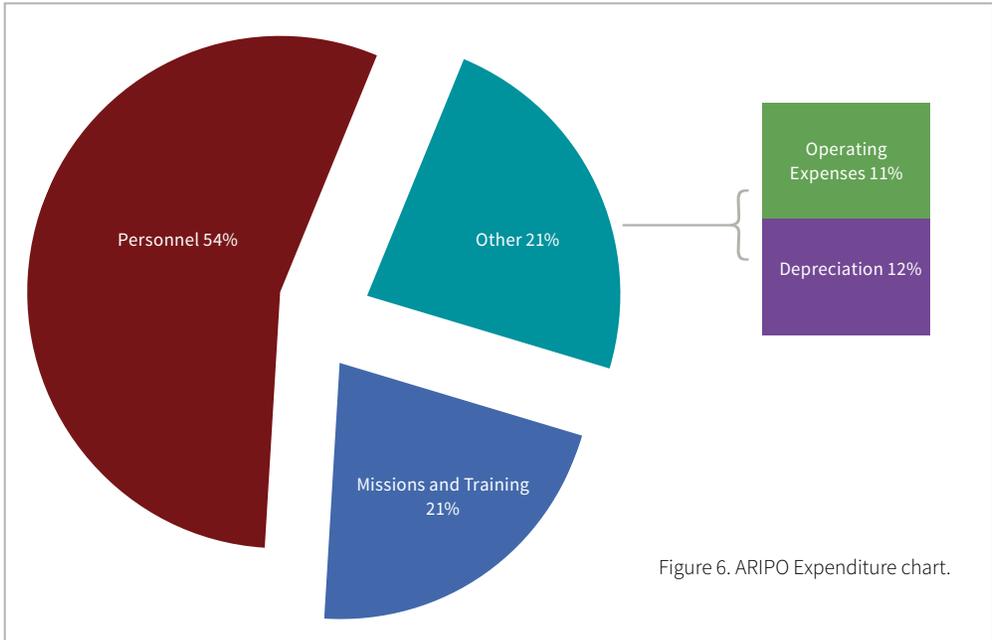


Figure 5. Actual expenditure vis-à-vis budget estimate.

The pie chart below further gives a highlight of the ARIPO expenditure item and how much each represents on the total Organization's expenditure.



### MEMBER STATES TRUST FUND

The fund was established in line with the ARIPO Financial Regulation 6.5 for the purpose of all shares of fees due to the Member States be kept in the fund and are remitted to the Member States upon request.

During the 2016 financial year, the total share of fees generated on behalf of the Member States totalled

US\$3.4 million and these funds are kept in custody in the Member States Trust fund account on behalf of the Member States. The total accumulated share of fees due to the Member States as of December 31, 2016 totalled US\$6.4 million.

The pie chart opposite also highlights each Member State's % share from the total share of fees generated in 2016.

# SHARE OF FEES EARNED

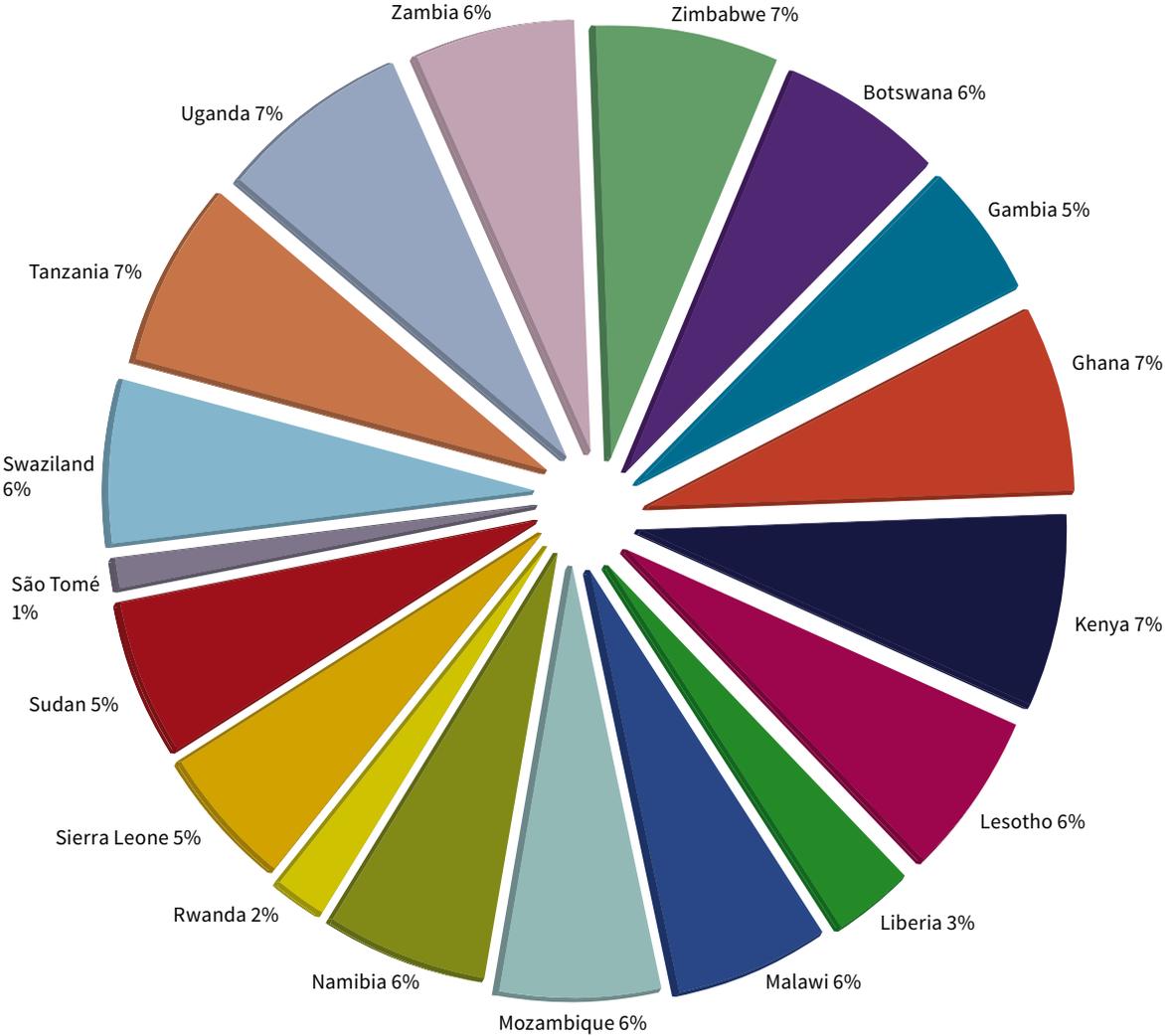


Figure 7. Member States' percentage share of fees.

The Member States' shares of fees are steadily increasing yearly. The graph below shows the increase over the past five years.

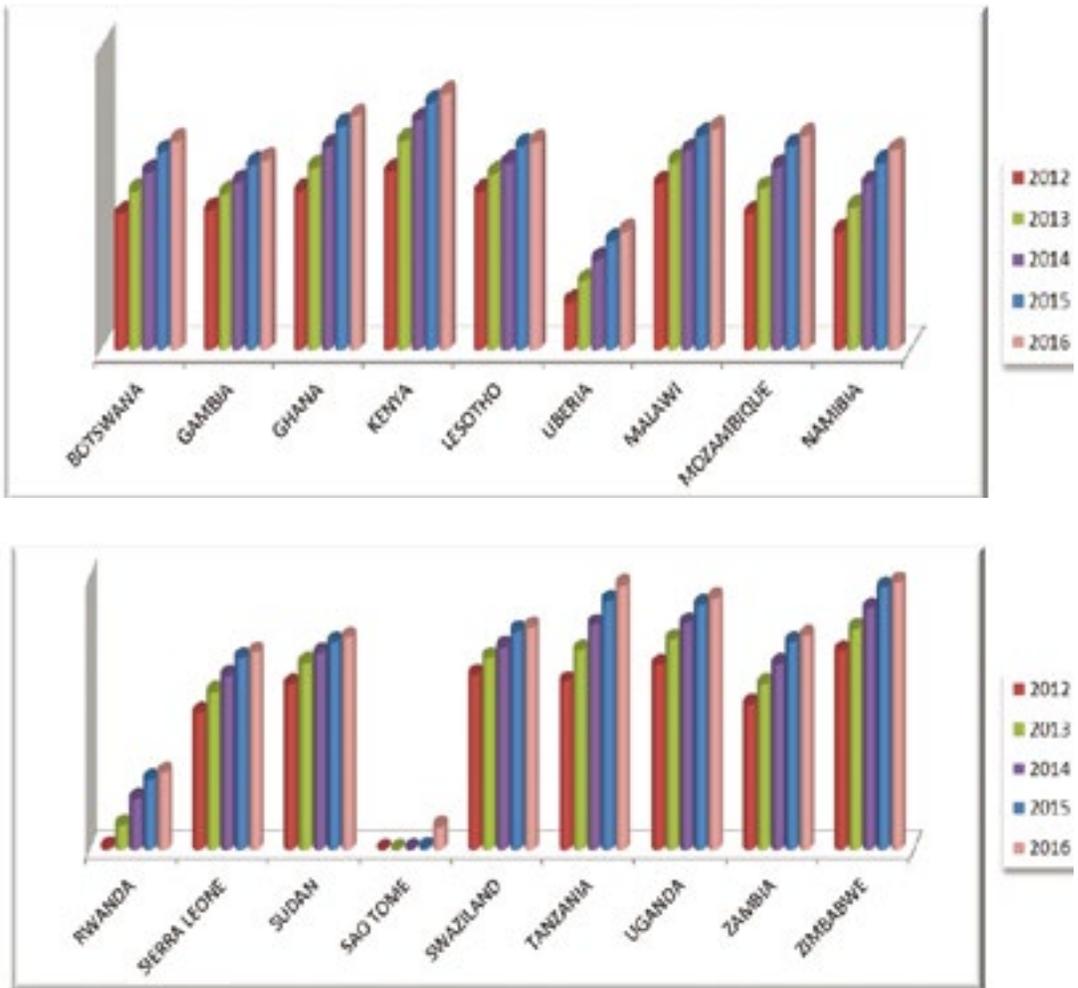


Figure 8. Graph showing the steady increase in Member States share of fees in the last 5 years.

## RESERVE FUND

The Reserve Fund was established by the Council of Ministers in 1994 for purposes of infrastructural development at the Secretariat and also in line with the ARIPO Financial Regulation 6.5. The Fund is financed by both the ARIPO Member States and the ARIPO Secretariat.

During the Thirty-sixth Session of the Administrative Council, which was held in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, the Secretariat presented a proposal

highlighting the need for the Organization to extend the headquarters building to address the problem of shortage of offices at ARIPO and the proposal the Administrative Council approved.

The construction started on 18 May 2015 and the building was inaugurated on 9 December 2016. The overall total amount raised by the Member States and the Secretariat towards the construction of the new headquarters' building amounted to US\$5.2million.

# 17. INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY STATISTICS

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND PREVIEW

For the second consecutive year, the number of patent and industrial design applications received by the ARIPO Office continued to decrease. However the year witnessed a modest increase in trademark and utility models applications. By end of 2016, the total number of applications the office had received for each industrial property category were as follows: 697 patents, 29 utility models, 83 industrial designs and 297 trademarks (corresponding to 487 classes). In the corresponding period in 2015, the applications received were: 780 patents, 124 industrial designs, 21 utility models and 283 trademarks.

In comparison with the same period of 2015, 2016 patent and industrial design applications registered decreases of – 12% and – 49.4% respectively, while utility model and trademark applications increased by 4.7% and 27.6% respectively.

## ARIPO SUMMARY VIS-A-VIS GLOBAL TRENDS

The decrease in patent and design applications filed at ARIPO continue to be a matter of concern, considering that the global trend shows record numbers of applications in 2015, with the Chinese office receiving 1 010 406 new patent applications - a number that has never been reached by any IP Office in a single year - the United States of America and Japan with 526 296 and 454 285 respectively being the major contributors to global total of 2 888 800 new patent applications filed in 2015.

Although the majority of these applications are mainly home focused with innovators securing their

rights within their own borders, Chinese innovators deposited only 15 applications at ARIPO against 42,154 applications for patents they deposited outside their own borders. On the other hand, although the U.S. based innovators were the most outward - looking in 2015 with 237 961 patent applications filed outside their borders, only 249 of those came to ARIPO that year. In 2016 that number has even gone down further to 204. The 15 applications filed at ARIPO from Chinese innovators are a decrease from the 33 applications received in 2015 and more than a 100 applications fewer than those received in the previous year.

The nearly 2.9 million patent applications innovators around the world lodged in 2015, represent a 7.8% increase over 2014 and the sixth straight year of rising demand for patent protection, according to WIPO's annual World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) report. Trademark applications jumped by 15.3% to about 6 million in 2015, as worldwide industrial design applications grew by 2.3% to 872,800.

With regard to trademarks, 5 983 000 trademark applications were filed globally in 2015 translating to 15.3% increase from 2014 and the highest growth since 2000. Just like with patents, around 78% of global trademark filing activity can be attributed to resident applicants that filed for protection in their own country.

Global industrial design applications stood at 872 800 in 2015 representing a 2.3% recovery from a slump witnessed in 2014 that was attributed to a drop-off in filings in China. The recovery was attributed to increases in applications filed in China, the Republic of Korea and the U.S.

	2014	2015	Growth%
Patent applications	2,680,900	2,888,800	7.8
Trademark applications	5,187,900	5,983,000	15.3
Industrial design applications	853,500	872,800	2.3

Table 11. Global IP filing statistics 2014-2015.

## WAY FORWARD

The WIPO statistics showed an increase in applications in Europe, America and Asia. As indicated above, the trend has not been mirrored in Africa as far as applications are concerned.

According to the Global Innovation Index of 2016, African countries have since 2012 continued to fare very well as far as innovation is concerned with the Sub-Saharan Africa having more countries appearing among the group of innovation achievers than any other region in the world. Of these countries, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, and Uganda - ironically all of them being ARIPO Member States - have featured on the least of innovation achievers for at least four times in the last five years. According to the same index, the Sub-Saharan region as a whole has even caught up with Central and Southern Asia, overtaking Northern Africa and Western Asia in other factor like Institutions, Business sophistication, and Knowledge and technology. Based on the above evaluation, ARIPO notes that in as much as there was innovation on the continent, the same was not being translated into Patents and Utility Models.

On another note however, and among other initiatives, it has been observed that most of the ARIPO Member States are not providing their national IP statistics to WIPO, which has otherwise helped to paint this gloom picture of the IP activities in the region. As such Member

States of ARIPO and Africa in general need to be urged to provide their applications' statistics to WIPO so as to boost global confidence in the African IP system.

There is also a need for the Organization to conduct in depth research so as to be able to better understand areas where the Organization should intervene to try and boost the statistics. More research is urgently required in order to be able to develop more informed interventions. Accordingly, the ARIPO Academy had been restructured to steer the Academy's strategy towards improving use of the IP system in Africa.

The Member States do not utilize the ARIPO system of registration of IP and that the bulk of applications in ARIPO were from Asia, America and Europe. This is not the trend elsewhere where residents are contributing more to the statics that are obtained by the other offices.

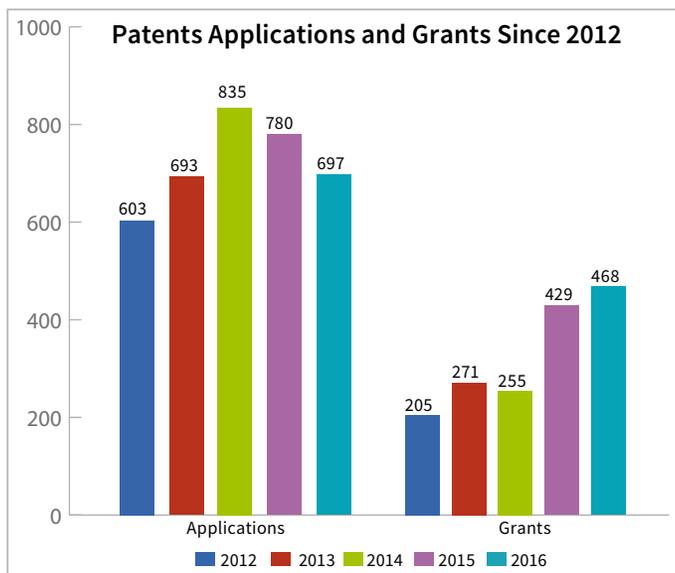
The decrease in applications from the traditional source markets (external applicants) has for the second year running been attributed as the reason for the sharp decline in ARIPO filing figures. As such it needs ARIPO to re-strategize and proceed with a two pronged approach of on one hand nurturing the innovative capacity in the region with an intention of increasing domestic applications, which if the global trend is anything to go by, holds its future growth and on the other hand also working hard to increase its value in the eyes of the traditional source markets.

### Patent Applications Lodged

The ARIPO Office received 697 patent applications in 2016 compared to 780 applications received in 2015 and 835 in 2014 respectively. This new level indicates a decrease of 10.7% from the previous year's lodgements. Figure 9 and Table 12 show the patents lodged and granted in 2016.

Figure 9. A column chart of patent applications lodged and patents granted from 2012 to 2016.

## PATENTS



## Patents Granted

As Figure 9 and Table 12 show, the ARIPO Office granted 468 patents in 2016 compared to 429 in 2015. This displays an increase of 9% on last year's number of granted patents.

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Applications	603	693	835	780	697
Grants	205	271	255	429	468

Table 12. Patent applications lodged and patents granted from 2012 to 2016.

## Origin of the Applications

As has been the trend, the most applications were filed from the United States, which had 204 applications (29.3 %) of the 2016 patent lodgements. In a repeat of the previous year also, second place fell to South Africa with 55 applications (7.89%) while Germany was this time tied on third with India and Switzerland with 40 applications emanating from each of their territory, each representing 5.73 %.

Behind these were applications from Great Britain

(4.5 %), the Netherlands (4.4 %), France (4.01 %) with Australia and Japan contributing 2.01 %, of the year's total lodgements. The ARIPO region contributed a total of 17 applications which is 2.43 % of the total applications lodged.

There was a notable drop in applications filed in 2016 originating from China (from 33 to 15), Japan (from 45 to 21) and Germany from (54 to 40). These are traditionally contributing high numbers to ARIPO patent applications. (See Figure 10).

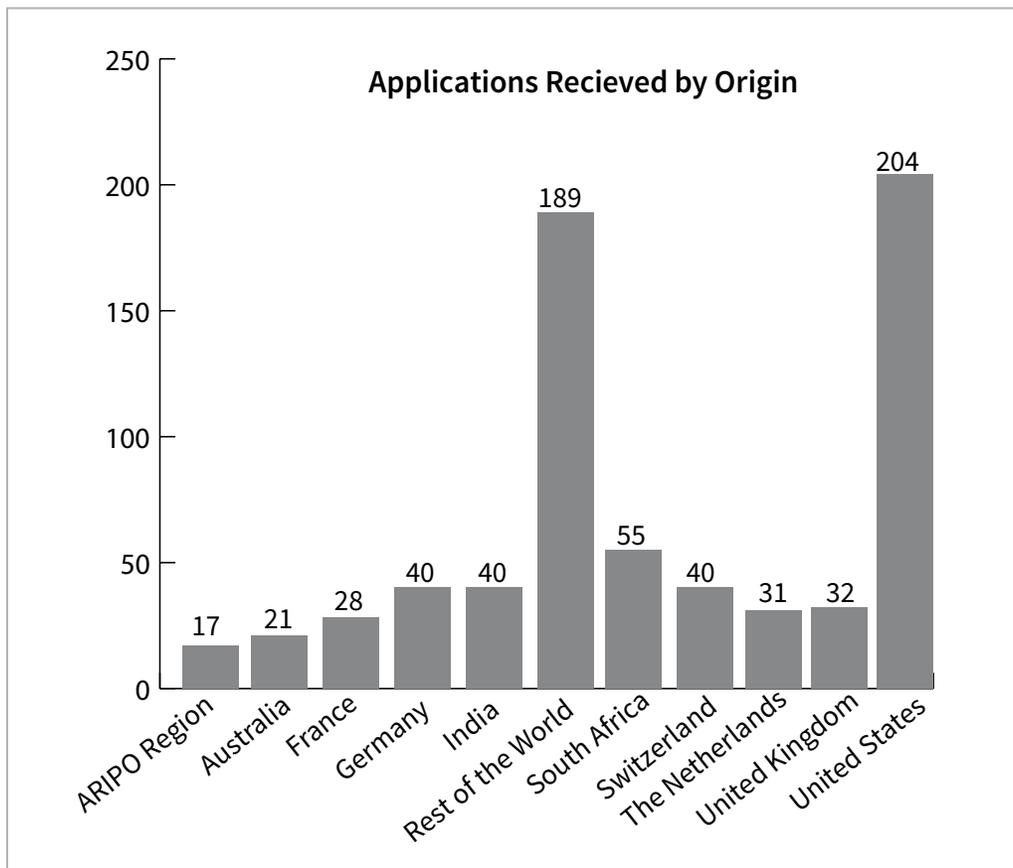
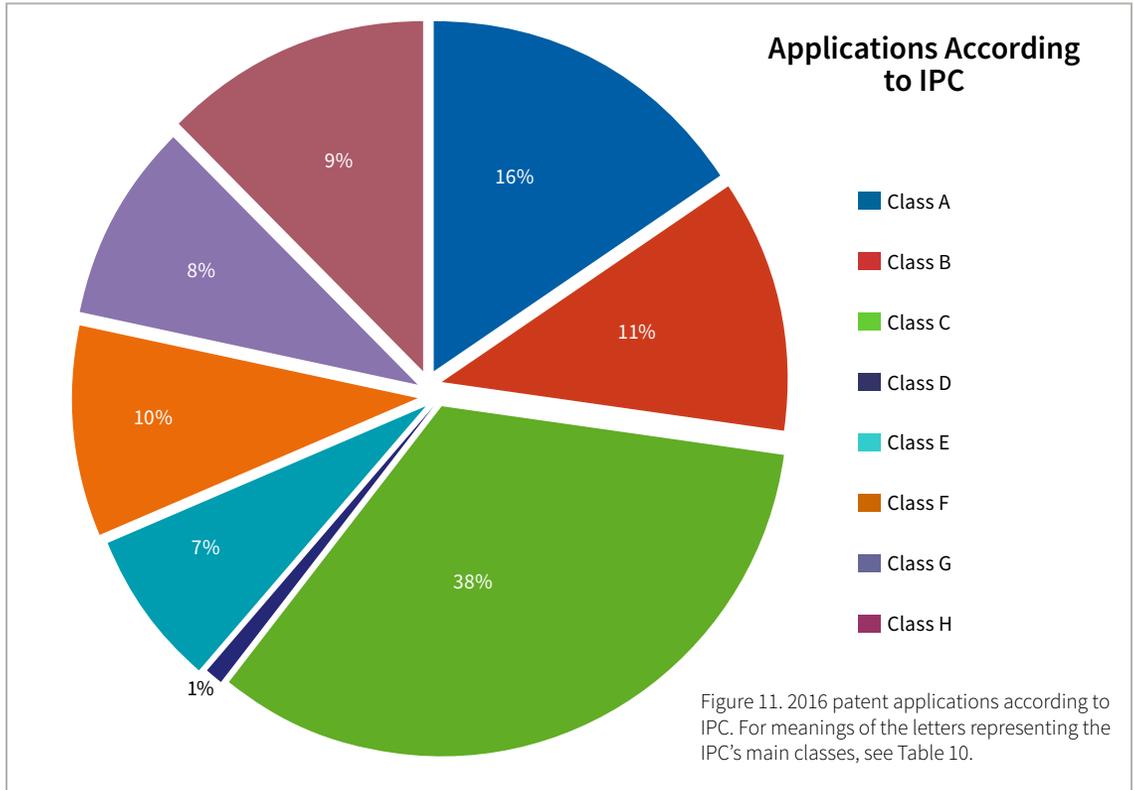


Figure 10: Origin of patent applications received by ARIPO in 2016.

### Patents Applications Lodged According to IPC

The 697 patent applications received in 2016 at the ARIPO Office were distributed among the classes of the International Patent Classification (IPC) as shown in Figure 11. In that figure, as in previous trends, Main

Group C (Chemistry and Metallurgy) received the highest percentage compared to all the other IPC groups or classes with 38%. On second and third are Main Group Classes A (Human Necessities) and B (Performing Operations; Transporting) with 16% and 11% respectively.



Main Group Symbol	Description of the Main Class
A	Human necessities
B	Performing operations; Transporting
C	Chemistry; Metallurgy
D	Textiles; Paper
E	Fixed constructions
F	Mechanical engineering; Lighting; Heating; Weapons; Blasting
G	Physics
H	Electricity

Table 13: Description of main group symbols of the IPC scheme.

## PCT Patent Applications Lodged and Granted

All the 697 patent applications received were PCT files. On the other hand, of the 468 patents granted in 2016 at the ARIPO Office, 462 were PCT files, representing 98.7%.

## Patents Granted According to Origin

Of the 468 patents granted in 2016 at the ARIPO Office, the United States was the major single destination of those granted patents with 111 up from 88 in 2015.

This was followed by Germany and South Africa and India as the top four individual country destinations for the granted patents. Figure 11 shows the destinations of the patents granted by ARIPO in 2016.

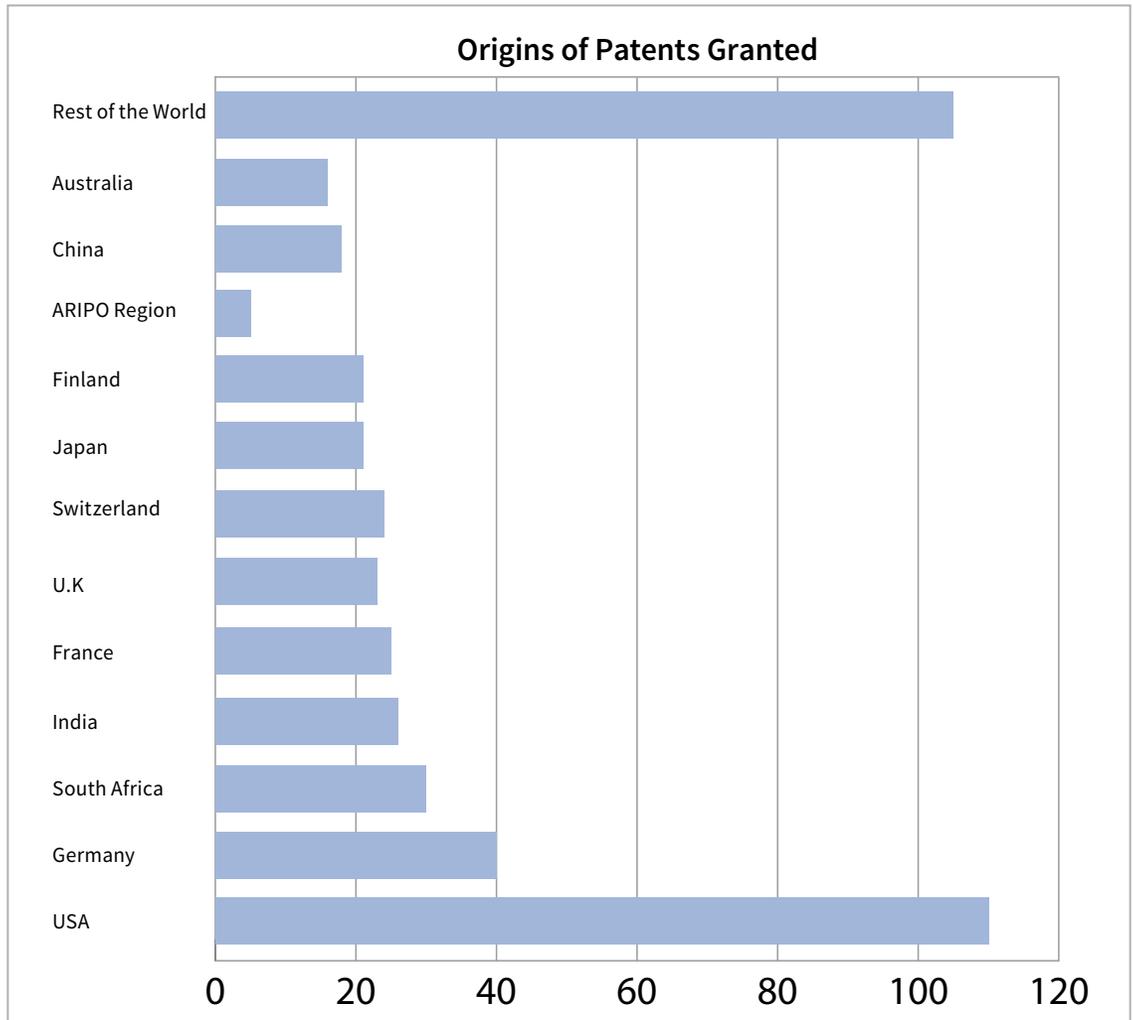


Figure 12: Origin of patents granted in 2016.

## Patents Granted According to IPC

The 468 patents granted in 2016 at the ARIPO Office were distributed among the classes of the International Patent Classification (IPC) as shown in Figure 13. In that figure as is the trend with ARIPO applications or grants, Main Group C (Chemistry and Metallurgy) received the highest number of the granted patents 42% followed by A (Human Necessities) which received 19% of the total grants.

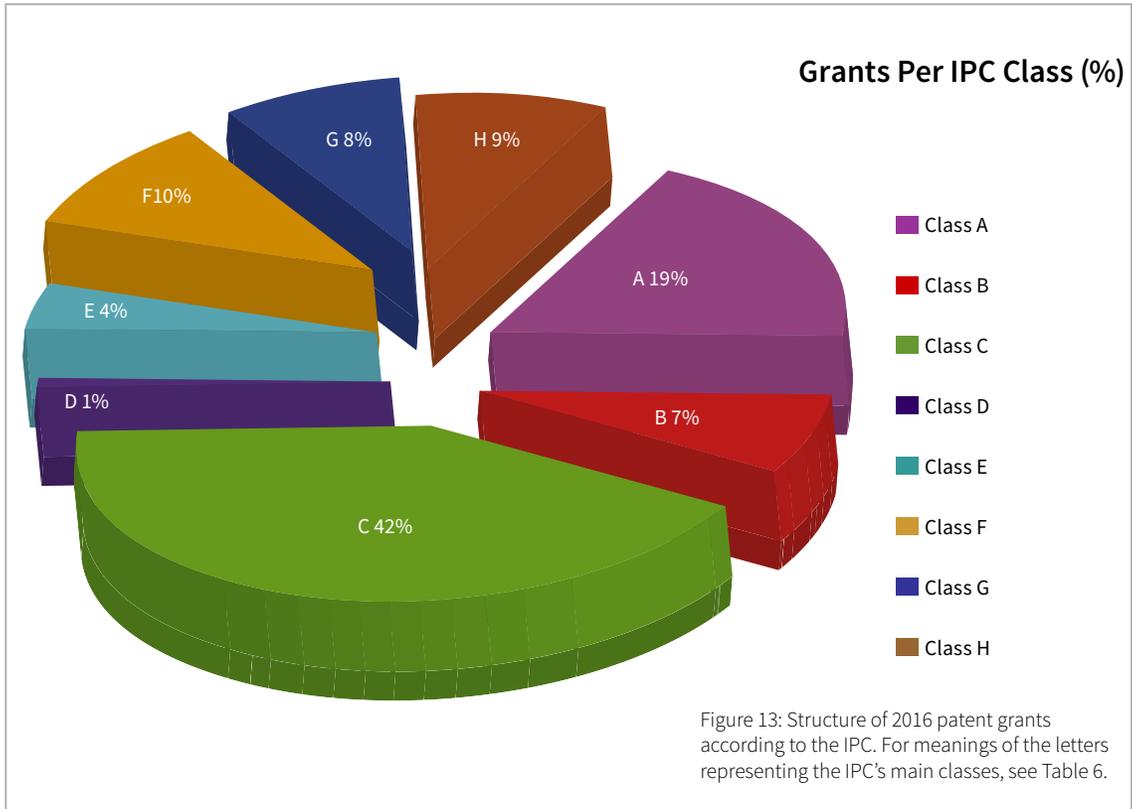


Figure 13: Structure of 2016 patent grants according to the IPC. For meanings of the letters representing the IPC's main classes, see Table 6.

## INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

### Applications Filed

In 2014 and 2015, the ARIPO Office had received 155 and 124 applications for registration of Industrial Designs respectively. The year 2016 witnessed a continued drop in this activity as only 83 applications were received in the year (Figure 14.) thereby making a 66.9% drop.

### Origin of Industrial Design Applications Filed

Of the 83 design applications received at ARIPO, South Africa had 23 applications originating from its territory, the ARIPO region with 16 and the Republic of Korea and Japan with 9 and 8 applications respectively. For the Republic of Korea, this was a sharp drop from 35 applications in 2015 while for South Africa it was a rise from 19 applications in the same period.

The ARIPO region's 16 is a decrease from 24 design applications received in 2015. See Figure 14.

### Industrial Designs Registered

As shown in Figure 14, the ARIPO Office registered 119 industrial designs in 2016 in comparison with 103 in the previous year, 2015. This represented a 15.5% increase in registrations when compared to the 2015 registrations figures.

### Registration According to Origin of Applications

As in the previous year, the Republic of Korea was the main beneficiary of the designs registered at ARIPO in 2016 with 37% registered designs origination from the country followed by South Africa's 17 on 14%. See Figure 15.

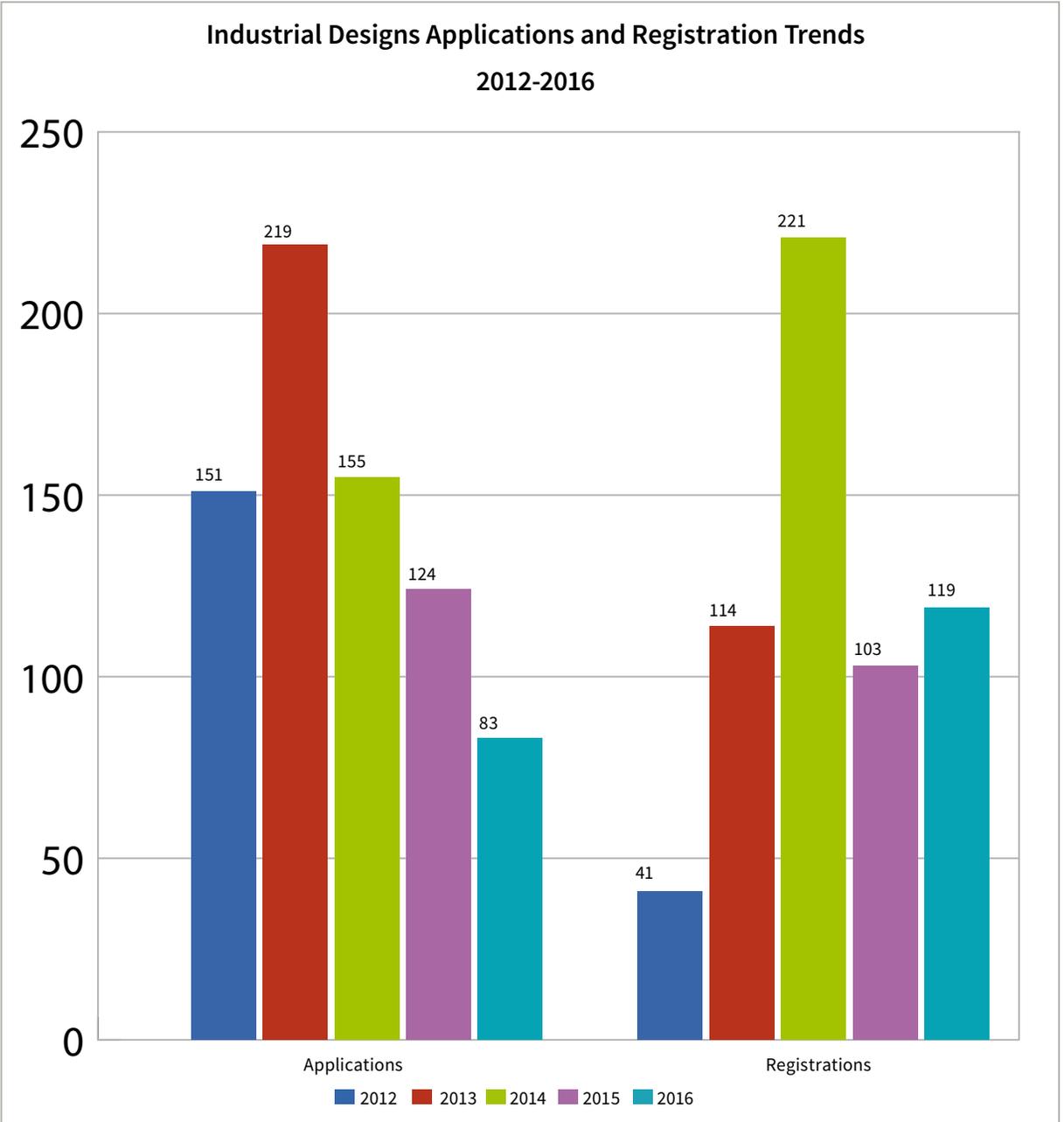


Figure 14: Design applications lodged and registrations made from 2012 to 2016.

### No. of Applications

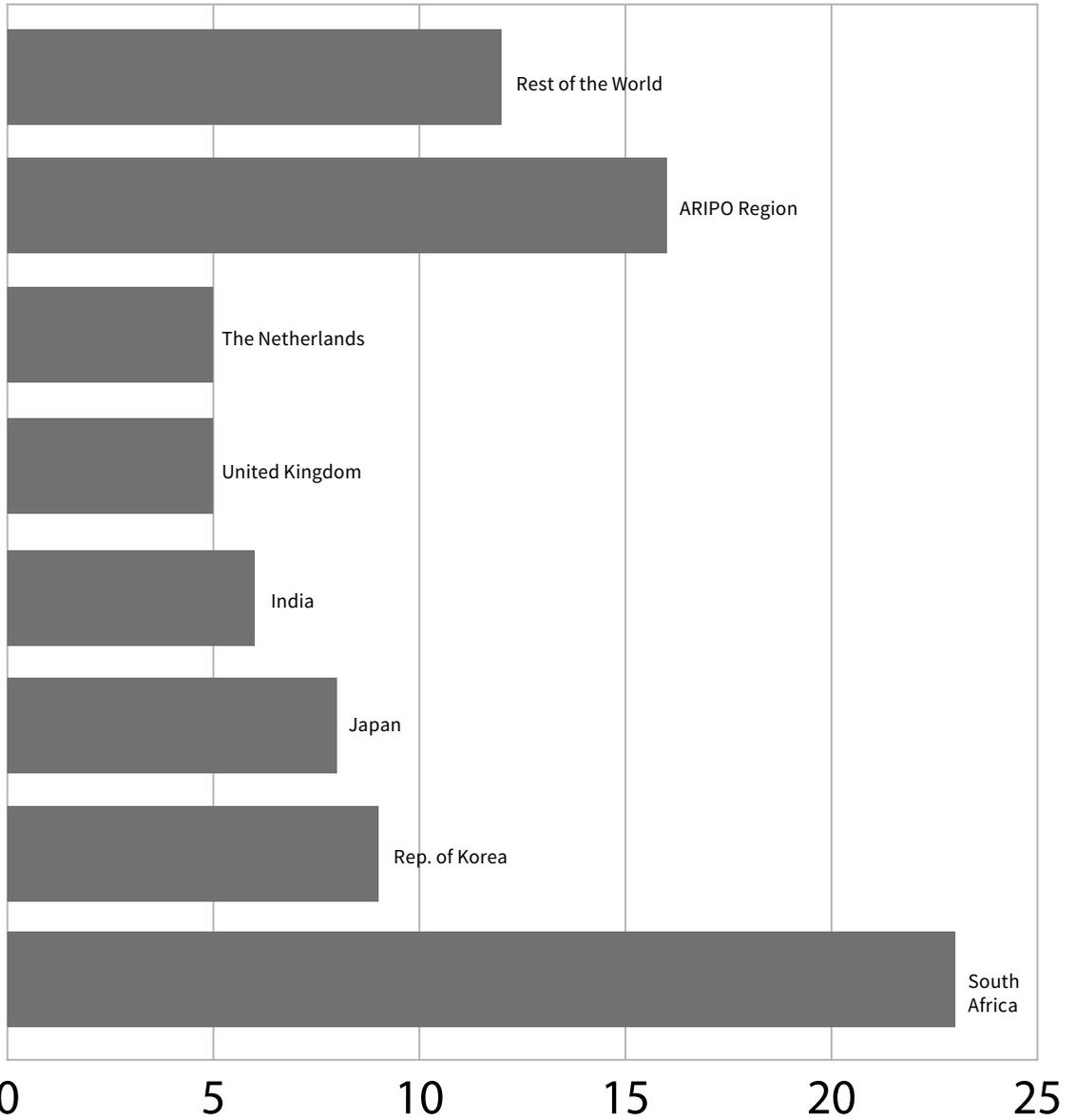


Figure 15: Origin of design applications received at ARIPO in 2016.

## Origin of Registered Designs

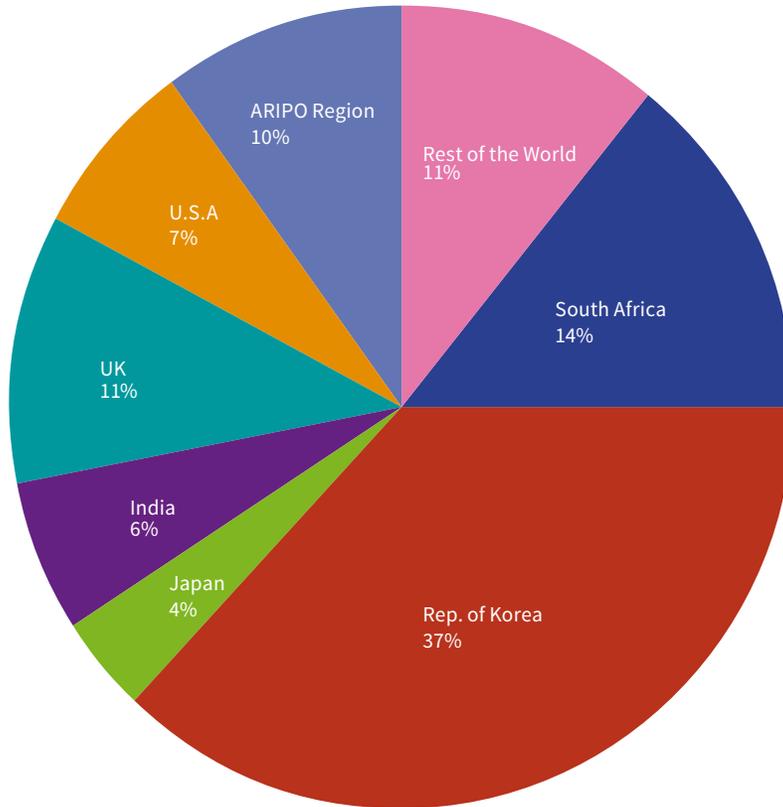


Figure 16: 2016 registered designs according to origin.

## UTILITY MODELS

### Applications Filed

A total of 29 Utility Model applications were received by the ARIPO Office in 2016. There was a 38% increase in the number of applications received when compared to the previous year 2015 when 21 applications were received. See Table 14 for annual Utility Model applications and registrations for the last 5 years.

### Origin of Utility Model Applications Filed

Of the 29 Utility Model applications filed at the ARIPO Office in 2016, 22 were from Zimbabwe, 3 from Kenya and 1 each from United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Swaziland and South Africa. See Figure 17.

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Applications Filed	8	7	10	21	29
Registrations Made	0	0	0	0	2

Table 14: Utility Model applications and registrations made from 2012 to 2016.

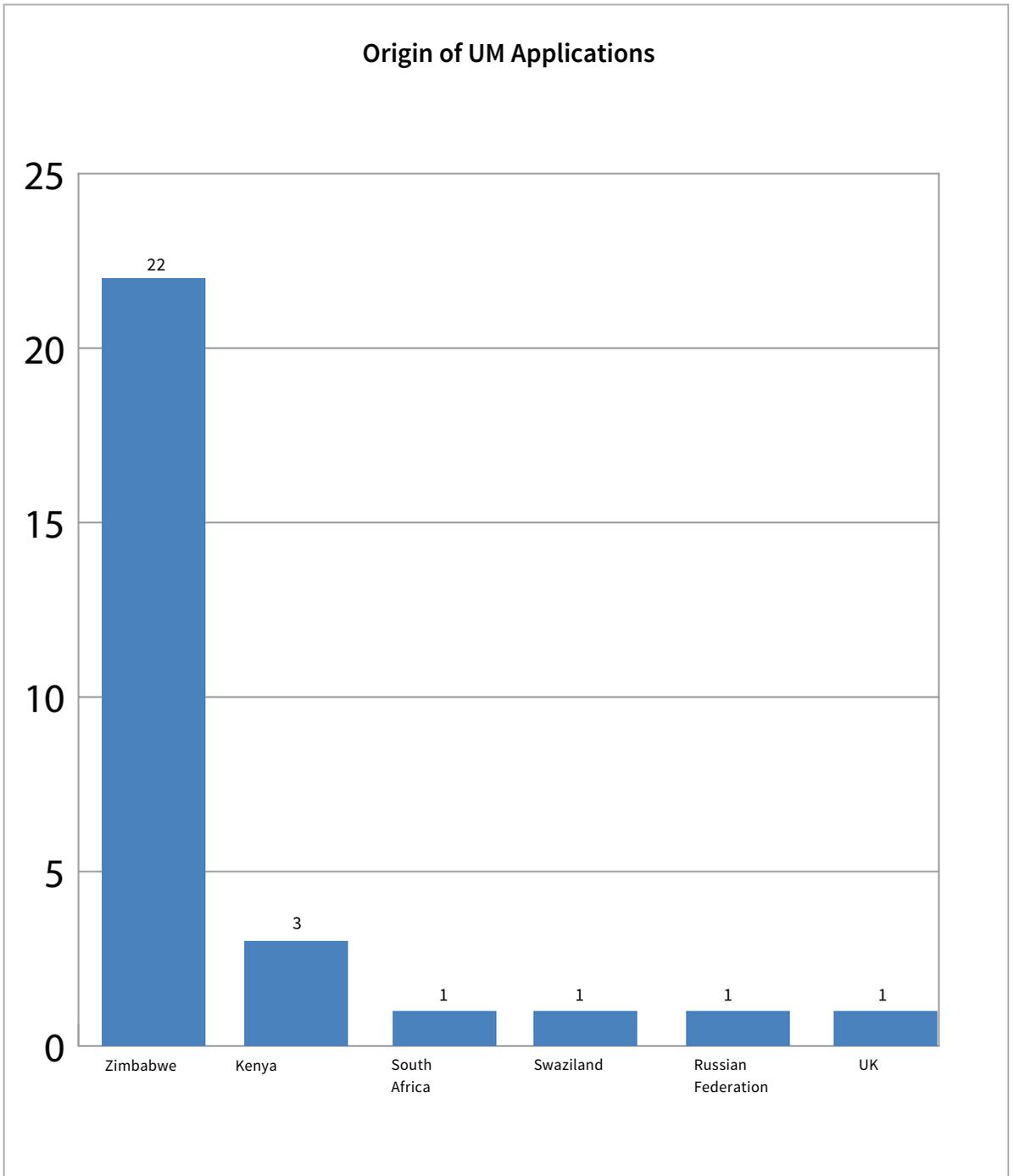


Figure 17: Origin of utility model applications filed at ARIPO in 2016.

## TRADEMARKS

### Trademark Applications Filed

In 2016, the ARIPO Office received 297 trademark applications up from 283 in 2015 but still 65 applications short of the 362 of 2014. This indicates a 4.9% increase in the applications received in the year under review from the one immediately before it. See Figure 18 below for applications received in the year.

### Applications Filed According to Class

The 297 applications received were filed in 487 classes down from 504 trademark classes in 2015. The 2016 figure is 3.4% lower as compared to 2015. See Figure 18 below.

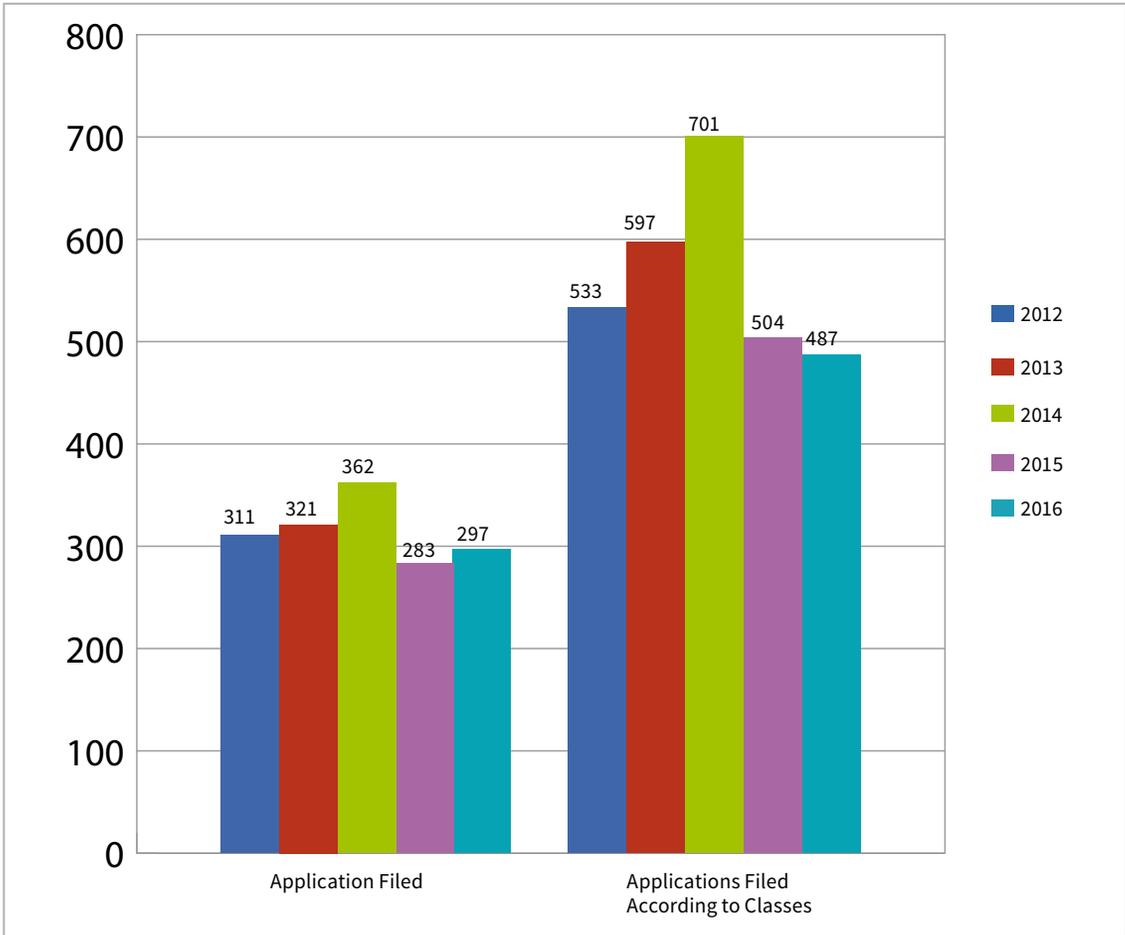


Figure 18: Design applications lodged and registrations made from 2012 to 2016.

### Origin of the Trademark Applications Filed

The 297 trademark applications which were filed at the ARIPO Office in 2016 originated from forty six countries. To this total of lodgments, the ARIPO region contributed

81 applications down from 97 in 2015.

In the total lodgments furthermore, India followed by United Arab Emirates had the highest figures of 37 and 26 respectively. See Figures 19 and 20.

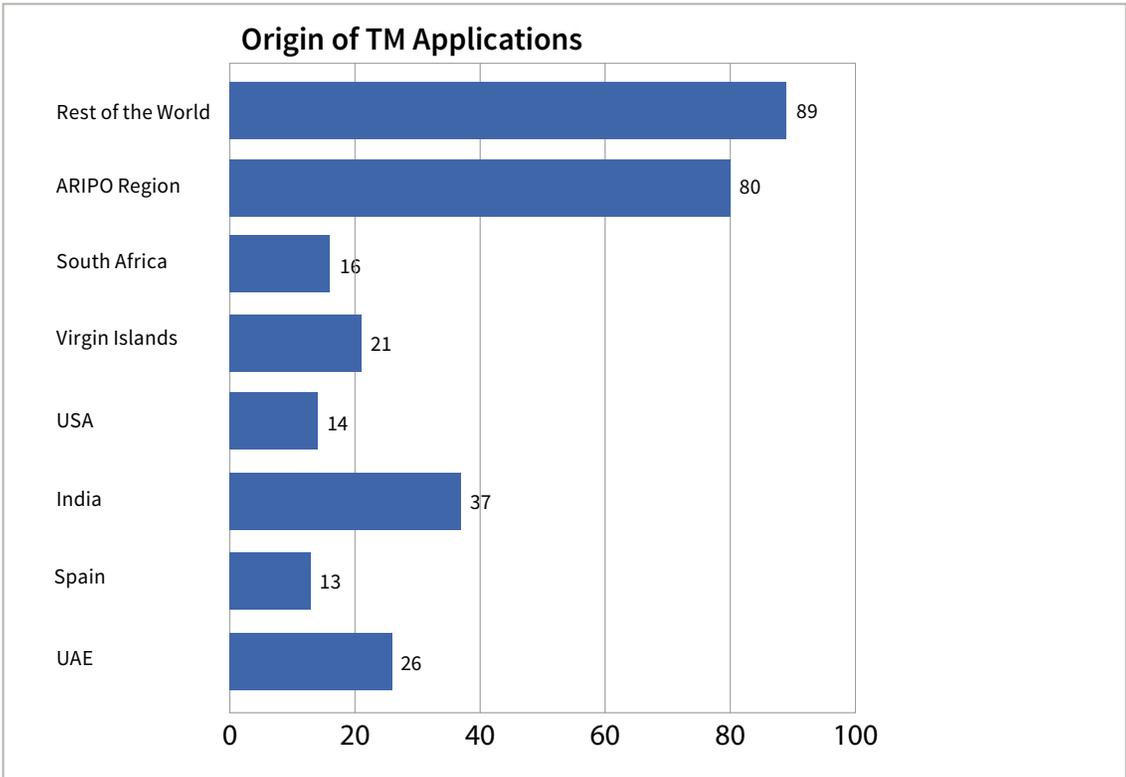


Figure 19: Origin of trademark applications filed in 2016.

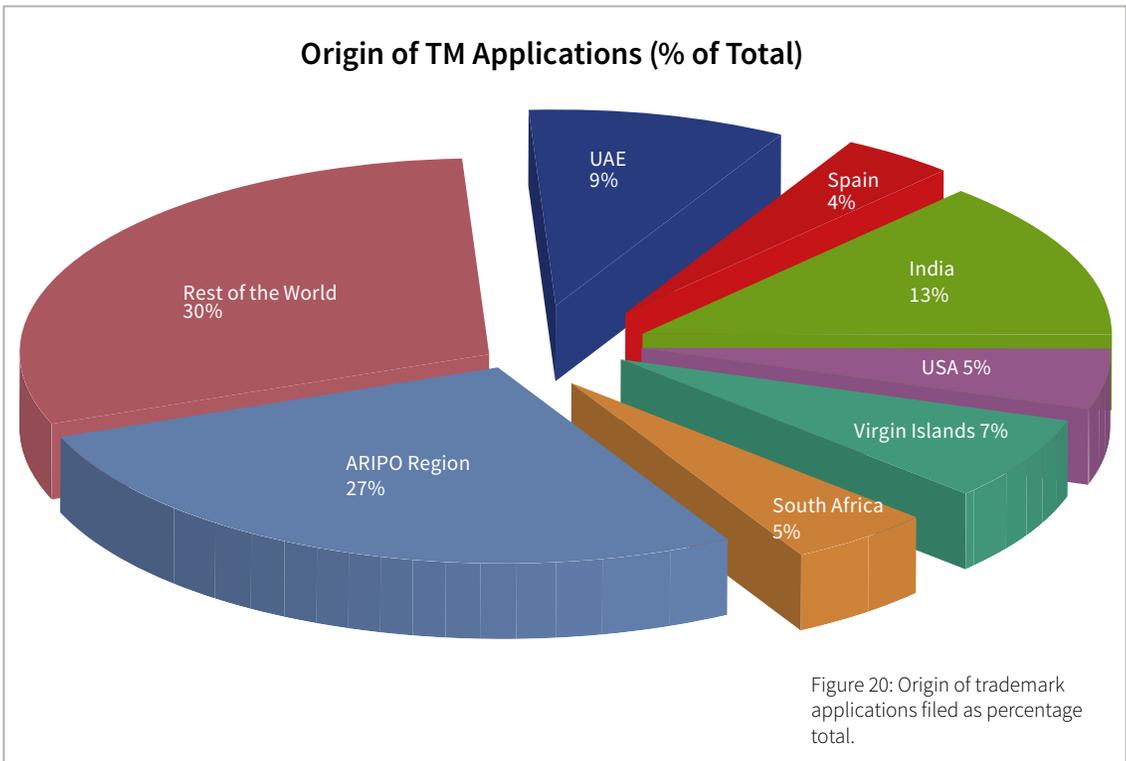


Figure 20: Origin of trademark applications filed as percentage total.

## Trademark Registrations by Nice Class

A total of 213 trademarks were registered in 2016 down from 338 trademarks that were registered in 2015. These registrations when broken to the 39 classes of the Nice Classification in which the trademarks fell come to a total of 422. This is a 19% increase on the 338 trademarks that were registered in the various Nice classes in 2015. See Figure 21.

Six classes namely; 5, 9, 30, 35, 39, and 41 led by claiming a combined 39.1% of the 2016 trademark registrations with class 35 contributing 25.4% percent of that making it the most popular of them all.

Figure 22 gives the number of trademarks that were registered in each of the classes to show the popularity of the classes out of the total contribution of the 39 classes with the least popular contributing into the Rest of the classes category.



Figure 21: Trademark registrations according to class from 2012 to 2016.

## Trademark Registrations by Origin

Owners of these new trademark registrations came from 36 countries.

Outside the ARIPO region, India, China, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates obtained the highest registrations which were 11.7%, 7%, 6.1% and 5.6% respectively.

The ARIPO region (represented in this case by Botswana, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe) was responsible for 28.2% of the registrations and the rest of the world for 23.5%.

The statistics on distribution of trademark registrations by country of proprietor's origin can be seen in Figure 23.

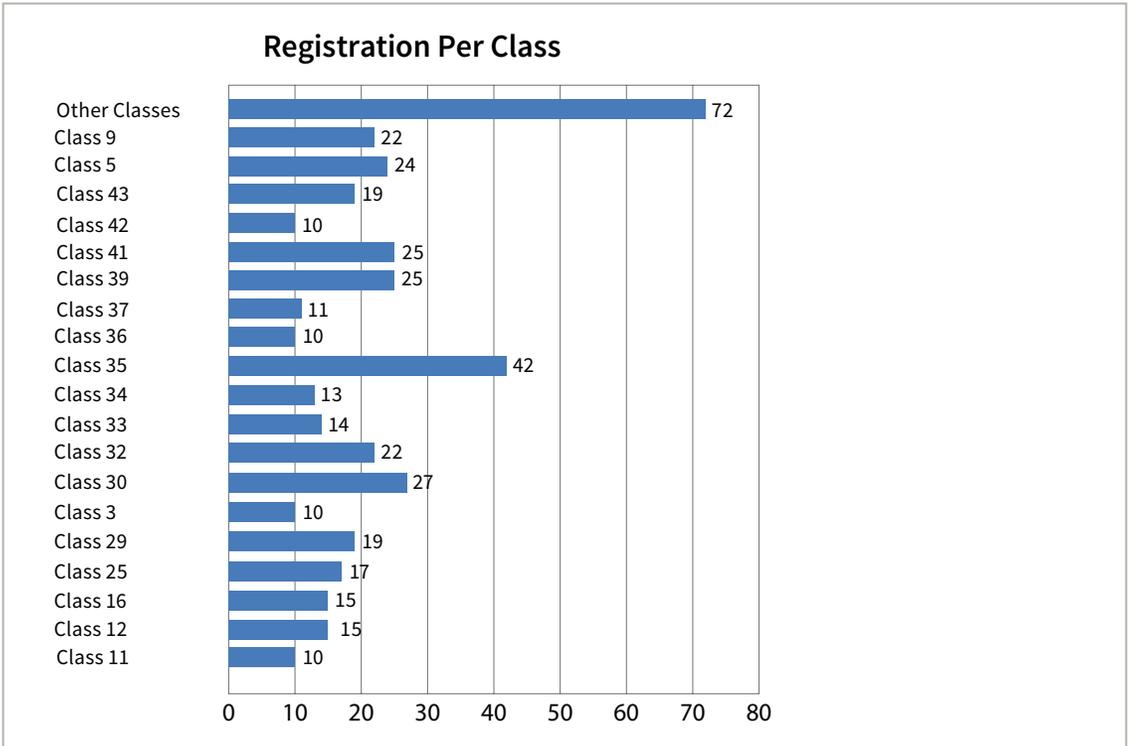


Figure 22: Trademark registrations made according to the classes in which they fell.

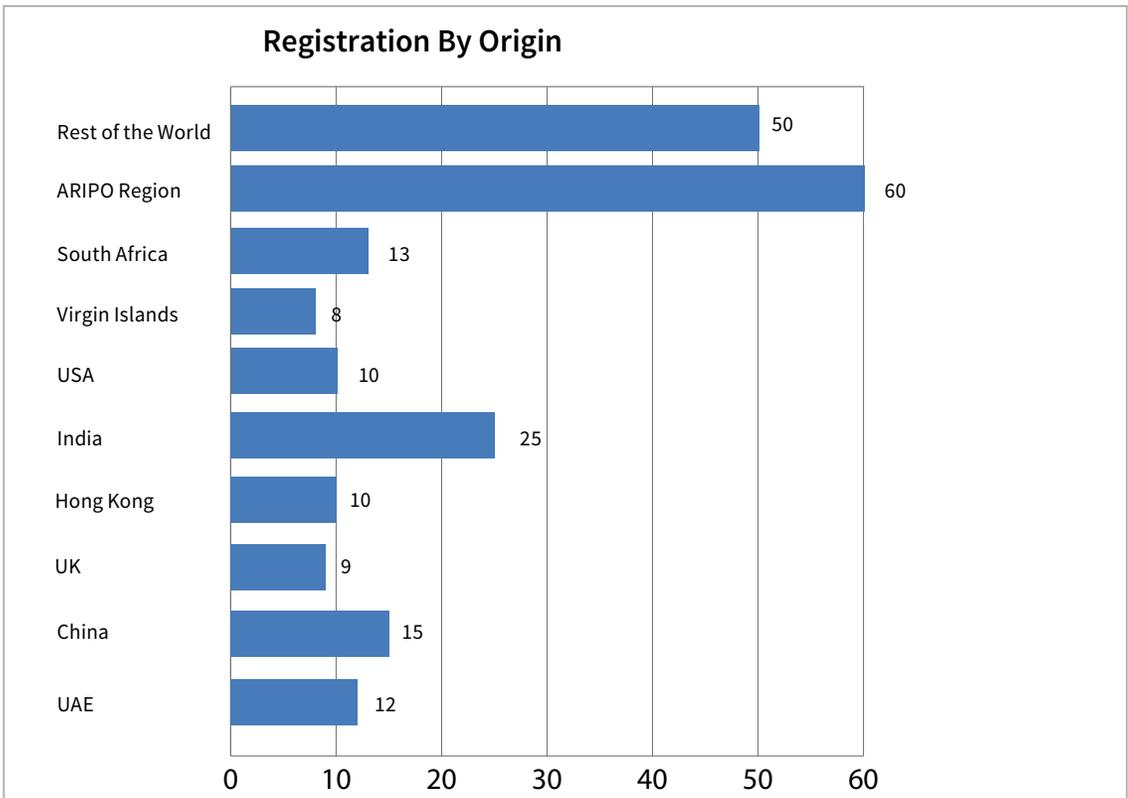


Figure 23: 2016 trademark registrations by country of origin.

## IP APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN ARIPO MEMBER STATES IN 2016

Member State	Patents	Utility Models	Industrial Designs	Trade Marks	Traditional Knowledge
Botswana	7	4	23	1 128	5
Ghana	31	2	451	2 372	-
Kenya	202	135	104	4 843	
Lesotho	2	-	2	620	
Liberia	-		110	300	
Malawi	4	-	95	1 167	
Mozambique	23	8	32	2 293	
Namibia	32		28	2 062	
Rwanda	128	3	97	956	
São Tomé & Príncipe	198		173	689	
Swaziland	6		1	500	
Tanzania, United Rep. of	22	1	-	4 043	
Uganda	16	-	-	3 106	-
Zambia	33	-	69	1 687	-
Zimbabwe	13	-	11	2005	

Table 15: Statistical summary of various industrial property applications filed in 2016 in some of the ARIPO Member States.

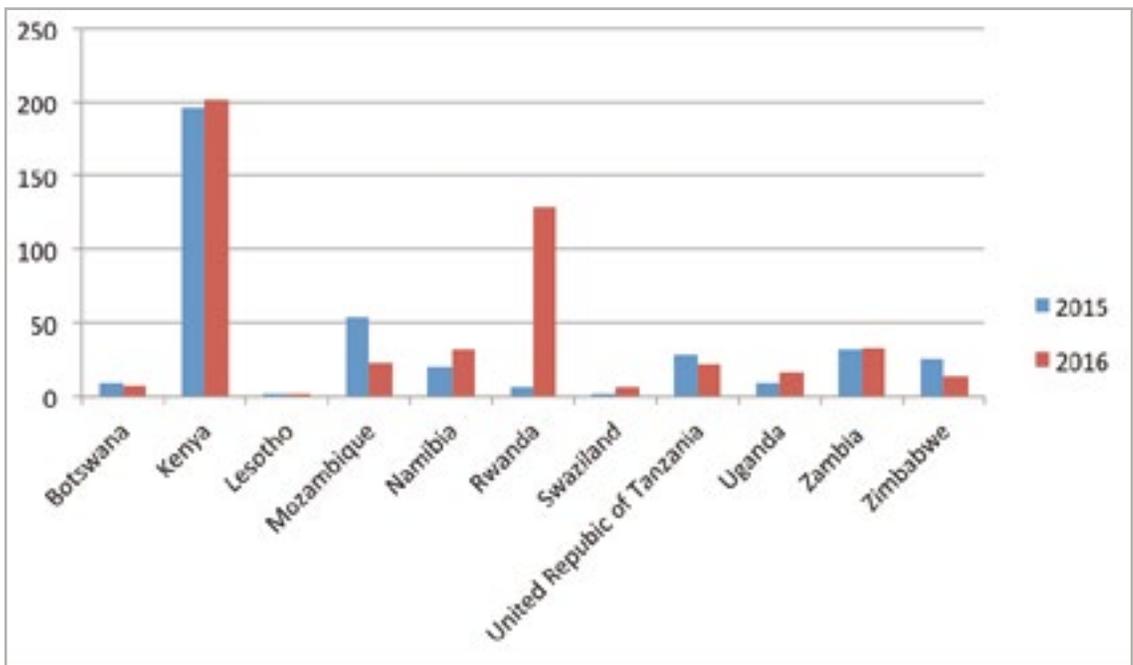


Figure 24: Graph showing variations in patent applications received directly in some of the Member States in 2015 and 2016.

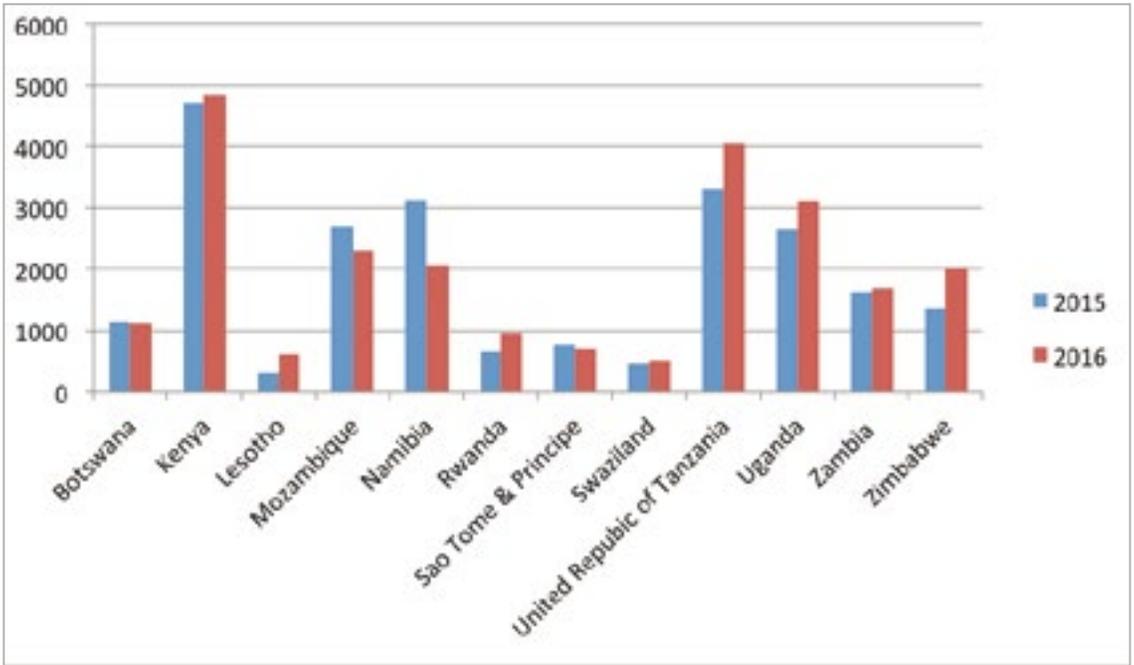


Figure 25: Graph showing variations in trademark applications received in some of the Member States in 2015 and 2016.



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