

2020

ANNUAL REPORT



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
AGENCY OF THE MINISTRY OF
ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ARMENIA

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PREFACE

Despite the spread of the pandemic, even during the war, the Intellectual Property Agency (AIPA) did its best to perform its functions properly in 2020.

In the reporting period the Agency carried out its main functions related to the provision of legal protection of industrial property subject matters in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

The same year saw increase in service quality and the necessary information more accessible to the society. The number of applications on industrial property subject matters filed online increased, data digitization was carried out, official information was published, Nice Classification was updated. The Agency as well digitized the documents on applications on the intellectual property subject matters and the whole paperwork.

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS

The Intellectual Property Agency is a separate subdivision under the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia which provides services in the field of intellectual property provided by law, and in some cases by legislation.

The Agency implements adoption and examination of applications on inventions, utility models, industrial designs, trademarks, appellations of origin and topographies of integrated circuits, state registration, grant of patents and certificates, maintenance of state registers of the mentioned subject matters, as well as the registration of license agreements and open licenses in the established by the RA legislation order.

AIPA is preparing and publishing on its website the official information on topographies of integrated circuits and industrial property subject matters granted legal protection.

In accordance with the international agreements of the Republic of Armenia, the Agency cooperates with similar offices and international organizations.

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS



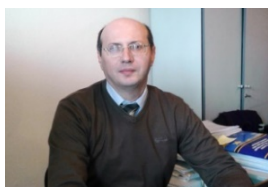
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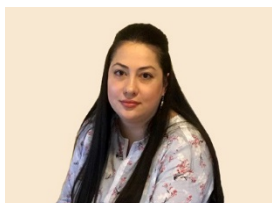
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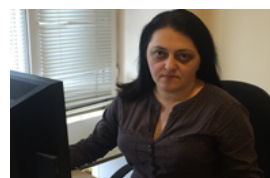
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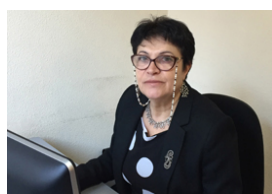
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INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

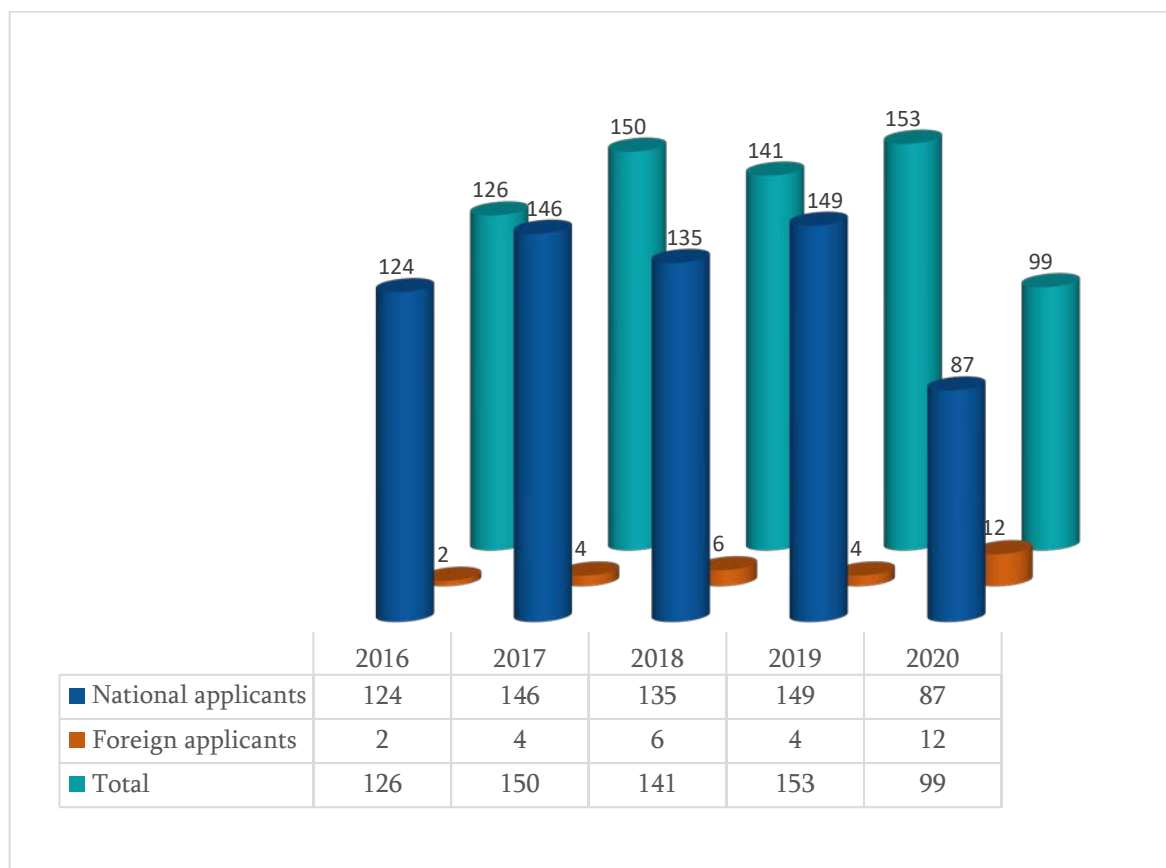
INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

APPLICATIONS

70 applications for inventions and 29 applications for utility models were filed with the Intellectual Property Agency in 2020, 87 of which by national applicants and 12 by foreign applicants (from the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Spain, the United States and Singapore).

The reporting period saw 9 applications for inventions and utility models (9.09% of the total number of applications) filed online.

THE DYNAMICS OF FILING APPLICATIONS FOR 2016-2020



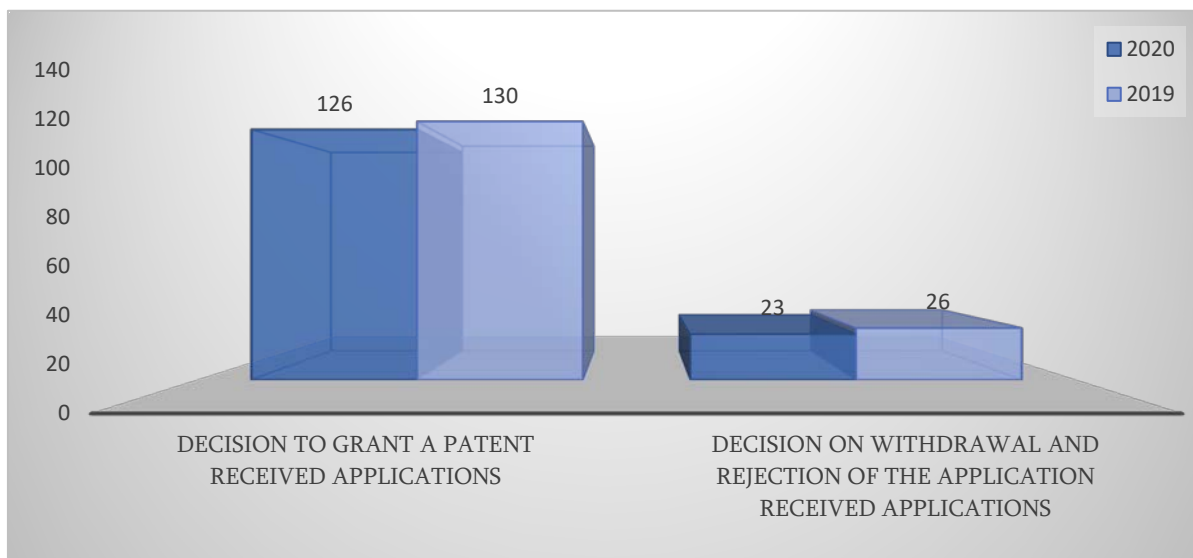
INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

In 2020, the Agency received 4 Eurasian applications, verified their compliance with the requirements of law, dated the submission of the Eurasian application and sent them to the Eurasian Patent Office within one month from that date.

Fifty-five Eurasian applications for invention were filed with the Eurasian Patent Office from 1997 to 2020.

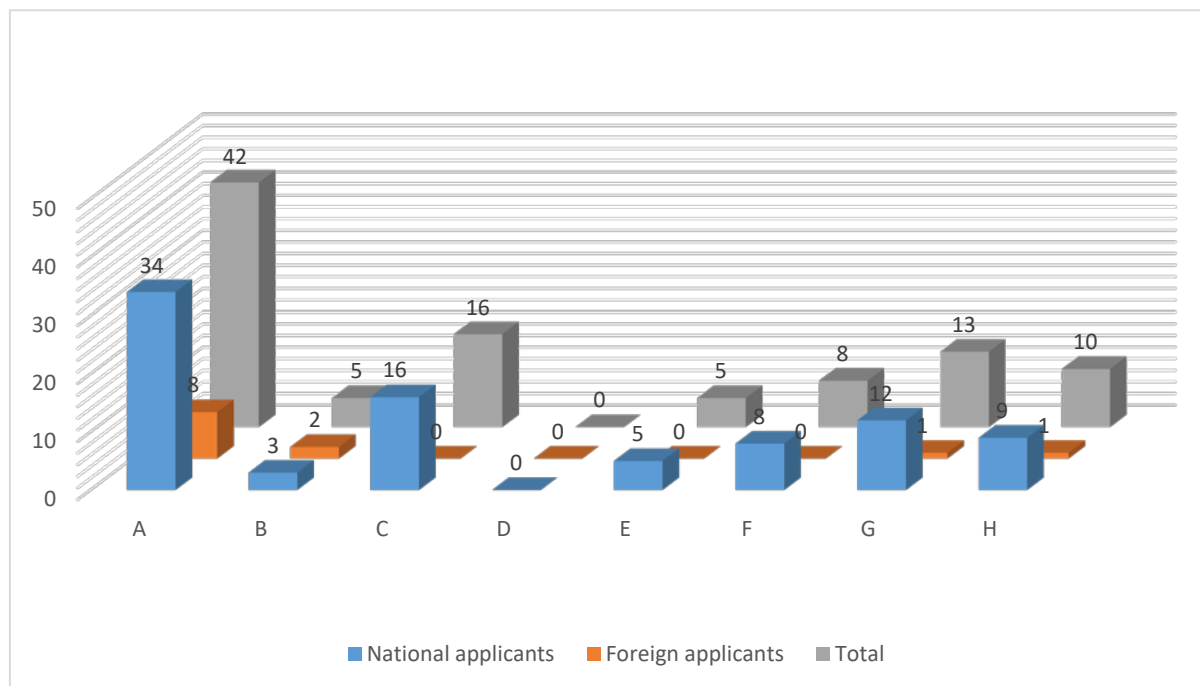
During the reporting period the clerical work with 126 applications is completed, in particular: decisions on publication in the Official Bulletin and granting legal protection were made with regard to 70 applications for invention, 33 applications for utility models. Decisions to recall applications on inventions (utility models) were made with regard to 16 applications, on rejection to grant patents were made with regard to 7 applications for invention. Decision on publication of the report on patentability of 1 invention was made.

THE RESULTS OF THE CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS IN THE FORM OF DIAGRAMS



INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

DISTRIBUTION OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN 2020 FROM NATIONAL AND FOREIGN APPLICANTS, BY SECTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION ARE SHOWN IN A GRAPH.



THE DISTRIBUTION OF APPLICATIONS FILED IN 2020, ACCORDING TO THE FIELDS OF TECHNOLOGY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE

No	Technical field (according to classes / subclasses of IPC)	Number of applications filed in	% in the total number
1-2.	Medications and pharmaceuticals (A61K)	15	15,15%
1-2.	Medicine and Veterinary (A61-A63, except A61K)	15	15,15%
3.	Clothing and Household Items (A41-A47)	11	11.11%
4.	Electrical engineering (H01, H02, H05)	10	10,1%
5.	Measurement and Optics (G01-G03)	8	8,08%
6.	Organic Chemistry (C07, A01N)	7	7,07%

INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

7-8.	Motors and pumps (F01-F04)	5	5,05%
7-8.	Inorganic Chemistry (C01-C05, C30)	5	5,05%
9-19.	Other fields	23	23,23%
	Total	99	100

THE TABLE SHOWS THE DISTRIBUTION OF APPLICATIONS FILED IN 2018-2020, BY FIELDS OF TECHNOLOGY

No	Technical field (according to classes / subclasses of IPC)	2018	2019	2020	Total amount (2018- 2020)	% in the total number of applications
1.	Medications and pharmaceuticals (A61K)	20	22	15	57	14,5%
2.	Medicine and Veterinary (A61- A63, except A61K)	16	13	15	44	11,20%
3.	Electrical engineering (H01, H02, H05)	9	14	10	33	8,40%
4.	Measurement and Optics (G01-G03)	11	10	8	29	7,38%
5.	Food and tobacco (A21-A24)	11	14	1	26	6,62%
6.	Inorganic Chemistry (C01-C05, C30)	8	9	5	22	5,60%

INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

7.	Organic Chemistry (C07, A01N)	6	8	7	21	5,34%
8.	Motors and pumps (F01-F04)	6	7	5	18	4,58%
9.	Clothing and Household Items (A41-A47)	2	3	11	16	4,07%
10	Processing materials, layered materials (B21-B30, B32)	4	8	3	15	3,82%
11.	Construction (E01- E06)	4	4	4	12	3,05%
12-13.	Transportation (B60- B68)	6	5	0	11	2,80%
12-13.	Metallurgy and electrolysis (C21- C23, C25)	5	6	0	11	2,80%
14-15.	Agriculture (A01 except for A01N)	4	3	2	9	2,29%
14-15.	Paints, fuels, animal and vegetable oils (C09-C11)	5	2	2	9	2,29%
16.	Physical and chemical processes (B01-B09)	5	1	2	8	2,04%

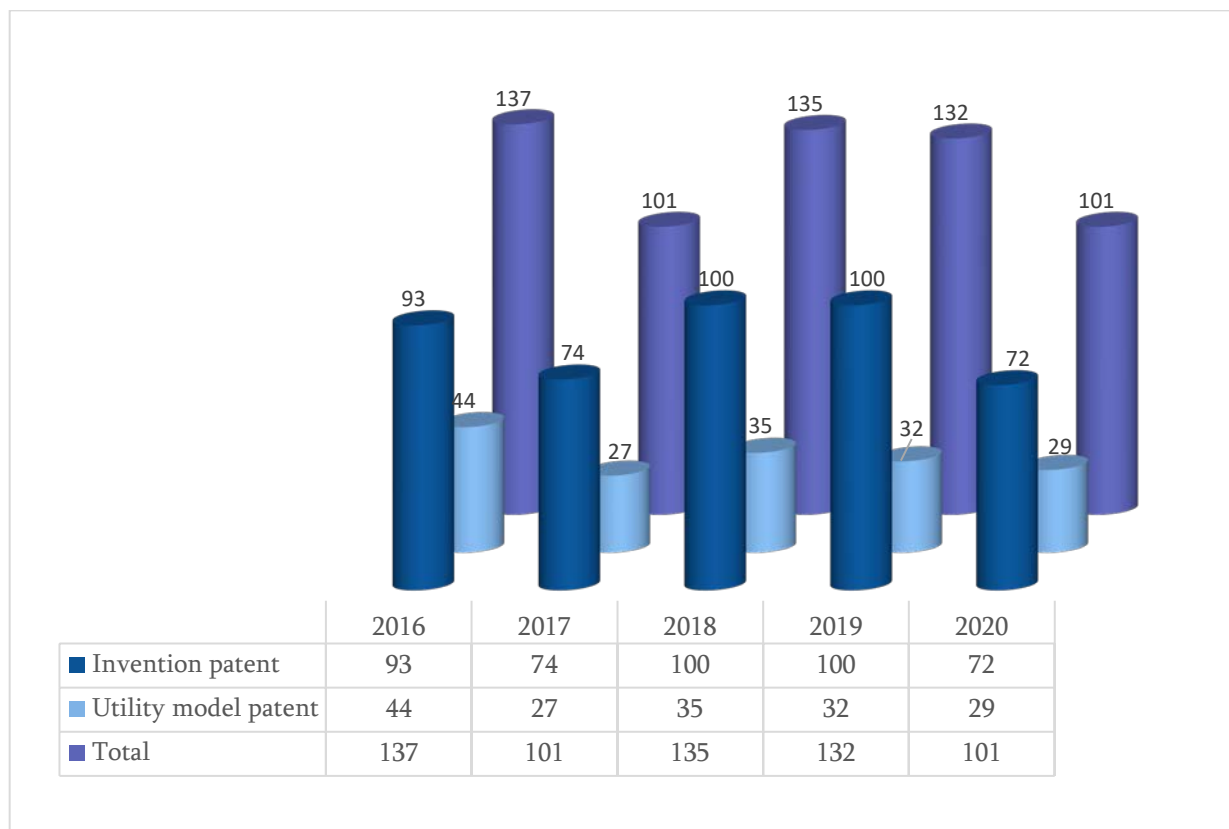
INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

17.	Lighting, Heating, Refrigeration Equipment (F21-F28)	2	2	0	4	1,02%
18.	Other fields	17	22	9	48	12,21%
	Total	141	153	99	393	100%

PATENTS

In 2020, 72 patents for inventions and 29 patents for a utility model were issued, 7 of which were patents for inventions (USA, Kazakhstan, Germany, Singapore, Switzerland) issued to foreign applicants.

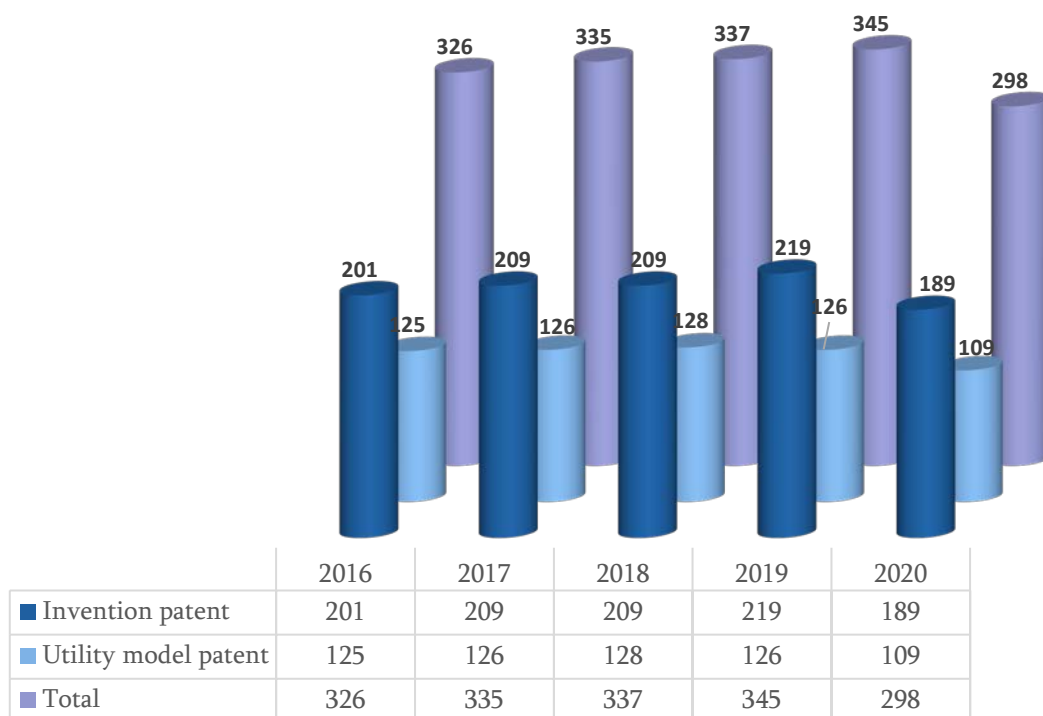
THE DYNAMICS OF THE ISSUANCE OF PATENTS FOR 2016-2020



INVENTIONS AND UTILITY MODELS

As of 2020, 189 patents for inventions and 109 for utility models are valid out of 3424 and 601 respectively.

THE NUMBER OF VALID PATENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AS OF DECEMBER 31 OF THE RELEVANT YEAR (2016-2020) IS GIVEN AS A GRAPH.



According to the data of 2020, 5244 Eurasian patents are valid in the Republic of Armenia.

TRADEMARKS

In 2020, the number of trademark applications filed with the Intellectual Property Agency has decreased.

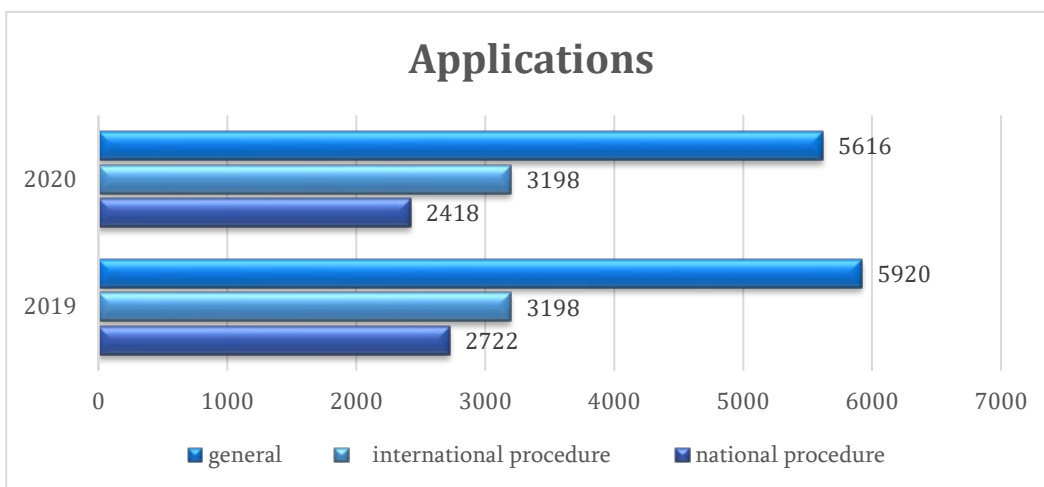
2418 applications were filed under the national procedure, which is 11% less than in the previous year (2722 applications in 2019). 1900 applications were filed by national applicants.

Preliminary examination was carried out for 2424 applications, 1868 trademarks were registered, 1467 of which for national applicants.

The number of registered trademarks increased by 38% (1353 applications in 2019) compared to the previous year. The number of decisions on refusal of trademark registration decreased by 13% (156 refusals against 179 in 2019), 61 applications were recalled. In 2020, 1868 trademark certificates were granted.

2710 notifications on international registration of trademarks were received under international procedure (Madrid system) with the designation of the Republic of Armenia, which is 15% less than in the previous year (3198 notifications in 2019).

2107 decisions on granting legal protection to trademarks through international notifications, 1002 on preliminary refusal and 254 on final refusals were made.



TRADEMARKS

THE BREAKDOWN OF THE FILED APPLICATIONS UNDER THE NATIONAL PROCEDURE AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURE WITH REFERENCE TO THE RESIDENTIAL COUNTRIES OF APPLICANTS IS GIVEN IN THE TABLE

Country		According to the national procedure	Within the framework of the Madrid Agreement and its Protocol	Total
AM	Armenia	1900		1900
AG	Antigua and Barbuda		3	3
AE	United Arab Emirates	5	1	6
AT	Austria		22	22
AU	Australia		7	7
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina		1	1
BB	Barbados	4		4
BE	Belgium	2	26	28
BG	Bulgaria	2	31	33
BR	Brazil		3	3
BY	Belarus		49	49
BZ	Belize	1	7	8
CA	Canada	6	10	16
CH	Swiss Confederation	63	151	214
CN	China	30	320	350
CU	Cuba	1		1
CY	Cyprus	7	63	70
CZ	Czech Republic		8	8
DE	Germany	21	196	217
DK	Denmark	2	19	21
DM	Dominican Republic		1	1

TRADEMARKS

EE	Estonia		5	5
EG	Egypt	3		3
EC	Ecuador			0
ES	Spain		51	51
FI	Finland	27	5	32
FR	France	11	70	81
GB	United Kingdom	9	66	75
GE	Georgia	12	13	25
GR	Greece	2	1	3
HR	Croatia	2		2
HU	Hungary		57	57
ID	Indonesia		5	5
IE	Ireland	6	11	17
IL	Israel	10	5	15
IN	India	4	23	27
IR	Iran		6	6
IT	Italy	3	142	145
JO	Jordan	1		1
JP	Japan	22	45	67
KR	Republic of Korea	27	69	96
KY	Cayman Islands	6	1	7
KZ	Kazakhstan		34	34
LB	Lebanon	1	1	2
LK	Sri Lanka	1		1
LI	Liechtenstein		9	9
LV	Latvia		9	9
LT	Lithuania		7	7
LU	Luxemburg	3	42	45
MC	Monaco		5	5
MD	Republic of Moldova		7	7

TRADEMARKS

MK	Macedonia		1	1
MX	Mexico	7	1	8
MY	Malaysia			0
NL	Netherlands	8	48	56
NO	Norway		3	3
NZ	New Zealand		1	1
PL	Poland	3	23	26
RO	Romania		9	9
PR	Puerto Rico		1	1
PT	Portugal		9	9
QA	Qatar	3	2	5
RU	Russian Federation	52	574	626
SC	Seychelles	3	2	5
SE	Sweden	4	16	20
SG	Singapore		26	26
SI	Slovenia	2	8	10
SK	Slovakia		6	6
SM	San Marino		2	2
TJ	Tajikistan		1	1
TH	Taiwan	2		2
TN	Tunisia		1	1
TR	Turkey		58	58
VN	Vietnam		3	3
VG	Virgin Islands	3	6	9
UA	Ukraine	6	76	82
UZ	Uzbekistan		7	7
USA	USA	125	219	344
Others		6		6
Total		2418	2710	5128

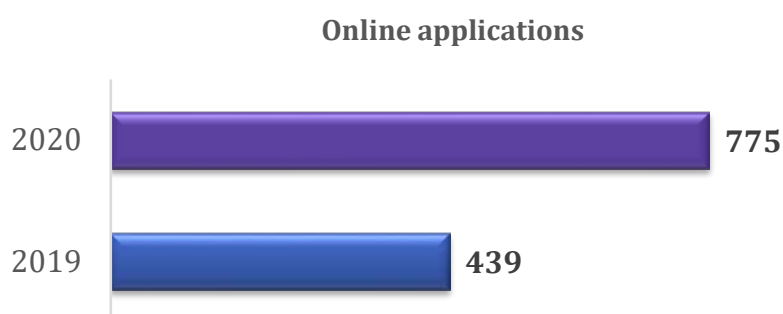
TRADEMARKS

27 applications for international registration were filed from the Republic of Armenia.

The year 2020 saw trademark applications filed for registration for goods in class 33 (Alcoholic beverages, except beers) as leading with 478 applications (463 applications in 2019). The second place goes to applications filed for registration of trademarks for services in class 35 (advertising, business management, administrative activities in the field of business; office services) with 381 applications (522 applications in 2019). In the third place are the applications filed for registration of trademarks for services in class 43 (Food and Beverage Services: provision of temporary accommodation) with 217 applications (362 applications in 2019).

ONLINE APPLICATIONS

In the reporting period, the number of submitted online applications increased by 76% (775 applications) compared to the previous year (439 applications).



OBJECTIONS AND REMARKS

In 2020, 131 written objections and remarks were filed against the registration of trademarks, which is 23% more than in the previous year (171 in 2019).

TRADEMARKS

Objections and Remarks



INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

The reporting year registered decrease of applications for industrial designs filed with the Agency. 33 applications were received under the national procedure (57 applications in 2019). 27 applications were received from the national applicants, which is 10 applications less than in the previous year (37 applications in 2019). 28 industrial designs were registered and certificates were granted.

118 notifications on international registration of industrial designs were received under the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement on the Registration of Industrial Designs with the designation of the Republic of Armenia, which is 3 applications less than in the previous year (121 notifications in 2019).

During the reporting period, 7 online applications for industrial designs were filed (7 applications in 2019).

In 2020, 34 industrial design certificates were prepared and handed over to the rightsholders.

TRADEMARKS

RENEWALS

2020 registered 838 extensions of trademark validity periods and 25 applications for extension of rights protection period arising from the registration of industrial designs. 712 amendements and other actions were made in the State Registry of Trademarks.

REGISTRATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS AND LICENSE AGREEMENTS

REGISTRATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS AND LICENSE AGREEMENTS

During the reporting period 130 applications on assignments of rights to trademarks, 2 trademark franchises, 28 registrations of trademark licenses, 1 sublicense of trademark, 5 registrations of amendments in trademark licenses, 6 cancellations of trademark licenses, as well as 4 grantings of non-exclusive license on use of patent, 2 assignments of patent rights, transfer of the right of 1 industrial design, amendment in 1 industrial design license, 1 open license requests were examined and registered.

BOARD OF APPEAL

During 2020, appeals regarding 2 well-known trademarks, 35 trademarks and 1 invention were submitted to the Board of Appeal of the Intellectual Property Agency of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia. 12 requests were satisfied by the Board of Appeal, 13 were rejected.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS

In 2020, the Agency participated in 70 court hearings on 162 court cases.

LEGISLATIVE FIELD

On May 11, 2020 the Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs to the Eurasian Patent Convention of September 9, 1994 was ratified by the Parliament of the Republic of Armenia.

On December 17, 2020 the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva deposited the instrument of ratification of the Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs to the Eurasian Patent Convention with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Daren Tang. On May 20, 2020, the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances was ratified by the Parliament of the Republic of Armenia.

On December 30, the Parliament of the Republic of Armenia ratified the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.

The new draft law of the Republic of Armenia on Patents and the new draft law of the Republic of Armenia on Industrial Design were submitted to the Parliament of RA, and the new draft law of the Republic of Armenia on Copyright and Related Rights was submitted to the Government of RA.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

In 2020, 24 volumes of the official bulletin “Industrial Property” were published in Armenian and Russian. The bulletins included official information on patents for 72 inventions and 29 utility models, certificates on 29 industrial designs, 1868 registered trademarks, information on the renewals of registration of trademarks, as well as information on assignment agreements of patents and trademarks and registration of license agreements.

24 volumes of the bulletin “Applications for Trademarks” were published in 2020. Schemes of inventions and utility models were inputted, full descriptions of first pages and claims of electronic forms, as well as images of industrial designs were inputted and published to be provided to the patent owners and libraries, for internal use via the Agency intranet , as well as for public use.

The preparation and publication of the bulletin "Annual Report" for 2019 was carried out in Armenian, English and Russian languages and published on the Agency’s official web page.

In 2020, 775 online applications on trademarks (439 in 2019), 6 on inventions and utility models (7 in 2019) and 10 on industrial designs (7 in 2019) were filed with the Agency.

Works towards transition from paper to digitization were carried out. About 1868 trademark, 80 inventions, 29 utility models, 35 industrial designs documents were digitized. The digitalization process is ongoing.

The modernization of the electronic application system has continued. Works towards the creation of a new website of the Intellectual Property Agency were carried out throughout 2020. The new official website will be launched in 2021.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Intellectual Property Agency has continued and has strengthened the cooperation with WIPO, EAPO, international organizations, as well as with foreign patent offices. The main area of cooperation in 2020 was the participation of AIPA specialists and experts in various online events: conferences, seminars, round tables, workshops, during which the development of the intellectual property field was discussed.

On February 19-21, 2020, the representative of the Agency took part in the discussion on some issues of the implementation of the Agreement on trademarks, service marks and appellations of origin of goods of the Eurasian Economic Union, after which, the discussions continued in video conference format on June 20-30 and on December 10.

On April 22-24, AIPA employees of the Agency participated in the presentation of Rospatent digital projects, which was held in a webinar format. The following projects were presented: "Digital Patent Information Search Platform", "Online Rospatent", "Intelligent System for Personalized Examination of Means". The mentioned systems are planned to be launched by the end of 2021.

On April 30, 2020, AIPA representatives participated in the meeting of the Coordination Council on the Regional Patent and Information Product (CISPATENT) within the framework of the Interstate Council for the Protection of Intellectual Property.

On June 19, 2020, the 10th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Intellectual Property under the EAEC Council was held in the form of a video conference, which was attended by the Acting Head of the Agency and other members of the Committee.

On August 6-7, 2020, the 25th session of the Budget Working Group of the Administrative Council of the Eurasian Patent Organization was held in Moscow (Russian

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Federation), with the participation of a representative of the Agency in a video conference format.

Since August 19, 2020, on monthly basis, online discussions were held between the Eurasian Economic Union Member States on the main approaches of fighting infringements of intellectual property rights in the information and communication network "Internet", which was attended by relevant members of working group of EAEU Member States.

On September 25, 2020, the 10th session of the CIS Interstate Council on Legal Protection and Protection of Intellectual Property was held in Kishinev (Republic of Moldova). The Acting Head of the Agency delivered a report during session.

On August 28, 2020, the staff members of the Agency took part in the consultation in a videoconference format organized by the Eurasian Economic Commission with the participation of representatives of the Eurasian Economic Union Member States. During the meeting, the proposed options for creating search services were discussed, which will enable the search of information on industrial property protected in the Member States.

On September 10-11, the 36th (27th regular) session of the Administrative Council of the Eurasian Patent Organization took place. The Acting Head of the Agency took part in the session as the plenipotentiary representative of the Republic of Armenia in the Administrative Council. Issues related to the current activities of the organization, as well as the issue of electing a new Chairman of the Board were discussed at the session. As a result of voting, the plenipotentiary representative of Tajikistan was elected as a Chairman of the Council, and the plenipotentiary representatives of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Belarus were elected as chairpersons.

On September 21-24, the Acting Head and the staff representative of the Agency participated in the 61st Session of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

On October 8, the representative of the Agency took part in online meeting organized by WIPO, UNDP, AIIB, IDB and OSCE. The meeting was dedicated to the Women's role in international organizations.

On October 12-16, the representative of the Agency participated in the 18th Session of the WIPO Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.

On October 15-16, AIPA representative participated in the Regional Videoconference on Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights.

On November 6, AIPA representative took part in the Annual Oversight Plan Discussion for 2021 of the WIPO Internal Oversight Division (IOD).

On November 12, the representative of the Agency took part in the event "Creating a Living: How Public Lending Right (PLR) Helps" organized by the International Authors Forum (IAF).

On November 16-20, the representative of the Agency participated in the 40th WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights via online platform.

On November 25, AIPA representatives took part in the event "Sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook (IPO) 2020: Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus (EESC)".

On December 21-22, the representative of AIPA participated in the 8th International Conference "Antikontrafakt 2010", which was dedicated to the fight against illegal circulation of industrial products, as well as to the protection of intellectual property rights.

Since June, 2020, monthly discussions were held on the project EU4Digital - ICT Innovations under the title "Intellectual Property Management for Digital Innovations" with the participation of AIPA representative.