

Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs

Amendments to Rule 14 of the Common Regulations Under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement

1. It is recalled that at its thirty-sixth (16th extraordinary) session, which took place in Geneva, from October 3 to 11, 2016, the Assembly of the Hague Union (“Assembly”) adopted amendments to Rules 5, 14, 21, 26, and the Schedule of Fees of the Common Regulations Under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement (“Common Regulations”). While the amendments to Rule 5 entered into force on January 1, 2017, as adopted by the Assembly, the date of entry into force of the other amendments was left at the discretion of the International Bureau.
2. Users of the Hague System are hereby informed that the amendments to Rule 14 adopted by the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session will come into force on April 1, 2023. The amended text of Rule 14 is reproduced in the Annex to the present Information Notice. Background information concerning the amendments can be found in document H/A/36/1 of the Assembly, which is available on the WIPO website at:
www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/h_a_36/h_a_36_1.pdf.
3. The International Bureau carries out the examination of an international application as to its compliance with the legal framework of the Hague System, including the payment of the prescribed fees. The amendments to Rule 14 will allow the International Bureau to first invite the applicant to make the payment of at least the amount corresponding to the basic fee for one design before starting its examination.
4. Finally, the date of entry into force of the remaining amendments to the Common Regulations adopted by the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, i.e., the amendments to Rules 21 and 26, and the Schedule of Fees, will be decided by the International Bureau and be the subject of a further Information Notice.

March 24, 2023

**Common Regulations
Under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act
of the Hague Agreement**

(as in force on April 1, 2023)

[...]

CHAPTER 2

*INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS
AND INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATIONS*

[...]

Rule 14

Examination by the International Bureau

(1) [*Time Limit for Correcting Irregularities*] (a) If the International Bureau finds that the international application does not, at the time of its receipt by the International Bureau, fulfill the applicable requirements, it shall invite the applicant to make the required corrections within three months from the date of the invitation sent by the International Bureau.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a), where the amount of the fees received at the time of receipt of the international application is less than the amount corresponding to the basic fee for one design, the International Bureau may first invite the applicant to make the payment of at least the amount corresponding to the basic fee for one design within two months from the date of the invitation sent by the International Bureau.

[...]

(3) [*International Application Considered Abandoned; Reimbursement of Fees*] Where an irregularity, other than an irregularity referred to in Article 8(2)(b) of the 1999 Act, is not remedied within the time limits referred to in paragraphs (1)(a) or (b), the international application shall be considered abandoned and the International Bureau shall refund any fees paid in respect of that application after deduction of an amount corresponding to the basic fee.

[...]

[End of Annex and of document]