



LAWS OF MALAYSIA

ONLINE VERSION OF UPDATED
TEXT OF REPRINT

Act 291

PATENTS ACT 1983

As at 30 June 2022

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PATENTS ACT 1983

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LAWS OF MALAYSIA**Act 291****PATENTS ACT 1983**

An Act to make better provisions in the law relating to patents and for other matters connected therewith.

[1 October 1986—P.U. (B) 500/1986]

BE IT ENACTED by the Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong with the advice and consent of the Dewan Negara and Dewan Rakyat in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

PART I**PRELIMINARY****Short title, commencement and application**

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Patents Act 1983 and shall come into force on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

(2) This Act shall apply throughout Malaysia.

Extent of application

2. This Act shall apply to patent applications made after the commencement of this Act and to the registration of patents made on such applications.

Interpretation

3. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“appointed date” has the same meaning as is assigned to that expression in the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia Act 2002 [*Act 617*];

“Assistant Registrar” means the person appointed or deemed to have been appointed to be an Assistant Registrar under subsection 8(2) or (3);

“authorized officer” means an officer authorized under section 68;

“Corporation” means the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia established under the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia Act 2002;

“Council for TRIPS” means the council established under the TRIPS Agreement;

“Court” means the High Court, or Judge thereof;

“Deputy Registrar” means the person appointed or deemed to have been appointed to be a Deputy Registrar under subsection 8(2) or (3);

“employee” means a person who works or has worked under a contract of employment, or who is in employment under, or for the purposes of, any individual or organization;

“employer”, in relation to an employee, means the person by whom the employee is or was employed;

“Examiner” means any person, government department, unit or organization, or any foreign or international patent office or organization, appointed by the Corporation under section 9A;

“filing date” means the date recorded by the Registrar as the filing date under section 28;

“International Depository Authority” means a depository institution which has acquired the status of international depository authority under the Budapest Treaty;

“micro-organism” means any organism of microscopic size and parts of an organism of microscopic size, including sterile organism, virus and viroid;

“Minister” means the Minister for the time being charged with the responsibility for intellectual property;

“Official Journal” means the Intellectual Property Official Journal published by the Registrar under section 86A;

“owner of the patent” or “owner of a patent” means the person for the time being recorded in the Register as the grantee of a patent;

“patented invention” means an invention for which a patent is granted and “patented process” shall be construed accordingly;

“patented product” means a product which is a patented invention or, in relation to a patented process, a product obtained directly by means of the process or to which the process has been applied;

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made under this Act;

“pharmaceutical product” means—

(a) any patented product; or

(b) any product manufactured through a patented process,

of the pharmaceutical sector that includes active ingredient necessary for its manufacture and diagnostic kit needed for its use;

“priority date” means the date prescribed in section 27A;

“process” includes an art or a method;

“product” means any thing which appears in tangible form, and includes any apparatus, article, device, equipment, handicraft, implement, machine, substance and composition;

“Register” means the Register of Patents and the Register for Certificates for Utility Innovations kept under this Act;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Patents as designated in subsection 8(1);

“resident” includes—

- (a) a citizen of Malaysia who is residing in Malaysia;
- (b) a non-citizen of Malaysia who—
 - (i) has obtained permanent resident status in Malaysia and is ordinarily residing in Malaysia; or
 - (ii) is residing in Malaysia by virtue of a valid pass lawfully issued to him under the Immigration Act 1959/63 [*Act 155*] to enter and remain in Malaysia;
- (c) a body corporate incorporated, established or registered under any written law in Malaysia other than a foreign company; or
- (d) an unincorporated body established or registered under any written law in Malaysia;

“right”, in relation to any patent application or patent, includes an interest in the patent application or patent and, without prejudice to the foregoing, any reference to a right in a patent includes a reference to a share in the patent;

“TRIPS Agreement” means the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights set out in Annex 1C to the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization.

PART II

PATENTS BOARD

4. — 7A. (*Deleted by Act A1137*).

PART III

ADMINISTRATION

Registrar, Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars

8. (1) The Director General of the Corporation shall be the Registrar of Patents.

(2) The Corporation may appoint, on such terms and conditions as it may determine, from amongst persons in the employment of the Corporation, such number of Deputy Registrars of Patents, Assistant Registrars of Patents and other officers as may be necessary for the proper administration of this Act, and may revoke the appointment of any person so appointed or deemed to have been so appointed under subsection (3).

(3) The persons holding office as Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars and other officers under this Act before the appointed date who were given an option by the Government of Malaysia to serve as employees of the Corporation and have so opted shall on the appointed date be deemed to have been appointed as Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars and such other officers under subsection (2).

(4) Subject to the general direction and control of the Registrar and to such conditions or restrictions as may be imposed by the Registrar, a Deputy Registrar or an Assistant Registrar may exercise any function of the Registrar under this Act, and anything by this Act appointed or authorized or required to be done or signed by the Registrar may be done or signed by any Deputy Registrar or Assistant Registrar and the act or signature of a Deputy Registrar or an Assistant Registrar shall be as valid and effectual as if done or signed by the Registrar.

(5) The Registrar shall have a seal of such device as may be approved by the Corporation and the impressions of such seal shall be judicially noticed and admitted in evidence.

Patent Registration Office

9. (1) A Patent Registration Office and such number of branch offices of the Patent Registration Office as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act shall be established.

(2) *(Deleted by Act A1137).*

(3) *(Deleted by Act A1137).*

(4) *(Deleted by Act A1137).*

(5) Any application or other document required or permitted to be filed at the Patent Registration Office may be filed at any branch office of the Patent Registration Office and such application or other document shall be deemed to have been filed at the Patent Registration Office.

Examiners

9A. The Corporation may appoint any person, government department, unit or organization, or any foreign or international patent office or organization to be an Examiner for the purposes of this Act.

Patent information service

10. There shall be a patent information service which provides information to the public upon payment of the prescribed fee.

PART IV

PATENTABILITY

Patentable inventions

11. An invention is patentable if it is new, involves an inventive step and is industrially applicable.

Meaning of “invention”

12. (1) An invention means an idea of an inventor which permits in practice the solution to a specific problem in the field of technology.

(2) An invention may be or may relate to a product or process.

Non-patentable inventions

13. (1) Notwithstanding the fact that they may be inventions within the meaning of section 12, the following shall not be patentable:

- (a) discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods;
- (b) plant or animal varieties or essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals, other than manmade living micro-organisms, micro-biological processes and the products of such micro-biological processes;
- (c) schemes, rules or methods for doing business, performing purely mental acts or playing games;
- (d) methods for the treatment of human or animal body by surgery or therapy, and diagnostic methods practised on the human or animal body:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to products used in any such methods.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), in the event of uncertainty as to whether the items specified therein shall be patentable or not, the Registrar may refer the matter to the Examiner for an opinion and the Registrar shall thereafter give a decision as to whether to include or exclude such item as being patentable, as the case may be.

Novelty

14. (1) An invention is new if it is not anticipated by prior art.

(2) Prior art shall consist of—

- (a) everything disclosed to the public, anywhere in the world, by written publication, by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the priority date of the patent application claiming the invention;
- (b) the contents of a domestic patent application having an earlier priority date than the patent application referred to in paragraph (a) to the extent that such contents are included in the patent application published under section 33D on the basis of the said domestic patent application.

(3) A disclosure made under paragraph (2)(a) shall be disregarded—

- (a) if such disclosure occurred within one year preceding the date of the patent application and if such disclosure was by reason or in consequence of acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title;
- (b) if such disclosure occurred within one year preceding the date of the patent application and if such disclosure was by reason or in consequence of any abuse of the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title;
- (c) if such disclosure is by way of a pending application to register the patent in the United Kingdom Patent Office as at the date of coming into force of this Act.

(4) Subsection (2) shall not exclude the patentability of any substance or composition, comprised in the prior art, for use in a method referred to in paragraph 13(1)(d), if its use in any such method is not comprised in the prior art.

Inventive step

15. An invention shall be considered as involving an inventive step if, having regard to any matter which forms part of the prior art under paragraph 14(2)(a), such inventive step would not have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Industrial application

16. An invention shall be considered industrially applicable if it can be made or used in any kind of industry.

PART IVA

UTILITY INNOVATIONS

Definition

17. For the purposes of this Part and any regulations made under this Act in relation to this Part, “utility innovation” means any innovation which creates a new product or process, or any new improvement of a known product or process, which is capable of industrial application, and includes an invention.

Application

17A. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Part, the provisions of this Act, subject to the modifications in the Second Schedule, shall apply to utility innovations in the same manner as they apply to inventions.

(2) Sections 11, 15, 26, Part X, and sections 89 and 90 shall not apply to utility innovations.

Conversion from an application for a patent into an application for a certificate for a utility innovation, and *vice versa*

17B. (1) An application for a patent may be converted into an application for a certificate for a utility innovation.

(2) An application for a certificate for a utility innovation may be converted into an application for a patent.

(3) A request to convert an application for a patent into an application for a certificate for a utility innovation or to convert an application for a certificate for a utility innovation into an application for a patent shall be filed by the applicant and shall comply with regulations made under this Act.

(4) A request for conversion under this section shall be filed with the Registrar within the prescribed period.

(4A) Without prejudice to the power of the Registrar to allow conversion, the prescribed period referred to in subsection (4) shall not be extended under section 82.

(5) A request for conversion under this section shall not be entertained unless the prescribed fee has been paid to the Registrar.

(6) An application which has been converted shall be deemed to have been filed at the time the initial application was filed.

Patent and certificate for a utility innovation cannot both be granted for the same invention

17C. (1) If an applicant for a patent has also—

- (a) made an application for a certificate for a utility innovation;
- or

(b) been issued with a certificate for a utility innovation,

and the subject matter of the application for a patent is the same as the subject matter of the application mentioned in paragraph (a) or of the certificate mentioned in paragraph (b), a patent shall not be granted until the application mentioned in paragraph (a) has been withdrawn or the certificate mentioned in paragraph (b) has been surrendered.

(2) If an applicant for a certificate for a utility innovation has also—

(a) made an application for a patent; or

(b) been granted a patent,

and the subject matter of the application for a certificate for a utility innovation is the same as the subject matter of the application mentioned in paragraph (a) or of the patent mentioned in paragraph (b), a certificate for a utility innovation shall not be granted until the application mentioned in paragraph (a) has been withdrawn or the patent mentioned in paragraph (b) has been surrendered.

PART V

RIGHTS TO A PATENT

Right to a patent

18. (1) Any person may make an application for a patent either alone or jointly with another.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act the rights to a patent shall belong to the inventor.

(3) Where two or more persons have jointly made an invention, the rights to a patent shall belong to them jointly.

(4) If two or more persons have separately and independently made the same invention, and each of them has made an application for a

patent, the right to a patent for that invention shall belong to the person whose application has the earliest priority date.

Judicial assignment of patent application or patent

19. Where the essential elements of the invention claimed in a patent application or patent have been unlawfully derived from an invention for which the right to the patent belongs to another person, such other person may apply to the Court for an order that the said patent application or patent be assigned to him:

Provided that the Court shall not entertain an application for the assignment of a patent after six years from the date of the grant of the patent.

Inventions made by an employee or pursuant to a commission

20. (1) In the absence of any provisions to the contrary in any contract of employment or for the execution of work, the rights to a patent for an invention made in the performance of such contract of employment or in the execution of such work shall be deemed to accrue to the employer, or the person who commissioned the work, as the case may be:

Provided that where the invention acquires an economic value much greater than the parties could reasonably have foreseen at the time of concluding the contract of employment or for the execution of work, as the case may be, the inventor shall be entitled to equitable remuneration which may be fixed by the Court in the absence of agreement between the parties.

(2) Where an employee whose contract of employment does not require him to engage in any inventive activity makes, in the field of activities of his employer, an invention using data or means placed at his disposal by his employer, the right to the patent for such invention shall be deemed to accrue to the employer in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the contract of employment:

Provided that the employee shall be entitled to equitable remuneration which, in the absence of agreement between the parties, may be fixed by the Court taking into account his emoluments, the economic value of the invention and any benefit derived from it by the employer.

(3) The rights conferred on the inventor under subsections (1) and (2) shall not be restricted by contract.

Inventions by Government employee

21. (1) Notwithstanding subsection 20(3), the provisions of that section shall apply to a Government employee or an employee of a Government organization or enterprise unless otherwise provided by rules or regulations of such Government organization or enterprise.

(2) In this section, "Government" means the Federal Government or a State Government.

Joint owners

22. Where the right to obtain a patent is owned jointly, the patent may only be applied for jointly by all the joint owners.

PART VI

APPLICATION, PROCEDURE FOR GRANT AND DURATION

Requirements of application

23. Every application for the grant of a patent shall comply with the regulations as may be prescribed by the Minister under this Act.

Applications by residents to be filed in Malaysia first

23A. (1) No person who is a resident shall, without written authority granted by the Registrar, file or cause to be filed outside Malaysia an application for a patent for an invention unless—

- (a) an application for a patent for the same invention has been filed in the Patent Registration Office not less than two months before the application outside Malaysia; and
- (b) either no directions have been issued by the Registrar under section 30A in relation to the application or all such directions have been revoked.

(2) An application for the grant of a written authority by the Registrar referred to in subsection (1) shall be made by the resident in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

Application fee

24. An application for the grant of a patent shall not be entertained unless the prescribed fee has been paid to the Registrar.

Withdrawal of application

25. An applicant may withdraw his application at any time during its pendency by submitting to the Registrar a declaration in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee, and such withdrawal may not be revoked.

Unity of invention

26. An application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept.

26A. (*Deleted by Act A1649*).

Division of application

26B. (1) The applicant may, within the prescribed period, make a request to the Registrar for a divisional application to divide an application into two or more applications in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee, provided that each divisional application shall not go beyond the disclosure in the initial application.

(1A) A request for the divisional application under subsection (1) shall not be allowed by the Registrar if before the date of such request, the initial application or the immediate preceding application relating to the initial application has been—

- (a) granted a patent;
- (b) refused;
- (c) deemed to be withdrawn;
- (d) withdrawn; or
- (e) abandoned.

(1B) Without prejudice to the power of Registrar to allow for divisional application, the prescribed period referred to in subsection (1) shall not be extended under section 82.

(2) Each divisional application shall be entitled to the filing date and to any right of priority under section 27, if the right of priority is claimed, of the initial application.

Deposit of micro-organism

26C. (1) If an invention involves a micro-organism which is not available to the public and cannot be described in the application for a patent in such a manner as to enable the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art, a sample of such micro-organism shall be deposited by the applicant or any other person

with a National Depositary Authority or an International Depositary Authority not later than the filing date of the patent application.

(2) The deposit of micro-organism with the National Depositary Authority referred to in subsection (1) shall be made in the prescribed manner.

(3) The deposit of micro-organism with the International Depositary Authority referred to in subsection (1) shall be made in accordance with the Budapest Treaty.

(4) The deposit of micro-organism with the National Depositary Authority or the International Depositary Authority, as the case may be, shall be recognized as fulfilling the requirement of disclosure in a patent application.

(5) Any person may make a request for a sample of the micro-organism deposited under subsection (1) in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee and subject to the conditions as prescribed.

(6) For the purposes of this section, “Budapest Treaty” means the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure done at Budapest on 28 April 1977.

Right of priority

27. (1) An application may contain a declaration claiming the right of priority, pursuant to any international treaty or Convention, of one or more earlier national, regional or international applications filed in respect of the same invention for which the application is made, during the period of twelve months immediately preceding the filing date of the application containing the declaration, by the applicant or his predecessor in title in or for any party to the said international treaty or Convention.

(1A) The period of twelve months mentioned in subsection (1) may not be extended under section 82.

(1B) Where the applicant fails to claim the right of priority during the period of twelve months referred to in subsection (1), the right of priority may be restored if—

- (a) a request for restoration of right of priority is made by the applicant to the Registrar in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee; and
- (b) such request under paragraph (a) fulfils the conditions as prescribed.

(2) Where the application contains a declaration under subsection (1), the Registrar may require that the applicant furnish, within the prescribed period, a copy of the earlier application, certified as correct by the office with which it was filed or where the earlier application is an international application filed under any international treaty, by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

(3) The effect of the declaration referred to in subsection (1) shall be as provided in the treaty or Convention referred to therein.

(4) Where any of the requirements of this section or any regulations pertaining thereto have not been complied with, the declaration referred to in subsection (1) shall be deemed to be invalid.

Priority date

27A. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the priority date of an application for a patent is the filing date of the application.

(2) Where an application contains the declaration mentioned in section 27, the priority date of the application shall be the filing date of the earliest application whose priority is claimed in that declaration.

Filing date

28. (1) The Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the application:

Provided that the application contains—

- (a) the name and address of the applicant;
- (b) the name and address of the inventor;
- (c) a description including a sequence listing, if any;
- (d) a claim or claims; and
- (e) that at the time of receipt of the application the prescribed fee has been paid.

(1A) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(d), where the application comprises more than ten claims, each subsequent claim shall be subject to the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) Where the Registrar finds that the application made by the applicant does not fulfil the requirement under paragraph (1)(a), (b), (c) or (d), the Registrar shall request the applicant to file the required correction within the prescribed period.

(2A) Where the Registrar finds that the application made by the applicant does not fulfil the requirement under subsection (1A), the Registrar shall request the applicant to make payment of the prescribed fee for each subsequent claim within the prescribed period.

(3) Where—

- (a) the applicant complies with the request of the Registrar to file the required correction under subsection (2), the Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the required correction;

- (b) the applicant does not comply with the request of the Registrar to file the required correction under subsection (2), the application shall be treated as abandoned;
 - (c) the applicant complies with the request of the Registrar to make payment of the prescribed fee for each subsequent claim under subsection (2A), the Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the application under subsection (1); or
 - (d) the applicant does not comply with the request of the Registrar to make payment of the prescribed fee for each subsequent claim under subsection (2A), the Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the application under subsection (1) for the first ten claims only.
- (4) Where the application refers to drawings which in fact are not included in the application, the Registrar shall request the applicant to furnish the missing drawings within the prescribed period.
- (5) Where the applicant complies with the request referred to in subsection (4), the Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the missing drawings and where the applicant does not so comply, the Registrar shall record as the filing date the date of receipt of the application and make no reference to the said drawings.
- (6) The prescribed period referred to in subsections (2), (2A) and (4) shall not be extended by the Registrar under section 82.

Preliminary examination

- 29.** (1) Where an application for a patent has a filing date and is not withdrawn, the Registrar shall examine the application and determine whether it complies with the requirements of this Act and the regulations made under this Act which are designated by such regulations as formal requirements for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) If the Registrar, as a result of the examination under subsection (1), finds that not all the formal requirements are complied

with, he shall give an opportunity to the applicant to make any observation on such finding and to amend the application within the prescribed period so as to comply with those requirements, and if the applicant fails to do so the Registrar may refuse the application.

Request for substantive examination or modified substantive examination

29A. (1) If an application for a patent has been examined under section 29 and is not withdrawn or refused, the applicant shall file, within the prescribed period, a request for a substantive examination of the application.

(2) If a patent or other title of industrial property protection has been granted to the applicant or his predecessor in title in a prescribed country outside Malaysia or under a prescribed treaty or Convention for an invention which is the same or essentially the same as the invention claimed in the application, the applicant may, instead of filing a request for a substantive examination, file a request for a modified substantive examination within a prescribed period.

(3) A request for a substantive examination or a modified substantive examination shall be made in the form as determined by the Registrar and shall not be deemed to have been filed until the prescribed fee has been paid to the Registrar and any other prescribed requirement has been complied with.

(4) *(Deleted by Act A1649).*

(5) If the applicant fails to—

- (a) file a request for a substantive examination under subsection (1); or
- (b) file a request for a modified substantive examination under subsection (2), within the prescribed period, the application for a patent shall be deemed to be withdrawn at the end of that period.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraph (5)(b), the Registrar may, upon the request of the applicant in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee, allow a deferment of the filing of a request for a modified substantive examination referred to in subsection (2).

(6A) The deferment under subsection (6) may be allowed only on the grounds that the patent or other title of industrial property protection has not been granted or is not available by the expiration of the prescribed period for the filing of a request for modified substantive examination.

(7) No deferment shall be granted under subsection (6) unless the request for such deferment is filed before the expiration of the prescribed period for the filing of a request under subsection (2) and no deferment may be sought nor granted for a period greater than that prescribed in the regulations made under this Act.

(8) Without prejudice to the power of the Registrar to grant a deferment, the period prescribed for the purposes of this section may not be extended under section 82.

Substantive examination and modified substantive examination

30. (1) Where a request for substantive examination has been filed under subsection 29A(1), the Registrar shall refer the application to an Examiner who shall—

(a) determine whether the application complies with those requirements of this Act and the regulations made under this Act which are designated by such regulations as substantive requirements for the purposes of this Act; and

(b) report his determination to the Registrar.

(2) Where a request for a modified substantive examination has been filed under subsection 29A(2), the Registrar shall refer the application to an Examiner who shall—

- (a) determine whether the application complies with those requirements of this Act and the regulations made under this Act which are designated by such regulations as modified substantive requirements for the purposes of this Act; and
- (b) report his determination to the Registrar.

(3) If the Examiner reports, in accordance with subsection (1) or (2), that any of the requirements referred to in subsection (1) or (2), as the case may be, are not complied with, the Registrar shall give the applicant an opportunity to make observations on the report and to amend the application so as to comply with those requirements, within the prescribed period, and if the applicant fails to satisfy the Registrar that those requirements are complied with, or to amend the application so as to comply with them, the Registrar may refuse the application.

(3A) The amendment of the application made under subsection (3) shall not go beyond the disclosure in the initial application.

(4) The Registrar may grant an extension of the prescribed period referred to in subsection (3) but such extension may be granted only once and no subsequent extension may be granted under section 82.

(5) If the Examiner reports, in accordance with subsection (1) or (2), that the application, whether as originally filed or as amended, complies with the requirements referred to in subsection (1) or (2), as the case may be, the Registrar shall notify the applicant of that fact and, subject to subsection (6), shall process the application accordingly.

(6) Where two or more applications for a patent for the same invention having the same priority date are filed by the same applicant or his successor in title, the Registrar may on that ground refuse to grant a patent in pursuance of more than one of the applications.

(7) The Registrar may waive, as he deems fit, the requirement of referring an application or any part of it for substantive examination under subsection (1):

Provided that he shall notify in the Official Journal his intention to waive such requirement and shall allow any party who would be aggrieved by such waiver to be heard on the matter.

Prohibition of publication of information which might be prejudicial to the nation

30A. (1) Subject to any direction of the Minister, where an application for a patent is filed or is deemed to have been filed at the Patent Registration Office and it appears to the Registrar that the application contains information the publication of which might be prejudicial to the interest or security of the nation, he may issue directions prohibiting or restricting the publication of that information or its communication whether generally or to a particular person or class of persons.

(2) Subject to any direction by the Minister, the Registrar may revoke any direction issued by him under subsection (1) prohibiting or restricting the publication or communication of any information contained in an application for a patent if he is satisfied that such publication or communication is no longer prejudicial to the interest or security of the nation.

(3) Where directions issued by the Registrar under subsection (1) are in force in respect of an application, the application may proceed to the stage where it is in order for the grant of a patent but no patent shall be granted in pursuance of such application.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents the disclosure of information concerning an invention to a Ministry or a Government department or authority for the purpose of obtaining advice as to whether directions under this section should be made, amended or revoked.

Grant of patent

31. (1) The grant of a patent shall not be refused and a patent shall not be invalidated on the ground that the performance of any act in respect of the claimed invention is prohibited by any law or regulation,

except where the performance of that act would be contrary to public order or morality.

(2) Where the Registrar is satisfied that the application complies with sections 23, 29 and 30, he shall grant the patent and shall forthwith—

- (a) issue to the applicant a certificate of grant of the patent and a copy of the patent together with a copy of the Examiner's final report; and
- (b) record the patent in the Register.

(2A) Where two or more persons have separately and independently made the same invention and each of them has made an application for a patent having the same priority date, a patent may be granted on each application.

(3) As soon as possible thereafter the Registrar shall—

- (a) cause to be published in the Official Journal a reference to the grant of the patent; and
- (b) make available to the public, on payment of the prescribed fee, copies of the patent.

(4) The patent shall be deemed to be granted on the date that the Registrar performs the acts referred to in subsection (2).

Certified or non-certified copy of patent application or patent

31A. An owner of a patent or a patent applicant may make a request to the Registrar for a certified or non-certified copy of any form or document concerning his patent application or patent filed at the Patent Registration Office in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

Register of Patents

32. (1) The Registrar shall keep and maintain a register called the Register of Patents.

(2) The Register of Patents shall contain all such matters and particulars relating to patents as may be prescribed.

(3) The Register of Patents shall be kept in such form and on such medium as may be prescribed.

Notice of trust in Register

32A. (1) A notice of any implied or constructive trust shall neither be accepted by the Registrar nor be entered in the Register.

(2) A notice of an express trust or a beneficiary of an express trust, or both, may be accepted by the Registrar and entered in the Register.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the Registrar shall not be affected by the notice of an express trust or a beneficiary of an express trust, and failure to enter such notice in the Register does not affect any right or duty under the trust.

Examination of Register and copies of or extracts from Register

33. (1) Any person may make a request to the Registrar to examine the Register or to obtain certified or non-certified copies or extracts from the Register, in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) In this section, “person” includes the Federal Government and a State Government.

Certified copies of or extracts from Register, etc., admissible as evidence in court

33A. (1) The Register shall be *prima facie* evidence of all matters required or authorized by this Act to be entered therein.

(2) Copies of or extracts from the Register, or of or from any document or publication in the Patent Registration Office, if certified by the Registrar in writing under his hand, shall be admissible in evidence in all courts without further proof or production of the original.

(3) No person in the employment of the Corporation shall be required to attend any court for the purpose of producing—

- (a) any document relating to a patent application or patent which may be obtained pursuant to the provisions of this Act; or
- (b) any document which is not to be made available to any third party in accordance with this Act.

Amendments to the Register

33B. (1) The Registrar may, on request made in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee by the owner of a patent, amend the Register—

- (a) by correcting any error in the name or address of the owner of the patent or the inventor; or
- (b) by entering any change in the name or address of the owner of the patent or the inventor.

(2) Where the Register has been amended under this section, the Registrar may require the certificate of grant of the patent to be submitted to him, and may—

- (a) revoke the certificate of grant of the patent and issue a new certificate of grant of the patent; or

- (b) make any consequential amendments in the certificate of grant of the patent as are rendered necessary by the amendment of the Register.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or the regulations made under this Act, no fee shall be payable by the owner of a patent in respect of a request to correct any error in the name or address of such owner unless such error is caused or contributed to by such owner.

Court may order rectification of the Register

33C. (1) The Court may, on the application of any aggrieved person, order the rectification of the Register by directing—

- (a) the making of any entry wrongly omitted from the Register;
- (b) the expunging or amendment of any entry wrongly made in or remaining in the Register; or
- (c) the correcting of any error or defect in the Register.

(2) For the purposes of the application under subsection (1), the Registrar shall have the right to appear and be heard, and shall appear if so directed by the Court.

(3) Unless otherwise directed by the Court, the Registrar, in lieu of appearing and being heard, may submit to the Court a statement in writing signed by him—

- (a) giving particulars in relation to the matter in issue;
- (b) of the grounds of any decision given by him affecting the matter in issue;
- (c) of the practice of the Patent Registration Office in like cases; or

- (d) of such other matters relevant to the issues and within his knowledge as Registrar, as he thinks fit,

and such statement shall be deemed to form part of the evidence in Court.

- (4) *(Deleted by Act A1649).*

Publication of application

33D. (1) Subject to section 30A, the Registrar shall publish in the Official Journal the prescribed information relating to a patent application to the extent that such information is in the possession of the Registrar—

- (a) after eighteen months from the filing date, or if right of priority is claimed, the priority date of a patent application; or
- (b) at the request of the applicant for an early publication before the period specified in paragraph (a) in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) A patent application shall not be published under subsection (1) if—

- (a) the patent application is abandoned, withdrawn, deemed to be withdrawn or refused on or before the expiry of the period specified in paragraph (1)(a); or
- (b) the Registrar finds that the application contains any information which contravenes public order or morality.

(3) A request for an early publication under paragraph (1)(b) shall not be revoked.

(4) This section shall not apply to an international application made under the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Public inspection

34. *(1) Where a patent application has been published under section 33D, upon receipt of a payment of the prescribed fee, the Registrar shall make available for public inspection in the prescribed manner the following information or document relating to a patent application to the extent that such information or document is in the possession of the Registrar—

- (a) the name, address and description of the applicant, and the name and address of his agent, if any;
- (b) the application number;
- (c) the filing date of the application, and if a right of priority is claimed, the priority date, the number of an earlier application, the name of a country in which the earlier application was filed, or where the earlier application is a regional or an international application, the name of the country for which and the office at which it was filed;
- (d) the particulars of the application including the description, claim or claims, drawings, if any, and the abstract and any amendments to the application, if any;
- (e) any change in ownership of the application and any reference to a licence contract relating to the application;
- (f) search and examination reports;
- (g) communications in respect of the patent application from the applicant to the Patent Registration Office as determined by the Registrar; and
- (h) patent and non-patent related literature citations submitted by the applicant or any other person to the Patent Registration Office.

*NOTE—Subsection 34(1) is not yet in force—see P.U.(B) 168/2022

(2) *(Deleted by Act A1649).*

(3) Where there is no request made by the applicant under paragraph 33D(1)(b), any person who intends to inspect the information or document relating to a patent application referred to in subsection (1) before the expiry of the eighteen months from the filing date, or if right of priority is claimed, the priority date of a patent application, shall make a request to the Registrar in the form as determined by the Registrar accompanied by—

(a) a written permission of the applicant; and

(b) a payment of the prescribed fee.

(4) A certified extract of the information may be obtained upon payment of the prescribed fee.

(5) After an application is published under section 33D, an applicant may in writing warn a person who has commercially or industrially worked the invention which is the subject matter of the application that a patent application for the invention has been filed.

(6) An applicant may demand that a person who has commercially or industrially worked the invention pay as compensation to the applicant in respect of the invention—

(a) from the time the person is given the warning under subsection (5); or

(b) in the absence of a warning, after the patent application in respect of the invention has been published under section 33D,

an amount equivalent to what he would have normally received for the working of the invention to the time of the grant of the patent.

(7) The right to demand compensation as provided for in subsection (6) shall be exercised only after the grant of the patent.

(8) The exercise of the right to demand compensation under subsection (6) shall not prevent the applicant from exercising his rights as the owner of the patent in respect of the invention after the grant of the patent.

(9) Where a patent application is withdrawn or refused after the application is published under section 33D, the right under subsection (6) shall be deemed never to have existed.

Third party observation

34A. (1) Any person may, within the prescribed period, make observations in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee on any matter relating to patentability of a patent application as may be prescribed and shall include the reason for such observations.

(2) In this section, “person” includes the Federal Government and a State Government.

Duration of patent

35. (1) Subject to subsections (1B) and (1C), the duration of a patent shall be twenty years from the filing date of the application.

(1A) Without prejudice to subsection (1) and subject to the other provisions of this Act, a patent shall be deemed to be granted and shall take effect on the date the certificate of grant of the patent is issued.

(1B) Where a patent application was filed before 1 August 2001, and was pending on that date, the duration of the patent granted on that application shall be twenty years from the date of filing or fifteen years from the date of grant, whichever is the longer.

(1C) The duration of a patent granted before 1 August 2001 and still in force on that date shall be twenty years from the date of filing or fifteen years from the date of grant whichever is the longer.

(2) Where an owner of a patent intends at the expiration of the second year from the date of grant of the patent to keep the same in force he shall, twelve months before the date of expiration of the second and each succeeding year during the term of the patent, pay the prescribed annual fee:

Provided, however, that a period of grace of six months shall be allowed after the date of such expiration, upon payment of such surcharge as may be prescribed.

(3) If the prescribed annual fee is not paid in accordance with subsection (2), the patent shall lapse, and a notice of the lapsing of the patent for non-payment of any annual fee shall be published in the Official Journal.

Reinstatement of a lapsed patent

35A. (1) Within twelve months from the date on which a notice of the lapsing of a patent is published in the Official Journal—

- (a) the owner of the patent or his successor in title; or
- (b) any other person who would, if the patent had not lapsed, have been entitled to the patent,

may apply to the Registrar in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee to have the patent reinstated.

(2) The Registrar may reinstate a patent on an application made under subsection (1)—

- (a) upon payment of all annual fees due and of a prescribed surcharge for reinstatement; and
- (b) upon being satisfied that the non-payment of annual fees was due to accident, mistake or other unforeseeable circumstances.

(3) Where the Registrar reinstates a lapsed patent, he shall cause notice of the reinstatement to be published in the Official Journal.

(4) The reinstatement of a lapsed patent shall not prejudice the rights acquired by third parties after it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has lapsed and before it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has been reinstated.

(5) The Minister may make regulations to provide for the protection or compensation of persons who have exploited or taken definite steps, by contract or otherwise, to exploit a patent after it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has lapsed and before it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has been reinstated, but any such protection shall not extend beyond such exploitation of the lapsed patent as such persons have availed themselves of or have taken definite steps to avail themselves of.

(6) No proceedings shall be taken in respect of an infringement of a patent committed after it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has lapsed and before it is notified in the Official Journal that the patent has been reinstated.

Applicant or Patent Registration Office may request for international search

35B. (1) Any applicant who files an application, other than an international application, for the grant of a patent with the Patent Registration Office may request that an international search be carried out on such application by the International Searching Authority which is specified under subsection 78L(1).

(2) The Patent Registration Office may subject an application, other than an international application, for the grant of a patent filed with it to an international search to be carried out by the International Searching Authority which is specified under subsection 78L(1).

(3) Where a search is carried out on an application pursuant to subsection (1) or (2), the description and claims contained in the application shall be presented in the languages specified by the

International Searching Authority and the search fees as specified by the International Searching Authority shall be paid by the applicant either to the International Searching Authority directly or via the Patent Registration Office.

PART VII

RIGHTS OF OWNER OF PATENT

Rights of owner of patent

36. (1) Subject and without prejudice to the other provisions of this Part, the owner of a patent shall have the following exclusive rights in relation to the patent:

- (a) to exploit the patented invention;
- (b) to assign or transmit the patent;
- (c) to conclude licence contracts; and
- (d) to deal with the patent as the subject of a security interest.

(2) No person shall do any of the acts referred to in subsection (1) without the consent of the owner of the patent.

(3) For the purposes of this Part, “exploitation” of a patented invention means any of the following acts in relation to a patent:

- (a) when the patent has been granted in respect of a product:
 - (i) making, importing, offering for sale, selling or using the product;
 - (ii) stocking such product for the purpose of offering for sale, selling or using;
- (b) when the patent has been granted in respect of a process:

- (i) using the process;
- (ii) doing any of the acts referred to in paragraph (a), in respect of a product obtained directly by means of the process.

(4) For the purposes of this section, if the patent has been granted in respect of a process for obtaining a product, the same product produced by a person other than the owner of the patent or his licensee shall, unless the contrary is proved, be taken in any proceedings to have been obtained by that process.

(5) In proving to the contrary in any proceedings referred to in subsection (4), the person other than the owner of the patent or his licensee shall not be required to disclose any manufacturing or commercial secret if the court is satisfied that it is unreasonable or unnecessary to do so, or prejudicial to the manufacturing or commercial secret of that person.

Limitation of rights

37. (1) The rights under the patent shall extend only to acts done for industrial or commercial purposes and shall not extend to acts done for experimental or scientific research purposes.

(1A) The rights under the patent shall not extend to acts done to make, use, offer to sell or sell a patented invention solely for uses reasonably related to the development and submission of information to the relevant authority either in Malaysia or outside Malaysia which regulates the manufacture, use or sale of pharmaceutical products.

(2) Without prejudice to section 58A, the rights under the patent shall not extend to acts in respect of products which have been put on the market—

- (i) by the owner of the patent;
- (ii) by a person having the right referred to in section 38;

- (iii) by a person having the right referred to in section 43;
- (iv) by the beneficiary of a compulsory licence within the meaning of section 48.

(3) The rights under the patent shall not extend to the use of the patented invention on any foreign vessel, aircraft, spacecraft or land vehicle which temporarily or accidentally enters Malaysia.

(4) The rights under the patent shall be limited in duration as provided for in section 35.

(5) The rights under the patent shall be limited by section 35A by the provisions on compulsory licences as provided in sections 51 and 52 and by the provisions on the rights of Government or any person authorized by the Government as provided in section 84.

Rights derived from prior manufacture or use

- 38.** (1) Where a person at the priority date of the patent application—
- (a) was in good faith in Malaysia making the product or using the process which is the subject of the invention claimed in the application;
 - (b) had in good faith in Malaysia made serious preparations towards the making of the product or using the process referred to in paragraph (a),

he shall have the right, despite the grant of the patent, to exploit the patented invention:

Provided that the product in question is made, or the process in question is used, by the said person in Malaysia:

Provided further that he can prove, if the invention was disclosed under the circumstances referred to in paragraph 14(3) (a), (b) or (c) that his knowledge of the invention was not a result of such disclosure.

(2) The right referred to in subsection (1) shall not be assigned or transmitted except as part of the business of the person concerned.

PART VIII

PATENT APPLICATION AND PATENT AS OBJECT OF PROPERTY

Assignment, transmission and security interest transaction

39. (1) A patent application or patent may be assigned or transmitted in the same way as other personal or moveable property.

(1A) A patent may be the subject of a security interest in the same way as other personal or moveable property.

(2) Any person becoming entitled by assignment or transmission to a patent application or patent may apply to the Registrar in the prescribed manner to have such assignment or transmission recorded in the Register.

(2A) Any person who is a party to a security interest transaction in respect of a patent may apply to the Registrar in the prescribed manner to have such security interest transaction recorded in the Register.

(2B) Any security interest in respect of a patent may be enforced in the same way as other personal or moveable property.

(3) No such assignment, transmission or security interest transaction shall be recorded in the Register unless—

(a) the prescribed fee has been paid to the Registrar;

(b) in the case of an assignment, it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the contracting parties.

(4) No such assignment, transmission or security interest transaction shall have effect against third parties unless so recorded in the Register.

(5) The Registrar may amend any particulars relating to a security interest transaction in the Register on the application of any person who is a party to the security interest transaction in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(6) The Registrar may remove the recorded security interest transaction from the Register on the application of any person who is a party to the security interest transaction in the prescribed manner.

Joint ownership of patent applications or patents

40. In the absence of any agreement to the contrary between the parties, joint owners of a patent application or patent may, separately, assign or transmit their rights in the patent application or patent, exploit the patented invention and take action against any person exploiting the patented invention without their consent, but may only jointly withdraw the patent application, surrender the patent or conclude a licence contract.

PART IX

LICENCE CONTRACTS

Meaning of licence contract

41. (1) For the purposes of this Part, a “licence contract” means any contract by which the owner of a patent (the “licensor”) grants to another person or enterprise (the “licensee”) a licence to do any or all of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3).

(2) A licence contract shall be in writing signed by or on behalf of the contracting parties.

Entry in the Register

42. (1) A licensor may in accordance with the regulations as prescribed by the Minister apply to the Registrar for an entry to be made in the Register to the effect that any person may obtain a licence.

(2) At any time after an entry has been made in the Register, any person may apply to the licensor through the Registrar for a licence.

(3) Where a licence contract is concluded between the parties, the contracting parties shall inform the Registrar accordingly and the Registrar shall record such fact in the Register.

(4) Upon a request in writing signed by or on behalf of the contracting parties, the Registrar shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, record in the Register such particulars relating to the contract as the parties thereto might wish to have recorded:

Provided that the parties shall not be required to disclose or have recorded any other particulars relating to the said contract.

(5) Where a licence contract is terminated, the contracting parties shall inform the Registrar of the termination and the Registrar shall record such termination in the Register.

(6) The licensor may in accordance with the regulations as prescribed by the Minister apply to the Registrar for the cancellation of the entry made under subsection (1).

Rights of the licensee

43. (1) In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the licence contract, the licensee shall be entitled to do any or all of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3) within the whole geographical area of Malaysia without limitation as to time and through any application of the invention.

(2) In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the licence contract, the licensee may not give to a third person his agreement to

perform in Malaysia in respect of the invention any of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3).

Rights of the licensor

44. (1) In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the licence contract, the licensor may grant a further licence to a third person in respect of the same patent or himself do any or all of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3).

(2) Where the licence contract provides that the licence is exclusive and unless it is expressly provided otherwise in such contract, the licensor shall not grant a further licence to a third person in respect of the same patent or himself do any of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3).

Invalid clauses in licence contracts

45. Any clause or condition in a licence contract shall be invalid in so far as it imposes upon the licensee, in the industrial or commercial field, restrictions not derived from the rights conferred by this Part on the owner of the patent, or unnecessary for the safeguarding of such rights:

Provided that—

- (a) restrictions concerning the scope, extent or duration of exploitation of the patented invention, or the geographical area in, or the quality or quantity of the products in connection with, which the patented invention may be exploited; and
- (b) obligations imposed upon the licensee to abstain from all acts capable of prejudicing the validity of the patent,

shall not be deemed to constitute such restrictions.

Effect of patent application not being granted or patent being declared invalid

46. Where, before the expiration of the licence contract, any of the following events occur in respect of the patent application or patent referred to in such contract:

- (a) the patent application is withdrawn;
- (b) the patent application is finally rejected;
- (c) the patent is surrendered;
- (d) the patent is declared invalid;
- (e) the licence contract is invalidated,

the licensee shall no longer be required to make any payment to the licensor under the licence contract, and shall be entitled to repayment of the payment already made:

Provided that the licensor shall not be required to make any repayment, or shall be required to make repayment only in part, to the extent that he can prove that any such repayment would be inequitable under all the circumstances, in particular if the licensee has effectively profited from the licence.

Expiry, termination or invalidation of licence contract

47. The Registrar shall—

- (a) if he is satisfied that a recorded licence contract has expired or been terminated, record that fact in the Register upon a request in writing to that effect signed by or on behalf of the parties thereto;
- (b) record in the Register the expiry, termination or invalidation of a licence contract under any provision of this Part.

PART X

COMPULSORY LICENCES

Definition

48. For the purpose of this Part—

“beneficiary of the compulsory licence” means the person to whom a compulsory licence has been granted in accordance with this Part;

“compulsory licence” means the authorization to perform in Malaysia without the agreement of the owner of the patent in respect of the patented invention any of the acts referred to in paragraph 36(1)(a), and subsection 36(3); and

“eligible importing country” means—

- (a) a least developed country which is a member of the World Trade Organization; and
- (b) any other country which is a member of the World Trade Organization which—
 - (i) notifies the Council for TRIPS of its intention to act as an importer in accordance with Article 31*bis* and the Annex to the TRIPS Agreement; and
 - (ii) proves that it has insufficient or no manufacturing capacities in the pharmaceutical sector in accordance with the Appendix to the Annex to the TRIPS Agreement.

Application for compulsory licences

49. (1) At any time after the expiration of three years from the grant of a patent, or four years from the filing date of the patent application, whichever is the later, any person may apply to the Registrar for a compulsory licence under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) where there is no production of the patented product or application of the patented process in Malaysia without any legitimate reason;
- (b) where there is no product produced in Malaysia under the patent for sale in any domestic market, or there are some but they do not meet public demand without any legitimate reason.

(1A) Notwithstanding subsection (1), at any time after the grant of a patent, any person may make an application to the Registrar for a compulsory licence—

- (a) where the products produced in Malaysia under the patent for sale in the domestic market are sold at unreasonably high prices without any legitimate reason; or
- (b) for the purposes of production of a pharmaceutical product in Malaysia and exportation of such pharmaceutical product to an eligible importing country to deal with its public health problem.

(2) Except for paragraph (1A)(b), a compulsory licence shall not be applied for unless the person making the application has made efforts to obtain authorization from the owner of the patent on reasonable commercial terms and conditions but such efforts have not been successful within a reasonable period of time.

(3) The application for a compulsory licence shall be in compliance with such regulations as may be prescribed by the Minister.

Application for compulsory licence based on interdependence of patents

49A. (1) If the invention claimed in a patent (“later patent”) cannot be worked in Malaysia without infringing a patent granted on the basis of an application benefiting from an earlier priority date (“earlier patent”), and if the invention claimed in the later patent constitutes, in the opinion of the Registrar, an important technical advance of

considerable economic significance in relation to the invention claimed in the earlier patent, the Registrar, upon the request of the owner of the later patent, the licensee of a licence contract under the later patent or the beneficiary of a compulsory licence under the later patent, may grant a compulsory licence to the extent necessary to avoid infringement of the earlier patent.

(2) If a compulsory licence is granted under subsection (1), the Registrar, upon the request of the owner of the earlier patent, the licensee of a licence contract under the earlier patent or the beneficiary of a compulsory licence under the earlier patent, may grant a compulsory licence under the later patent.

Request for grant of compulsory licence

50. (1) In an application for a compulsory licence under section 49 or section 49A, the applicant shall set forth the amount of adequate remuneration, the conditions of the exploitation of the patent and the restrictions of the rights of the licensor or the licensee, as the case may be, and a request for the said licence.

(1A) In addition to the requirements specified in subsection (1), an application for a compulsory licence under paragraph 49(1A)(b) shall comply with any other requirements as prescribed.

(2) Where an application for a compulsory licence is made pursuant to section 49 or a request for a compulsory licence is made pursuant to section 49A, the Registrar shall furnish a copy of the application or the request to the licensor or the licensee, as the case may be, for an opportunity to make observations on the application or request within the prescribed period.

(3) *(Deleted by Act A1649).*

Decision by the Registrar

51. (1) In considering the application for a compulsory licence under section 49 or section 49A, the Registrar may require the applicant, the

licensor or the licensee, as the case may be, to appear before the Registrar to give a statement or to hand to the Registrar any document or any other item.

(2) When the application has been considered by the Registrar and a decision has been made, the applicant, the licensor or the licensee, as the case may be, shall be notified of the decision.

(3) The Registrar shall notify the Council for TRIPS upon the grant of a compulsory licence under paragraph 49(1A)(b).

Scope of compulsory licence

52. Upon the granting of the compulsory licence to the applicant the Registrar shall fix—

- (a) the scope of the licence specifying in particular the period for which licence is granted;
- (b) the time limit within which the beneficiary of the compulsory licence shall begin to work the patented invention in Malaysia;
- (c) the amount and conditions of the adequate remuneration due from the beneficiary of the compulsory licence to the owner of the patent; and
- (d) any other conditions as may be determined by the Registrar.

Grant of compulsory licence shall not give rise to breach of contract

52A. (1) The Registrar may grant a compulsory licence to the applicant notwithstanding that a licence contract has been entered into by the licensor and the licensee which provides that the licence is exclusive pursuant to subsection 44(2).

(2) The grant of a compulsory licence by the Registrar under subsection (1) shall not give rise to an action for breach of the licence contract referred to in subsection (1) by the licensee against the licensor.

Limitation of compulsory licence

53. (1) A compulsory licence granted by the Registrar —

- (a) shall not be assigned otherwise than in connection with the goodwill or business or that part of the goodwill or business in which the patented invention is used;
- (b) shall be limited to the supply of the patented invention predominantly in Malaysia.

(1A) The limitation specified in paragraph (1)(b) shall not apply to the compulsory licence granted for the purposes of production and exportation of the pharmaceutical product under paragraph 49(1A)(b).

(2) The beneficiary of the compulsory licence shall not conclude licence contracts with third persons under the patent in respect of which the compulsory licence was granted.

Amendment, cancellation and surrender of compulsory licence

54. (1) Upon the request of the owner of the patent or of the beneficiary of the compulsory licence, the Registrar may amend the decision granting the compulsory licence to the extent that new facts justify such amendment.

(2) Upon the request of the owner of the patent, the Registrar shall cancel the compulsory licence—

- (a) if the ground for the grant of the compulsory licence no longer exists;

- (b) if the beneficiary of the compulsory licence has, within the time limit fixed in the decision granting the licence, neither begun the working of the patented invention in Malaysia nor made serious preparations towards such working;
- (c) if the beneficiary of the compulsory licence does not respect the scope of the licence as fixed in the decision granting the licence;
- (d) if the beneficiary of the compulsory licence is in arrears of the payment due, according to the decision granting the licence.

(3) The beneficiary of the compulsory licence may surrender the licence by a written declaration submitted to the Registrar who shall record the surrender in the Register, publish it, and notify the owner of the patent.

(4) The surrender shall take effect from the date the Patent Registration Office receives the declaration of the surrender and such declaration shall not be withdrawn.

PART XI

SURRENDER, OPPOSITION AND INVALIDATION OF PATENT

Surrender of patent

55. (1) The owner of the patent may surrender the patent by a written declaration submitted to the Registrar.

(2) The surrender may be limited to one or more claims of the patent.

(3) Where a licence contract in respect of a patent is recorded in the Register, the Registrar shall not, in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the licence contract, accept or record the said surrender except upon receipt of a signed declaration by which every licensee or

sub-licensee on record consents to the said surrender unless the requirement of his consent is expressly waived in the licence contract.

(3A) Where a compulsory licence has been granted in respect of a patent, the Registrar shall not accept or record the said surrender except upon receipt of a signed declaration by which the beneficiary of the compulsory licence consents to the said surrender.

(4) The Registrar shall record the surrender in the Register and cause it to be published in the Official Journal.

(5) The surrender shall take effect from the date the Registrar receives the declaration and such declaration shall not be withdrawn.

Opposition of patent

***55A.** (1) Where no proceedings under any provision of this Act is instituted at the Court in relation to a patent, any interested person may, within the prescribed period from the date of publication of the grant of the patent, commence opposition proceedings by filing a notice of opposition against the owner of the patent in relation to the grant of the patent to the Registrar in the prescribed manner on any of the grounds specified in paragraph 56(2)(a), (b) or (c) together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) If the interested person is not a resident, the security for costs of the opposition proceedings as determined by the Registrar shall be given by the interested person at the time of filing the notice of opposition under subsection (1).

(3) After the filing of notice of opposition under subsection (1), any request or filing of documents made by the interested person or owner of the patent in relation to the opposition proceedings shall be made in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(4) The Registrar may form an ad hoc opposition committee to give recommendation to the Registrar in making a decision on the notice of opposition.

(5) At the end of the opposition proceedings, the Registrar shall decide whether to—

(a) maintain the patent;

(b) maintain the patent with any amendment; or

(c) invalidate the patent.

(6) Where the Registrar decides to maintain the grant of a patent under paragraph (5)(a) or (b), no application under section 56 shall be made by the interested person in relation to the patent concerned except by way of counterclaim for the invalidation under subsection 60(3) or appeal to the Court under section 88.

(7) Where the Registrar decides to maintain the grant of a patent with any amendment under paragraph (5)(b), the amendment shall be deemed to have effect from the date of the grant of the patent.

(8) Any decision of the Registrar under this section or any appeal from such decision of the Registrar under section 88 shall not prevent any party to any infringement proceedings from invalidating the patent on any of the grounds referred to in section 56.

(9) In this section, “interested person” includes the Federal Government and a State Government.

Invalidation of patent

56. (1) Any aggrieved person may institute Court proceedings against the owner of the patent for the invalidation of the patent.

(2) The Court shall invalidate the patent if the person requesting the invalidation proves—

- (a) that what is claimed as an invention in the patent is not an invention within the meaning of section 12 or is excluded from protection under section 13 or subsection 31(1) or is not patentable because it does not comply with the requirements of sections 11, 14, 15 and 16;
- (b) that the description or the claim does not comply with the requirements of section 23;
- (c) that any drawings which are necessary for the understanding of the claimed invention have not been furnished; or
- (d) that the right to the patent does not belong to the person to whom the patent was granted.
- (e) (*Deleted by Act A1649*).

(2A) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the Court shall not invalidate the patent on the ground mentioned in paragraph (2)(d) if the patent has been assigned to the person to whom the right to the patent belongs.

(3) Where subsection (1) apply on only some of the claims or some parts of a claim, such claims or parts of a claim may be declared invalid by the Court and the invalidity of part of a claim shall be declared in the form of a corresponding limitation of the claim in question.

Invalidation proceedings after filing notice of opposition

***56A.** (1) Where the notice of opposition filed by an interested person under section 55A has not been decided by the Registrar, the interested person may not institute any Court proceedings against the owner of the patent for the invalidation of the patent concerned under section 56 unless—

- (a) both parties to the opposition proceedings agree for the invalidation proceedings to be instituted before the Court; or

(b) the interested person is a defendant in an infringement proceedings.

(2) Before the interested person institutes the invalidation proceedings under section 56 by virtue of paragraph (1)(a) or (b), the interested person shall—

(a) notify the Registrar of his intention to institute such proceedings; and

(b) withdraw the notice of opposition filed under section 55A in the prescribed manner.

Date and effect of invalidation

57. *(1) Any invalidated patent or claim or part of a claim under section 55A or 56 shall be regarded as null and void from the date of the grant of the patent.

(2) *(Deleted by Act A1649).*

PART XII

INFRINGEMENT

Acts deemed to be infringement

58. Subject to subsections 37(1), (2) and (3) and section 38, an infringement of a patent shall consist of the performance of any act referred to in subsection 36(3) in Malaysia by a person other than the owner of the patent and without the agreement of the latter in relation to a product or a process falling within the scope of protection of the patent.

*NOTE—Subsection 57(1) are not yet in force—see P.U. (B) 168/ 2022

Acts deemed to be non-infringement

58A. (1) It shall not be an act of infringement to import, offer for sale, sell or use—

- (a) any patented product; or
- (b) any product obtained directly by means of the patented process or to which the patented process has been applied,

which is produced by, or with the consent, conditional or otherwise, of the owner of the patent or his licensee.

(2) For the purposes of this section, “patent” includes a patent granted in any country outside Malaysia in respect of the same or essentially the same invention as that for which a patent is granted under this Act.

Infringement proceedings

59. (1) The owner of the patent shall have the right to institute Court proceedings against any person who has infringed or is infringing the patent.

(2) The owner of the patent shall have the same right against any person who has performed acts which make it likely that an infringement will occur, which in this Part is referred to as an “imminent infringement”.

(3) The proceedings in subsections (1) and (2) may not be instituted after six years from the act of infringement.

Injunction and award of damages

60. (1) If the owner of the patent proves that an infringement has been committed or is being committed, the Court shall award damages and shall grant an injunction to prevent further infringement and any other legal remedy.

(2) If the owner of the patent proves imminent infringement the Court shall grant an injunction to prevent infringement and any other legal remedy.

(3) The defendant in any proceedings referred to in this section may request in the same proceedings the invalidation of the patent, in which case subsections 56(2) and (3) shall apply.

Infringement proceedings by licensee and beneficiary of compulsory licence

61. (1) For the purposes of this section, “beneficiary” means—

(a) any licensee unless the licence contract provides that the provisions of this subsection do not apply or provides different provisions;

(b) the beneficiary of a compulsory licence granted under section 51.

(2) Any beneficiary may request the owner of the patent to institute Court proceedings for any infringement indicated by the beneficiary, who shall specify the relief desired.

(3) The beneficiary may, if he proves that the owner of the patent received the request but refuses or fails to institute the proceedings within three months from the receipt of the request, institute the proceedings in his own name, after notifying the owner of the patent of his intention but the owner shall have the right to join in the proceedings.

(4) Notwithstanding that the three-month period referred to subsection (3) has not been satisfied, the Court shall, on the request of the beneficiary, grant an appropriate injunction to prevent infringement or to prohibit its continuation, if the beneficiary proves that immediate action is necessary to avoid substantial damage.

Declaration of non-infringement

62. (1) Subject to subsection (4), any interested person shall have the right to request, by instituting proceedings against the owner of the patent, that the Court declare that the performance of a specific act does not constitute an infringement of the patent.

(2) If the person making the request proves that the act in question does not constitute an infringement of the patent, the Court shall grant the declaration of non-infringement.

(3) (a) The owner of the patent shall have the obligation to notify the licensee of the proceedings and the licensee shall have the right to join in the proceedings in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the licence contract.

(b) The person requesting the declaration of non-infringement shall have the obligation to notify the beneficiaries of the compulsory licence granted under section 51 of the proceedings and the said beneficiaries shall have the right to join in the proceedings.

(4) If the act in question is already the subject of infringement proceedings, the defendant in the infringement proceedings may not institute proceedings for a declaration of non-infringement.

(5) Proceedings for a declaration of non-infringement may be instituted together with proceedings to invalidate the patent, except where invalidation of the patent is requested under subsection 60(3).

PART XIII**OFFENCES****Applications in contravention of section 23A**

62A. Any person who files or causes to be filed an application for a patent in contravention of section 23A commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Publication of information in contravention of Registrar's directions

62B. Any person who publishes or communicates information in contravention of any direction issued by the Registrar under section 30A commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Falsification of Register, etc.

63. Any person who makes or causes to be made a false entry in any Register kept under this Act, or makes or causes to be made a writing falsely purporting to be a copy or reproduction of an entry in any such Register, or produces or tenders or causes to be produced or tendered in evidence any such false writing, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Unauthorized claim or patent

64. (1) Any person who falsely represents that anything disposed of by him for value is a patented product or process commits an offence and, subject to the following provisions of this section, is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a person who for value disposes of an article having stamped, engraved or impressed on it or otherwise applied to it the word "patent" or "patented" or anything expressing or implying that the article is a patented product, shall be taken to represent that the article is a patented product.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply where the representation is made in respect of a product after the patent for that product or, as the case may be, the process in question has, expired or been invalidated and before the end of a period which is reasonably sufficient to enable that

person to take steps to ensure that the representation is not made or does not continue to be made.

(4) In proceedings for an offence under this section, it shall be a defence for any person to prove that he used due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence.

Unauthorized claim that patent has been applied for

65. (1) Any person who represents that a patent has been applied for in respect of any article disposed of for value by him and—

(a) no such application has been made; or

(b) any such application has been refused or withdrawn,

commits an offence and, subject to the following provisions of this section, is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

(2) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply where the representation is made or continues to be made before the expiry of a period which commences with the refusal or withdrawal and which is reasonably sufficient to enable that person to take steps to ensure that the representation is not made or does not continue to be made.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), a person who for value disposes of an article having stamped, engraved or impressed on it or otherwise applied to it the words “patent pending”, or anything expressing or implying that a patent has been applied for in respect of the article, shall be taken to represent that a patent has been applied for in respect of the article.

(4) In any proceedings for an offence under this section, it shall be a defence for any person to prove that he used due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence.

Misuse of title “Patent Registration Office”

66. Any person who uses on his place of business or any document issued by him or otherwise, the words “Patent Registration Office” or any other words suggesting that his place of business is, or is officially connected with, the Patent Registration Office commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Unregistered persons practising, etc., as a patent agent

66A. Any person who carries on business, practices, acts, describes himself, holds himself out, or permits himself to be described or held out, as a patent agent without being registered under this Act commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Offences by corporation

67. (1) Where an offence under this Act which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as the body corporate, commits that offence and is liable to be prosecuted against and punished accordingly as provided by the Act.

(2) Where the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, subsection (1) shall apply in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with his functions of management as if he was a director of a body corporate.

PART XIV

POWERS RELATING TO ENFORCEMENT

Authorization of officer to exercise powers under this Part

68. (1) The Minister may authorize in writing any public officer to exercise the powers under this Part.

(2) Any such officer shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code [*Act 574*].

(3) In exercising any of the powers under this Part, an officer shall on demand produce to the person against whom he is acting under this Act the authority issued to him by the Minister.

Powers of arrest

69. (1) Any authorized officer or police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he sees or finds committing or attempting to commit or abetting the commission of an offence or whom he reasonably suspects of being engaged in committing or attempting to commit or abetting, the commission of any offence against this Act if such person refuses or fails to furnish his name and residence or there are reasonable grounds for believing in that he has furnished a false name or residence or that he is likely to abscond.

(2) Any authorized officer or police officer making an arrest without warrant shall, without unnecessary delay, bring the person arrested to the nearest police station.

(3) No person who has been arrested by an authorized officer or police officer shall be released except on his own bond or on bail or on the special order in writing of a Magistrate.

Search with warrant

70. (1) Whenever it appears to any Magistrate upon written information on oath and after any enquiry which he may think necessary that there is reasonable cause to believe that in any dwelling house, shop, building or place there is being committed an offence against this Act, or any regulations made thereunder, he may issue a warrant authorizing any authorized officer or police officer named therein, by day or night and with or without assistance to enter the dwelling house, shop, building or place and there search for and seize or take copies of all books, accounts, documents or other articles which contain or are suspected to contain information as to any offence so suspected to have been committed or any other thing relating to the offence.

(2) Any such officer may if it is necessary so to do—

- (a) break open any outer or inner door of the dwelling house, shop, building or place, and enter thereinto;
- (b) forcibly enter the dwelling house, shop, building or place and every part thereof;
- (c) remove by force any obstruction to enter, search, seize and remove as he is empowered to effect; and
- (d) detain every person found therein until the dwelling house, shop, building or place has been searched.

List of things seized

71. The authorized officer or police officer seizing any books, accounts, documents or other articles under this Part shall prepare a list of the things seized and forthwith deliver a copy signed by him to the occupier or his agents or servants present in the premises.

Return of things seized

72. Where under this Part possession has been taken of any books, accounts, documents or other articles, then the authorized officer or police officer shall within four weeks of the seizure, where no criminal proceedings have been instituted, restore possession to the owner.

Power of investigation

73. (1) An authorized officer or police officer shall have the power to investigate the commission of any offence under this Act or regulations made thereunder.

(2) Every person required by an authorized officer or police officer to give information or produce any book, account, document or other article relating to the commission of such offence which it is in the person's power to give shall be legally bound to give the information or to produce the book, account, document or other article.

Examination of witnesses

74. (1) An authorized officer or police officer making an investigation under section 73 may examine orally any person supposed to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case and shall reduce into writing any statement made by the person so examined.

(2) Such person shall be bound to answer all questions relating to such case put to him by such officer:

Provided that such person may refuse to answer any question the answer to which have a tendency to expose him to a criminal charge or penalty or forfeiture.

(3) A person making a statement under this section shall be legally bound to state the truth, whether or not such statement is made wholly or partly in answer to questions.

(4) An authorized officer or police officer examining a person under subsection (1) shall first inform that person of subsections (2) and (3).

(5) A statement made by any person under this section whether or not a caution has been administered to him under section 75 shall, whenever possible, be reduced into writing and signed by the person making it or affixed with his thumb-print, as the case may be, after it has been read to him in the language in which he made it and after he has been given an opportunity to make any correction he may wish.

Admission of statements in evidence

75. (1) Where any person is charged with any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, any statement whether the statement amounts to a confession or not or is oral or in writing, made at any time, whether before or after the person is charged and whether in the course of investigations made under section 74 or not and whether or not wholly or partly in answer to questions by that person to or in the hearing of any authorized officer or police officer of or above the rank of Inspector and whether or not interpreted to him by another authorized officer, police officer or other person, shall be admissible in evidence at his trial and, if the person charged tenders himself as a witness, any such statement may be used in cross-examination and for the purpose of impeaching his credit:

Provided that—

- (a) no such statement shall be admissible or used as aforesaid—
 - (i) if the making of the statement appears to the court to have been caused by any inducement, threat or promise having reference to the charge proceeding from a person in authority and sufficient in the opinion of the court to give the person charged grounds which would appear to him reasonable for supposing that by making it he would gain any advantage or avoid any evil of a temporal nature in references to the proceedings against him; or

- (ii) in the case of a statement made by the person after his arrest, unless the court is satisfied that a caution was administered to him in the following words or words to the like effect:

“It is my duty to warn you that you are not obliged to say anything or to answer any question, but anything you say, whether or not in answer to a question, may be given in evidence”; and

- (b) a statement made by any person before there is time to caution him shall not be rendered inadmissible in evidence merely by reason of no such caution having been administered if it had been administered as soon as possible.

(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any written law, a person accused of an offence to which subsection (1) applies shall not be bound to answer any questions relating to the case after any such caution as aforesaid has been administered to him.

Obstruction to search, etc.

76. Any person who—

- (a) refuses any authorized officer or police officer access to any place;
- (b) assaults, obstructs, hinders or delays any authorized officer or police officer in effecting any entrance which he is entitled to effect under this Act, or in the execution of any duty imposed or power conferred by this Act; or
- (c) refuses or neglects to give any information which may reasonably be required of him and which he has it in his power to give,

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Compounding of offences

76A. (1) The Minister may, with the approval of the Public Prosecutor, make regulations prescribing—

- (a) any offence under this Act or any regulations made under this Act as an offence which may be compounded; and
- (b) the method and procedure for compounding such offence.

(2) The authorized officer may, with the consent in writing of the Public Prosecutor, at any time before a prosecution is instituted, compound any offence which may be compounded by making a written offer to the person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence upon payment to the authorized officer a sum of money not exceeding fifty per centum of the amount of maximum fine to which the person would have been liable to if he had been convicted of the offence, within such time as may be specified in the written offer.

(3) A written offer under subsection (2) may be made at any time after the offence has been committed but before any prosecution for it has been instituted, and where the amount specified in the written offer is not paid within the time specified in the written offer, or such extended time as the authorized officer may grant, prosecution for the offence may be instituted at any time after that against the person to whom the written offer was made.

(4) Where an offence has been compounded under subsection (2), no prosecution shall be instituted in respect of the offence against the person to whom the offer to compound was made, and the authorized officer may forfeit or return any book, account, document or articles seized in connection with the offence, subject to such terms and conditions as the authorized officer thinks fit.

(5) All sums of money received by the authorized officer under this section shall be paid into and form part of the Federal Consolidated Fund.

Institution of prosecution

77. No prosecution for any offence under this Act shall be instituted except by or with the consent in writing of the Public Prosecutor.

Jurisdiction of subordinate Court

78. (1) Notwithstanding any other written law, a subordinate Court shall have power to try any offence under this Act and on conviction to impose the full penalty therefor.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), “subordinate Court” means a Sessions Court or a Magistrate’s Court.

PART XIVA**INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS UNDER THE PATENT
COOPERATION TREATY****Interpretation**

78A. For the purposes of this Part—

“International Bureau” means the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization and, as long as it subsists, the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI);

“international search” means a search conducted by the International Searching Authority appointed under Article 16 of the Treaty to discover relevant prior art with respect to the invention;

“international phase” means the period beginning from the filing of an international application to the time the international application enters the national phase;

“national phase” means the period beginning from the performance, by the applicant, of the acts specified in subsection 78O(1);

“State” means a state which is a party to the Treaty;

“patent” includes utility innovation;

“receiving office” means the national office or the intergovernmental organization with which the international application has been filed;

“elected office” means the national office of or acting for the State elected by the applicant under Chapter II of the Treaty;

“designated office” means the national office of or acting for the State designated by the applicant under Chapter I of the Treaty;

“international preliminary examination” means a preliminary and non-binding examination carried out by the International Preliminary Examination Authority appointed under Article 32 of the Treaty on the questions of whether the invention appears to be novel, involves an inventive step and is industrially applicable;

“international application” means an application for a patent filed under the Treaty;

“Treaty” means the Patent Cooperation Treaty done at Washington on 19 June 1970.

Application

78B. The provisions of this Part shall apply to an international application filed under the Treaty.

Patent Registration Office as receiving office

78C. The Patent Registration Office shall act as a receiving office for an international application.

Patent Registration Office as designated office

78D. The Patent Registration Office shall act as a designated office for an international application in which Malaysia is designated for the purposes of obtaining a patent under Parts IVA and VI.

Patent Registration Office as elected office

78E. The Patent Registration Office shall act as an elected office for an international application if the applicant elects Malaysia as a State in which he intends to use the results of the international preliminary examination.

Person eligible for international application

78F. (1) Any person who is a citizen of Malaysia residing outside Malaysia or a resident shall be entitled to file an international application for a patent with the Patent Registration Office.

(2) The resident referred to in subsection (1) shall be subject to section 23A.

Filing of an international application

78G. (1) An international application shall be filed by submitting to the Patent Registration Office a request in the form as determined by the Registrar together with a description, one or more claims, drawings, if any, and an abstract in the form as specified in the Treaty.

(1A) An international application shall be filed in the English language.

(2) The request shall contain—

(a) a petition to the effect that the international application be processed according to the Treaty;

- (b) the designation of the State or States in which protection for the invention is desired;
- (c) the name, nationality and residence of the applicant;
- (d) the name and the place of business of the applicant's agent, if any;
- (e) the title of the invention; and
- (f) the name and address of the inventor.

(2A) An international application which has been accorded an international filing date shall have the effect of a patent application under this Act if the application designates Malaysia for the purpose of obtaining a patent under this Act and the international filing date shall be considered to be the filing date for the purposes of Parts IVA and VI.

78H. *(Deleted by Act A1264).*

78I. *(Deleted by Act A1264).*

78J. *(Deleted by Act A1264).*

Processing of international applications

78K. The Treaty shall apply to the processing of an international application during the international phase of the application.

Fees

78KA. An international application shall be subject to the fees as specified in the Treaty and other prescribed fees.

International Searching Authority

78L. (1) The Registrar shall, by notification published in the Official Journal, specify the International Searching Authority which is competent to carry out the international search for international applications filed with the Patent Registration Office.

(2) When there is more than one competent International Searching Authority, the applicant shall indicate his choice of International Searching Authority in the request.

International Preliminary Examination Authority

78M. (1) The Registrar shall, by notification published in the Official Journal, specify the International Preliminary Examination Authority which is competent to carry out international preliminary examination for international applications filed with the Patent Registration office.

(2) The applicant may request for an international preliminary examination to be carried out in respect of the application by submitting a demand in accordance with the Treaty.

International publication of international application and its effect

78N. (1) The international publication of an international application by the International Bureau designating Malaysia as a designated office shall have the same effect as the publication of an application under section 33D of a patent application if the international publication is transmitted to and received by the Patent Registration Office.

(2) The Patent Registration Office shall make available the international publication of the international application designating Malaysia as a designated office for public inspection as soon as possible.

Entering the national phase

780. (1) Where in an international application, the applicant designates Malaysia for the purpose of obtaining a patent under this Act, the applicant shall, before the expiration of thirty months from the priority date—

- (a) submit to the Patent Registration Office a copy of the international application in the English language; and
- (b) pay the prescribed fee.

(1A) If the applicant designates Malaysia for the purpose of obtaining a patent under this Act for an international application that involves a micro-organism which is not available to the public and cannot be described in the application for a patent in such a manner as to enable the invention to be carried out by a person having ordinary skill in the art, a sample of such micro-organism shall be deposited by the applicant or any other person with a National Depository Authority or an International Depository Authority not later than the filing date of the international application.

(2) The Patent Registration Office shall not examine the international application submitted under subsection (1) prior to the expiration of thirty months from the priority date.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the Patent Registration Office may, on the request of the applicant, examine an international application prior to the expiration of thirty months from the priority date, if the applicant has—

- (a) submitted to the Patent Registration Office a copy of the international application in the English language; and
- (b) paid the prescribed fee under subsection (1).

(4) If the applicant does not comply with the requirements of subsection (1), the international application shall be considered to be withdrawn for the purposes of this Act and the Registrar shall notify

the applicant that his international application is considered to have been withdrawn.

(5) Any application which has entered the national phase shall comply with the requirements of this Act.

Reinstatement

780A. (1) Where an international application is considered to be withdrawn under section 780, the applicant may, in writing, apply to the Patent Registration Office to have the international application reinstated by—

- (a) submitting to the Patent Registration Office a copy of the international application in the English language and paying the prescribed fee under subsection 780(1);
- (b) submitting a written statement stating the reasons for the failure to comply with subsection 780(1) and a declaration or other evidence in support of the reasons for such failure; and
- (c) paying the prescribed fee.

(2) The application under subsection (1) shall be made within whichever of the following period expires first:

- (a) two months from the date of removal of the cause of the failure to meet the time limit provided in subsection 780(1);
or
- (b) twelve months from the date of the expiration of the time limit provided in subsection 780(1).

(3) Where the Patent Registration Office is satisfied that the failure by the applicant to comply with the requirements of subsection 780(1) was unintentional, the Patent Registration Office shall reinstate the rights of the applicant with respect to the international application.

(4) Where the Patent Registration Office is not satisfied that the failure by the applicant to comply with the requirements of subsection 78O(1) was unintentional, the Patent Registration Office shall notify the applicant that it intends to refuse the application and give an opportunity to the applicant to make a written representation on the intended refusal within fourteen days from the date of the notice.

(5) After considering any representation made by the applicant under subsection (4), the Patent Registration Office shall decide whether to reinstate the international application or to refuse the application for reinstatement and notify the applicant of its decision.

78P. (*Deleted by Act A1264*).

Conversion of an international application into a national application

78Q. (1) Where—

- (a) a foreign receiving office has—
 - (i) refused to accord a filing date to an international application;
 - (ii) declared that the international application is considered withdrawn; or
 - (iii) declared that the designation of Malaysia is considered withdrawn; or
- (b) the International Bureau has declared that an international application is considered withdrawn because it has not received a record copy of the international application within the prescribed period under the Treaty; and
- (c) copies of any document in the international application have been sent to the Patent Registration Office,

the applicant may request the Patent Registration Office to review the justification of the refusal or declaration under the Treaty.

(2) If the Patent Registration Office finds that the refusal or declaration referred to in subsection (1) was the result of an error or omission, it shall treat the international application as if such error or omission had not occurred and shall treat the application as a patent application in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(3) (*Deleted by Act A1264*).

PART XV

MISCELLANEOUS

Power of Registrar to amend patent application

79. (1) The Registrar may, upon a request made by an applicant for a patent in accordance with any regulations made under this Act, amend the patent application, or any document submitted at the Patent Registration Office in relation to the application, for the purpose of—

- (a) correcting a clerical error or an obvious mistake; or
- (b) changing the name or address of the applicant or inventor.

(1A) The request for an amendment referred to in paragraph (1)(b) shall not be allowed if the Court proceedings in relation to the right to the patent application under section 19 is pending.

(1B) The Registrar may, upon a request made by an applicant in accordance with any regulations made under this Act, amend the description, claim or claims, drawing, or abstract, of the patent application, provided that the amendment shall not go beyond the disclosure in the initial application as filed.

(2) Every request under this section shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

Power of Registrar to amend patent

79A. (1) The Registrar may, upon a request made by the owner of a patent in accordance with regulations made under this Act, amend the description, the claim or claims, or the drawings, of the patent, or amend any other document associated with the patent, for the purpose of correcting a clerical error or an obvious mistake or for any other reason acceptable to the Registrar.

(1A) Where the Registrar finds that the request for amendment of patent under subsection (1) requires an Examiner to re-examine the patent, the owner of a patent shall file a request for re-examination in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee within the prescribed period.

(1B) Notwithstanding subsection (1A), the applicant may on his own volition, make a request for re-examination of the patent in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) The Registrar shall not make an amendment under this section if the amendment would have the effect of disclosing a matter which extends beyond that disclosed before the amendment or if the amendment would have the effect of extending the protection conferred at the time of grant of the patent.

*(3) The Registrar shall not make an amendment under this section if there are—

(a) pending before any court any proceedings in which the validity of the patent may be put in issue; or

(b) pending before the Registrar any opposition proceedings under section 55A.

(4) Every request under subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

*NOTE—Subsection 79A(3) is not yet in force—see P.U. (B) 168/ 2022

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (4), no fee shall be payable by the owner of a patent in respect of a request to correct a mistake or an error in any document issued by the Patent Registration Office unless such mistake or error is caused or contributed to by such owner.

Other powers of Registrar

80. (1) The Registrar may, for the purpose of this Act—

- (a) summon witnesses;
- (b) receive evidence on oath;
- (c) require the production of any document or article; and
- (d) award costs, including assessment of the costs and the manner in which the costs is to be paid as against a party to proceedings before him.

(1A) A party to any proceedings before the Registrar who is desirous to obtain costs shall make an application to the Registrar in the prescribed manner.

(2) Any person who without any lawful excuse fails to comply with any summons, order or direction made by the Registrar under paragraphs (1)(a) and (b) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

(2A) If any person fails to comply with any order or direction made by the Registrar under paragraph (1)(c) without any lawful excuse, his application under this Act shall be treated as abandoned.

(3) Costs awarded by the Registrar may in default of payment be recovered in a Court of competent jurisdiction as a debt due by the person against whom the costs were accorded to the person in whose favour they were accorded.

(4) Nothing in this Act shall prevent the disclosure of information by the Registrar to the National Competent Authority or relevant Competent Authority established under the Access to Biological Resources and Benefit Sharing Act 2017 [Act 795] for the purposes of the Patent Registration Office acting as a checkpoint under that Act concerning an application for a patent prior to the publication of a patent application referred to in section 33D.

Exercise of discretionary power

81. (1) Where any discretionary power is given to the Registrar by this Act or any regulations made thereunder, he shall not exercise the power on any person who may be adversely affected by his decision without giving to the person an opportunity of being heard.

(2) An opportunity of being heard referred to in subsection (1) shall be carried out in the prescribed manner upon payment of the prescribed fee.

Extension of time

82. (1) Subject to subsection 17B(4A), subsection 26B(1B), subsection 27(1A), subsection 28(6), subsection 29A(8) and subsection 30(4), where, by this Act or any regulations made thereunder a time is specified within which an act or thing is to be done, the Registrar may, unless otherwise expressly directed by any court, extend the time either before or after its expiration, upon payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) The request for extension of time after the expiration of a prescribed period under this Act or any regulations made under this Act shall be made within the period as prescribed.

Extension of time by reason of error in Patent Registration Office

83. (1) Where by reason of—

- (a) circumstances beyond the control of the person concerned; or
- (b) an error or action on the part of the Patent Registration Office,

an act in relation to an application for a patent or in proceedings under this Act, not being proceedings in any court, required to be done within a certain time has not been so done, the Registrar may extend the time for doing the act.

(2) The time required for doing an act may be extended under this section although that time has expired.

Certificate by the Registrar

83A. The Registrar may certify, by writing under his hand, that an entry, matter or thing required by or under this Act to be made or done, or not to be made or done, has or has not been made or done, as the case may be, and such certificate shall be *prima facie* evidence of the truth of the facts stated therein and shall be admissible in evidence in all courts.

Rights of Government

84. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act—

- (a) where there is national emergency or where the public interest, in particular, national security, nutrition, health or the development of other vital sectors of the national economy as determined by the Government, so requires; or
- (b) where a judicial or relevant authority has determined that the manner of exploitation by the owner of the patent or his licensee is anti-competitive,

the Minister may decide that, even without the agreement of the owner of the patent, a Government agency or a third person designated by the Minister may exploit a patented invention.

(2) The owner of the patent shall be notified of the decision of the Minister as soon as is reasonably practicable.

(3) The exploitation of the patented invention shall be limited to the purpose for which it was authorized and shall be subject to the payment to the owner of the patent of an adequate remuneration for such exploitation, taking into account—

- (a) the economic value of the Minister's authorization as determined in the decision; and
- (b) where a decision has been taken under paragraph (1)(b), the need to correct anti-competitive practices.

(4) The Minister shall make his decision under subsection (3) after hearing the owner of the patent and any other interested person if they wished to be heard.

(5) The exploitation of a patented invention in the field of semiconductor technology shall only be authorized either—

- (a) for public non-commercial use; or
- (b) where a judicial or relevant authority has determined that the manner of exploitation of the patented invention, by the owner of the patent or his licensee, is anti-competitive and if the Minister is satisfied that the authorization would remedy such anti-competitive practice.

(5A) Where the exploitation of a patented invention involves an importation of a pharmaceutical product into Malaysia for the purposes of paragraph (1)(a)—

- (a) the Council for TRIPS shall be notified; and
- (b) no remuneration shall be payable to the owner of the patent in Malaysia under subsection (3) if adequate remuneration is paid to the owner of the patent in the exporting country.

(6) The authorization shall not exclude—

- (a) the continued exercise by the owner of the patent of his rights under subsection 36(1); or
- (b) the issuance of compulsory licences under Part X.

(7) Where a third person has been designated by the Minister, the authorization may only be transferred with the goodwill or business of that person or with that part of the goodwill or business in which the patented invention is being exploited.

(8) The exploitation of the patented invention by the Government agency or the third person designated by the Minister shall be predominantly for the supply of the market in Malaysia.

(9) Upon the request of—

- (a) the owner of the patent; or
- (b) the Government agency or the third person authorized to exploit the patented invention,

the Minister may, after hearing the parties, if either or both wish to be heard, vary the terms of the decision authorizing the exploitation of the patented invention to the extent that changed circumstances justify such variation.

(10) Upon the request of the owner of the patent, the Minister shall terminate the authorization if he is satisfied, after hearing the parties, if either or both wish to be heard, that the circumstances mentioned in subsection (1) which led to his decision have ceased to exist and are unlikely to recur or that the Government agency or the third person designated by him has failed to comply with the terms of the decision.

(11) Notwithstanding subsection (10), the Minister shall not terminate the authorization if he is satisfied that the need for adequate protection of the legitimate interests of the Government agency or the third person designated by him justifies the maintenance of the decision.

(12) The owner of a patent, a Government agency or the third person authorized to exploit a patented invention may appeal to the Court against the decision of the Minister under this section.

(13) In this section “Government agency” means the Federal Government or the Government of a State and includes a Ministry or Department of that Government.

Refusal to grant patent by the Registrar

85. The Registrar in the exercise of his powers shall have the right to refuse to grant a patent for products or processes scheduled under regulations made by the Minister under this Act where it appears to the Registrar that the granting of such a patent would be prejudicial to the interest or security of the nation.

Patent agents

86. (1) There shall be kept at the Patent Registration Office a Register of Patents Agents.

(2) No person shall carry on business, practice, act, describe himself, hold himself out, or permit himself to be described or held out, as a patent agent unless he is registered in the Register of Patents Agents.

(3) The registration of a patent agent mentioned in subsection (2) shall be in accordance with the regulations as may be prescribed by the Minister under this Act.

(3A) The Registrar may cancel the registration of a patent agent on the grounds as may be prescribed.

(4) The appointment or change of a patent agent—

(a) shall be made in the form as determined by the Registrar together with the payment of the prescribed fee; and

(b) shall not be effective against any third person unless the appointment or change is registered in the Register of Patents Agents.

(5) A person who is not a resident may not proceed before the Patent Registration Office under the provisions of this Act except through a patent agent.

Intellectual Property Official Journal

86A. (1) The Registrar shall publish an Intellectual Property Official Journal which shall contain—

(a) all matters relating to patent application and patent which are required to be published under this Act or any regulations made under this Act; and

(b) such other information or matters relating to patent application and patent as the Registrar thinks necessary.

(2) The Registrar shall make available the Official Journal to any person upon receipt of the payment of the prescribed fee.

(3) Publication in the Official Journal shall constitute sufficient notice of any matter required to be published under this Act or any regulations made under this Act.

(4) A copy of the Official Journal shall on its production in any legal proceedings be admitted as evidence without further proof being given that the copy was so published.

(5) A copy of the Official Journal shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts stated therein.

(6) Where the Official Journal is published in more than one form, the date of publication of the Official Journal shall be deemed to be the date the Official Journal is first published in any form.

Regulations

87. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister may make regulations for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), such regulations may provide for all or any of the following:

- (a) to regulate the procedure to be followed in connection with any proceeding or other matter before the Registrar or the Patent Registration Office under this Act including the service of documents;
- (b) to classify goods including methods and processes for the purpose of registration of patents;
- (c) to make or require duplication of patents or other documents;
- (d) to secure and regulate the publishing, selling or distributing, in such manner as the Minister may think fit, of copies of patents and other documents;
- (e) to prescribe the fees payable for applications for patents and other fees payable for other matters prescribed under this Act;
- (f) to prescribe books, registers, documents and other matters to be used under this Act;
- (fa) to prescribe the National Depository Authority and regulate all matters relating to the National Depository Authority;
- (fb) to regulate the filing or issuance of documents by electronic means;
- (fc) to regulate all matters relating to patent agents;

- (g) to regulate generally on matters pertaining to the business of patents carried on in the Patent Registration Office whether or not specially prescribed under this Act.

Directive or practice notice by Registrar

87A. (1) The Registrar may issue a directive or practice notice to any person in relation to any provision of this Act or any regulations made under this Act as the Registrar thinks necessary.

(2) The directive or practice notice issued by the Registrar under subsection (1) shall be published in the Official Journal and shall come into force on the date specified in such directive or practice notice.

(3) Any person who is specified in the directive or practice notice shall comply with the directive or practice notice.

(4) The Registrar may amend the whole or any part of the directive or practice notice issued under this section.

(5) Subsections (2) and (3) shall apply in respect of any amendment of the directive or practice notice made under subsection (4).

(6) Any application or patent under the Act shall be treated as abandoned, withdrawn, deemed to be withdrawn, invalidated or lapsed, as the case may be, if any directive or practice notice issued by the Registrar is not complied with by the person specified in such directive or practice notice.

Appeal

88. (1) Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the Registrar may appeal to the Court.

(2) The procedures of appeal under subsection (1) shall be made in accordance with the rules of court in civil matters.

Costs of proceedings before court

88A. In all proceedings before the court, the court may, in its discretion, award any party including the Registrar such costs as it may consider reasonable but the Registrar shall not be ordered to pay the costs of any of the parties.

Protection against suit and legal proceedings

88B. No action, suit, prosecution or other proceedings shall lie or be brought, instituted or maintained in any court against—

- (a) the Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrar or an Examiner in respect of any act ordered or done for the purpose of carrying into effect this Act; and
- (b) any other officer in respect of any act done or purported to be done by him under the order, direction or instruction of the Registrar, if the act was ordered or done in good faith and in a reasonable belief that it was necessary for the purpose intended to be served by it.

Service of application, order or judgement on Registrar

88C. (1) A copy of every application to the Court relating to a patent application or patent in the proceedings including an appeal from such application shall be served on the Registrar by the parties to the application in the prescribed manner together with the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) Upon receipt of a copy of the application including an appeal under subsection (1), the Registrar may change the status of the patent application or patent as the Registrar deems fit, subject to further conditions, directions, order or judgement of the court.

(3) Any order or judgement made by the court upon the completion of the application including appeal under subsection (1) shall be served on the Registrar in the prescribed manner together with the payment of

the prescribed fee by the party in whose favour the order or judgement is made or given.

(4) Upon receipt of the order or judgement under subsection (3), the Registrar shall—

- (a) record the court order or judgement in the Register; and
- (b) cause the order or judgement to be published in the Official Journal if the Registrar thinks necessary.

Registrar not to be made party to certain proceedings

88D. In the absence of a cause of action against the Registrar, the Registrar shall not be made a party to the following proceedings:

- (a) judicial assignment proceedings under section 19;
- (b) an appeal against the decision of the Registrar in granting compulsory licence under section 51;
- (c) an appeal against the decision of the Registrar in opposition proceedings under section 55A;
- (d) invalidation proceedings under section 56;
- (e) infringement proceedings under section 59; or
- (f) an appeal against the decision of the Minister under section 84.

Power to amend Schedule

88E. The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, amend the Schedule to this Act.

Repeal and saving provisions

89. The Registration of United Kingdom Patents Act 1951 [*Act 215*], the Patents Ordinance of Sarawak [*Sarawak Cap. 61*], the Registration of United Kingdom Patents Ordinance of Sabah [*Sabah Cap. 124*] and the Patents (Rights of Government) Act 1967 [*Act 53 of 1967*] are repealed:

Provided that:

- (a) any subsidiary legislation made under the repealed laws shall in so far as such subsidiary legislation is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act continue in force and have effect as if it had been made under this Act and may be repealed, extended, varied or amended accordingly;
- (b) any appointment made under the repealed laws or subsidiary legislation made thereunder shall continue in force and have effect as if it had been made under this Act unless the Minister otherwise directs;
- *(c) any certificate or grant issued or made, in respect of a patent, under the repealed laws and in force immediately prior to the coming into force of this Act shall remain in force—
 - (i) so long as the original patent remains in force in the United Kingdom; or
 - (ii) until the expiration of twenty years from the date of application,

whichever is the earlier.

*NOTE—Paragraph 89(c) shall be deemed to be and to have always been an integral part of section 89 from the date of coming into force of the principal Act—see subsection 45(2) of the Patents (Amendment) Act 1993 [*Act A863*].

Transitional

***90.** (1) Where an application has been made under an Act or Ordinance repealed under section 89, the Registrar may issue a certificate or make a grant on such application as if the Act or Ordinance had not been repealed, and such certificate or grant shall remain in force—

- (a) so long as the original patent remains in force in the United Kingdom; or
- (b) until the expiration of twenty years from the date of application,

whichever is the earlier.

(2) Where a patent has been granted under the United Kingdom Patents Act 1977 not earlier than twenty-four months before the coming into force of this Act, the owner of the patent may, within a period of twelve months from the coming into force of this Act, make an application for a certificate or a grant and the Registrar may issue a certificate or make a grant on such application as if the Act or Ordinance repealed under section 89 had not been repealed, and such certificate or grant shall remain in force—

- (a) so long as the original patent remains in force in the United Kingdom; or
- (b) until the expiration of twenty years from the date of the application,

whichever is the earlier.

(3) *(Deleted by Act A863).*

*NOTE—Every grant made in Sarawak before the coming into force of this section and purported to have been made under subsection 90(1) or 90(2) of the principal Act is hereby declared to have been lawfully and validly made notwithstanding the omission of an express reference to the making of such grant—see the Patents (Amendment) Act 1993 [Act A863].

(4) Where, prior to the coming into force of this Act, an application for a patent has been made under the United Kingdom Patents Act 1977 or an application designating the United Kingdom has been filed at the European Patent Office, the applicant may, within a period of twelve months from the coming into force of this Act, make an application for the grant of a patent under this Act, and such application shall be accorded the filing date and the right of priority which have been accorded to it in the United Kingdom.

**NOTE—see section 69 of the Patent (Amendment) Act 2022 [Act A1649] w.e.f 18 March 2022 which provides the following provision:*

Saving and transitional provisions

69. (1) Any application or request made under the principal Act relating to a patent application or an application for a certificate for a utility innovation which is pending before the date of the coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of the coming into operation of this Act, be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(2) Any application or request made under the principal Act relating to a patent or a certificate for a utility innovation which is pending before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of the coming into operation of this Act, be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(3) Any action relating to a patent application or an application for a certificate for a utility innovation taken or commenced under the principal Act which is pending before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, be continued in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(4) Any action relating to a patent or a certificate for a utility innovation taken or commenced under the principal Act which is pending before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, be continued in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(5) Any approval, decision, direction, notice or report made or issued under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, continue in full force and effect as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(6) Any investigation, trial or proceedings commenced under the principal Act which is pending before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, be continued in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if the principal Act had not been amended by this Act.

(7) Notwithstanding subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6)—

- (a) paragraph 14(2)(b) of the principal Act as amended in section 5 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to a patent application published under the new section 33D as introduced in section 25 of this Act;
- (b) subsection 17B(4) of the principal Act as amended and the new subsection 17B(4A) as introduced in section 6 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act which is pending before the date of the coming into operation of this Act if

the report made by the Examiner in accordance with subsection 30(1) or (2) of the principal Act is issued on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act;

- (c) section 19 of the principal Act as amended in section 8 of this Act and subsection 59(3) of the principal Act as amended in section 49 of this Act shall apply to a patent application or patent, as the case may be, if the period of five years specified in both section 19 and subsection 59(3) of the principal Act in relation to the patent application or patent has not expired on the date of coming into operation of this Act;
- (d) new subsection 26B(1B) as introduced in section 13 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act which is pending before the date of the coming into operation of this Act if, on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act—
 - (i) an objection is raised in an Examiner's report made under subsection 30(1) or (2) of the principal Act for non-compliance with section 26 of the principal Act; or
 - (ii) an Examiner's first report made under subsection 30(1) or (2) of the principal Act is issued by the Registrar;
- (e) subsection 29A(6) of the principal Act as amended in section 17 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act if, any request for the deferment is made on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act for the filing of a request for a substantive examination or modified substantive examination;
- (f) new paragraph 33D(1)(a) as introduced in section 25 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act if, on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act, the period of eighteen months from the filing date or priority date, if right of priority is claimed for that application, expires;
- (g) new paragraph 33D(1)(b) as introduced in section 25 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act if, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, the period of eighteen months from the filing date or priority date, if right of priority is claimed for that application, has not expired;
- (h) subsection 34(3) of the principal Act as amended in section 26 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for a certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act if the request for inspection under subsection 34(3) is made on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act;
- (i) new section 34A as introduced in section 27 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to an application for a patent or application for certificate for a utility innovation filed under the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of this Act and published under the new section 33D as introduced in section 25 of this Act;
- (j) subsection 35A(1) of the principal Act as amended in section 29 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to a patent or certificate for a utility innovation granted before the date of coming into operation of this Act if a notice of the lapsing of the patent or certificate for a utility innovation is published in the Official Journal on or after the date of coming into operation of this Act;

- (k) new paragraph 36(1)(d) as introduced in section 30 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to any patent or certificate for a utility innovation which is still in force;
 - (l) new sections 55A and 56A as introduced in sections 45 and 47 of this Act respectively shall apply to a patent or certificate for a utility innovation granted on the date of coming into operation of sections 45 and 47 of this Act;
 - (m) new subsection 79A(1A) as introduced in section 57 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to any request to amend a patent or certificate for a utility innovation filed before the date of coming into operation of this Act which is pending before the Registrar on the date of coming into operation of this Act;
 - (n) new subsection 82(2) as introduced in section 60 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to any act or thing which is to be done under the principal Act and the prescribed period for such act or thing to be done has expired before the date of coming into operation of this Act;
 - (o) new section 88A as introduced in section 68 of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to all proceedings before the court which is pending on the date of coming into operation of this Act; and
 - (p) any matter which is required to be published in the *Gazette* under the provisions of the principal Act and still pending publication before the date of coming into operation of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, be published in the Official Journal and such matter shall be deemed to have been published in the *Gazette* under the principal Act.
- (8) Subsections 37(1) and (3) of the principal Act as amended in paragraphs 31(a) and (c) of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of this Act, apply to any patent or certificate for a utility innovation which is still in force on the date of coming into operation of this Act.
- (9) Subsection 37(1A) of the principal Act as amended in paragraph 31(b) of this Act shall, on the date of coming into operation of paragraph 31(b) of this Act, apply to any patent or certificate for a utility innovation which is still in force on the date of coming into operation of paragraph 31(b) of this Act.
- (10) On the date of coming into operation of this Act, subsection 39(4) of the principal Act as amended in section 33 of this Act shall not affect any security interest transaction that have been entered into before the date of coming into operation of this Act.
- (11) Any matter published in the *Gazette* in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act before the date of coming into operation of paragraph 2(a) of this Act—
- (a) shall be deemed to have been published in the Official Journal and the new section 86A as introduced in section 64 of this Act shall apply accordingly without prejudice to any other written law; and
 - (b) shall continue to remain in full force and effect until otherwise published in the Official Journal.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Deleted by Act A1137)

SECOND SCHEDULE

[Section 17A]
 MODIFICATIONS TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT
 APPLICABLE TO UTILITY INNOVATIONS

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
Section 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the definition of “owner of the patent” or “owner of a patent”, substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. In the definition of “pharmaceutical product”— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) substitute “product for which a certificate for a utility innovation has been granted” for “patented product”; and (b) substitute “process for which a certificate for a utility innovation has been granted” for “patented process”. 3. In the definition of “right”— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) substitute “application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent application”; and (b) substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”.
Section 13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “utility innovations” for “inventions”. 2. Substitute “eligible for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “patentable”. 3. Substitute “section 17” for “section 12”.
Section 14	<p>Substitute therefor the following:</p> <p>“Novelty. 14. (1) A utility innovation is new to Malaysia if it is not anticipated by prior art.</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">(2) Prior art shall consist of—</p> <p style="padding-left: 150px;">(a) everything disclosed to the public by written publication, by oral disclosure, by use or in any other</p>

(1)
Provisions of the Act

(2)
Modifications

way, prior to the priority date of the application for a certificate for a utility innovation claiming the utility innovation;

(b) the contents of a domestic application for a certificate for a utility innovation having an earlier, priority date than the application referred to in paragraph (a) to the extent that such contents are included in the application for a certificate for a utility innovation published under section 33D on the basis of the said domestic application.

(3) A disclosure made under paragraph (2)(a) shall be disregarded—

(a) if such disclosure occurred within one year preceding the date of the application and if such disclosure was by reason or in consequence of acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title;

(b) if such disclosure occurred within one year preceding the date of the application and if such disclosure was by reason or in consequence of any abuse of the rights of the applicant or his predecessor in title.

Section 16

Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”.

PART V
(except as otherwise provided below)

1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”.
2. Substitute “innovator” for “inventor”.
3. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”.
4. Substitute “a utility innovation” for “an invention”.

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
Section 19	<p>Substitute therefor the following:</p> <p>“Judicial assignment of application for a utility innovation or a certificate for a utility innovation</p> <p>19. Where the essential elements of the utility innovation claimed in—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) an application for a certificate for utility innovation; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) a certificate for a utility innovation,</p> <p>have been unlawfully derived from an invention or a utility innovation for which the right to the patent or the certificate for a utility innovation belongs to another person, such other person may apply to the Court for an order that the said application or certificate be assigned to him:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Provided that the court shall not entertain an application for the assignment of a certificate for a utility innovation after three years from the date of the grant of the certificate.”.</p>
PART VI (except as otherwise provided below)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “innovator” for “inventor” 3. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”. 4. Substitute “an application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “a patent application”. 5. Substitute “claim” for “claim or claims”.
Section 28	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delete subsections (1A) and (2A). 2. Insert the word “or” at the end of paragraph (3)(a). 3. Substitute a full stop for the semi-colon at the end of paragraph (3)(b). 4. Delete paragraphs (3)(c) and (d).

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
	5. In subsection (6), delete the words “, (2A)”.
Section 31	<p>1. In subsection (2)—</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>(a)</i> <i>(Deleted by Act A1137).</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>(b)</i> <i>(Deleted by Act A1137).</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>(c)</i> substitute “a certificate for a utility innovation” for “a certificate of grant of the patent and a copy of the patent” in paragraph <i>(a)</i>;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>(d)</i> substitute the following paragraph for paragraph <i>(b)</i>:</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">“<i>(b)</i> direct the Registrar to record the certificate for a utility innovation in the Register for Certificates for Utility Innovations.”</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>2. (Deleted by Act A1137).</i></p>
Section 32	<p>1. Substitute “Register for Certificates for Utility Innovations” for “Register of Patents”.</p> <p>2. Substitute “certificate for utility innovations” for “patents”.</p>
Section 33B	Substitute “certificate for utility innovation” for “certificate of grant of the patent”.
Section 34A	Substitute “eligibility” for “patentability”.
Section 35	<p>Substitute therefor the following:</p> <p>“Duration of certificate for a utility innovation.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">35. (1) The duration of a certificate for a utility innovation shall be ten years from the filing date of the application.</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">(1A) Without prejudice to subsection (1) and subject to the other provisions of this Act, a certificate for a utility innovation shall be deemed to be granted and shall take effect on the date the certificate for utility innovation is issued.</p>

(1)
Provisions of the Act

(2)
Modifications

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the owner of a certificate for a utility innovation may, before the expiration of the period of ten years mentioned in subsection (1), apply for an extension for an additional period of five years and may, before the expiration of the second period of five years, apply for an extension for a further period of five years.

(3) An application for extension under subsection (2) shall be made to the Registrar in the form as determined by the Registrar and accompanied by an affidavit of the owner of the certificate for the utility innovation showing that the utility innovation is in commercial or industrial use in Malaysia, or satisfactorily explaining its non-use, and shall also be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(4) Where the owner of a certificate for a utility innovation intends to keep the certificate in force, he shall, twelve months before the date of expiration of the third and each succeeding year during the term of the certificate, pay the prescribed annual fee:

Provided, however, that a period of grace of six months shall be allowed after the date of such expiration upon payment of such surcharge as may be prescribed.

(5) If the annual fee is not paid in accordance with subsection (4) the certificate for the utility innovation shall lapse, and a notice of the lapsing of the certificate for non-payment of any annual fee shall be published in the Official Journal.

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
PART VII (except as otherwise provided below)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “utility innovation for which a certificate has been granted” for “patented invention”. 3. Substitute “application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent application”. 4. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”.
Section 37	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In subsection (2)— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) substitute a full stop for the semi-colon at the end of paragraph (iii); (b) delete paragraph (iv). 2. Delete “, by the provisions on compulsory licences as provided in sections 51 and 52” in subsection (5).
Section 38	<p>In subsection (1)—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) substitute a full stop for the colon at the end of the first proviso; (b) delete the second proviso.
PART VIII	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “An application for a certificate for a utility innovation or a certificate for a utility innovation” for “A patent application or patent”. 2. Substitute “an application for a certificate for utility innovation or a certificate for a utility innovation” for “a patent application or patent”. 3. Substitute “the application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “the patent application”. 4. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation ” for “patent”. 5. Substitute “utility innovation for which a certificate has been granted” for “patented invention”.

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
PART IX	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”. 3. Substitute “utility innovation for which a certificate has been granted” for “patented invention”. 4. Substitute “application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent application”.
PART XI (except as otherwise provided below)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”.
Section 55	Delete subsections (2) and (3A).
Section 56	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (2)(a): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “(a) that what is claimed as a utility innovation in the certificate for a utility innovation is not a utility innovation within the meaning of section 17 or is excluded from protection under section 13 or subsection 31(1);” 2. Substitute “some parts of a claim, such parts of a claim” for “some of the claims or some parts of a claim, such claims or parts of a claim” in subsection (3).
PART XII (except as otherwise provided below)	Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”.
Section 59	Substitute “two” for “five” in subsection (3)
Section 61	<p>Substitute the following subsection for subsection (1):</p> <p>“(1) For the purposes of this section, “beneficiary” means any licensee unless the licence contract provides that the provision of this subsection do not apply or provides different provisions.”.</p>

(1) Provisions of the Act	(2) Modifications
Section 62	1. Delete “(a)” after “(3)” in subsection (3). 2. Delete paragraph (3)(b).
PART XIII (except as otherwise provided below)	1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “product in respect of which a certificate for a utility innovation has been granted” for “patented product”. 3. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”.
Section 64	1. Substitute “product or process in respect of which a certificate for a utility innovation has been granted” for “patented product or process” in subsection (1). 2. Delete ‘the word “patent” or “patented” or’ in subsection (2).
PART XV (except in section 86)	1. Substitute “certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent”. 2. Substitute “utility innovation” for “invention”. 3. Substitute “certificates for utility innovations” for “patents”. 4. Substitute “application for a certificate for a utility innovation” for “patent application”. 5. Substitute “claim” for “claim or claims”. 6. Substitute “utility innovation for which a certificate has been granted” for “patented invention”.

LAWS OF MALAYSIA

Act 291

PATENTS ACT 1983

LIST OF SECTIONS AMENDED

Amending law	Short title	In force from
Act A648	Patents (Amendment) Act 1986	01-10-1986
Act A863	Patents (Amendment) Act 1993	01-08-1995
Act A1088	Patents (Amendment) Act 2000	01-08-2001
Act A1137	Patents (Amendment) Act 2002	03-03-2003
Act A1196	Patents (Amendment) Act 2003	14-08-2003
Act A1264	Patents (Amendment) Act 2006	16-08-2006
Act A1649	Patents (Amendment) Act 2022	18-03-2022 except paragraph 26(a), sections 45 and 47, paragraph 48(a) and paragraph 57(b); sections 14 and 55, 30-06-2022
P. U. (A) 63/ 2022	Patents (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order 2022	18-03-2022

LAWS OF MALAYSIA

Act 291

PATENTS ACT 1983

LIST OF SECTIONS AMENDED

Section	Amending authority	In force from
3	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1137 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 03-03-2003 18-03-2022
4	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1137	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 03-03-2003
5	Act A863 Act A1137	01-08-1995 03-03-2003
6	Act A1137	03-03-2003
7	Act A648 Act A1137	01-10-1986 03-03-2003
7A	Act A648 Act A1137	01-10-1986 03-03-2003
8	Act A1137	03-03-2003
9	Act A648 Act A1137	01-10-1986 03-03-2003
9A	Act A1137	03-03-2003
10	Act A863	01-08-1995
13	Act A648 Act A1649	01-10-1986 18-03-2022
14	Act A648 Act A863	01-10-1986 01-08-1995

Section	Amending authority	In force from
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
15	Act A648	01-10-1986
17	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1088	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 01-08-2001
17A	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1088	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 01-08-2001
17B	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
17C	Act A863	01-08-1995
18	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
19	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
21	Act A1649	18-03-2022
23A	Act A648 Act A1649	01-10-1986 18-03-2022
25	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
26A	Act A648 Act A1649	01-10-1986 18-03-2022
26B	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 18-03-2022
26C	Act A1649	30-06-2022
27	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
27A	Act A863	01-08-1995
28	Act A1649	18-03-2022

Section	Amending authority	In force from
29	Act A863	01-08-1995
29A	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
30	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 18-03-2022
30A	Act A648	01-10-1986
31	Act A863 Act A1088	01-08-1995 01-08-2001
31A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
32	Act A648 Act A863	01-10-1986 01-08-1995
32A	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
33A	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
33B	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
33C	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
33D	Act A1649	18-03-2022
34	Act A648 Act A1196	01-10-1986 20-04-2006
34(1)	Act A1649	Not yet in force
34A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
35	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1088 Act A1196 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 01-08-2001 14-08-2003 18-03-2022

Section	Amending authority	In force from
35A	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
35B	Act A1264	16-08-2006
36	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
37	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1088	01-08-2001
38	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
39	Act A1649	18-03-2022
42	Act A648	01-10-1986
45	Act A648	01-10-1986
46	Act A648	01-10-1986
48	Act A1649	18-03-2022
49	Act A1088	01-08-2001
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
49A	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1088	01-08-2001
	Act A1137	03-03-2003
50	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
51	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
52	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1196	20-04-2006
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
52A	Act A1649	18-03-2022

Section	Amending authority	In force from
53	Act A1088	01-08-2001
	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
54	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
55	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
55A	Act A1649	Not yet in force
56	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
56A	Act A1649	Not yet in force
57(1)	Act A1649	Not yet in force
58A	Act A1088	01-08-2001
59	Act A1649	18-03-2022
62A	Act A648	01-10-1986
62B	Act A648	01-10-1986
64	Act A863	01-08-1995
66A	Act A648	01-10-1986
75	Act A1649	18-03-2022
76A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
77	Act A1137	03-03-2003
78A-78E	Act A1196	20-04-2006
	Act A1264	16-08-2006
78F	Act A1196	20-04-2006
	Act A1264	16-08-2006
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
78G	Act A1196	20-04-2006
	Act A1264	16-08-2006

Section	Amending authority	In force from
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
78H-78M	Act A1196 Act A1264	20-04-2006 16-08-2006
78N	Act A1196 Act A1649	20-04-2006 18-03-2022
78O	Act A1196 Act A1264 Act A1649	20-04-2006 16-08-2022 30-06-2022
78OA	Act A1264	16-08-2006
78Q	Act A1196 Act A1264	20-04-2006 16-08-2006
79	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
79A	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
79A(3)	Act A1649	Not yet in force
80	Act A1649	18-03-2022
81	Act A1649	18-03-2022
82	Act A648 Act A863 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-1995 18-03-2022
83	Act A863 Act A1649	01-08-1995 18-03-2022
83A	Act A863	01-08-1995
84	Act A648 Act A1088 Act A1649	01-10-1986 01-08-2001 18-03-2022
85	Act A648	01-10-1986

Section	Amending authority	In force from
86	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
86A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
87	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
87A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88	Act A1137	03-03-2003
	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88A	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88B	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88C	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88D	Act A1649	18-03-2022
88E	Act A1649	18-03-2022
89	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
90	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
First Schedule	Act A648	01-10-1986
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Second Schedule	Act A648	01-10-1986
	Act A863	01-08-1995
	Act A1088	01-08-2001
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