

ZAMBIA - ZM

Jurisdiction - General Information

Zambia has been a Contracting Party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since April 6, 1965. It has also been a Contracting Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) since November 15, 2001. In addition, it is a party to the Patent Law Treaty (PLT).

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

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

Online Patent Register and Online Gazette

Zambia does not have an **Online Register**. It has an [Online Gazette](#).

The Online Gazette is published monthly in English. Its coverage is October 2023 to present.

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 Zambia

The Patent Act of 2016 provides that the term of a patent is 20 years from the filing date and for a utility models 10 years from the filing date. An extension of a maximum period of two years can be obtained in case of exceptional circumstances.

According to the previous law the term was 16 years from the date of filing, which could be extended on the ground of inadequate remuneration for one further period of up to five years, and in exceptional circumstances for up to ten years.

Search tips