



Libya Issues New Resolution to Enhance Trademark Similarity Assessment

The Libyan Ministry of Economy and Trade has issued Resolution No. 270 of 2026, introducing supplementary provisions that provide greater clarity on the assessment of trademark similarity. The resolution complements Resolution No. 26 of 2024 and is intended to strengthen consistency and transparency in trademark examination, opposition, and enforcement proceedings.

The new framework establishes more detailed guidelines for evaluating similarities between trademarks, including visual, phonetic, and conceptual elements, as well as the overall commercial impression created by competing marks. It also clarifies the treatment of distinctive and non-distinctive elements, the significance of dominant components within a mark, and the extent to which descriptive or commonly used terms should influence similarity determinations.

In addition, Resolution No. 270 provides further guidance on assessing the relationship between trademarks and the goods or services they cover. The regulation emphasizes the importance of consumer perception and likelihood of confusion when determining potential conflicts, aligning examination practices with internationally recognized trademark principles.

The introduction of these criteria is expected to improve predictability for trademark owners and applicants, while providing examiners and legal practitioners with a clearer framework for evaluating trademark conflicts. The resolution represents another step in Libya's ongoing efforts to modernize and strengthen its intellectual property system.