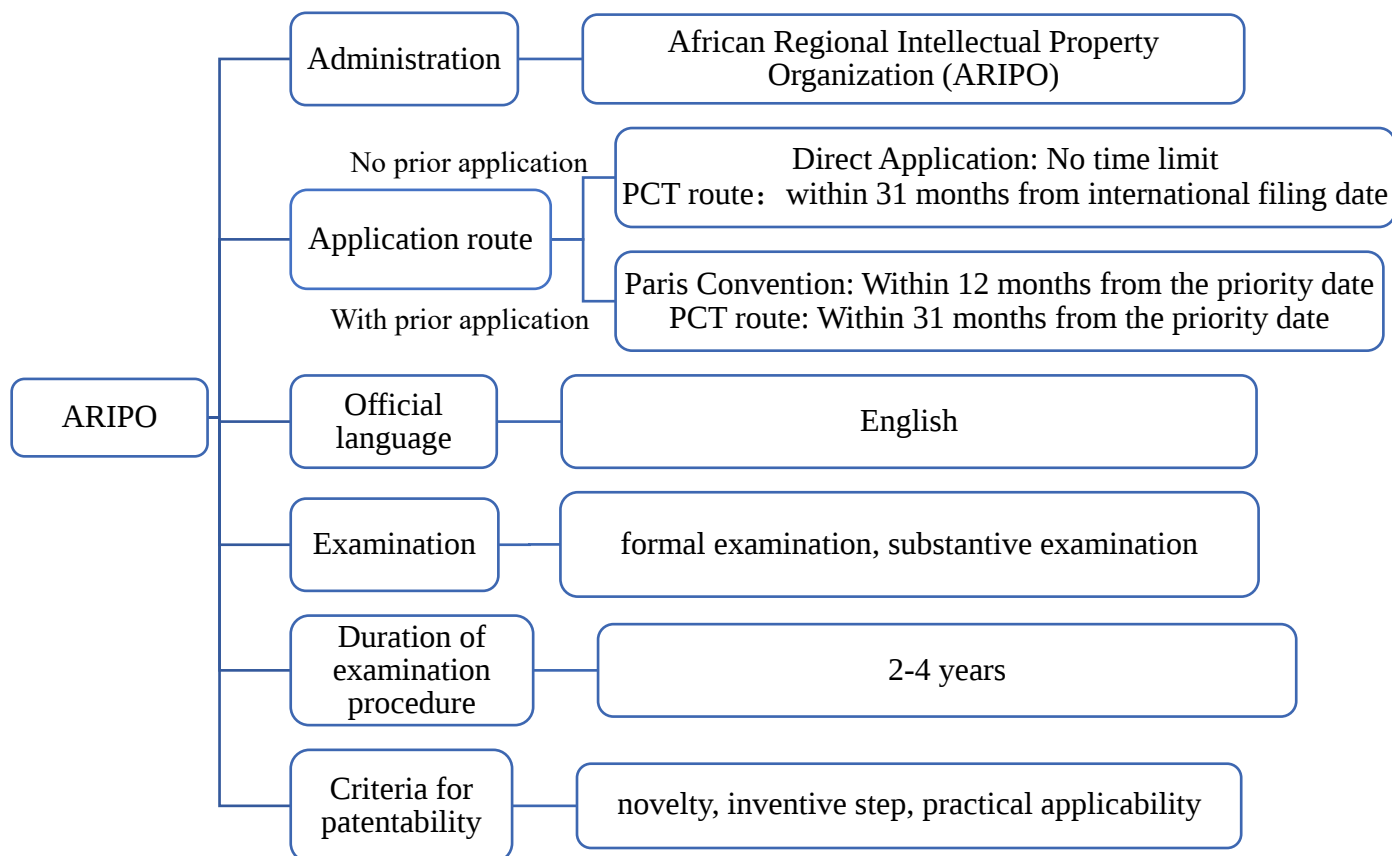


Guidance on Patent Application for Invention in ARIPO

I. Overview



II. Application Documents Requested

Document set on application

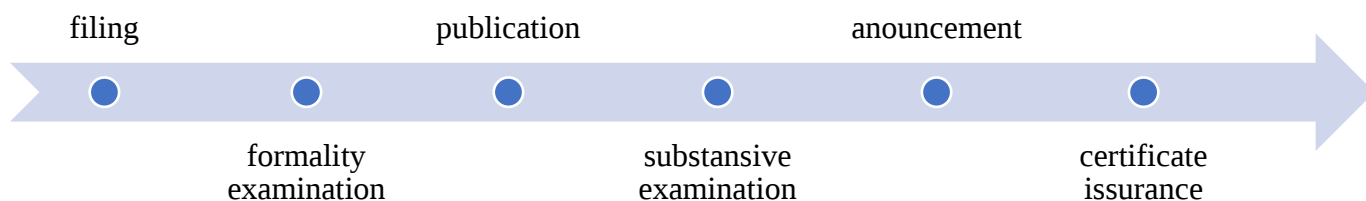
- a completed ARIPO Form 3 (Request form)
- a description of the invention
- one or more claims
- one or more drawings(if any)
- an abstract
- prescribed application fees or a written undertaking to lodge the fees
- designation of at least one state

power of attorney;

priority document if applicable.



III. Application Process



IV. Validity Term

- The term of an ARIPO patent shall be 20 years from the date of filing of the application, subject to the payment of maintenance fees.

VI. Note

- ARIPO is mandated to grant patents on behalf of the Harare Protocol Contracting States in accordance with the provisions of the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs. The Harare Protocol was adopted on December 10, 1982 at Harare, Zimbabwe. The protocol entered into force in 1984.
- Under the protocol, an applicant for the grant of a patent for an invention can, by filing only one application, designate any one of the Harare Protocol Contracting States in which that applicant wishes the invention to be accorded protection. The protocol requires the filing of the application to be made with any one of the Contracting States or directly with the ARIPO Office.
- There are 20 Contracting States, namely; Botswana, Cabo Verde, Kingdom of Eswatini, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Kingdom of Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

