

Intellectual Property Office of Singapore Registry of Trade Marks Circular No. 2/2021: Public Consultation on Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill 2021

Public Consultation on Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill 2021 (Circular No. 2/2021, dated 15 July 2021)

IPOS is seeking feedback on the Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill 2021 (the "Bill") and corresponding amendments to the respective IP subsidiary legislation (collectively, the "Proposed Amendments").

Background

Following public consultation on the proposed changes to simplify and streamline IP processes and improve user experience with digital initiatives in August 2020¹, suggestions received from stakeholders have been considered to further shape IPOS' policies.

To implement the intended policies, IPOS now wishes to introduce legislative changes to the Patents Act and Rules, the Trade Marks Act and Rules, the Trade Marks (International Registration) Rules, the Registered Designs Act and Rules, the Geographical Indications Act and Rules and the Plant Varieties Protection Act and Rules. These proposed changes are set out in the Proposed Amendments.

Submission of feedback

IPOS invites you to provide your feedback to the Proposed Amendments.

As you review the Proposed Amendments, you may wish to consider the following:

(a) Is there any ambiguity or lack of clarity in how a proposed change or provision is framed, whether in terms of scope of application, definition or other technical aspects of the provision? If so, how may these be addressed?

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¹ <u>Public Consultation: Changes to Simplify Intellectual Property Processes and Improve User</u> Experience with Digital Initiatives, August 2020.

(b) Do any of the proposed changes result in consequences which may impact existing provisions which have not been adequately catered for? If so, what are these consequences and how may they be addressed?

As this public consultation is to seek feedback on the Proposed Amendments only, it is not necessary to provide comments to the other proposed legislative amendments that are beyond the scope of the Proposed Amendments.

The public consultation will run from 15 July 2021 (Thursday) to <u>5 August 2021 (Thursday)</u>. We look forward to receiving your feedback via <u>FormSG submission</u>.

Public Consultation Paper Format

This public consultation paper is organised into five sections:

- (a) Section I: Patents
- (b) Section II: Trade Marks
- (c) Section III: Registered Designs
- (d) Section IV: Plant Varieties Protection
- (e) Section V: Amendments which are common to more than one IP

Each of these sections sets out a list of the main changes to each IP regime, together with a description of the proposed legislative amendments sought to effect these changes.

In addition to the general questions, there is a specific question in the Plant Varieties Protection section regarding a particular change. We invite you to respond to that question if it is applicable to you.

For more information, please refer to the <u>public consultation paper</u>, the <u>draft Bill (Annex A)</u> and the draft IP subsidiary legislation (Annex B).

Contact us

You are welcome to contact us at IPOS_Consultation@ipos.gov.sg should you need any clarification.

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