

Nigerian Patent Online Manual

May 2025

(law firms)



GLOBAL IP & CONSULTING FZ LLE

Nigerian Patent Manual

Nigerian patents are easily filed online through the GlobalIPCo.com online filing system.

Rights

A Nigerian patent prevents others from:

- making, importing, selling or using a product that falls within the scope of one of the patent claims (including stocking such product for the purpose of sale or use); or
- applying a process that falls within the scope of the patent claim; or making, importing, selling or using a product obtained from such process (including stocking such product for the purpose of sale or use), within Nigeria.

Validity requirements

The Nigerian patent must include claims that are:

- novel (i.e. new / not publicly available worldwide); and
- result from an inventive activity (i.e. not obvious), and have application in industry.

Exclusions:

- plant or animal varieties; and
- essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals (other than microbiological processes and their products).

Note: Although “methods of treatment” and “traditional medicines” are not excluded by the Nigerian Patents Act, in some instances, the Nigerian Patent Office refuses to accept such patents. The basis of such refusal is unclear.

Since December 2024, the Nigerian Patent Office has also been objecting to patents based on:

- artificial intelligence;
- big data;
- deep learning;
- methods of treatment and diagnosis for humans and animals; and
- Chinese medicine,

Requiring these invention patents to be converted to either “Business method patents” (which have an 8 year life) or “Utility models” (which have a 10 year life).

Claim flexibility

Nigerian patent law permits:

- multi-dependent claims;

- multiple independent claims (albeit that Nigerian patent law does require unity of invention); and
- reference numerals in claims.

Priority

A Nigerian patent may claim priority from a patent application filed during the previous 12 months. No extension is provided for in the Nigerian Patents Act.

However, according to WIPO (<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/restoration.html#Z>), Nigeria has indicated that priority rights may be restored. How this is done is unclear:

Two-letter code	Contracting State or Organization	Does the Office accept requests for the restoration of the right of priority?	
		as receiving Office	as designated Office
NA	Namibia	See AP⁷	Yes
NE	Niger	See OA⁴	See OA⁵
NG	Nigeria	See IB¹	Yes

Documents to be lodged:

- a copy of the priority document (in electronic format) (including the front / certificate page); and
- if the priority document is not in English: (i) an English translation of the priority document (including a translation of the front / certificate page); and (ii) a notice from the translator confirming that the English translation is “true and correct”, should be lodged with the Nigerian Patent Office.

If the priority document was lodged with WIPO during the PCT phase, neither the priority document, nor the translation need to be submitted to the Nigerian Patent Office.

Template translator’s notice:

I, [translator’s name], confirm that the English translation of [patent no.] is true and correct.

Signature

Filing a Nigerian patent application

PCT national phase deadline:

According to WIPO, a Nigerian national phase patent must be filed within 30 months from the earliest priority date (or the PCT filing date, if no priority is claimed).

However, the Nigerian Patents Act does not necessarily bar filing of Nigerian national phase patents after the 30 month period.

Amendments to national phase patents:

Voluntary amendments may be effected to the Nigerian national phase patent on filing (at no additional cost). Changes to the applicant and inventors may also be made on filing (at no additional cost).

Where voluntary amendments are to be made on filing, an email should be sent to GlobalIPCo (info@globalipco.com) prior to filing to ensure that the amendments are properly processed. The following documents should be added at the end of the Nigerian national phase patent specification:

- a version of the patent specification showing corrections made in tracked format;
- a certificate confirming that the document showing corrections in tracked format is based on the original patent specification; and
- a clean version of the specification (i.e. with tracked changes accepted), stamped in the footer “Amended sheet”.

Differences between the Nigerian convention patent and the priority document:

- The Nigerian convention patent specification need not mirror the priority document. However, in order to retain the priority date, the features in claim 1 of the Nigerian convention patent specification must be described in the priority document.
- The list of inventors in the Nigerian convention patent application may be different from the list of inventors in the priority document, provided that at least one inventor is common.
- The applicant in the Nigerian convention patent application may be different from the applicant in the priority document, provided that a cession of right to claim priority is lodged with the Nigerian Patent Office. This cession should be uploaded to the GlobalIPCo system together with the signed Deed of Assignment.

Template cession of priority rights document:

CONFIRMATORY CESSION OF PRIORITY RIGHTS

Priority application: [Enter]

Cedent: [Enter]

Cessionary: [Enter]

The Cedent confirm having ceded to the Cessionary the right to claim priority from the above Priority application within Nigeria. Insofar as may be necessary in law, the Cedent hereby cedes to the Cessionary such right to claim priority within Nigeria.

Cedent
Date: _____

These changes can be made on filing the Nigerian convention patent.

Filing before the PCT patent is published:

It is preferable to file a Nigerian national phase patent after publication of the PCT patent. However, if the Nigerian national phase patent is filed earlier, the GlobalIPCo system requires the PCT filing receipt (PCT Form 105) and the PCT specification to be uploaded as the first pages of the Nigerian national phase patent specification.

Requirements – national phase patent application:

- PCT number;
- WO number (if the PCT patent has been published);
- Title of the invention;
- PCT / international filing date;
- Abstract;
- Abstract image (if any);
- Applicant's name, physical address and nationality;
- Each inventor's name, country of residence and nationality;
- Priority number, date, country and applicant name (if any);
- Signed Power of Attorney* and confirmatory Deed of Assignment* signed by the inventors (electronic copies. No commissioning required);
- PCT specification (with article 19 and article 34 amendments, if any);
- (Optional, if provided to WIPO): copy of priority document (electronic copy) (if any) (including the front / certificate page); and
- (Optional, if provided to WIPO): if the priority document is not in English: (i) an English translation of the priority document (including a translation of the front / certificate page); and (ii) a notice from the translator confirming that the English translation is "true and correct".

* Pre-populated forms are downloaded from the GlobalIPCo system.

Requirements – direct / convention patent application:

- Title of the invention;
- Abstract;
- Abstract image (if any);
- Applicant's name, physical address and nationality;
- Each inventor's name, country of residence and nationality;
- Priority number, date, country and applicant name (if any);
- Signed Power of Attorney* and confirmatory Deed of Assignment* signed by the inventors (electronic copies. No commissioning required);
- Patent specification;

- Copy of priority document (electronic copy) (if any) (including the front / certificate page); and
- If the priority document is not in English: (i) an English translation of the priority document (including a translation of the front / certificate page); and (ii) a notice from the translator confirming that the English translation is “true and correct”.

* Pre-populated forms are downloaded from the GlobalIPCo system.

Late lodging:

Although, outstanding document may be lodged after filing, the GlobalIPCo system does not provide for late-lodging of documents for Nigerian patents. Where this is required, an additional charge will be levied.

GlobalIPCo pricing:

Filing, acceptance and grant:	\$415 (inclusive of Naira 28062 in official fees)
(optional) Courier of certificate:	\$110 per parcel (up to 10 patent certificates may be included in a single parcel)

If 10 patents are included in a single parcel, the total cost is \$426 per patent.

Pricing is fixed, irrespective of the number of priority claims, claims, pages, etc.

Note: Courier of the patent certificate is optional. Upon receipt of the certificate, a colour scanned copy of the certificate (with forms and specification attached) will be emailed to you without charge.

Process

The Nigerian Patent Office conducts formal examination of patents, but not substantive examination.

Timelines:

Acceptance: within 2-8 weeks of filing.

Issuance of certificate: within 2-4 months of filing. This is shortened if accelerated grant is requested.

Publication: following issuance of the certificate, when sufficient registrations exist to warrant publication of the journal.

Accelerated grant

Accelerated grant may be requested at an additional cost of \$35. This shortens the time for issuance of the certificate.

Delay of acceptance

To effect claim amendments, applicants may wish to delay acceptance (which normally occurs 2-8 weeks of filing). Such delay should be requested via the GlobalIPCo system on filing.

Acceptance may be delayed by up to 3 years at a cost of \$160 (where requested on filing the Nigerian patent application).

Corrections / Amendments

Claim amendments and correction of:

- applicant's or inventors' names or addresses;
 - forms, and
 - clerical errors in the patent specification,
- may be made after filing and after grant.

Amendment requirements:

- a version of the patent specification showing corrections made in tracked format;
- a certificate confirming that the document showing corrections in tracked format is based on the original patent specification; and
- a clean version of the specification (i.e. with tracked changes accepted), stamped in the footer "*Amended sheet dated ...*"

It is suggested that amendment of Nigerian patents to align the claims with those of corresponding examined patents be delayed until prior to institution of infringement proceedings in Nigeria.

Sequence listing

Nigeria does not dictate a specific format for submission of sequence listings. We suggest uploading a PDF version of the sequence listing to the GlobalIPCo system on filing.

Even if the sequence listing was lodged with WIPO, it is preferable to lodge a copy of the sequence listing with the Nigerian Patent Office.

Renewal

A Nigerian patent must be renewed on each anniversary of the:

- PCT / international filings date (in respect of Nigerian national phase patents); or
- Nigerian filing date (in respect of convention or direct complete patents).

A total of 19 renewals are payable to maintain Nigerian patents in force for the 20 year term.

Note: The Nigerian Patent Office recommends paying 20 renewals, calculated from the priority date of convention patent applications. However, the basis for this recommendation is unclear.

Renewal cost:

Annuity	Official fee	Total PayAnnuity fee (inclusive of official fee)
1 to 19	Naira 8,161.25 per renewal	\$162 per renewal

* Additional \$25 is charged if the renewal is not processed online

When filing a Nigerian patent through the GlobalIPCo system, the first renewal (and, in some instances, the second renewal) may be paid for only \$80 per renewal.

Pre-payment:

All 19 renewals may be paid upfront (on filing) via the GlobalIPCo system for \$530.

Late-payment:

Renewals may be paid during the 6 month grace period on payment of a penalty. The PayAnnuity renewal system charges: (i) the manual renewal fee; and (ii) \$75 for paying the late payment penalty.

How to file: Nigerian national phase patent

1. Register on GlobalIPCo.com (there is no subscription / license fee. You are only charged for actions instructed)
2. Receive a discount code that reduces pricing for law firms and add this to your profile; and
3. Complete the Nigerian national phase patent application form:

New Nigerian National Phase Patent

1. PCT

2. PARTIES

3. PRIORITY

4. FORMS

5. UPLOADS

6. PAYMENT

PCT DETAILS

Your reference:

Enter a reference

Application title (English):

E.g.: High strength steel sheet

PCT application number:

E.g.: PCT/IB2016/000024

PCT publication number:

E.g.: WO2017/125773

PCT filing date:

yyyy-mm-dd



PCT publication language:

English

Other

(If in a language other than English, a translation of the PCT document is required)

Abstract (English):

Characters left: 3000

SEQUENCE LISTING

Add a sequence listing?

Yes

No

Where required, sequence listings should have been lodged with WIPO during the international phase. If lodged with WIPO, select "No"; if not lodged with WIPO, select "Yes".

PCT AMENDMENTS

Was an Article 19 amendment recorded with WIPO during the PCT phase?

Yes

No

Was an Article 34 amendment recorded with WIPO during the PCT phase?

Yes

No

Save and exit

Next >

1. PCT	2. PARTIES	3. PRIORITY	4. FORMS	5. UPLOADS	6. PAYMENT
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APPLICANT

Applicant 1

Full name:

Full name

Physical address:

Line 1

Line 2 (Optional)

City

State (Optional)

Zip (Optional)

Country:

Select Country

Type:

Natural Person

Legal Entity

Nationality:

Select Nationality

Add applicant

INVENTOR

Inventor 1

Full name:

Full name

Physical address:

Line 1

Line 2 (Optional)

City

State (Optional)

Zip (Optional)

Country:

Select Country

Nationality:

Select Nationality

Add inventor

Save and exit

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PRIORITY DETAILS

Does this application claim priority?

Yes

No

Priority claim 1

Priority date:

yyyy-mm-dd

Note: Nigeria allows for up to 30 months to claim priority.

Priority number:

Applicant:

Same as applicants for current application

In the case of multiple applicants, please enter the applicant names separated by a semi-colon, eg. Applicant One Pty Ltd; Applicant Two Inc.

Priority country:

Select Country

Priority document language:

English

Other

Add priority

Save and exit

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FORMS FOR SIGNATURE



For signature by Applicant:

The applicant must please print and sign these forms to be uploaded in the next step.

[Click to see examples of forms:](#)



Power of Attorney

 Download
 Email

Save and exit

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1. PCT	2. PARTIES	3. PRIORITY	4. FORMS	<u>5. UPLOADS</u>	6. PAYMENT
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REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

PCT: Published application [PDF] (including search report - if available)

No file chosen

✕
🔍

If a voluntary amendment is to be made on filing, please contact us so we can file the amended Nigerian national phase patent specification manually.

Power of Attorney [PDF]

No file chosen

✕
🔍

Priority document - Priority claim 1 [PDF]

No file chosen

✕
🔍

OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS

Abstract drawing [PNG / JPG / JPEG / GIF]

No file chosen

✕
🔍

Save and exit

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1. PCT
2. PARTIES
3. PRIORITY
4. FORMS
5. UPLOADS
6. PAYMENT

EXPEDITED GRANT

Typically, normal grant takes 3 to 4 months. Do you wish to request accelerated grant?

Additional cost: \$35

☒ Yes
☐ No

DELAYED ACCEPTANCE

Typically, acceptance takes approximately 1 to 2 months, with grant following approximately 3 to 4 months thereafter. Do you wish to request delayed acceptance?

☐ Yes
☒ No

UPFRONT / TRANCHE PAYMENT

Pay for filing, prosecution and grant only or include courier of certificate?

☒ Include courier
☐ Exclude courier

RENEWALS

Renewals are due on the anniversary of the base date of a Nigerian application.

☒ No renewal
☐ 1 renewal
☐ 2 renewals
☐ 19 renewals


PAYMENT SUMMARY

Filing, prosecution and grant (excluding courier of certificate of grant) of a Nigerian national phase patent application

Description	Unit cost (USD)
Filing, prosecution and grant (excluding courier of certificate of grant) of a Nigerian national phase patent application	590.00
Discount: FULLDCFOT	(175)

TOTAL PAYABLE
USD415

PAYMENT METHOD

☒  Credit card
☐ GLOBAL IP CO. User account

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

☒ You agree that we will file this Nigerian national phase patent application as is, without review, revision or comment, subject to our Terms & Conditions and policy documents.

Proceed to filing

Save and exit
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How to arrange courier

1. Select a record and click REQUEST COURIER

Summary of Case

PT_NP_NG00001009 | NG/PT/PCT/2022/6548 | P20093

Priority claim 1

Priority date:
22 April 2020

Priority claim 2

Priority date:
8 July 2020

Priority claim 3

Priority date:
11 November 2020

Filed

Filing date:
21 October 2022
Official number:
NG/PT/PCT/2022/6548

Acceptance


Acceptance date:
20 November 2022

Edit

Certificate

View

Receipt date:
2 March 2023
Deadline for requesting courier:
2 September 2023

 Request Courier

Nigerian national phase patent application

Edit

Status: 302

Client reference: P20093

Instructor: No instructor selected

Title: FACE MASK AND SYSTEM

Official no.: NG/PT/PCT/2022/6548

Filing date: 21 October 2022

Next deadline: 2 September 2023 - Courier/Extension (Certificate)

Include courier: Yes

Sequence listing: No

Acceptance date: 20 November 2022

Delay acceptance: No

Renewals paid on filing: 19

Abstract: A face mask system for removal of pathogens from exhaled air comprising at least one flexible layer comprising a first surface and a second surface, said second surface being opposite to the first surface, and the first surface being in sealingly contact with the face of a user and the second surface being exposed to the environment, wherein at least one layer is provided with an exit port and an inlet port and further wherein the exit port is sealingly connected to a deformable outflow chamber and said exit port further comprising a one way exit valve that is configured to open when a user exhales air and which exit valve closes when the user inhales air.

Users

Users admin

2. Click GROUP OTHERS WITH THIS CERTIFICATE

Certificate - PT_CP_ZA00001801

Certificate Details

Date of receipt:

14 September 2021

Documents:

Certificate of grant

We have received the certificate of grant for the above South African patent. A scanned copy of the certificate of grant is available for download above.

You can now instruct us to courier the original certificate of grant to you using the "Request courier" button below. If we do not receive an instruction to courier the certificate to you by the Request Courier Deadline, we will destroy the certificate (if necessary, a new certificate can be requested from the Patent Office as a separate matter and at an additional charge).

Grouped certificates

Grouped certificates:

None

Group others with this certificate

3. Select other case to be grouped in the courier parcel

Grouped certificates

Grouped certificates:

None

Available for association/grouping:

Save

Select certificate

PT_NP_ZA00001588

PT_NP_ZA00001611

PT_NP_ZA00003469

PT_NP_ZA00003483

PT_NP_ZA00003485

PT_NP_ZA00003486

Contact Details

Full Name

Time / Location

4. Add other cases until the parcel includes 10 patents (i.e. the original case plus the 9 added cases)

Grouped certificates

Grouped certificates: None

Available for association/grouping:

- PT_NP_ZA00001611
- PT_NP_ZA00003483
- PT_NP_ZA00003485

+ Add

Save Cancel

5. Click SAVE to courier all 10 certificates in a single courier parcel

Grouped certificates

Grouped certificates: None

Available for association/grouping:

- PT_NP_ZA00001611
- PT_NP_ZA00003483
- PT_NP_ZA00003485

+ Add

Save Cancel

Tariff of fees (2025) – Nigerian Patents

	Official fee	Total fee
File Nigerian direct / convention / national phase patent (using GlobalIPCo system)	NGN2,8062	\$415
Request accelerated grant		\$35
Delay acceptance (up to 3 years)		\$160
Courier (using GlobalIPCo system)		\$110 per courier parcel - up to 10 patent certificates may be included in a courier parcel
Renewal		
- Pay all 19 renewals for 20-year period (on filing, using the GlobalIPCo system)	NGN155,064	\$530
- Pay single renewal (on filing, using the GlobalIPCo system). In some instances, the first 2 renewals are payable at this price	NGN8,162	\$80
- Single renewal (using PayAnnuity system) Surcharge if not processed online through PayAnnuity	NGN8,162	\$159 \$25
Late payment penalty (6 months)	\$11	\$75
Assignment (Certificate of assignment issued within 1-3 months)		\$270
Change of applicant's name or address		\$270

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<https://globalipco.com/ip-online>