

## MALAWI - MW

### Jurisdiction - General Information

Malawi has been a Contracting Party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since July 6, 1964. It has also been a Contracting Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) since January 24, 1978. In addition, it is a party to the Patent Law Treaty (PLT).

Malawi is a member of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization ([ARIPO](#)).

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

### Online Patent Register and Online Gazette

Malawi 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

[ARIPO](#) provides an online information platform for searching ARIPO and member states' national patents (which are currently being loaded) with an interface in English. For more information about ARIPO, consult the [detailed jurisdiction file](#).

There is currently a second patent database including patents of ARIPO and of ARIPO's members built on the WIPO Publish platform available at this [link](#), allowing a selection through a slider button between a search limited to the most frequently used fields and a broader one enlarged to a wide number of search fields, some of which however could be left empty.

### Additional Information

#### Particularities of patent protection in Malawi

The duration of a patent is 16 years but it may be extended by the Patents Tribunal on the ground of inadequate remuneration, or loss or damage from hostilities, for a term not exceeding five years or, in exceptional cases, ten years.

#### Search tips