

CERTAIN ASPECTS OF NATIONAL/REGIONAL PATENT LAWS*

(1) Prior Art

Country/Region	Prior Art
Albania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by means of written or oral description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Albanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Algeria	All information made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Andorra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Andorra patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Argentina	All technical knowledge made public by oral or written description, exploitation or other means of dissemination or communication before the filing date (priority date), in the country or abroad.
Armenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All information available before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published or granted Armenian applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information from documents made publicly available or information made publicly available through doing an act before the filing date (priority date), whether in Australia or elsewhere. 2. For deciding whether an invention is novel, information contained in an Australian patent application (including all PCT applications designating Australia) published on or after the priority date with an earlier filing date (priority date), if the information was contained in the application at its filing date.
Austria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Austrian, European and international patent applications and Austrian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Azerbaijan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Azerbaijan patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date) published in official bulletin.
Bahrain	Everything disclosed to the public in or outside the Kingdom of Bahrain by means of written or oral disclosure, use, or any other way by which the subject matter of the invention is realized prior to the filing date (priority date).
Barbados	Everything disclosed to the public in a tangible form by oral description or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Belarus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. While determining the novelty of invention, contents of Belarus patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).

* Information is gathered from the primary legislation (for example, a patent law of an intellectual property code). The secondary legislation, such as Regulations under the primary legislation, has not been consulted.

Country/Region	Prior Art
Belgium	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain subsequently published Belgian, European and international patent applications and Belgian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belize	Anything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bhutan	Everything disclosed to the public, anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing or, where appropriate, the priority date, of the application claiming the invention.
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by written or oral description, use, commercialization or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Bolivian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Bosnia and Herzegovina, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Brazil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or by any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Brazilian and certain international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bulgaria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Bulgarian, European and international patent applications designating Bulgaria with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Canada	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Canadian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Chile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything that has been disclosed or made available to the public in any part of the world by publication in tangible form, sale or marketing or use, or in any other manner, before the filing date of the patent application in Chile or the priority claimed according to the law. 2. National applications for patents or utility models as they have been originally filed prior to the date of the application under examination and made available to the public on or after that date.
<p>China</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hong Kong, China</p>	<p>Technology known to the public before the filing date (priority date) in China or abroad.</p> <p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).. 2. Contents of any Hong Kong patent application and designated patent applications as filed in the designated patent offices with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after the filing date of the application (or filing date of the corresponding designated patent application) or the priority date.. </p>

Country/Region	Prior Art
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Colombian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Costa Rica	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) but only if said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing. 3. The disclosure resulting from a publication made by an industrial property office in the process of granting a patent shall be included in the prior art, except for the case of a patent applicant, or when the application in question has been filed by a person who did not have the right to obtain the patent or when the publication has been unduly made.
Côte d'Ivoire	Prior art shall consist of everything made available to the public, anywhere and by any means or method, before the filing date (priority date).
Croatia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Croatian patent and utility model applications and certain European and international patent applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after the filing date (priority date).
Cyprus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, or by oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Cyprus applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Czech Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Czech, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Denmark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Danish, European and international patent applications and Danish utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Dominica	Everything disclosed to the public by oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Dominican Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made accessible to the public by means of publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published ONAPI applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). 3. Disclosure resulting from a publication by an Intellectual Property Office as part of the procedure for granting a patent except where the application was filed by a person not entitled to the patent, or that the publication had been improperly effected.
Ecuador	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Ecuador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Egypt	1. Anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date).

Country/Region	Prior Art
Egypt (cont'd)	2. Contents of Egyptian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
El Salvador	1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published El Salvador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Estonia	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Estonian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Finland	1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Finnish, European and international patent applications, and Finnish utility model applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
France	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of French patent applications and European and international patent applications designating France with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Georgia	1. Data made available to the public from a written or verbal description, public use or other source before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Georgian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published after the filing date (priority date).
Germany	1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain German, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after the filing date (priority date).
Ghana	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Ghana patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
Greece	Anything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Guatemala	1. Anything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of previous patent applications filed with the Registry with an earlier filing date (priority date) provided that the patent applications were published.
Honduras	1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world, by means of publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or commercialization, use or any other means before the patent application filing date (priority date) in Honduras. 2. The contents of a patent application pending before the Industrial Property Registry, the filing date of which is prior to the date of the application being examined and that has been published.
Hungary	1. Everything made available to the public by a written description, oral communication, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country/Region	Prior Art
Hungary (cont'd)	2. Contents of Hungarian patent and utility model applications, and certain European and international applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date), published in the course of the patent granting procedure after the filing date (priority date).
Iceland	1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Icelandic, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.
India	Publication in any document or used in India or elsewhere in the world before the filing date (priority date).
Indonesia	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of earlier Indonesian patent applications published on or after filing date (priority date).
Ireland	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of earlier Irish patent applications published on or after filing date (priority date).
Israel	Anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date) by a written, visual, audible or any other description, use, exploitation or exhibition.
Italy	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Italian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Japan	1. Anything which, before the filing date (priority date), was publicly known or worked, published, or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines. 2. Contents of certain Japanese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Jordan	Everything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Kazakhstan	1. The state of the art shall consist of any kind of information published anywhere in the world and made available to the public before the priority date of the invention. 2. When the novelty of an invention is being determined, the state of the art shall also include, upon the condition of their earlier priority, all applications filed in the Republic of Kazakhstan by other applicants for inventions and utility models (except for the revoked ones), and inventions and utility models that have been patented in the Republic of Kazakhstan.
Kenya	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Kenyan and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public.
Kyrgyz Republic	1. Any information published anywhere in the world, and made available to the public, before the priority date of the invention. 2. Any applications filed in the Kyrgyz Republic by other applicants for inventions and utility models, if those applications are filed, and inventions and utility models have been patented in the Kyrgyz Republic, before the priority date of the invention.

Country/Region	Prior Art
Latvia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or use before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published Latvian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Liechtenstein	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything published or publicly used before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Lithuanian patent applications or European patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Luxembourg	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Luxembourg, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Madagascar	Everything made available to the public anywhere by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way any time before the filing date (priority date).
Malaysia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Malaysian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Malta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain subsequently published Malta, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Mauritius	Everything disclosed to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Mexico	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The body of technical knowledge that has been made public by oral or written description, by exploitation or by any other means of dissemination or information both within the country and abroad prior to the acknowledged filing or priority date ; 2. In order to determine whether the invention is new, all patent applications or pending patent applications filed in Mexico before that date and time, or for which an earlier priority date is claimed, shall be included in the state of the art, even if the publication, as referred to in Article 107 of the LFPPI, takes place after.
Republic of Moldova	Everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use, or in any other way before the date of filing of the patent application or of the acknowledged priority. The state of the art shall also be held to comprise the content of patent applications as filed with the State Agency on Intellectual Property and of European patent applications for which the validation fee has been paid, the dates of filing of which are prior to the aforesaid date.
Mongolia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public before the filing date. 2. The applications filed prior to the filing date of the invention and information on protected inventions and utility models in Mongolia.
Morocco	Everything made accessible to the public by means of a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date of a patent application in Morocco or of a patent application filed abroad and with a valid priority claim.
Mozambique	Everything made available to the public by verbal description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).

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Netherlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of previously filed Netherlands patent applications entered on the patent register on or after the filing date (priority date), and of certain European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
New Zealand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public before the priority date of the claim, whether in New Zealand or elsewhere. 2. The contents of New Zealand patent applications, including PCT applications designating New Zealand, with an earlier priority date than the priority date of the claim.
Nicaragua	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made accessible to the public in any form before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Nicaraguan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Nigeria	Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Norway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Norwegian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Republic of North Macedonia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Macedonian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Oman	Everything disclosed to the public anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing date (priority date).
Pakistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed to the public anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or oral disclosure, by use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of complete specifications and priority documents filed in Pakistan published in the official Gazette, on the acceptance of patent applications. 3. Traditionally developed or existing knowledge available or in possession of a local or indigenous community.
Panama	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made accessible to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Panama patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Papua New Guinea	Everything disclosed to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Paraguay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Paraguayan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Peru	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Peru patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Philippines	1. Everything which has been made available to the public anywhere in the world, before the filing date or the priority date of the application claiming the invention.

Country/Region	Prior Art
Philippines (cont'd)	2. The whole contents of an application for a patent, utility model or industrial design registration, published in accordance with this Act, filed or effective in the Philippines, with a filing or priority date that is earlier than the filing or priority date of the application; Provided, that the application which has validly claimed the filing date of an earlier application shall be prior art with effect as of the filing date of such earlier application; Provided further that the applicant or the inventor identified in both applications are not one and the same.
Poland	1. Everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, displaying or disclosure in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Polish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Portugal	1. Everything made available, inside or outside the country, to the public by description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of non published patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) than that of the patent application with effect in Portugal published on or after the date of the patent application.
Republic of Korea	1. Inventions publicly known, worked, described in a publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date).
Romania	1. All knowledge that has been made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications filed with OSIM and international applications that have been entered in the national phase in Romania or certain European patent application designating Romania, as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Russian Federation	1. Any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published Russian Federation patent applications for inventions, utility models and industrial designs, the granted patents, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Saint Lucia	1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Saudi Arabia	Everything that is disclosed to the public anywhere by means of written or oral disclosure, by use or by any other way through which knowledge of the invention is realized, prior to the filing date of the patent application or the priority application.
Serbia	1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of all applications in the Republic of Serbia as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Singapore	1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovak Republic	1. Everything made available to the public by any means of disclosure before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Slovak, European and international patent applications and Slovak utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.

Country/Region	Prior Art
Slovenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public by means of an oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Slovenian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
South Africa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of South African and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are or become open to public inspection. 3. Inventions used secretly on a commercial scale in South Africa before the filing date (priority date).
Spain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made available to the public in Spain or abroad by means of a written or oral description, by use, or by any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Spanish patent or utility model applications, European patent applications designating Spain and international PCT patent applications that have entered the national phase in Spain, as originally filed, with an earlier filing date than that indicated in the preceding subparagraph and published in Spanish on or after that date.
Sri Lanka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written publication to the public anywhere in the world, or in Sri Lanka by oral disclosure, use or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Sri Lankan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Sweden	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date) in writing, in lectures, use or otherwise. 2. Contents of certain Swedish, European and international patent applications an earlier filing date (priority date) subsequently made available to the public.
Switzerland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently granted Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Syrian Arab Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Syrian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
Tajikistan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of published Tajik patent applications and grants and registered utility models, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions widely known or used in Thailand before the filing date (priority date). 2. Printed publications and other documents publicly disclosed before the filing date (priority date). 3. Thai and foreign patents and petty patents granted before the filing date (priority date). 4. Contents of Thai and foreign patent and petty patent applications published before the filing date (priority date). 5. Contents of foreign patent applications and petty patent applications filed more than 18 months before the filing date and a patent or petty patent has not been granted for such inventions.
Trinidad and Tobago	Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Tunisia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Tunisian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Turkey	1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).

Country/Region	Prior Art
Turkey (cont'd)	2. Contents of certain Turkish, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Uganda	Prior art consists of everything made available to the public anywhere in the world by means of written disclosure including drawings, published patent applications, and other illustrations or by oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means, where the disclosure occurred before the date of filing of the application or, if priority is claimed, before the priority date validly claimed in respect of the application.
Ukraine	1. Everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of certain Ukraine and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United Kingdom	1. Everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of UK patent applications, including European patents (UK) and international applications designating the UK which have entered the national or regional phase, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United States of America	1. An invention which was known or used by others in US, or patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country, before the invention by the applicant; 2. An invention which was patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in US, more than one year before the filing date; 3. An invention abandoned by the applicant; 4. An invention which was patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate filed by applicant or his legal representatives or assignees in a foreign country more than 12 months prior to the filing date; 5. An invention which was described in a published US patent application by another or in a patent filed by another before the invention by the applicant (for the PCT international applications, only if they designate US and are published in English language); 6. During the course of interference, another inventor establishes that, before the invention date, he/she invented the invention and not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention; or another inventor made the invention in US before the invention date and he/she had not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention.
Uruguay	1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other method of dissemination or information before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of subsequently published Uruguay patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Uzbekistan	1. Any information generally accessible before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of withdrawn Uzbekistan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Zambia	1. All knowledge that exist before the relevant filing or effective date of a patent application, whether it existed by way or written or oral disclosure. 2. For the purpose of deciding novelty, everything made available to the public and a document shall be deemed to be published if it can be inspected as of right by members of the public, whether upon payment of a fee or otherwise.
Zimbabwe	Everything made available to the public anywhere in the world by means of written disclosure (including drawings and other illustrations) or by use or exhibition shall be considered prior art provided that such making available occurred before the date of filing of the application or, if priority is claimed, before the priority date validly claimed in respect thereof.

Regional Offices	Prior Art
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	Prior art shall consist of everything made available to the public, anywhere and by any means or method, before the filing date (priority date).
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	Everything made available to the public by means of written disclosure, use or exhibition before the filing date (priority date).
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any information made available in the world before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of Eurasian patent applications and international applications entered into the regional phase with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date). 2. Contents of European patent applications (and of PCT applications designating EP subject to the payment of the filing fee, and, where required, the filing of the translation of the international application as originally filed) with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
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