

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO - CD

Jurisdiction - General Information

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has been a Contracting Party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since January 31, 1975. It is not a Contracting Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

More legal information about intellectual property-related laws and regulations of the Democratic Republic of the Congo can be found on [WIPO Lex](#).

Online Patent Register and Online Gazette

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has neither an **Online Register** nor an **Online Gazette**.

For further enquiries, please contact the relevant authority as indicated in the [WIPO Directory](#).

Features and search functionalities

Not applicable.

Additional Information

Particularities of patent protection in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The laws of the Democratic Republic of the Congo do not comply with most TRIPS regulations. They provide three types of patents: invention patents, import patents, and improvement patents. Invention patents can be granted for new inventions, import patents cover inventions for which the holder had already obtained an invention patent in a foreign country and remain in force as long as the foreign patent is in force, and improvement patents concern any improvement to an already patented invention. Patents on pharmaceutical products are protected for 15 years instead of the normal period of 20 years.

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