

## NAMIBIA – NA

### Jurisdiction - General Information

Namibia has been a Contracting Party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) since January 1, 2004.

Namibia is also a member of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization ([ARIPO](#)).

More legal information about intellectual property-related laws and regulations of Namibia can be found on [WIPO Lex](#).

### Online Patent Register and Online Gazette

Namibia has neither an **Online Register** nor an **Online Gazette**.

For further enquiries, please contact the relevant authority as indicated in the [WIPO Directory](#).

### Features and search functionalities

ARIPO provides an [online information platform](#) for searching ARIPO and member states' national patents (which are currently being loaded) with an interface in English. For more information about ARIPO, consult the [detailed jurisdiction file](#).

There is currently a second patent database including patents of ARIPO and of ARIPO's members built on the WIPO Publish platform available at this [link](#), allowing a selection through a slider button between a search limited to the most frequently used fields and a broader one enlarged to a wide number of search fields, some of which however could be left empty.

### Additional Information

#### Particularities of patent protection in Namibia

The Industrial Property Act No. 1 of 2012 has come into operation on 1 August 2018.

The Act introduces a 20 year patent term and absolute novelty and substantive examination for all patent applications. Patents granted under the old law remain in force for the unexpired portion of the period of protection provided for under the relevant repealed laws (providing a duration of 14 years plus a first extension period of 7 years and in exceptional circumstances of up to 14 years for a total of 28 years) subject to the payment of the prescribed renewal fees.

In addition, the Act provides special requirements if the subject matter of a patent application is derived from or developed with biological resources or associated indigenous or traditional knowledge.

#### Search tips