



Libyan TMO Clears Ambiguity Surrounding Trademark Renewals

As announced in these very columns earlier, there has been a steep increase in trademark renewal fees in Libya, since February 2025. Under the amended regulations, the trademark renewal fees has been set to US \$20,000 per trademark per class. This fee can be paid in total upfront while effectuating the renewal or in 10 installments of US \$2,000 each, annually.

This unprecedented increase in trademark renewal fees has pushed trademark owners to adopt novel ways to keep up their trademark protection in Libya. Owing to the high official fee, trademark owners are choosing to abandon their marks without renewal. Once the trademark completes its protection period and stipulated grace period for renewal, trademark owners are re-registering their marks as trademark registration fees is substantially lower than the renewal fees in Libya.

Having noticed this, the Libyan TMO has now issued fresh directives with regards to trademark renewals and re-registration of marks, vide Circular No 2 of 2025, dated June 1, 2025. Accordingly, if trademark owners choose to abandon their registered trademarks by abstaining from renewing them, they can now re-register them only after a formal cancellation decision is issued by the Trademark Office and published in the Official Gazette. Once this cancellation action is published, the original trademark owner/s have a three-year period to re-register their marks.

Please do contact Axiom Mark IP for further details and queries with regards to trademark renewal and protection in Libya.