

INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 42/2020

Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs

United Kingdom: Additional Notice Concerning the End of the Transition Period

- 1. The Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community provides for a transition period, which will end on December 31, 2020. For the implications of the end of this transitional period for international applications and registrations under the Hague System, refer to Information Notice No. 31/2020.
- 2. As already described in the above Information Notice, if the international registration has been protected in the European Union before the end of the transition period, the United Kingdom will automatically create an equivalent national design right (so-called "re-registered design") at the end of the transition period. The Intellectual Property Office of the United Kingdom (hereinafter referred to as "the UK IPO") will record such re-registered designs in its Register, without any procedure required from the holders of the international registrations concerned.
- 3. Due to issues in transferring relevant data between WIPO and the UK IPO, re-registered designs will not be immediately displayed or searchable on the UK IPO Register at the end of the transition period. The data will be available as soon as possible thereafter and the UK IPO will inform users as soon as the rights are searchable in its system. However, holders of re-registered designs will not be disadvantaged as those designs will have legal effect from the end of the transition period.
- 4. For further key information as to how the IP system and the UK IPO will operate after the end of the transition period, please visit the following website: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/intellectual-property-after-1-january-2021.

December 28, 2020