

## **Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks**

### **Accession to the Madrid Protocol: Belize**

1. On November 24, 2022, the Government of Belize deposited with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) its instrument of accession to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (“the Madrid Protocol”). The Madrid Protocol will enter into force with respect to Belize on February 24, 2023.
2. The said instrument of accession was accompanied by:
  - the declaration referred to in Article 5(2)(b) of the Madrid Protocol, whereby the time limit of one year to notify a provisional refusal of protection is replaced by 18 months;
  - the declaration referred to in Article 8(7)(a) of the Madrid Protocol, whereby Belize wants to receive an individual fee when it is designated in an international application, in a designation subsequent to an international registration and in respect of the renewal of an international registration where it has been designated, instead of a share in the revenue produced by the supplementary and complementary fees;
  - the notification under Rule 7(2) of the Regulations under the Madrid Protocol, whereby Belize requires, when it is designated under the Madrid Protocol, a declaration of intention to use the mark. The footnote b in item 11 of the official form MM2 and item 3 of the official form MM4 will be modified to indicate that, by designating Belize, applicants or holders declare that they have the intention of using the mark or that it will be used with their consent in Belize in connection with the goods and services identified in the international application or subsequent designation concerned;
  - the notification under Rule 20*bis*(6)(b) of the Regulations under the Madrid Protocol, whereby the recording of licenses in the International Register shall have no effect in Belize. Consequently, a license relating to a mark in an international registration designating Belize shall, in order to have effect in that Contracting Party, be recorded in the national Register of the Office of Belize. The formalities required for such recording must be completed directly with the Office of Belize and according to the conditions laid down by the legislation of that Contracting Party;
  - the notification under Rule 27*bis*(6) of the Regulations under the Madrid Protocol, whereby the Office of Belize will not present to the International Bureau of WIPO requests for the division of an international registration in respect of Belize because its law does not provide for the division of registrations of a mark; and,

– the notification under Rule 27ter(2)(b) of the Regulations under the Madrid Protocol, whereby the Office of Belize will not present to the International Bureau of WIPO requests for the merger of international registrations resulting from division because the law of Belize does not provide for the merger of registrations of a mark.

3. The amounts of the individual fee indicated by the Government of Belize under Article 8(7)(a) of the Madrid Protocol will be the subject of a separate Information Notice.

4. With the accession of Belize to the Madrid Protocol, the number of Contracting Parties of this treaty and members of the Madrid Union is now 113. A list of the members of the Madrid Union, with information on the dates on which they became party to the Madrid Protocol, is available on WIPO's website, at the following address: [www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/](http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/).

December 12, 2022