Annual Technical Report 2005 on Patent Information Activities submitted by Egypt (SCIT/ATR/PI/2005/EG)

I. Evolution of patent activities

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year

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Year	Applications filing			Patents granted		
	resident	Non resident	Total	resident	Non resident	Total
2004	157	383	540	64	261	325
2005	428	123	551	50	97	147

- PCT APPLICATIONS

Year	National phase	International phase	Total
2004	154	50	204
2005	885	44	929

Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year

In 2004 the patents from the IPC section A "human necessities" have been in the lead (32.7%), followed by these sections:

C "Chemistry; Metallurgy" 25.2%

B "Performing operations; transporting" 17%

G "Physics" 7.5%

H "Electricity" 6.8%

E "Fixed constructions" 4.8%

F "Mechanical Engineering, lighting; heating, weapons, blasting" 4.8%

D "Textiles; paper" 2%

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information

Publishing, printing, copying (main types of publications of the office in the field of patent information, etc.)

The Egyptian Patent Office publishes three journals as follows:

- 1-The Egyptian Patent Gazette
- 2-The Patent Applications Bulletin
- 3-The Egyptian Patent Abstracts

These publications are published monthly, and we send them to universities, industrial companies and research institutes in Egypt as well as the foreign patent offices abroad.

Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of patent information

The Egyptian Patent Office web site (www.Egypo.gov.eg) plays an increasingly important role in the dissemination of information regarding patents.

Mass storage media used (paper, microforms, optical storage, etc.)

We used paper, microfilm , microfilm jackets , tapes , HD , and DVD as mass storage for our applications and patents.

The Egyptian Patent Office has a database containing the Egyptian applications and patents granted.

The Office has DVD and CD-ROM collections containing published/granted patents for US, WO, EP, GB, etc.

Word processing and office automation

All office action is done on the application or patent produced automatically from our data base as word processing.

III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents

Abstracting, reviewing, translating

Our staff can translate the abstract of the invention into the English language, and patent examiners check all patent abstracts provided by the applicant besides amending them when necessary to ensure that the abstract represents a useful search tool.

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Patent Classification (IPC), other classification (please indicate whether or not patent documents are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used)

The Office classifies Egyptian patent applications according to the IPC (7th edition). The Office doesn't reclassify documents.

Bibliographic data and full-text processing for search purposes

Bibliographic data, abstracts (checked by examiners) of Egyptian documents can be searched from the Egyptian Patent Office database.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems

The Egyptian Patent Office database is the only in-house system we have for searching.

In-house systems (online/offline)

Technical searching can be carried out on combination of terms from different headings. IPC terms can be searched too.

External databases

We have a list of some external databases that we use regularly, including Esp@cenet, JAPIO, USPTO, WIPO databases, and other databases. Our official policy is that a world-wide online search should be caried out as whole or part of every patent search done in this Office.

Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.)

Registration and legal status information are stored in the Egyptian Patent Office database.

Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used

A- Hardware:

We have two LANs as follows:

1-Internal LAN on which local applications are running

2-External LAN that supports Internet browsing and search.

Those LANs consist of 150/213 PC/ person (Dell, HP, IBM) and 5 servers specified in the table attached below.

B-Software:

We use Oracle and ASP in our database and web site.

Online services:

The Egyptian Patent Office provides online services including:

- 1-Online search on the Egyptian Patents Data base
- 2-Online filing for the bibilographic data

These services are available through:

- A) Egyptian Patent Office website (www.Egypo.gov.eg)
- B) Egyptian E-Government portal (soon at www.Egypt.gov.eg)

Usage	Type
Main server (domain)	Dell 6600
Backup server	HP Helwet Pack ADLHpro
Datasbase server	Compaq
Archive server	Dell 6600
Web site server	Dell 4400

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, for assisting clients on searching procedures, for obtaining official publications and registry extracts)

Planning, administration, automation, security, buildings

We have a big collection of patent documents from many countries in our library such as DE, US, FR, GB, EPO, etc.

The available collection includes also various pamphlets, manuals and other publications, some law reports, official journals of the EG Patent Office and of many different countries, magazines, etc. These collections are located in our main building and are therefore secure.

Collecting, acquisitions, preparation

Storage media	Number of documents
CD-ROMs	0940109
Microfilms	0000000
Microfiche	0000000
Paper forms (full text)	0000157
Paper forms (Abstract)	0042760
Total	0983026

Storage media	Number of documents
CD-ROMs	20148443
Microfilms	03097081
Microfiche	00810134
Paper forms (full text)	04167893
Paper forms (Abstract)	06889011
Total	35112113

Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and patent information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web)

The Patent Office searches and advisory services are continuous. We have a Web site for our Office which includes published patents and searchable database where we can find the bibliographic data for any granted patent. Also, it includes all information needed to register patents and others. The web site is: www.Egypo.gov.eg

We made 252 state of the art searches for users as can be seen from the table attached below.

Kind of search	Number
Technical searches	094
Bibliographic searches	081
Patents photocopying	077
Total	252

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., bibliographic data, abstract and/or full text information

The Egyptian Patent Office signed two agreements, namely:

- 1-Bilateral agreement between the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Egyptian Patent Office, in order to establish a focal point in the library of Alexandria;
- 2-Trilateral agreement between the Egyptian Patent Office, the European Patent Office (EPO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in order to establish a regional training center for patents in Egypt.

Medium used for exchange of priority documents

We can accept priority documents in paper form only.

Medium allowed for filing applications

Currently, filing is done in paper form but means of electronic filing are being developed.

Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the Changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents (please provide a status report on the extent to which your Office has changed over to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents)

We exchange our Egyptian Patent Gazette and Egyptian Patent Abstracts with most of the foreign patent offices in paper form.

We have patent documents in paper form, on microfilm, microfiche, CD-ROMs and DVD. We are preparing to exchange our patent documents on microfiche.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries

Training courses for national and foreign participants, use of audiovisual means

2004			2005		
Course	No. Trainees	Country	Course	No. Trainees	Country
Innovation support: IP for SME	1	Estonia	Search and examination of European patent applications with focus on physics, mechanics and electricity	1	Germany
Access to IP information and documentation on the Internet and CD –ROM	1	Vienna (Austria)	Databases, data capturing and IP documentation	1	The Hague (Netherlands)
IP issues for government officials and information administrators	1	Hungary	Skills development search in Epoloc and free available databases	2	Vienna (Austria)
Workshop on information technology concepts and infrastructures for patent offices	1	Portugal	IP services-the role of national IP offices in a changing global environment	1	Munich (Germany)
Symposium on patents in biotechnology with a focus on food industry	1	Italy	EPO regional forum for Africa on industrial and intellectual property	1	Dakar (Senegal)
Search and examination of European patent applications	1	Germany	Search and examination of European patent applications with focus on chemistry, in particular pharmaceuticals	1	The Hague (etherlands)
Search and examination of European patent applications with focus on chemistry, in particular pharmaceu-	1	Netherlands	Official visit at the EPO	1	Munich (Germany)

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Conference	No. Participants	Country
International Patent Classification – Workshop	1	Geneva
from 14 - 19/2/2005		
Development Agenda of WIPO	1	Geneva
from 14 - 16/4/2005		
Budget Committee of WIPO	1	Geneva
from 28/4 - 1/5/2005		
PCT Reform Meeting	2	Geneva
from 22 – 30/5/2005		
SCP Meeting for the Substantive Patent Law Treaty	2	Geneva
from $30/5 - 2/6/2005$		
SCIT Standing Committee on Information Technologies	1	Geneva
from 18 – 22/9/2005		
PCT Assembly	2	Geneva
from 25/9 – 5/10/2005		
General Assembly	1	Geneva
from 25/9 – 5/10/2005		
EPIDOS (The annual conference of EPO)	4	Hungary
from 8 – 11/11/2005		
Intellectual property forum for application of industrial property	1	Turkey
from 17 – 18/11/2005		
Meeting for intellectual property	1	Italy
from 14 – 17/11/2005		

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.)

The EG Patent Office has an active program for cooperation with the Arab countries, including sending consultants and experts in the field of PCT to Oman and Syria, and receiving trainees from Arab countries such as Sudan, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Palestine.

We established 6 focal points for intellectual property in the Egyptian universities and reasearch centers.

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.)

The Egyptian Patent Office held two conferences in Egypt, namely:

- 1-The importance of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
- 2-The Scientific Conference for Implementing the Inventors and Innovators Youth Competition which is organized by National Democratic Party in cooperation the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology.

Furthermore, the Egyptian Patent Office has continued in participating in several exhibitions, to give seminars and to host visits.