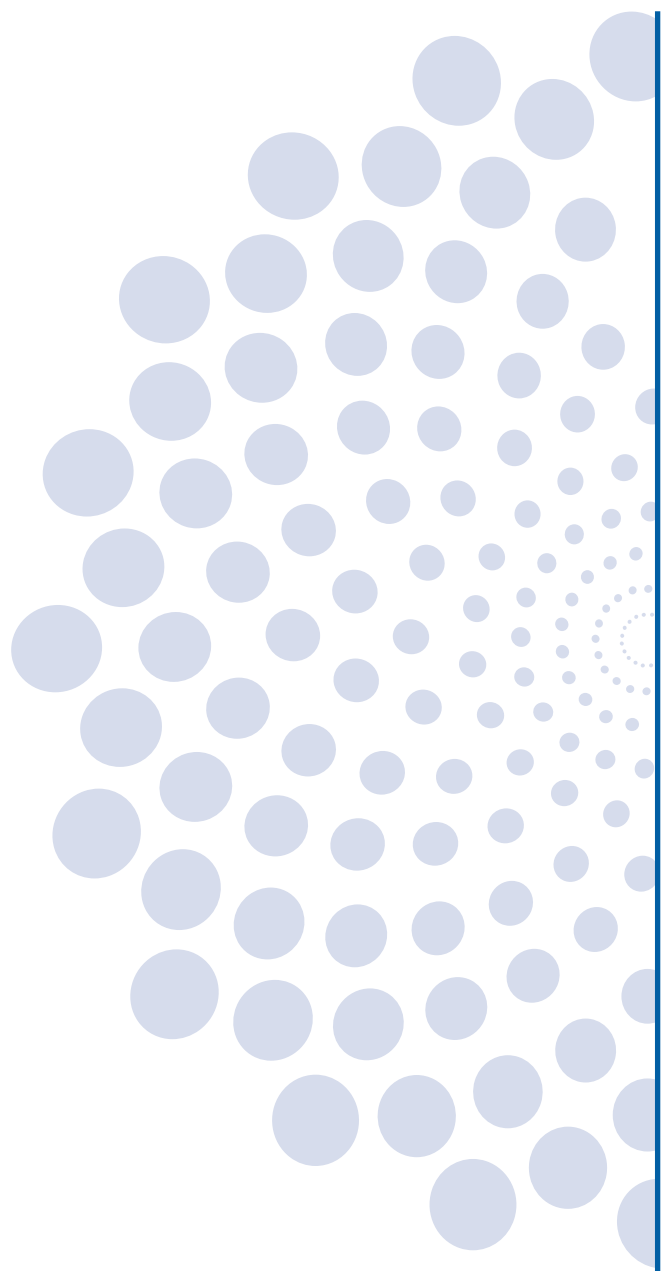




MOROCCAN OFFICE OF INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY



ANNUAL REPORT
2015

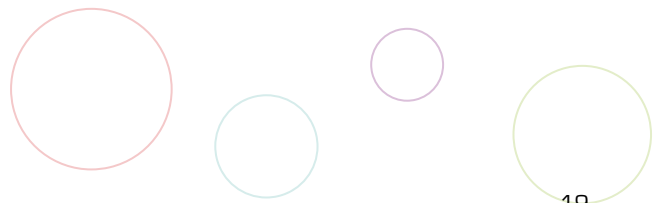


ANNUAL REPORT
2015



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2015 HIGHLIGHTS

AND KEY FIGURES

Last year of the 2015 Horizon objectives contract of the industrial and commercial property strategic vision, 2015 is the balance sheet closing year of this vision, implemented over a five-year period and built around four main lines namely: customer services, environment of industrial and commercial property, development and operation of the industrial and commercial property, steering, resources and infrastructure.

A balance sheet marked by the implementation of key projects such as the new legal reform of the industrial property system in Morocco, the development of online service platform "directinfo.ma", the strengthening of support activities for companies and researchers in particular through the Moroccan Academy of Intellectual and Commercial Property "AMAPIC", Technology and Innovation Support Centers "TISC" and the implementation of the Namadij project dedicated to design companies.

In parallel to this closing balance, 2015 will have been the first year of implementing the new reform of patent system which was expressed this year by granting patents, assessed according to patentability criteria and in conformity with international standards. This key step of modernising the industrial property system which has extended to trademarks, industrial designs and models was followed by the launch of a certified training service "Animation Certificate in Industrial Property (CAPI)", for the very first time.

Finally, 2015 will have also been the year of the adoption of the new strategy (2016-2020) which aims at assigning a leading role to industrial and commercial property to value creations and innovation in favour of economic growth and development.

As regards the activity relating to industrial and commercial property, 2015 ended with a positive outcome for trademarks which, despite a slight increase of 2% for new applications, experienced a significant increase of 37% for renewals of Moroccan trademarks. For industrial designs and models, a 13% progress rate has been recorded. Concerning patents, despite the stability of applications' number around about 1000 during the past five years, an increase of 6 % was observed in 2015 on the quality of Moroccan applications. In terms of creating companies, the activity was characterised by a global increase of about 2.5% for creation intentions and for effective creations of legal persons and about 6% for new individual companies.

As regards global indicators as published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in December 2015, Morocco is 67th for national patents and 1st in Africa for patent filing made by residents reported in the GDP, 46th for national trademarks and 9th in the category of countries with equivalent income, 22th for industrial designs and models and 7th at the international level concerning the filing of designs reported in the GDP.

Patents

Patent applications	1 021
Patent applications of Moroccan Origin	224
International Applications of Moroccan Origin Under the PCT	59

Trademarks

Trademark Registration Applications (New)	11 980
Applications of Moroccan Origin	6 141
Renewals	8 425
International Applications of Moroccan Origin Under the Madrid System (New)	89

Industrial designs and models

Applications for the Registration of Industrial Designs	1 425
Applications of Moroccan Origin	854

Commercial names

Intentions to Creation (Negative Certificates Issued)	67 279
Legal Persons	58 909
Trading Names (for individual Businesses)	8 370

Creation of companies

Total number of new companies	69 116
Legal Persons	36 644
Natural Persons (individual Businesses)	32 472

Online services

Total online transactions	63 513
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Total incomes (MDhs)	73.45
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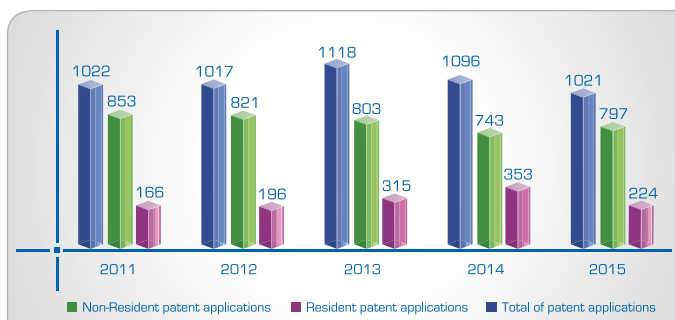
PATENTS



PATENTS

I. PATENT APPLICATIONS

1. FILING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS



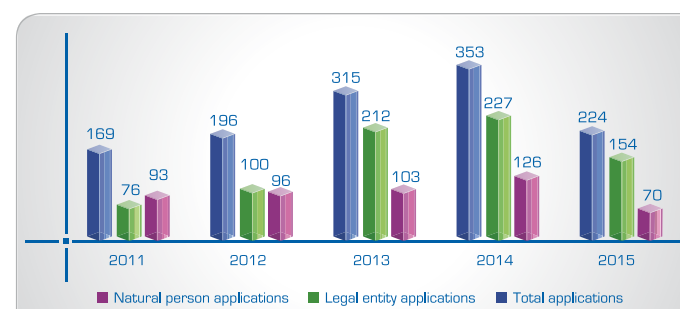
Patent applications had experienced a decrease of 7% against the previous year, 1021 applications were filed in 2015 against 1096 in 2014.

Applications of foreign origin recorded an increase over this same period. However, those of Moroccan origin experienced a drop of 37% compared to the previous year.

It should be noted that this drop coincides with the entry into force of Law 23-13 supplementing and amending Law 17-97 regarding the protection of industrial property. In fact, this law has introduced a new provision which consists in making presentation obligatory at the time of filing, the description of the invention, and this in accordance with international standards. In addition, new provisions relating to the assessment of patentability criteria are provided implying an improvement of the quality of granted patents. In addition, new provisions relating to the assessment of patentability criteria are provided, implying an improvement of the quality of granted patents.

In this regard and to assist applicants and professionals, OMPIC has organised information and training activities to make known the novelties of this law and to enable stakeholders make better use of it.

2. PATENT APPLICATIONS OF MOROCCAN ORIGIN



The decline of patent applications of Moroccan origin recorded in 2015, concerned both the filings made by legal persons (32%) and those made by natural persons (44%) compared to 2014.

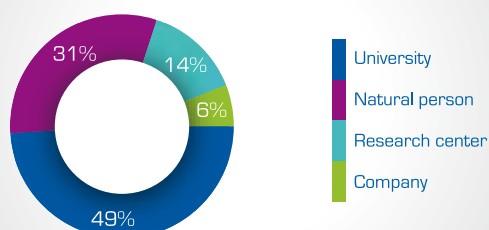
It should be pointed out that applications from legal persons represent 69% of the total applications of Moroccan origin.

Evolution of Patent applications by Type of Applicants

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Universities	38	58	138	158	109
Research Centres	6	16	25	32	31
Moroccan Companies	32	26	26	36	14
Natural Persons	93	96	96	127	70
Total	169	196	315	353	224

The evolution of patent applications of Moroccan origin, distributed according to the types of applicants, shows that 2015 experienced a drop in applications emanating from universities [- 31%] and Moroccan companies [-61%], as well as those filed by natural persons [-45%], compared to the last year.

Resident Patent Applications Breakdown by nature of Applicant (2015)



10 Major Applicants (legal persons) of Moroccan Origin

	Filings
UNIVERSITY OF MOHAMMED V RABAT	44
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF RABAT *	40
MASCIR FOUNDATION	31
UNIVERSITY OF HASSAN II CASABLANCA	9
UNIVERSITY OF HASSAN I SETTAT	3
CADI AYYAD UNIVERSITY	3
HIGHER SCHOOL OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING INDUSTRIES/ UNIVERSITY OF HASSAN II, CASABLANCA	2
HIGHER NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ELECTRICITY AND MECHANICS	2
ZEMMOURI	2
RAYANE D'IRRIGATION	2

* 7 Patent applications owned jointly with the Union of Moroccan Inventors

In 2015, applications of the 10 major Moroccan applicants represent 62% of all patent applications of Moroccan origin, 75% are emanating from universities.

The first four places are occupied by the same applicants than last year. This result confirms that these applicants are increasingly integrating more a valorisation policy of research and innovation activity by the filing of patent applications.

In addition, it is worth noting that a significant number of patent applications of Moroccan origin is owned by a very small number of applicants, which is a sign of fragility of the current Moroccan innovation system.

3. PATENT APPLICATIONS OF FOREIGN ORIGIN

A. Analysis of foreign applications according to the filing system

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
International Method (PCT)	821	783	748	709	752
National Method (Priority)	32	38	55	34	30
Validation Method	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15
Total Number of Applications of Foreign Origin	853	821	803	743	797

The filing of Patent applications of Foreign Origin in 2015 shows an increase of 7%, 797 applications were filed in 2015 against 743 in 2014.

It is worth pointing out that the entry into force of the validation agreement in March 2015 offers henceforth a new filing method to foreign applicants. In addition, the deadlines to implement the validation system must be respected to have a better visibility on the exact number of patent applications using this filing system.

Analysis of foreign applications according to the filing system



The distribution of patents applications of foreign origin done in 2015, according to the filing system, reveals the predominance of the international method (PCT) with 94%, followed by the national system (priority) with 4%, then the validation system with 2%.



B. Evolution of patent applications of foreign origin for the top 10 applicant countries

Countries	Applications filed in 2015	Applications filed in 2014	Evolution 2015/2014	Global Ranking *
United States	265	215	23%	2nd
Switzerland	114	121	-6%	8th
France	96	125	-23%	6th
Germany	90	94	-4 %	5th
Spain	51	55	-7%	22nd
Italy	29	44	-34%	10th
United Kingdom	30	29	3%	7th
Japan	28	17	65%	3rd
Belgium	18	12	50%	20th
Sweden	14	9	56%	13th

*Global ranking of WIPO based on the total number of applications filed by origin (2014)

For 2015, applicants from the United States of America are those who filed the highest number of patent applications of foreign origin, with 24% of the total patent applications of foreign origin, Swiss applications come second with 12%, followed by those from France and Germany with 11% and 10% respectively.

The analysis of the evolution of patent applications of foreign origin shows that there is generally an increase in activity compared to 2014, with the exception of France, Italy, Switzerland, Spain and Germany which have registered respectively decline of 23%, 34%, 7% and 4%.

4. PATENT APPLICATIONS OF MOROCCAN ORIGIN BY FIELDS OF TECHNOLOGY

Distribution by fields of technology concerns the Moroccan applications, which are regularised and assessed in 2015.

These figures show that the applications processed are broken down by fields of technology and do not follow a trend or a specific sectoral strategy.

Mechanical Cluster & Engineering	
Handling	5
Motors, pumps, turbines	3
Other special machines	3
Processes and thermal devices	6
Mechanical elements	9
Transport	8
Civil Engineering	4
Measurement techniques	9
Machines-tools	4
Machines for the manufacture of paper and textiles	2
Total	53

Physical cluster and electricity

Machines and electrical appliances, electrical power	9
Digital communication	5
Audiovisual technology	3
Telecommunications	18
Computer / Information Technology	24
Semi-conductors	2
Control devices	8
Furniture, games	6
Other consumer goods	16
Medical technology	18
Optics	3
Basic communication technique	7
Total	119

Chemical and pharmaceutical cluster

Fine and organic chemistry	8
Biotechnology	11
Pharmaceuticals	12
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	8
Basic chemistry	4
Materials, metallurgy	5
Chemical Engineering	7
Environmental Technology/ eco-technology	9
Food chemistry	7
Surface technology	2
Total	73

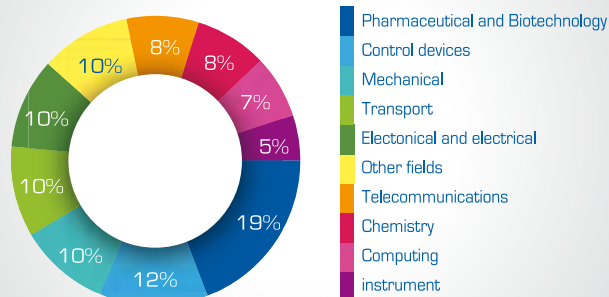
5. INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS OF MOROCCAN ORIGINS UNDER THE PCT

Evolution of International PCT Patent Applications (Morocco as country of origin)					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
International Filing Date	18	35	54	58	32
Date of Receipt at the International Bureau	19	28	43	55	59

Patent applications of Moroccan origin, filed at OMPIC as receiving office and received by the International Bureau under the PCT, has recorded an increase of 7 % in 2015.

The distribution by type of applicant shows that 14 applications were filed by natural persons and 45 by legal persons (34 applications from universities, 9 from a research centre and 2 from companies).

Sectoral Breakdown of PCT International Patent Application from Moroccan Origins



6. SUBSEQUENT OPERATIONS

Former Operation *	Nature of Operation	Number of Operations
Operation affecting ownership and enjoyment of rights.	Total transfer	110
	Partial transfer	1
	Merger or absorption	34
	Waiver	1
Changes made on owner's identity	Change of name	26
	Change of address	23
	Change of name and address	13
Total Former Operation		208

*All acts which occur subsequent to the patents applications filing and are registered in the National Patents Register

In 2015, OMPIC noted 110 total transfers, one partial transfer, 34 mergers, and 1 waiver. It is worth noting that the totality of these operations concern applications of foreign origin.

II. RESEARCH REPORT AND OPINION ON PATENTABILITY

In accordance with the new law on industrial property, OMPIC drafts preliminary and final research reports with opinion on patentability to make decisions on the granting or rejection of patent applications.

In addition, OMPIC has adopted a new organisation for this activity, based on the implementation of three technical clusters, namely: Mechanical and engineering cluster, physical and electricity cluster, chemical and pharmaceutical cluster. The goal of this organisation is to improve the quality of drawn up reports through better specialisation of examiners.

The total number of preliminary research reports with opinion on patentability, drafted in 2015, is 595 (350 relating to applications of foreign origin and 245 applications from Moroccan origin).

The appreciation of applications' relevance in terms of patentability criteria is as follows :

Evaluation of applications of Moroccan origin on the basis of search reports and opinion on patentability reports									
Relevance Criteria	Universities		Natural Persons		Companies		Research Centres		Total
NA : Novelty and inventive step	28	26%	12	13%	3	17%	13	50%	56 23%
N : Novelty and lack of inventive step	35	33%	48	51%	7	39%	8	31%	98 40 %
O : Lack of novelty and inventive step	43	41%	35	37%	8	44%	5	19%	91 37%

The evaluation of Moroccan origin applications shows that 23% of these applications have a new and inventive character against 17% for 2014. This denotes an improvement of the quality of patent applications of Moroccan origin.

It should be noted that 26% of applications emanate from universities, 50% from research centres, 17% filed by companies and 13% filed by natural persons fulfils the requirements for patentability: novelty and inventiveness.

In addition, the new law has established provisions which enable applicants to amend the claims filed initially and/or submit observations following the notification of preliminary search report with opinion on patentability. This will give the opportunity to increase the percentage of applications with a new and inventive character.

In order to enhance the quality of applications of Moroccan origin, including patent specifications and claims, OMPIC organises assistance, support and training actions in favour of applicants.

Assessment of patent applications of foreign origin on the basis of search reports and opinion on patentability		
NA : Novelty and inventive step	149	43%
N : Novelty and lack of inventive step	122	35%
O : Lack of novelty and inventive step	79	22%

Evaluation of Patent applications of foreign origin shows that 43% of these applications have a new and inventive character, 35% have a novelty character and lack of inventive step and 22% lack of novelty and inventive step.

III. PATENT PUBLICATION

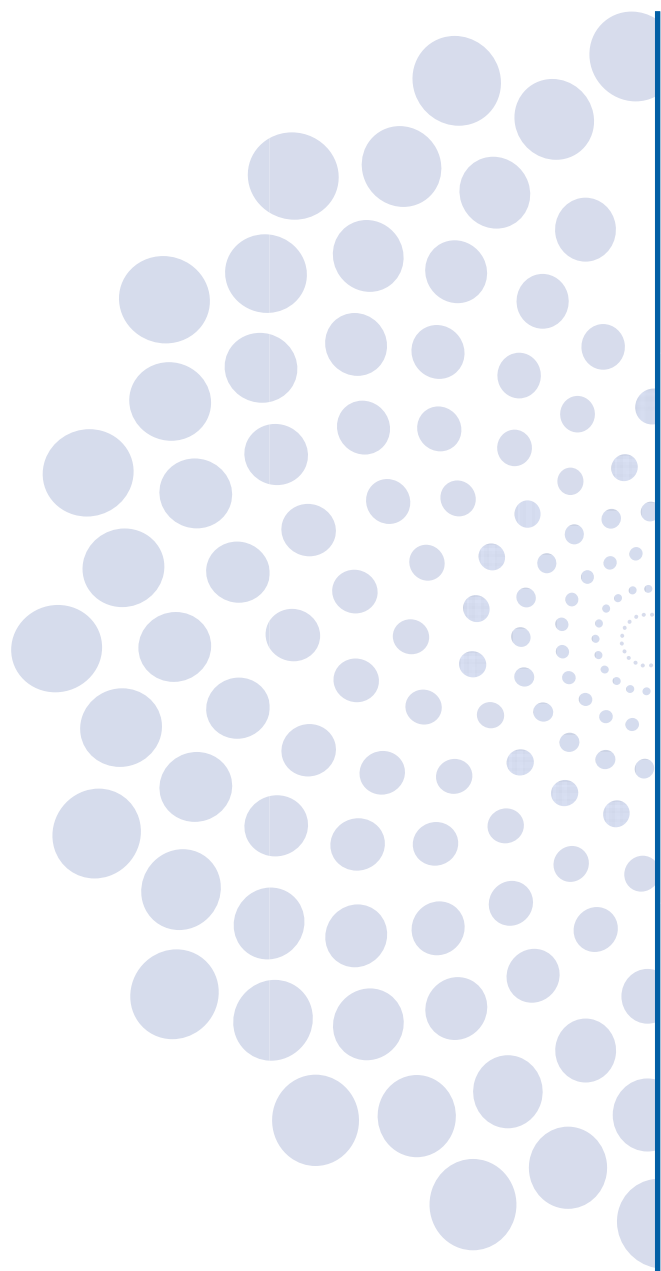
According to Law 17-97 as amended and supplemented by the Law 23-13, any patent application which has not been rejected or withdrawn is published after the expiry of a period of eighteen months after its filing date or priority date.

In 2015, 481 patent applications (263 of Moroccan origin) and 17 have been published by OMPIC on the Publication Server <http://patent.ompic.ma>.

Type of publication	Definition	Nombre of publications in 2015
A1	Publication of patent application with search report and opinion on patentability	473
A2	Publication of only the patent application	8
A3	Publication of only the research report and opinion on patentability	2
B1	Publication of granted patent	17

These publications are also available through the PATENTSCOPE search service (<http://patentscope.wipo.int/>) of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), and the Espacenet platform (<http://worldwide.espacenet.com/>) of the European Patent Office (EPO) as well as in the Arab Patents Regional Platform (ArabPat) (<http://www.arabpat.com/>), which was initiated withing the cooperation between Agadir Agreement member countries (Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and supported by the European Patent Office (EPO), the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC).





DISTINCTIVE

SIGNS

DISTINCTIVE SIGNS

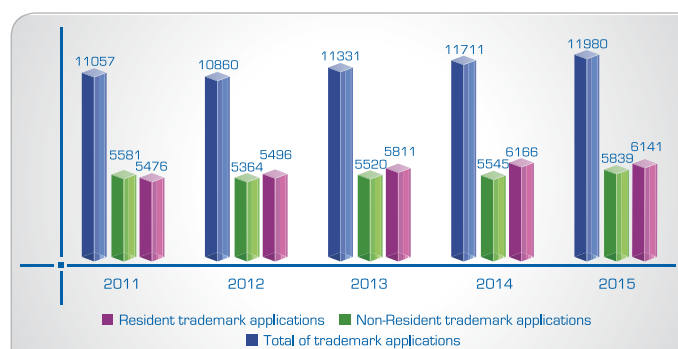


I. TRADEMARKS

1. APPLICATIONS THROUGH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS

A. Registration applications

a. Evolution of applications



In 2015, the total number of new trademark registration applications reached 11 980 against 11 711 in 2014, increasing by 2%.

This total number of applications includes the registration of trademarks submitted directly to OMPIC in Morocco (national system : 7 549 applications) and international applications which request protection from Morocco through international system (Madrid system⁽¹⁾: 4 431 applications).

According to the origin of applications, the number of registration applications of Moroccan origin remained approximately the same, 6 141 in 2015 against 6166 in 2014.

⁽¹⁾ The Madrid System is the one-stop solution for trademark holders to obtain and maintain protection in multiple markets (96 members of the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol including Morocco).

Applications of Moroccan origin represent 51 % of applications, slightly surpassing applications of foreign origin (5 839 applications).

Applications of foreign origin experienced an increase of 5.3 %, passing from 5 545 in 2014 to 5 839 in 2015 (1408 applications, with (24%) filed through the national system and 4 431 applications (76%) submitted via the Madrid system.

b. Analysis of applications of foreign origin based on the country of origin of the applicant

Countries	2015	2014	Difference
France	894	850	+5%
United States of America	767	718	+7%
European Union	596	524	+14%
Switzerland	409	405	+1%
China	349	308	+13%
Germany	324	326	-
Turkey	276	217	+27%
Spain	242	264	-8%

The main registration applications of foreign origin are emanating from France, the United States of America and the European Union.

The best performances recorded compared to 2014 concern Turkey with 27 % and the European Union with 14 %.

c. Breakdown by nature of applicants (national method)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Evolution rate 2015/2014
Legal Entity	5 965	5 875	6 366	6 605	6 267	-5,1%
Natural Person	980	1 117	1 039	1 176	1 278	8,7%
Total	6 945	6 992	7 405	7 781	7 545	-3%

In 2015, 83% of registration applications filed through the national system were made by legal entities.

Applications filed from natural persons progressed by 8.7% in 2014 from 1 176 to 1 278, while those of legal entities dropped by 5 %.

The decline in trademark registration applications through the national system recorded by legal entities, notably foreigners, is largely compensated by Moroccan designations via the Madrid system. In fact, foreign companies opt more and more for the Madrid system to register their trademarks, considering the simplicity of the formalities of the international system.

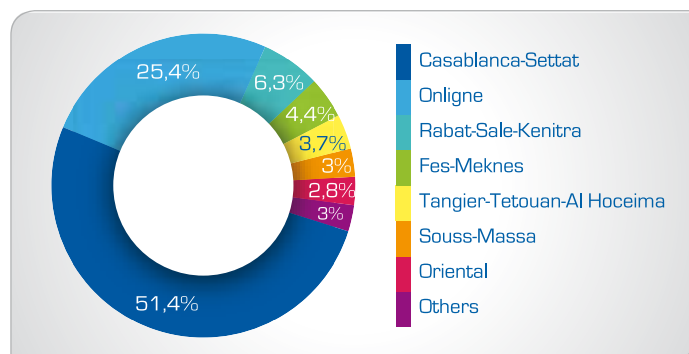
d. Breakdown by trademark type

	2015		2014		Evolution 2015/2014
Composite /mixed	4 610	61,1%	4 771	61,3%	-3,4%
Word	2 817	37,3%	2 899	37,2%	-2,8%
Figurative, Three-dimensional	119	1,6%	116	1,5%	2,6%
Total	7 546	100 %	7 786	100 %	-3,1%

The analysis of applications by trademark type shows that 61% of national applications concern mixed marks followed by word marks with 37.3%. Other types of trademarks (figurative, three-dimensional) represent only 1.6% of total applications.

It should be noted that 4 three-dimensional trademarks were filed in 2015.

e. Breakdown of national applications by filing location



The breakdown of Moroccan applications by filing location shows the predominance of the Grand Casablanca with 51.4%, followed by the Rabat-Salé-Kenitra with 6.3%, Fès-Meknès, Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima with 4.4% and 3.7% respectively.

Online applications via the DirectInfo platform attract more and more users of the trademarks system. In fact, in 2015, they recorded a considerable increase of 38.6% compared to 2014. Similarly, online applications represent 25.4% of the total number of trademark applications.

This performance is mainly due to the rates reduced by 40% compared to conventional applications, as well as ergonomics and ease of use of the platform.

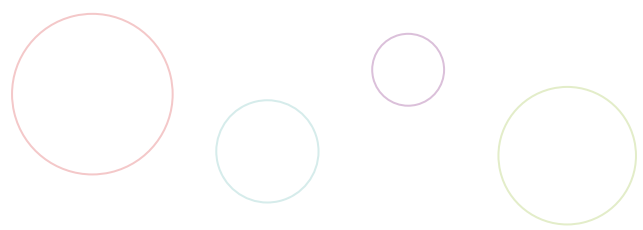
f. Ten most designated categories in applications of moroccan origin

Categories	Contenu	2015	2014	Difference 2015/2014
30	Foods of plant origin	1102	1108	-0.5%
35	Advertising, Business management..	979	1062	-9%
3	Cosmetics	869	871	-
41	Education, training...	795	783	1,5%
5	Food of animal origin	720	524	3%
29	Pharmaceuticals	700	719	37%
31	Unprocessed food	565	548	3%
43	Restaurant services, temporary accommodation	453	505	-10%
25	Beer, Mineral and aerated waters	425	434	-2%
9	Devices and scientific instruments, computers; fire extinguishers...	424	420	1%

The podium of the most designated categories remained unchanged in 2015. The most solicited sectors are the food industry, advertising services and cosmetics. However, these three sectors did not record any increase compared to 2014, the advertising service recorded a decrease of 9%.

In addition, the pharmaceutical sector recorded the highest increase of 37% and the catering industry presented the highest regression of 10%.

Noting that in 2015, category 9 (computers, fire extinguishers...) joined the top 10 most designated categories at the expense of category 36 (insurance, financial affairs...).



g. Subsequent operations

Subsequent operations	Nature of Operation	2015	2014	Difference
Operation affecting ownership and enjoyment of rights.	Total transfer	277	203	36%
	Partial transfer	1	-	-
	Merger or absorption	31	22	41%
	Waiver	40	28	43%
	Exclusive licensing	10	7	43%
	Non-exclusive licensing	6	1	500%
Changes made on owner's identity	Change of name and address	377	221	71%
Total subsequent operations		742	482	54%

Subsequent operations relating to trademarks are all acts particularly affecting ownership and enjoyment of rights on the subsequent mark following filing an

application for the registration of a trademark. These acts can testify on the exploitation and interest of the trademark in question.

In 2015, OMPIC has recorded 742 subsequent operations against 482 in 2014, with an increase of 54%. This increase is an indicator on the value of the trademarks in question.

These operations are almost equally distributed between those affecting owner's rights and those relating to changes on the identity of the owner with 365 and 377 operations respectively.

It should be noted that the total transfer is the act affecting the most prominent right with 277 operations.

B. Renewals

a. Evolution of renewals

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Evolution rate 2015/2014
Renewal of Moroccan origin	Renewals in OMPIC	195	194	237	507	1 622	220%
	Renewals in OMPIC	383	478	539	613	1 414	131%
Renewal of foreign origin	Renewals Under the Madrid System	4 652	4 756	4 882	5 043	5 389	7%
	Total Renewals of Foreign Origin	5 035	5 234	5 421	5 656	6 803	20%
Total		5 230	5 428	5 658	6 163	8 425	37%

In 2015, applications for the renewal of trademarks have reached 8 425 applications against 6 163 in 2014, an increase of 37%. This evolution concerns renewals through national and international systems.

This upward trend shows that companies are becoming more aware of the importance of maintaining their trademarks.

b. National system

3 036 applications for renewal of trademarks were received by OMPIC in 2015 against 1 120 applications in 2014, an increase of 171%.

Applications for renewal of Moroccan origin have reached 1 622 against 507 in 2014, which represents a significant increase of 220%.

These applications represent 53% of national applications for renewal. Also, applications for renewal of foreign origin experienced an increase of 158% from 613 applications in 2014 to 1 414 in 2015.

These results are due to raising-awareness actions on renewals of coming due trademarks.

c. International system

Applications for renewal via the Madrid system recorded an increase of 7% in 2015 compared to 2014: to 5 389 applications in 2015 against 5 043 in 2014.

C. Examination of absolute grounds

2015 was marked by the establishment of the new trademarks system following the amendment (Law 23-13) of Law 17-97 related to the protection of industrial property. This system is based on the examination of absolute grounds for refusal of trademarks registration, notably the absence of the distinctive character for trademarks. This contributes to raising the quality level of registered trademarks.

Thus, OMPIC announced the rejections of 264 application for the registration of trademarks (29 are partial rejections which concern only a part of products and services) on a total number of 11 980 [a rejection rate of 2,2%].

95% of rejections concerns applications for the registration of trademarks through the national system represent.

2. INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS

A. Morocco as country of origin

a. Evolution of International registration applications

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Evolution 2015/2014
Application for registration	84	60	44	76	89	17%
Renewal	21	25	60	46	56	22%
Subsequent Designation	19	20	36	41	53	29%

In 2015, application for registration (Morocco as country of origin) reached 89 against 76 in 2014, representing an increase of 17%.

The most nominated countries for international registration applications of Moroccan origin are: France, Spain, Italy, African Organisation of Intellectual Property (OAPI), the European Union, Germany and China.

b. Evolution of subsequent designations

In 2015, subsequent designations emanating from Morocco rose from 41 in 2014 to 53 applications (29%).

It is worth noting that the subsequent designation is an operation allowing the trademark owner to extend its protection, on the basis of a first international application, in other member states of the Madrid system, which have not been designated in the initial application.

c. Renewals

Renewals of international registrations (Morocco as country of origin) reached a total number of 56 applications against 46 in 2014, increasing by 22%.

The increase of renewals is an index on the activity of trademarks in international markets.

B. Morocco as a designated country

a. International applications for registration

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Evolution 2015/2014
Application for Registration	3459	3155	3268	3112	3708	19%
Renewal	4652	4756	4882	5043	5389	7%
Subsequent Designation	645	701	648	811	723	-11%

In 2015, Morocco was designated in 3 708 new international applications for registration through the Madrid system against 3 112 in 2014, an increase of 19%.

b. Subsequent designations

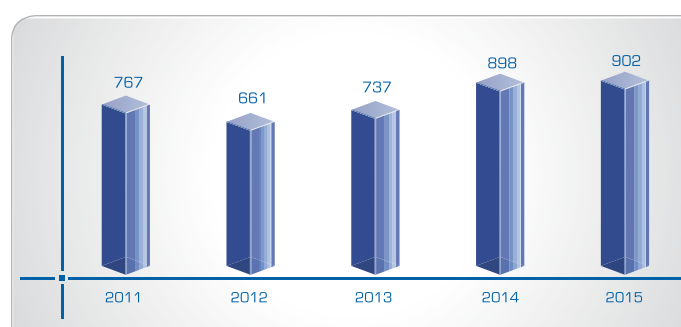
Regarding the subsequent designations of Morocco, applications decreased from 811 in 2014 to 723 in 2015, representing a decrease of 11%.

c. Renewals

Renewals of international registrations (Morocco as designated country), has reached in 2015 a total number of 5,389 against 5,043 in 2014 (7%).

II. OPPOSITIONS

A. Evolution of oppositions



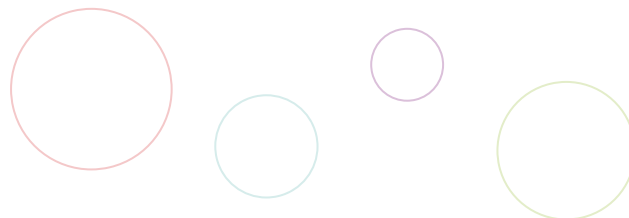
OMPIC received in 2015 902 requests for opposition to trademark applications against 898 in 2014, which represent an increase of 1%, compared to the last year.

Opposition rates account for 8% of total trademark applications received by the Office in 2015 (11980 applications).

Opposition requests concern mainly food sectors, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products.

B. The most targetted first ten top categories by opposition requests

Category	Content	2015	2014	Part 2015	Difference 2015/2014
30	Food of plant origin	220	197	18%	12%
3	Cosmetics and detergents	147	189	12%	-22%
5	Pharmaceuticals	125	85	10%	47%
29	Food of animal origin	96	82	8%	17%
35	Advertising, import-export	60	78	5%	-23%
25	Clothing, footwear, headgear	52	42	4%	24%
31	Unprocessed food	37	27	3%	37%
32	Drinks	35	38	3%	-8%
16	Packaging	34	35	3%	-3%
9	Scientific device	31	47	3%	-3%



C. Trademark applications, subjects of oppositions

In 2015, 840 opposition requests were formulated against applications for trademark registration filed through the national system. That constitutes 93% of total applications subject of opposition applications.

Concerning international trademarks designating Morocco in 2015, 62 applications were subject of oppositions, which represents 7% of International trademark applications.

D. Nature of prior right (Opponent)

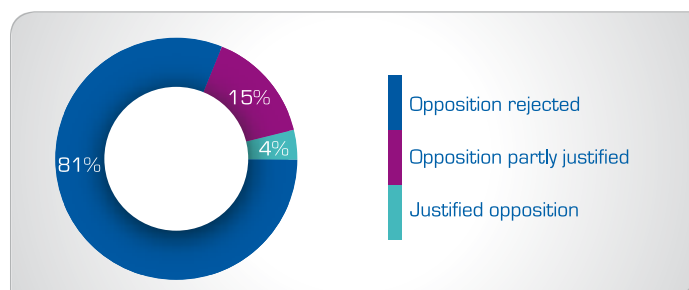
Oppositions to trademark applications of which prior applications are national, had reached in 2015 657 applications, representing 73% of all the formulated oppositions.

Furthermore, the number of oppositions to prior international trademarks recorded in 2015 is 245, which constitute 27 % of all oppositions. In these last remaining oppositions [245], the number of international trademark applications used as basis to oppositions is 218 against 171 in 2014, representing an increase of 21%.

This shows that the opposition system is more and more used by foreign companies, owners of international trademarks.

E. Decisions made by OMPIC

In 2015, OMPIC made 830 decisions against 730 in 2014. The decisions justifying oppositions make 81% of all rendered decisions (against 67% in 2014), 4% of the decisions rejected the oppositions, while 15 % (against 10% in 2014) of decisions relating to partially justified oppositions (trademark registrations for certain goods or services).



Furthermore, OMPIC received 147 replies to opposition, representing a response rate of 16%.

It is worth noting that if the applicant does not respond to the opposition within two months from the date of

expiration of the opposition period, OMPIC gives a ruling on the opposition.

The number of response increased drastically : in the first half of 2015, OMPIC received 59 replies against 90 responses during the second semester. This is explained by the awareness of operators using the system and interested of responding in time to opposition, as required by the new provisions provided for by Law N°23-13.

Moreover, OMPIC received in 2015 :

- 68 oppositions to decisions rendered by the Office (against 53 oppositions for 2014).
- 9 appeals from the Trade Appeals Tribunal of Casablanca (which decisions are not yet issued).
- 5 requests for the extension of the opposition procedure (against 30 registered in 2014).

23 suspensions of the opposition procedure were recorded in 2015, including 15 suspensions based on applications for registration of trademarks and 8 based on legal actions.

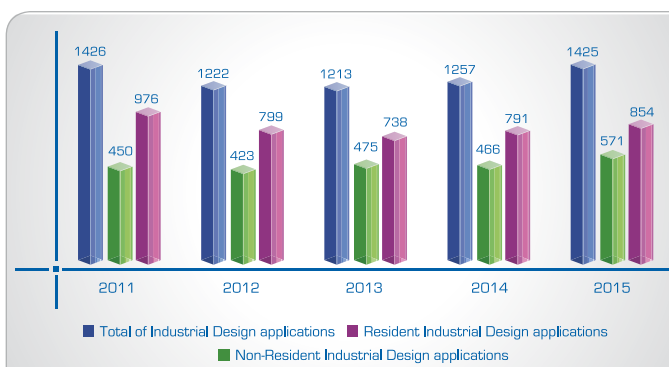
In 2015, OMPIC decided to close the procedure of 80 oppositions, essentially on the basis of withdrawal of the opposition by the opponent or withdrawal by the applicant of the application for the trademark subject of opposition.

III. INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND MODELS

1. APPLICATIONS THROUGH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS

A. Application for registration

a. Evolution of applications



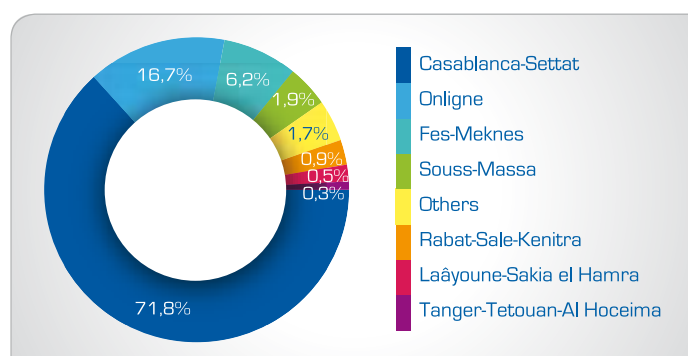
During 2015, applications for registration of industrial designs and models reached 1425, with 931 being filed through the national system, representing an increase of 10% compared to 2014.

Applications of Moroccan origin (854 applications) experienced an increase of 8% compared to 2014 and represent 92% of the total number of applications received by OMPIC through the national system.

Applications of foreign origin also experienced an increase of 22% from 466 in 2014 to 571 in 2015. Only 77 of these applications are filed through the national method (8%), the majority is filed via the Hague system⁽²⁾ (494 applications).

Law 17-97, as supplemented and amended by Law 23-13 gives the opportunity to file applications for registration containing up to 100 industrial designs and models belonging to the same Locarno class⁽³⁾. Again, the number of designs filed through to the national system in 2015 has reached 3 989 against 3 789 in 2014, with an increase of 5%.

b. Breakdown of national applications



Distribution by filing location of industrial designs applications shows a great disparity between the regions.

Casablanca-Settat comes first with 71.8% of total applications, greatly followed by Fès-Meknès with 6.2%.

It should also be noted the increase in the number of applications filed in Souss-Massa with a rate of 88% compared to 2014,

Online applications recorded an increase of 217% compared to 2014 (130 applications against 41).

This increase demonstrates the significant use of the online platform Directinfo for filings of industrial designs and models applications, considering the simplicity and rapidity of services, as well as the discounted rates offered.

c. Breakdown of applications of foreign origin based on the country of origin of the applicant

Countries	2014	2015	Part 2015	Evolution 2015/2014
Switzerland	198	258	45%	30%
France	111	117	20%	5%
European Union	65	93	16%	43%
Germany	21	32	6%	52%
United States of America	5	21	4%	320%
Spain	4	13	2%	225%
Sweden	2	7	1%	250%
Bulgaria	0	5	1%	-
Ukraine	0	3	1%	-
Great Britain	1	2	0%	100%
Others	59	20	4%	-66%
Total Number of Applications (Foreign Origin)	466	571	100%	+22%

According to the distribution of industrial designs applications of foreign origin, filed through the national and international systems (Hague system), by country of the applicant, Switzerland comes first with 45% of total foreign applications, followed by France and the European Union with 20% and 16% respectively.

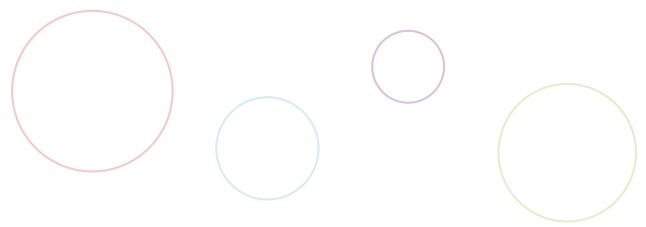
It should be noted that American applicants submitted 21 registration applications in 2015 against 5 in 2014, representing an increase of 320%. Applications of Swedish and Spanish origin also experienced positive evolutions, 250% and 225% respectively.

d. The first ten most designated applications of moroccan origin according to locarno classification

Locarno Class	Title	Number of Designations
9	Packaging and containers for transport or handling of goods	224
25	Construction and related elements	125
19	Stationery and office items, artists' or didactic materials	69
2	Clothing products and haberdashery	55
6	Furniture	39
5	Unmade textiles, sheets of artificial or natural material	36
32	Graphic symbols and logos, decorative patterns for surfaces, ornamentation	35
7	Household items not included in other categories	28
20	Sales or advertising equipment, signs	26
12	Means of transport or lifting means	21

⁽²⁾ The Hague System allows the international registration of Industrial Designs in over 65 territories.

⁽³⁾ International classification for industrial designs

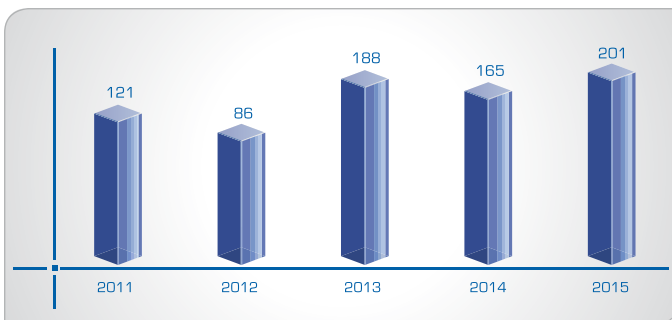


e. Subsequent operations

Subsequent operations	Nature of Operation	Number of operations
Operation affecting ownership and enjoyment of rights.	Total transfer	6
	Change of address	4
Change of owner's identity	Change of name	1
	Change of name and address	2
Total of subsequent operations		13

In 2015, OMPIC registered in the National Register of Industrial Designs and Models 6 total transfers and 7 changes of the owner's identities.

B. Renewals



201 applications for renewal of industrial designs registrations were recorded during 2015, with an increase of 22% compared to 2014 (165 renewals).

C. Publication of applications and other novelties of law 17-97

Since the application of law 23-13 modifying law 17-97, OMPIC publishes regularly industrial designs submitted since December 18th 2015.

OMPIC has published in 2015 8 editions of the Official Catalogue of Industrial Designs, and this every first Thursday of the month.

This monthly catalogue includes information concerning new applications for registration of industrial designs, and it is accessible through the website of the Office. It should be noted that the first edition was published on May 7th 2015.

Furthermore, the law mentioned above address the possibility to adjourn the publication of industrial designs applications for up to 18 months, upon request of the person submitting the application.

OMPIC has consequently received 5 adjournment requests in 2015.

D. Decisions rejecting applications

Pursuant to the provisions set out in the Law 17-97 as modified by law 23-13 regarding the conditions that the application for registration of design and industrial modals should satisfy, 2 decisions of partial rejection have been submitted in 2015 for which no observation from the owners were received by the OMPIC.

E. Division and withdrawal of applications

Among the new dispositions introduced by the law, which have been used by applicants, the division and withdrawal of applications for registration relating to design and industrial modals should be noted. In this context, OMPIC received 5 divisionary requests and 5 declarations of total withdrawal of applications for registration.

2. APPLICATION THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

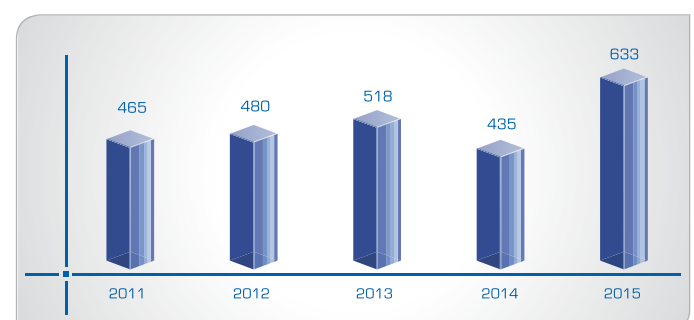
A. international applications for registration

In 2015, the number of international applications for registration of industrial designs designating Morocco, according to the Hague system, reached 494 applications against 466 in 2014, registering an increase of 22%.

Applications submitted through this system represent 35% of the total number of submitted applications.

The number of industrial designs included in international applications designating Morocco is 2055 in 2015 (1832 in 2014), representing an increase of 12%.

B. International renewals



In 2015, international applications for renewals (Morocco as designated country) through the Hague system reached in 2015 633 applications compared to 435 in 2014, representing an increase of 46%.

IV. GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN

In 2015, 11 Geographical Indications (GI) were registered and 2 Designation of origin (DO) were added to the national register held by OMPIC, bringing the number to 33 :

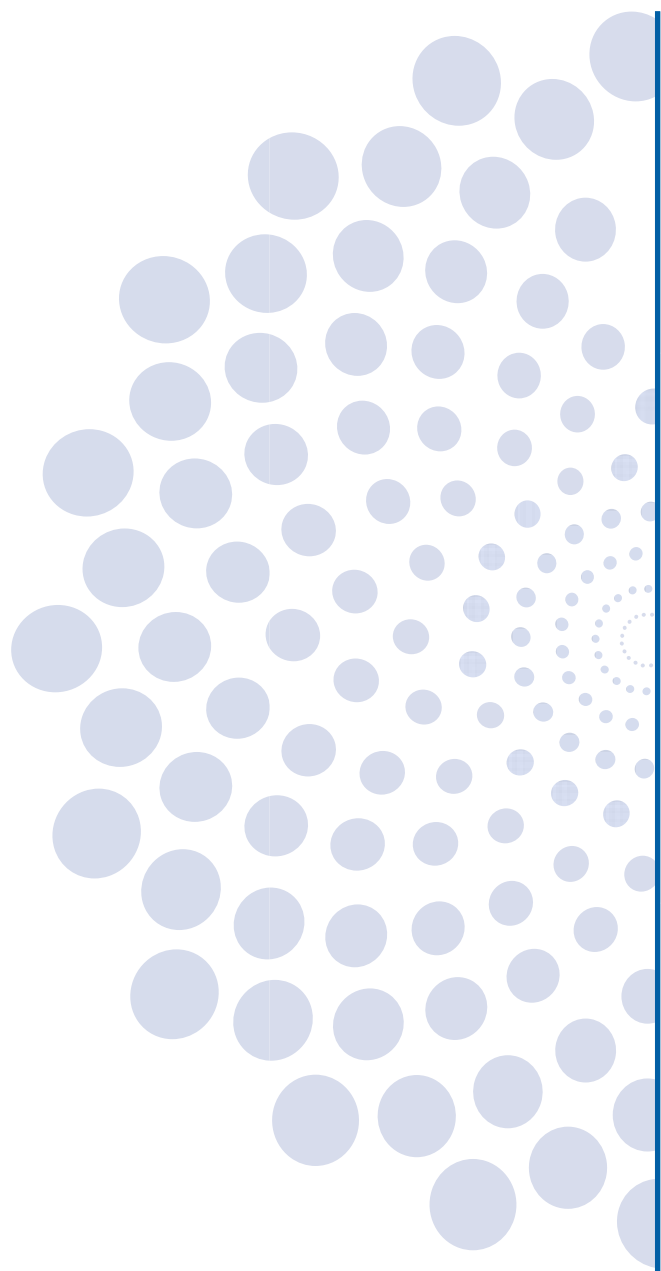
- Henné d'Ait Ouabelli (GI) and Noix d'Azilal (GI) ;
- Câpres de Safi (GI) ;
- Dattes Jihel de Drâa (GI) ;
- Huile d'Olive Vierge Extra AghmatAylane (DO) ;
- Huile Essentielle de Lavandin d'Oulmès (DO) ;
- Raisin Doukkali (GI) ;
- Amande du Rif (GI) ;
- Figue Sèche Nabout de Taounate (GI) ;
- Lentille de Zaer (GI) ;
- Miel d'Euphorbe du sahara (GI) ;
- Huile d'Olive Outat El Haj (GI) ;
- Huile d'Olive de Tafersite (GI).

The geographical areas of these I.G/A.Os representing the four corners of the Kingdom and cover the ten following regions :

- Tanger – Tétouan – Al Hoceima ;
- Orient ;
- Fès – Meknès ;
- Rabat - Salé- Kénitra ;
- Béni Mellal- Khénifra ;
- Casablanca- Settat ;
- Marrakech – Safi ;
- Darâa – Tafilalet ;
- Souss – Massa ;
- Guelmim - Oued Noun.

These applications concern Local products from the agricultural sector, mainly: the olive oils, fresh and dried fruits (dates, almonds, nuts, grapes, figs), honey, etc....





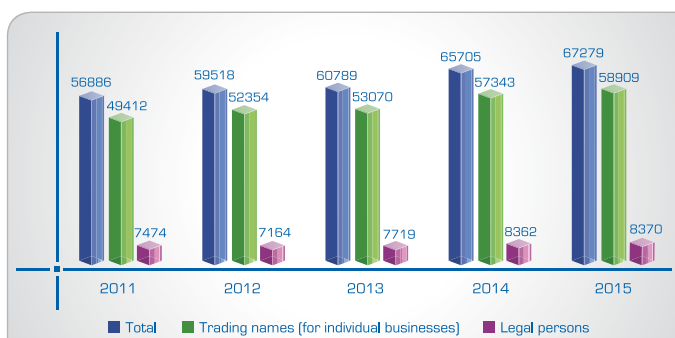
COMMERCIAL

NAMES



COMMERCIAL NAMES

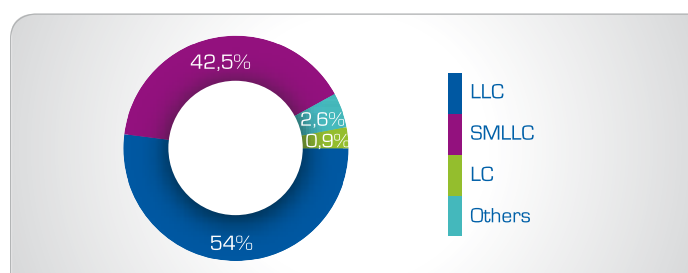
1. Evolution of intentions relating to the creation of companies



In 2015, the office issued 67,297 trade names for intentions relating to the creation of companies, representing a slight increase of 2.4% compared to 2014.

Denominations of legal persons represent 88% of total intentions to creation. They recorded an increase of 2.7% compared to last year.

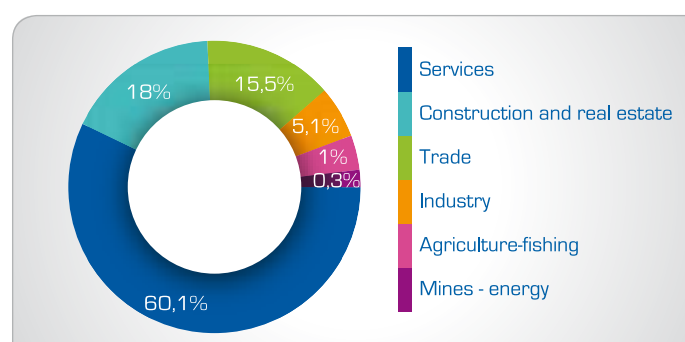
2. Breakdown by legal form



The most requested legal forms remain the companies with limited liability (LLC) and the single-shareholder companies with limited liability (single-shareholder LLC), which represent 54% and 42.5% of all intentions for creating companies.

Limited companies (LC) represent only 0.9% of all intentions to creations, registering a slight drop of 3% compared to 2014.

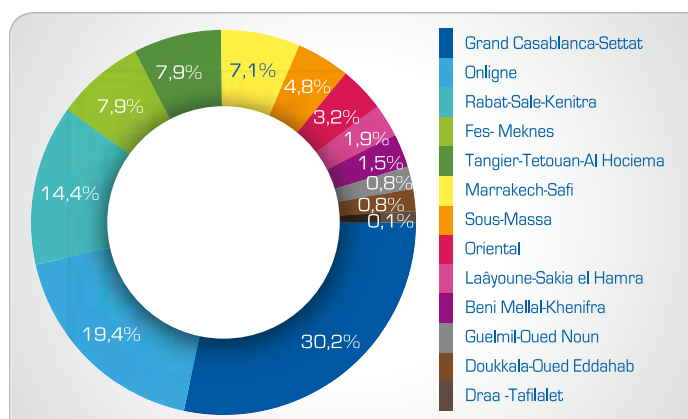
3. Sectoral breakdown



In 2015, three sectors account for 93.5% of total intentions to create companies, namely: services, business and construction with respectively 60%, 18% and 15.5%.

The industrial sector recorded an increase of 7% compared to last year, representing 5% of all intentions to create.

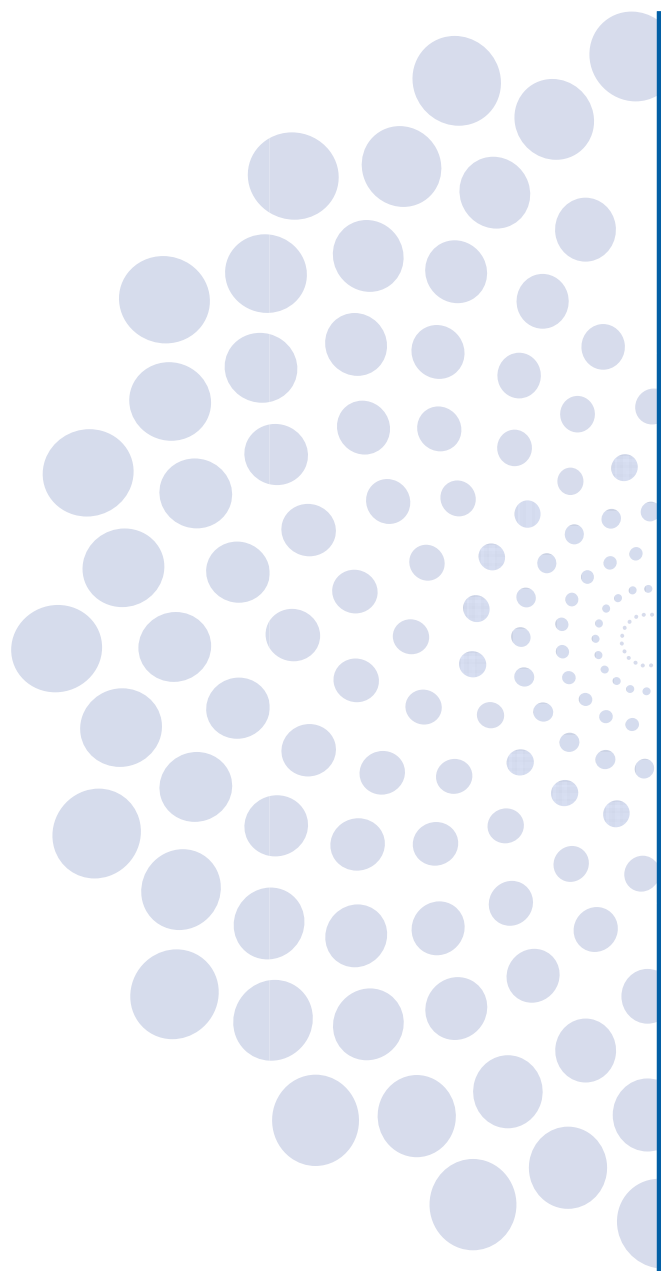
4. Distribution based on the filing location



The distribution based on the filing location confirms the predominance of the region of Casablanca-Settat with 32%, followed by Rabat-Sale-Kenitra with 14.4%, Fes-Meknes and Tanger-Tétouan-Al-Hoceima each grew by 7.9%.

Regarding the online filing for commerciale names, they represent 19.4% of all filings registered in 2015, with an increase rate of 38% compared to the last year (from 10,630 to 14,711 in 2015).





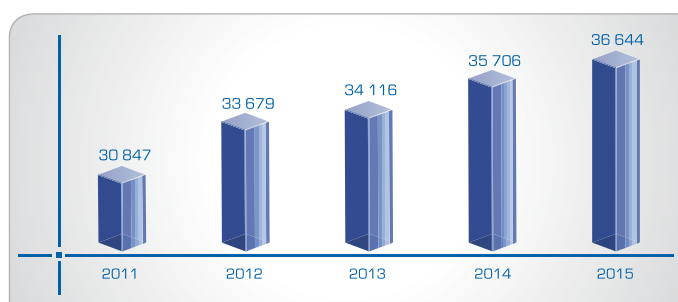
CENTRAL TRADE

REGISTRY

CENTRAL TRADE REGISTRY

I. COMPANIES : LEGAL ENTITIES

1. CREATION



In 2015, companies creation (legal entities) grew by 2.6% compared to the previous year, with 36,644 companies newly created compared to 35,706 in 2014.

a. Regional distribution

The regional distribution of new registrations in the trade registry shows that the region of Casablanca-Settat still holds the first place with 37.3% of all registrations, followed by Rabat-Salé-Kenitra (15.9%), Marrakech-Safi (10.4%), and Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima (10%).

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Casablanca-Settat	912 006	12 655	12 806	13 477	13 684
Rabat-Salé-Kenitra	4 444	4 902	5 290	5 454	5 834
Marrakech-Safi	2 995	3 420	3 463	3 658	3 824
Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima	3 135	3 504	3 589	3 843	3 676
Fes-Meknes	2 419	2 731	2 610	2 670	2 755
Souss-Massa	1 728	1 856	1 936	2 106	2 200
Oriental	1 297	1 320	1 373	1 440	1 356
Laâyoune-Sakia El Hamra	676	824	772	754	979

Beni Mellal-Khenifra	926	989	950	813	887
Drâa-Tafilalet	722	874	754	767	630
Dakhla-Oued Ed-Dahab	321	353	323	494	560
Guelmim-Oued Noun	178	251	250	230	259
Total	30 847	33 679	34 116	35 706	36 644

b. Distribution by legal form

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
LLC	54,3%	52,3%	53,2%	52,6%	49,9%
SM LLC	43,3%	45,4%	44,4%	44,6%	47,4%
LC	0,6%	0,5%	0,6%	0,6%	0,6%
Others	1,8%	1,9%	2,1%	2,2%	2,1%

The distribution by legal form of companies newly recorded in the trade registry shows the predominance of companies with limited liability (LLC) (49.9%) and of companies with limited liability with single-shareholder (single-shareholder LLC) (47.4%).

It should be noted that limited companies has been stagnating for the past five years with a variation rate of 0.6%.

c. Sectoral distribution/breakdown

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Trade	33,8%	33,9%	34%	29,4%	28,2%
Construction and Real estate	27,3%	27,7%	25,9%	24,4%	24,1%
Services	16,2%	15,4%	16,9%	17,8%	19,3%
Transport	6,4%	6,7%	6,3%	7%	7,3%
Industry	6,1%	6%	5,5%	5,5%	6,3%
Hotels and restoration service	3,5%	3,3%	3,6%	4%	4,3%
IT	2,9%	3,1%	3%	3,1%	3,5%
Agriculture and fishing	2,5%	2,2%	2,3%	2,4%	3%
financial operations	0,9%	0,9%	0,8%	0,7%	1,2%

The sectoral breakdown of newly created companies shows that «Trade», «construction and real estate and «services» sectors come in the lead. They represent respectively 28.2%, 24.1% and 19.3% of total registrations.

Also, it should be noted that the shares of «Industry» and «Agriculture» sectors have evolved significantly in 2015 compared to 2014.

2. MODIFICATIONS

OMPIC received 41 435 declarations of amendment in the trade registry in 2015 compared to 39 142 in 2014 [a 6% increase].

Breakdown by type of modification

The table below describes the main legal events involved in amending statements entered in the trade registry :

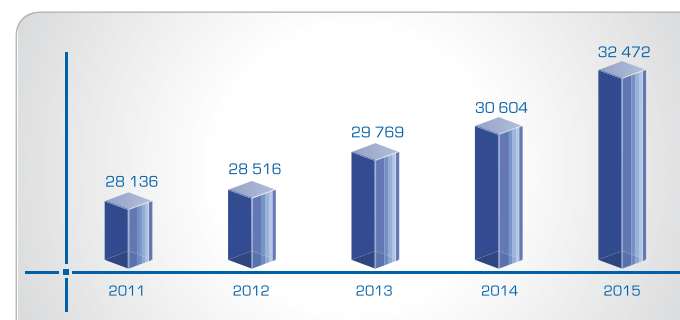
	2014	2015	Evolution 15/14
Change of representative/manager	13705	14481	6%
Change affecting partners	10197	10918	7%
Transfer of shares	10208	10571	4%
Change of address	9905	10892	10%
Increase in capital	5037	4874	-3%
Change in activity	3596	3940	10%
Change in legal form	3841	3927	2%
Change in denomination	1068	1102	3%
Change in judicial district	723	763	6%
Decrease in capital	418	387	-7%

NB: A declaration of amendment may involve several legal events (on average three events per model).

The amending registration involving a change in activity rose by 10% in 2015. By contrast, amendments involving a change in Capital (up or down) decreased significantly during 2015 compared to 2014.

II. INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES (PHYSICAL PERSONS)

1. CREATION



34,472 new individual companies (physical persons) were registered in the trade registry during 2015, representing an increase of 6% compared to 2014.

a. Regional breakdown

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima	3777	4036	4791	4813	5363
Casablanca-Settat	4903	4772	4677	4425	4075
Eastern Region	2693	2651	3225	3520	4300
Rabat-Sale-Kenitra	3542	3577	3781	3974	3857
Fes-Meknes	3456	3535	3329	3530	3298
Marrakech-Safi	2684	2737	2806	2844	2657
Souss-Massa	2029	2132	2226	2282	2248
Laayoune-Sakia El Hamra	1641	1550	1521	1633	2233
Beni Mellal-Khenifra	1755	1885	1714	1839	1698
Guelmim-Oued Noun	357	407	373	511	1311
Draa-Tafilalet	948	809	871	833	934
Dakhla-Oued Ed-Dahab	351	425	455	400	498
Total	28 136	28 516	29 769	30 604	32 472

Noting that «Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima» ranks first (16.6%) in the regional breakdown of individual companies. Its part is supported by the continuous evolution of new creations, which rose by 11.5% in 2015, compared to 2014.

As for the Casablanca-Settat region, which ranks second with a part of 12.6%, the number of individual companies created has been declining for the past five years. An evolution rate of -17% was recorded in 2011 and 2015.

Furthermore, other regions experienced positive changes in 2015 in comparison to 2014, mostly as follows :

- +22% for the Eastern Region, which ranks 3rd in the regional breakdown.
- +37% for the Laayoune-Sakia El Hamra region
- 24.5% for the Dakhla Oued Ed-Dahab region



b. Sectoral distribution/breakdown

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Trade	54,7%	55,5%	55,9%	56,4%	58,2%
Services	26,9%	26,6%	27,3%	26,2%	26,7%
Industry	8,7%	8,6%	8,2%	7%	7,5%
construction and real estate activity	9,1%	8,5%	8,1%	6,8%	7,1%
Agriculture-fisheries	0,6%	0,8%	0,5%	0,5%	0,5%
Mines/Energy	0,1%	0%	0%	3,1%	0%

“Trade” and “Services” sectors occupy the top ranks in the sectoral breakdown of individual companies created in 2015, which represent more than 84% of total registrations.

As for the industry sector, coming in 3rd position, it experienced an increase of 7% in 2015, compared to 2014.

2. MODIFICATIONS

The main amendments relating to individual businesses made during 2015 are as follows :

	2014	2015	Evolution 2015/2014
Change of address/business	2922	2957	1,2%
Change of activity	3346	3777	12,9%
Change of brand	852	816	-4,2%

Modifications related to a change of activity and change of address increased respectively by 12.9% and 1.2% in 2015.

Amendments linked to a change of brand decreased by 4.2% compared to 2014.

Globally, during 2015, modifications concerning individual businesses increased in comparison to the previous year: 18,874 amendments were recorded in 2015, compared to 18,718 in 2014.

III. CENTRALIZATION OF LEGAL DATA

As part of its activity to centralize legal documents related to creation and modification of companies registered in the trade registry, OMPIC received about 208.430 documents in 2015 (statutes, minutes, creation and modification templates) related to registrations made in 2015. In addition, more than 146.000 financial statements for the fiscal year 2014 were centralized by OMPIC during that year and were made available online from September 2015 via the portal www.directinfo.ma.

Filing of financial statements :

Fiscal year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of financial statements filed	103 184	113 965	126 885	133 858	146 458

During the past five years, the number of financial statements centralized by OMPIC has grown constantly (approximately 9% annually), rising from 133,858 financial statements filed in the fiscal year 2013 to 146,458 in the fiscal year 2014





DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION

ACTIVITIES AND
INFORMATION SERVICES



DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES

I. LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Following the entry into force of Law 23-13 amending Law 17-97 regarding the Protection of Industrial Property on 18 December 2014, Decree No. 2-14-316 done for the application of the said Law was promulgated on 29 January 2015 and published in Official Bulletin on 9 February 2015 No. 6333.

It should be noted that the decree fixing the validation body was also published on 9 February 2015 in the Official Bulletin No. 6333.

The French versions of Law 23-13 and its implementation decree were published in Official Bulletin No. 6358 on 7 May 2015.

In addition, the reform regarding the organization of the profession of Intellectual Property Advisor was completed following the publication on 28 September 2015 in Official Bulletin No. 6399 of decree No. 16664.15, establishing the list of diplomas giving access to this profession.

II. ACTIVITIES RELATING TO INNOVATION

1. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE NETWORK OF TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION CENTRES (TISC)

The Network of Technological Information Centres (TISC) ensures a technological watch using patent information in favour of its 40 members.

The members of the TISC network (universities, R&D centres, technical centres and corporate groups) are present in 54 focal points throughout the Kingdom.

Capacity building :

As part of the TISC's action plan for 2015, the coordination unit of the network organized the following actions :

- Training in favour of the TISC focal points on the new provisions of the Law relating to the Protection of Intellectual Property (10th of November 2015).
- Training on the procedural aspects of patents for new TISC focal points. The organizations involved were: R&D Morocco, ENSAM, CTPC technical centre, Hassan II University, Ibn Tofail University and Moulay Ismail University.
- Organization of 13 information workshops in collaboration with TISC focal points on the novelties of the Law 23-13, as well as on TISC research services.
- Participation of 17 officials from TISC focal points in WIPO advanced distance learning courses.

In addition, the annual meeting of the Monitoring Committee was held on 9 November 2015 at OMPIC headquarters. During the meeting, a project aiming at making the TISC activities sustainable was examined. This project was agreed upon for organizational, financial and sector-specific transformation, to ensure autonomy for focal point in the long term.

TISC research and activities relating to the filing of patent applications :

TISC focal points provided TISC information services in response to 88 inquiries in 2015.

124 patent applications emanating from members of the TISC network, were recorded during this year.

All data, reports and statistics on the activities of the TISC network are available at <http://www.tisc.ma> and are disseminated through the "TISC News" newsletter.

2. ACTIONS WITH UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH CENTRES AND CLUSTERS

Concerning promotion of innovation, creativity and the valorization of scientific research results in Moroccan universities and research centres, OMPIC signed in 2015 an agreement for partnership and valorization of research by patent filing with Mohammed VI University in Benguerir, which brings the number of agreements signed with universities and research centres to a total of 38 since 2006.

Within the framework of these partnerships, OMPIC carried out, during that year, training sessions, information and awareness activities for universities and research centres, including :

- 10 workshops on the contribution of the new Law 23-13 relating to invention patents, for researchers, PhD students and officials of research structures within universities.
- Training for trainers sessions in favour of researchers and PhD students of Mohamed V University in Rabat.

Establishment of technology transfer structures (TTO)

In order to set up TTOs in Moroccan universities (Mohamed V University of Rabat, International University of Rabat and Hassan I University of Settat), the following actions were carried out in 2015 :

- Two training sessions on “marketing intellectual property within universities” for the benefit of universities.
- A workshop for university officials and engineering schools, on the implementation of a structure in order to valorize and market the results of R&D and inventions.

III. PROMOTION ACTIVITIES

As part of its mission to raise awareness and promote intellectual and commercial property among economic stakeholders and the general public, OMPIC organized several actions in 2015, including:

1. MOROCCO AWARDS, HONORING BRAND

Morocco Awards, featuring Moroccan brands, an annual event that promotes and rewards Moroccan trademarks, was held for the 6th edition under the theme “Moroccan brands, driver for emergence.”

New awards and trophies marked this edition, specifically the “Brand of the Year” awarded for a trademark that saw remarkable development over the past year in terms of performance, reputation, innovation and communication. “Branding,” “Innovation,” “the brand of the future” and “Local brand” trophies were also awarded, as well as “Brand goes global” and “Audience Award” determined by an opinion poll on Moroccan’s favourite Brand.

A jury of professionals selected seven awardees out of 67 trademarks, based on assessment criteria related to the brand development strategy, marketing policy, degree of innovation and quality of the product or the service.

The Morocco Awards ceremony took place at OMPIC headquarters and was attended by 400 national and international personalities.



Awards ceremony of the 6th edition of Morocco-Awards

2. NAMADIJ PROJECT



The Namadij Project is a pilot project jointly conducted by the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), for Moroccan creative design Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The Namadij Project aims to help businesses establish appropriate intellectual property strategies, thereby making them more competitive and effectively managing their intellectual property rights in general and design rights in particular.

Since its launch in October 2014, 26 Moroccan companies have participated in it, from various sectors such as textiles/clothing, furniture, decorative items, cutlery manufacturing and electrical products.

To promote the Project and make it long-lasting, OMPIC set up a network of partners called "Namadij." The network is composed of stakeholders in the public and private sectors concerned by the creation, protection and promotion of designs and the support for companies, specifically SMEs.

Internationally, the Namadij Project organized two activities during this year :

- A knowledge sharing workshop organized on 16 November in Geneva, between Morocco and Argentina, the two pilot countries. The workshop focused on strategic protection of industrial designs and models (DMI).
- A side event organized on 17 November at the 34th session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, SCT at WIPO. On this occasion, an exhibition was organised to highlight the Project and the creations of Moroccan companies taking part in the Project.

3. SEMINARS, INFORMATION DAYS, FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

- Information meetings [1 March 2015] on the contribution of the amendment to the Law on Industrial Property for innovation and investment, coinciding with the announcement of the validation system for European patents in Morocco. This was also marked by the launch of an online system for filing Moroccan patents.

- A forum held in Munich entitled "Focus Morocco" was organized upon the entry into force of the agreement on validation of European patents in Morocco in collaboration with the European Patent Office (EPO) and with the support of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Munich and Upper Bavaria. This forum was an opportunity to present the underlying strategies of the recent reforms of the Moroccan patent system, as well as new Moroccan legislation in this field.

- A conference under the theme «intellectual property, an intangible asset serving the growth of companies» as part of a series of conferences, organized by OMPIC in partnership with the Le Matin Group.

- A conference under the theme "How to valorize company's intangible asset: the case of trademarks.", this conference was the opportunity to present approaches of the World Intellectual Property Organization, European Office of Trademarks, Design and Industrial Models, French National Institute of Industrial Property (France), the Spanish Patents and Trademarks Office, and the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property.

- An international symposium on "the Kingdom's intangible heritage: an asset for emerging Morocco" organized in collaboration with the Miftah Essaad Institute. The aim of this symposium was to present the opportunities offered by better use of Morocco's intangible heritage. In the margin of the symposium, an exhibition around Moroccan know-how, from traditional art to advanced technologies, were organized to illustrate the richness of this heritage.



Exhibition of the creations of Moroccan companies participating in the Namadij project at the WIPO headquarters in Geneva (November 16 and 17, 2015)

- Morocco-France Partnership Forum 2015 which was held in Paris from the 19th to 21st of May, with a side presentation under the theme «Innovation and intellectual property: how a patent can be a tool for international growth» given by OMPIC.

- Workshop on Industrial Designs and Models organized on 27 October as part of the Namadij Project, in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). This workshop was an opportunity for SMEs to discuss the importance of intellectual property, particularly industrial designs and models, in the development of companies, and share success stories of Moroccan and French companies in the field of design.

- National seminar on “patents and innovation” organized on 9 November in collaboration with the Association “R&D Morocco” and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The aim of this seminar was to emphasize the importance of industrial property, especially trademarks, as a strategic tool for promoting innovation. The seminar was also an opportunity to launch the PROBONO program in Morocco. This program, initiated by the WIPO and the World Economic Forum, with the support and contribution of a number of companies and legal firms in the world, aims to help Moroccan inventors with filing for patents, particularly at the international level, through targeted partnerships with well-known attorney firms and agents.

- Workshop held on 3 December in collaboration with ASMEX under the theme “filing for international trademarks: a strategic necessity for companies.”

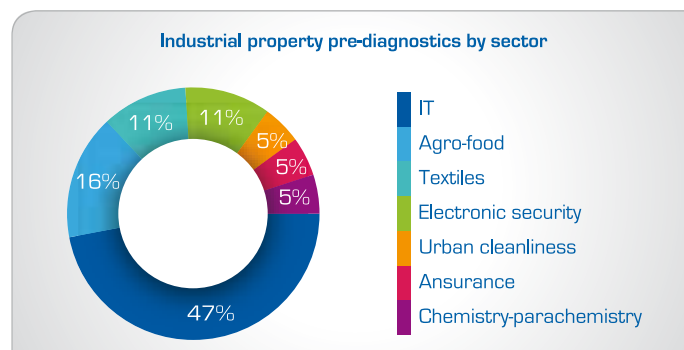
4. INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY PRE-DIAGNOSTICS

OMPIC offers an industrial property pre-diagnostic service to help companies integrate IP tools into their development strategies and valorize their IP assets.

In 2015, OMPIC carried out 19 IP pre-diagnostics, which 15 of a technological nature and four commercial. Nine of these pre-diagnostics were performed regionally (four in Fez, three in Safi and two in Benslimane).

Companies that benefitted from pre-diagnostics operate in various fields of activity, such as IT, agro-food, textiles, electronic security, urban cleanliness, insurance and chemistry-parachemistry.

In order to improve this service and focus it more on the needs of companies, a reflection on areas for improvement has been initiated and a new approach will be implemented under the new strategy of OMPIC.



5. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Many international cooperation actions were carried out in 2015 :

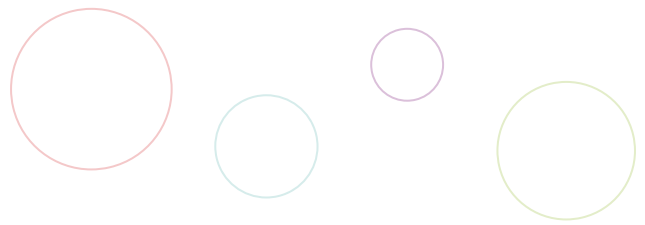
A. Bilateral cooperation

a. State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO - CHINA)

OMPIC and SIPO signed a protocol of cooperation in the field of intellectual property in Casablanca on 15 April 2015. The protocol of cooperation focuses in particular on :

- Exchange of experience related to management and protection of intellectual property.
- Cooperation on patent examination system and practices.
- Exchange of national strategies on intellectual property.
- Promotion of intellectual property among users in both countries.
- Cooperation in the field of intellectual property training and awareness.





b. Palestinian Industrial Property Office

The Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) and the Palestinian organization for intellectual property signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on intellectual property on 26 March 2015 at OMPIC headquarters in Casablanca. This MOU covers :

- Cooperation in the field of training and raising awareness on intellectual property.
- Exchange around intellectual property national strategies.
- Exchange of experience related to legislations and regulations.
- Cooperation and coordination regarding accession to international intellectual property treaties.



Signing of a memorandum of understanding on industrial property between the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) and the Palestinian Agency in charge of Intellectual Property (Tuesday, May 26, 2015) at the OMPIC headquarters in Casablanca.

c. French National Industrial Property Institute (France)

A cooperation agreement between Morocco and France was signed in Paris on 27 May 2015, to promote and develop intellectual property and combating counterfeiting. This agreement was concluded between the Moroccan Committee for Intellectual Property and Anti-Counterfeiting and its French counterpart, the National Anti-Counterfeiting Committee. The agreement was implemented as part of a cooperation program between OMPIC and the French National Industrial Property Institute (INPI).

The 21st Joint Commission was held in Paris on 18 September 2015, between INPI and OMPIC, during which a cooperation program has been arranged, reflecting the level of bilateral development between the two institutions.

In this sense, the “Certificate of Intellectual Property Animator” training program (CAPI) developed in cooperation with INPI, was launched on 3 November 2015 through the Moroccan Academy for Intellectual and Commercial Property (AMAPIC).



Signing of a cooperation agreement for the promotion and development of industrial property and the fight against counterfeiting between the Moroccan Ministry of Industry, Trade, Investment and the Digital Economy and the French counterpart (May 27, 2015 in Paris).

d. Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM)

OMPIC and OEPM continued their program of cooperation through cross-participation in events organized by both Offices in promotion of intellectual property and the fight against counterfeiting.

The 8th Joint Commission on intellectual property took place in Madrid on 16 September 2015. At this meeting, the two Offices agreed to discuss techniques for patent examination, valorisation of R&D results, and the fight against counterfeiting.

Within the framework of their cooperation, the two Offices also published on their respective websites practical information on both intellectual property systems.



The 8th session of the Joint Commission on Industrial property between the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO) and the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) in Madrid (September 15 and 16, 2015).

B. Regional cooperation

a. European Patent Office

OMPIC and the European Patent Office (EPO) began an exchange of letters on 19 January 2015. At that time, the two Offices announced the entry into force, on 1 March 2015, of the European patent validation system in Morocco.

A Joint Commission between OEB and OMPIC took place in Casablanca on 29 and 30 October 2015. On this occasion, the two Offices reviewed their cooperation program, which is structured around four areas: validation system, capacity building (training and information system), promotion of innovation and regional cooperation.

b. Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM)

In 2015, several actions were undertaken in the framework of the cooperation protocol between OMPIC and OHIM. These actions focused primarily on the exchange of expertise in technical fields and training in the field of trademarks and industrial designs examination.

c. Offices of member countries of the Agadir Agreement

In 2015, many actions were undertaken in accordance with an action plan adopted by the offices of the Agadir Agreement member countries. These actions focused on :

- Workshop on the exchange of experience of the Offices related to patent examination, held in Cairo on 30 and 31 March 2015.
- Meeting in Alicante on 11 and 12 May 2015, in partnership with the European Office of Trademarks and Industrial Designs (OHIM) and the Agadir Technical Unit (UTA), to discuss cooperation projects between OHIM and the Offices of the Agadir countries.
- Training workshop in Jordan on 3 and 4 June 2015, concerning the examination and opposition of trademarks.
- The 4th meeting of experts from the industrial property offices of member countries of the Agadir Agreement in Copenhagen, on 11 November 2015, in partnership with the European Patent Office (EPO) and UTA. The goal of this meeting was to follow up on the ARABPAT project and share the experience of EPO and WIPO regarding tools for processing patent documents.

d. African Intellectual Property Organization

OMPIC and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) realized the 4th session of the Joint Commission on Intellectual Property in Yaounde on 29 April 2015.

An action plan for 2015-2016 was developed in order to ensure continuity of cooperation between the two institutions. On the sidelines of the work of the Joint Commission, OMPIC organized a seminar on "About validating patents: OMPIC's experience."

Under this Cooperation, an expert visit was organized to OAPI on 8 to 11 June 2015, to discuss issues of common interest, such as: training, information system and legal framework for trademarks.



The 4th session of the joint commission on intellectual property between the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) (April 29, 2015 in Yaoundé).

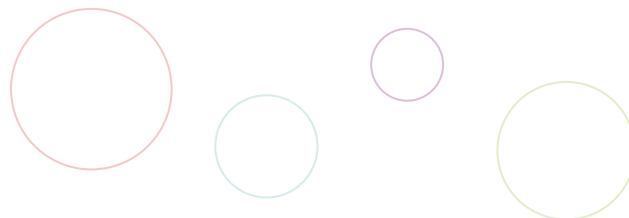
C. Cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization

OMPIC chaired the 33th and 34th sessions of the standing committee on trademark law, industrial designs and models, and geographic indications (SCT) in Geneva from 16 to 20 March 2015 and 16 to 18 November 2015.

This committee continued discussions on: draft treaty on industrial designs and models, the issue of protecting country names, domain names and geographic indications.

As part of the WIPO project on industrial designs and models (IDM), OMPIC and WIPO continued their activities in accordance with the work program agreed upon in 2014.

The project's progress was presented to WIPO's Member States in the Committee on Development of Intellectual Property (CDIP), in Geneva, from 9 to 13 November, in which OMPIC participated.



Regarding technical cooperation, after the overhaul and improvement of the invention patent administration system (IPAS) designed and provided by WIPO, other projects are being evaluated by OMPIC, specifically a digitisation system and the “WipoPublish” publication tool.

In addition, OMPIC took part in the 55th series of meetings of the Assemblies of WIPO Member States from 05 to 14 October 2015.

With regard to South-South cooperation and in partnership with WIPO, a study visit for the benefit of a delegation of senior officials from offices and technological transfer structures from Botswana, Rwanda and Tanzania, was organized on 23 to 27 November 2015, to soak in the Moroccan experience in the field of intellectual property and innovation.

6. SERVICE CENTRES

Industrial and commercial property service centres opened at Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Services allowed OMPIC to offer local services on industrial and commercial property for members et clients of these Chambers.

In 2015, 145 brand applications and 644 applications for negative certificates were submitted to the service centres. The distribution of this activity is as follows :

- Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Services of Casablanca: 44 trademark applications, 452 applications for negative certificates.
- Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Services of Rabat: 16 trademark applications, 133 applications for negative certificates.
- Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Services of El-Jadida: 2 applications for negative certificates.
- The French Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Morocco, Casablanca: 85 trademark applications, 57 applications for negative certificates.

IV. ACTIVITIES OF THE MOROCCAN ACADEMY OF INTELLECTUAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY (AMAPIC)

2015 was marked by 12 training courses in favour of 150 Moroccan and foreign students from universities, R&D centres, companies, professional associations, National IP Offices (North Africa, Central and West Africa) and from OMPIC.

These trainings particularly involved the following :

- Two modules on “Marketing of industrial property in universities”, in favour of university representatives, engineering schools and research centres;
- A module on “Innovate thanks to patent” in collaboration with the European Institute for Enterprise and Intellectual Property (IEEP), for representatives of companies, Moroccan universities and Industrial Property Foreign Offices (Tunisian Office, Algerian Office and African Intellectual Property Organisation);
- A module on “Protection and defence of rights related to brand at the national and the international level”, in favour of Moroccan companies;
- Trainings on industrial property for the benefit of students from faculties and higher institutes (School of Law, Economics and Social Sciences, Mohammedia School of Engineering and ARTCOM).

Online Training

Regarding online training, 6 new modules on intellectual and commercial property have been developed and put online on the OMPIC e-learning platform : elearning.amapic.net, the titles of these modules are :

- Crafts and industrial property for Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and Very Small Enterprise (VSE);
- Trade names;
- Law 23-13 on industrial property and application procedures;
- Industrial property and legal actions;
- Preventive measures to fight against counterfeiting;
- OMPIC Missions.



In addition, Arabic translation of 5 modules was published online: Invention patents, brands, industrial designs and models, trade register and copyright.

In 2015, 1 300 courses on intellectual and commercial property were done online. 530 students enrolled in these courses of which 200 obtained certificates (38% of the total number of students).

Regarding the distribution per module, 23% of the students focused on the module "Basics on intellectual property", 14% on "Industrial designs and models", 13% on "Basics on invention patents and 13% on "Basics on brands", 11% on "Copyrights" and 9% on "Trade register".

Animation Certificate in Industrial Property (CAPI)

AMAPIC, in collaboration with INPI, launched the Animation Certificate in Industrial Property (CAPI). This training, organised in 7 modules, handles several aspects of industrial property: brands, industrial designs and models, invention patents, information on industrial property as well as valorisation and enhancement of industrial property assets.

The first edition of CAPI was started in November 2015, and will run operational till May 2016.

This edition was marked by the registration of 28 candidates distributed in 2 groups: the first group consisting of 9 representatives of Moroccan companies, 4 representatives of professionals in industrial property and 1 representative of a Moroccan research centre.

The second group includes 14 representatives of Industrial Property Offices (4 from Morocco, 2 from Algeria, 2 from Cameroon, 2 from Ivory Coast, 2 from Senegal and 2 from Tunisia).

Sharing of Experience in terms of Training Engineering

- Within the framework of the cooperation with the African Industrial Property Organisation (OAPI), a mission of an OMPIC official was carried out to share experiences on training between the two organisations;
- Within the framework of the cooperation with the National Industrial Property Institute (INPI-France), a mission of an OMPIC official was conducted to see closely French experience on training engineering and particularly the one relating to the CAPI.

Internal Training

- A training on industrial and commercial property was organised in favour of new OMPIC employees;
- An OMPIC staff is enrolled for a Master's degree in Law (LL.M) relating to the intellectual property organised by Turin School of Development in partnership with the University of Turin and the World Intellectual Property Organisation;
- An OMPIC official is enrolled for a master's degree in "Leadership and Innovative Projects" of Ecole Centrale Casablanca (ECC)

V. INFORMATION SERVICES

1. ONLINE SERVICES

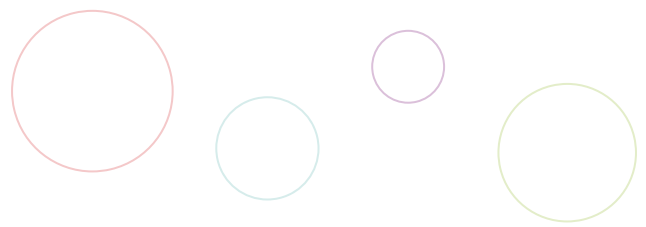
Evolution of Online Services per Type

	Brand	CN	Industrial Design and Model (DMI)	Brand renewals	DMI renewals	Consultations related to the Trade Register (RC)	Complete File of the Company	Total
2011	765	3560	-	-	-	25430	1973	31 728
2012	992	4189	-	-	-	32194	947	38 322
2013	1743	4947	20	47	-	33623	843	41 223
2014	2268	9991	42	257	5	41960	970	55 493
2015	2552	13578	136	1452	57	41876	1033	60 684
2015/2014	13%	36%	224%	465%	1040%	-0,2%	6%	9%

OMPIC recorded 60 684 online transactions via the platform www.directinfo.ma against 55 493 in 2014, representing an increase rate of 9%.

The most significant evolutions recorded during this year compared to 2014 are :

- Brand renewals: +465%
- Applications for Negative Certificates: +36%
- Applications for Industrial Designs and Models +224%
- Applications for Trademarks: +13%



2. CONSULTATION OF LEGAL INFORMATION

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014
Information on Legal Persons	8480	10968	5669	3138	2668	-15%
Information on Natural Persons	2322	3381	1115	152	161	6%

Concerning paid services related to the consultation of legal information on legal and natural persons, it is important to note that the use of these services continues its downward trend, notably applying legal information on legal persons.

This drop can be explained by the free availability of the majority of this information through the Directinfo platform.

In addition, the level of use of this platform recorded a significant increase in the number of visits which reached 359.324 in 2015 against 201.265 in 2014, representing an increase of 79%.

3. INFORMATION ON THE TRADE REGISTER: FRONT OFFICE

	Providing information through REPIC	Providing information through Casablanca Front Office	Providing information to institutional	Total
2014	4690	4869	2462	12021
2015	4801	4535	2534	11870
2015/2014	2,4%	-6,9%	2,9%	-1,3%

VI. INFORMATION SYSTEM ACTIVITIES

DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEM

In 2015, projects for the development of the information system focused on the following points :

- Establishment of a platform for patent applications online filing in accordance with international standards. This project was carried out in cooperation with the European Patent Office.
- Extension of storage platform: An action which forms part of the equipment renewal constituting Office infrastructure[expansion chassis, blade servers and storage,...] in order to strengthen its existing stock and enable the implementation of a virtual environment.
- Implementation of a platform and an OMPIC data backup policy.
- Redesigning the security platform in order to improve the security level of network infrastructure and system.

- Development of a data exchange management system for international brands with the WIPO in order to systematize all processes relating to the management of international registrations.

- Producing an HR platform allowing to improve the HR process and to facilitate communication between the HR service and OMPIC staff by integrating functions relating to payroll, leaves, career development....

- Upgrading the Trademarks management system, as well as for Industrial Designs and Trade Registry.

- Deploying a new version of the institutional website www.ompic.ma: This redesigning enriches the existing platform through the adoption of new technologies on architecture and ergonomics;

- Launching an audit of the OMPIC's online services;

- Developing new Directinfo services: date marking service "e-datage";

- Developing online service of subsequent operations for patent applicants.

VII. ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND ANTI-COUNTERFEITING (CONPIAC)

CONPIAC activities in 2015 were marked by the signature of a cooperation agreement between CONPIAC and CNAC (France) with the aim of promoting and developing industrial property and fighting against counterfeiting in Morocco, France and the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Also, as part of international cooperation, the experience of CONPIAC was presented and shared during the :

- "Regional workshop on the respect of intellectual property rights, held in Cairo, on May 26 and 27 2015, by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in cooperation with the League of Arabic States;
- Seminar on "The protection of the agro-food industry in the Euro-Mediterranean zone", organised by the General Directorate for the Fight against Counterfeiting (Italy) in collaboration with UNICRI in Milan on October 27, 2015.

Within the framework of training and information activities of CONPIAC, a workshop on "the application of intellectual property rights" was organised with the USPTO, from 3 to 5 November, 2015 in the Royal Police Institute, for the benefit of police officers and investigators in counterfeiting acts.

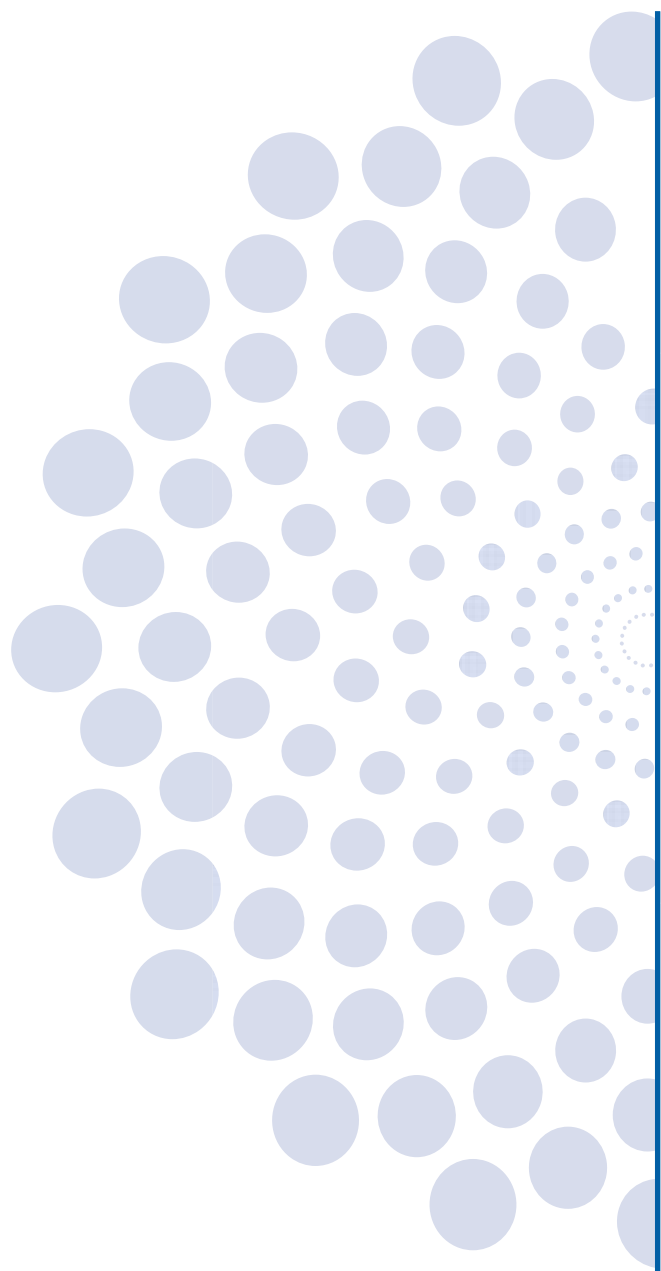
Also, CONPIAC members (OMPIC, ADII, Justice, CGEM) participated in many events around the fight against counterfeiting, in favour of the private sector, namely :

- A seminar on “the Protection of Industrial Property and Measures to Fight Against Counterfeiting”, organised by the Chamber of Commerce in Morocco, on April 29, 2015;
- The “Anti-Counterfeiting Conference”, organised by the HP group, May 6, 2015, with the aim of studying the impact of illegal sales of counterfeit products on the African economies and information on good practices to fight against the scourge of counterfeiting;
- An “Ftour-Débat”[Ftour debate] on “Counterfeiting: stakes and challenges for the Moroccan economy”, organised by the Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Morocco, on July 2, 2015;
- Workshop on “Application of rights on industrial designs and models” organised at OMPIC, October 27, 2015, for companies participating in the NAMADIJ support programme.

As part of the mission to assess economic impact of counterfeiting, it should be noted the development of a project of terms of reference related to “Study on counterfeiting in the digital economy” which aims to study the impact of this type of infringement in Morocco, in terms of loss of businesses for companies, economic and financial losses for the State and the risk to consumers.

Statistics regarding measures to fight against counterfeiting are available on the CONPIAC website: www.stopcontrefacon.ma.





RESOURCES

AND INFRASTRUCTURE



RESOURCES

AND INFRASTRUCTURE

I. HUMAIN RESOURCES

In 2015, Human Resources indicators were characterised by :

- A 87% supervision ratio of total workforce;
- A slight increase of gender balance, which rose from 53% Women to 55% in 2015 (60 women and 49 men);
- A slight increase of average age, which rose from 35.7 by the end of 2014 to 36.3 years old by the end of 2015.

Also, 2015 experienced :

- Recruitment of six (6) employees increasing the workforce to 109, the distribution of employees is as follows :

- 18 senior executives;
- 57 2nd category executives;
- 20 1st category executives;
- 5 senior technicians
- 8 technicians
- 1 execution.

- Promotion of 12 people :

- 8 executives promoted to senior executives;
- 1 executive promoted from 2nd category to the post of senior executive;
- 2 executives promoted from 1st category to 2nd category executives;
- 1 executing agent promoted to the post of supervisor.

II. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

OMPIC revenues

Headings	Realisations 2015	Part 2015	Realisations 2014	Part 2014	Evolution rate 2014/2015
Trademarks, trade names or services	26 556 979,31	36%	22 388 291,82	36%	18,6%
Patents	18 140 132,60	25%	11 274 194,00	18%	60,9%
Commercial names	15 664 032,00	21%	14 437 964,00	23%	8,5%
Information services related to Industrial and Commercial Property	6 924 266,00	9%	7 075 516,00	12%	-2,1%
Industrial Designs and Models	1 661 691,95	2%	1 481 681,93	2%	12,1%
Subsequent Operations	1 616 410,00	2%	1 992 960,00	3%	-18,9%
Interests and other financial products	948 940,00	1%	1 205 564,90	2%	-21,3%
AMAPIC training services	532 800,00	1%	350 400,00	1%	52,1%
Geographical indications and origin designation and "e-datage"	15 600,00	0%	-	0%	-
Stamp duty on negative certificates issued	1 396 100,00	2%	1 232 780,00	2%	13,2%
Other non-current products	-	0%	32 916,40	0%	-100%
Total	73 456 951,86	100%	61 472 269,05	100%	19,5%

OMPIC revenues earned in 2015 were of 73.45 million dirhams, which constitutes a 113% realisation rate of annual forecasts (estimated to be 65 Million) : an increase of 19.5% compared to 2014.

The main changes recorded during this period mainly involve :

- Revenues from services related to Patents +60.9%
- Revenues from Trademarks registrations: +18.6%
- Revenues from AMAPIC Training services: +52%

OMPIC's financial results

At the end of the 2015 financial year, OMPIC has achieved positive financial performance :

- OMPIC's turnover experienced an evolution of 20% compared to the previous year to stand at 58,73MDH, which represents the strongest performance recorded by the Office over the last five years. It is the result of

the growth recorded by the services in terms of patents [+57%], brands [+25%] and information services in terms of industrial and commercial property [11%].

- Net income increased by 89% to stand at 6.14 million dirhams. This achievement is due both to the evolution of revenue and cost control, particularly those related to the operation which grew by 11%. It should be noted that personnel costs represent 48% of operating costs, recording an evolution of 6%.
- The Gross Operating Surplus increased by 48% [17 million dirhams in 2015 against 11.51 million dirhams in 2014].
- The total balance sheet reached 99.12 million dirhams recording an evolution of 6.6%.
- A net cash of 26.51 million dirhams and positive working capital of 36.05 million dirhams.

Below other results recorded at the close of the 2015 financial year :

	2015	2014	Evolution rate
TURNOVER	58 726 716,03	48 811 506,54	20,3%
NET INCOME	6 142 262,66	3 242 723,53	89,4%
TOTAL BALANCE SHEET	99 125 226,61	93 022 410,34	6,6%
EQUITY	81 360 376,93	79 923 999,27	1,8%
OPERATING COSTS	50 619 901,68	45 302 296,43	11,7%
OPERATING INCOME	8 834 314,35	3 787 810,11	133,2%
CURRENT INCOME	9 432 929,54	4 632 650,24	103,6%
PRE-TAX INCOME	9 469 862,66	5 558 981,53	70,4%
GROSS OPERATING SURPLUS	17 004 960,53	11 513 358,20	47,7%
ADDED VALUE	41 928 078,40	34 825 751,30	20,4%
SELF-FINANCING	10 342 527,84	6 968 271,62	48,4%

III. AUDIT

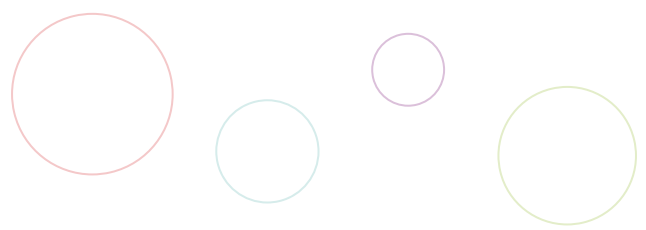
Audit missions were carried out during 2015 to assess OMPIC's internal control system. Their findings (relating to audits of the first semester) were presented by OMPIC Audit Committee during the 23rd Board meeting.

Audit Committee Works

OMPIC Audit Committee met on June 5, 2015 to assess mainly the following :

- Balance of accounts closed on 31/12/2014;

- Synthesis report of external auditor concerning internal control;
- Internal audit report;
- Audit report of contracts;
- Report of Court of Audit;
- The monitoring matrix for implementing supervisory Board's recommendations.



2014 Fiscal Year Account Audit

As every year, OMPIC's accounts are audited by an independent firm. The firm's mission consisted in assessing and appreciating the internal control system as well as auditing accounts established according to CGNC and auditing states of budgetary execution.

The result of this mission was concluded by the certification of accounts without reservations. In fact, they are regular and sincere and in all their important aspects, they portray a faithful image of the result of operations during the past year as well as the financial situation and property of the Office, according to generally accepted accounting principles in Morocco.

It is noteworthy that the accounts at 31/12/2014 were as follows (in Mdh) :

Turnover	48,81
Added value	34,82
Gross operating surplus	11,51
Operating profit	3,78
Financial income	0,84
Current income	4,63
Non-current income	0,92
Income tax	2,31
Net income	3,24
Fixed asset	43,45
Permanent funding	80,65
Balance sheet total	93,02

Audit of regional offices

As part of the annual audit program of regional cells, the management audit missions were accomplished during 2015. Indeed, 8 cells were audited, and it concerns :

- Marrakech
- Fes
- Mohammedia
- El-Jadida
- Settat
- Meknes
- Quarzazate
- Dakhla

Audit Missions have the following main objectives :

- Verify the conformity of procedures for the recipe governance as well as front office procedures with the provisions of the law and the requirements of the Office requirements.
- Highlight any possible weaknesses in the internal control.
- Identify areas for improvement and make recommendations.

Management control audit of the Court of Audit

A management audit mission was carried out by the Court of Audit with the aim of improving the quality of OMPIC's management . It started in March 2014 and concerned the period from 2004 to 2014.

The final report, received in March 2015, focused on four areas :

- Achievement of the objectives relating to the IP strategy « Horizon 2015 ».
- Progress of projects implementation for the contract of objectives: case of projects under Area 3 (Development and exploitation of the PIC)
- Central Trade Registry
- Implementation of expenditures

Also, in October 2015, OMPIC provide comments on the proposed inclusion in the annual report of the Court of Audit of the synthesis of the observations contained in the final report on OMPIC's management control received in February 2015 .

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2015 saw the holding of the 23rd meeting of OMPIC Board of Directors, under the chairmanship of Madam Secretary General of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Investment, and the Digital Economy

The meeting was held on June 22, 2015 and focused on the following items :

- Approval of the 22nd Board of Directors meeting minutes.
- Focus on the activity progress performed during the first five months of 2015.
- Presentation of the audit report on the accounts of the preceding year.
- Presentation of the audit committee's work.
- Presentation of the State Comptroller's Report.
- Miscellaneous.





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