



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

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MADRID AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF MARKS AND PROTOCOL RELATING TO THAT AGREEMENT

Entry into force of the Eighth Edition of the Nice Classification

1. A new edition of the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification) will enter into force on January 1, 2002.
2. This eighth edition includes a number of changes with regard to the previous edition which is currently in force, particularly the creation of three new classes (classes 43 to 45). The purpose of the present note is to inform the Offices of the Contracting Parties of the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, as well as applicants and their agents, of the practice which will be followed by the International Bureau for the examination of applications for international registration that are presented to it during the transition to the eighth edition of the Nice Classification.
3. The International Bureau will apply the eighth edition of the Nice Classification to all international applications that are received or deemed to have been received, according to Rule 11(1) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, *by the Office of origin* on or after January 1, 2002.
4. In conformity with its previous practice, the International Bureau will not reclassify, in accordance with the eighth edition of the Nice Classification, the list of goods and services of an international registration that is the subject, after December 31, 2001, of a renewal, subsequent designation or any other change affecting the list of goods and services.
5. Moreover, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union, made at its eighteenth session in October 2000, and for all international registrations for which the list of goods and services has been classified in accordance with the eighth edition of the Nice Classification, the International Bureau will insert the abbreviation “NCL(8)” next to the list of goods and services in the notifications sent to designated Contracting Parties, registration certificates and publications.

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