

Summary of IPONZ Technical Focus Group

Trade Marks

Date of Meeting: 24 November 2016

Agenda Items	Comments
1. Office Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10% volume increase in annual filings. - Currently 29 TM examiners. - WIPO to provide seminars in NZ sometime in early 2017.
2. Demonstration of New NZOO workflow	Issues pertaining to the filing of International TM registrations will appear as a TASK item in the INBOX field as opposed to the appearing as a discussion topic as previously.
3. Confirm Classification Practice Changes	Classification practice in relation to class 32 & 33 still being finalised and new guidelines should be out in the new year.
4. New Version of Nice	New version of Nice classification takes effect on 01/01/2017. It is not expected that there will be any major changes. IPONZ hopeful to issue new guidelines before XMAS.
5. GI Guidelines	<p>Envisaged that the GI's will commence April 2017.</p> <p>Evidence in support of GI will not be required at time of filing, but will be required prior to acceptance of GI.</p> <p>Written description associated with Mapping of the GI is not going to be required.</p>
6. Regulatory Systems Bill	<p>IPONZ is not going to pursue with the proposed change to Series marks, but all other proposed changes are going to be recommended.</p> <p>Exposure draft on the Bill should be out mid 2017 and it will be open for submissions.</p>
7. Timeframe to respond after Maori Advisory Committee advice	Timeframe can be increased so that the applicant gets a full 12 months to respond to any examination issues that may result.
8. Improved Vienna Searching	Currently the search function for Vienna searching is slow and cumbersome when doing Boolean searching. IPONZ looking at providing other search options in order to improve Vienna searches.
9. Merged Trade Marks	Once a set of trade marks are merged only the Owner details of the parent trade mark are updated, the owner details of

	the other marks subject to the merge are not updated.
10. Other Matters	It is going to be possible to attach PDF documents to responding to notifications issued via the IPONZ case management system.

Date of Next Meeting: April 2017