

Foreword

The articles of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Trademark Law¹ (GCC Trademark Law), and the Implementing Regulations (Regulations) govern the registration, enforcement, and commercialisation of trademark rights throughout the GCC member states.²

Although a unified law, the GCC Trademark Law and Regulations do not enable trademark registration in multiple GCC member states through a single application or process. Registration requires the filing of a separate application with the trademark registration authority in each GCC state where protection through registration is required. The registration of trademarks in the Kingdom of Bahrain is administered by the Trademark Office, Directorate of Foreign Trade & Industrial Property, which is part of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism.

Each GCC Member State will individually implement the GCC Trademark Law and the Implementing Regulations. In the Kingdom of Bahrain, the GCC Trademark Law and Implementing Regulations took effect on 29 May 2016.³

Applications for the registration of a trademark submitted before the coming into force of this continued to benefit from the protection under the provisions of the laws, decisions, and rules in force at the time of application provided a decision on acceptance for registration had been taken.⁴ A mark will be considered as having been accepted for registration on the date on which the Trademark Office sends notification of acceptance and the requirement for the payment of the publication fee.⁵

Applications in respect of which a decision on acceptance for registration had not been taken are to be registered and protected under the GCC Trademark Law and the Regulations, provided the application is amended to conform to the provisions of this law.⁶

¹ Law No. (6) of 2014 With Approval of the Law (Regulation) of Trademarks in the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

² Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

³ Ministerial Decision No. 65 of 2016.

⁴ Article 47 of the GCC Trademark Law.

⁵ As specified under Article 14.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

⁶ Article 48 of the GCC Trademark Law.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is a signatory to the Paris Convention,⁷ Madrid Protocol,⁸ Trademark Law Treaty (TLT),⁹ Nice Agreement,¹⁰ and as a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is bound by the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights¹¹ (TRIPS). These will be referred to where they contain provisions that contribute to the registration process and requirements.

Purpose of these Guidelines

This part provides guidance on the provisions of the GCC Trademark Law and the Regulations relating to the filing of a grievance following the examination of a trademark application.

The purpose of this guidance is to ensure, as far as possible, a consistent understanding of what happens in case of refusal to register a sign as a trademark and the process for challenging such a refusal, or in the case of the Trademark Office imposing a requirement or amendment as a condition of registration.

Each application for registration will be considered on its own merits based on the relevant law and practice. Earlier trademark registrations can be a useful point of reference on the likelihood of acceptance, but a previous acceptance will not bind the registration authority.

Examination of an application

Notification of the decision

The Trademark Office must make a decision on the acceptance for registration within 90 days from its filing date¹² and must notify the trademark owner (or their representative) of the decision, in writing or electronically at the address specified in the application.¹³

The first part of the examination is an administrative check to ensure the information in the application has been fully and correctly completed, confirm the eligibility of the applicant (and representative, if used) to file an application, and that all documents required have been properly submitted.

⁷ Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (as amended on September 28, 1979).

⁸ Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (as amended on November 12, 2007).

⁹ Trademark Law Treaty (adopted at Geneva on October 27, 1994).

¹⁰ Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (as amended on September 28, 1979).

¹¹ There is no separate accession/ratification procedure for TRIPS. Bahrain is bound by the TRIPS Agreement by virtue of its membership to the World Trade Organization.

¹² Article 6 of the Regulations.

¹³ Article 6 of the Regulations.

Should an application contain an error of deficiency in the information provided, is missing any of the required documents or the documents are not in the correct form, the notification will inform the trademark owner or their representative (if any) of the deficiency.

In the case of an application that has been correctly filed, meaning that all of the required information has been provided and all documents submitted, the notification will confirm whether the application for registration has been accepted for registration, or is refused registration.

Acceptance may be subject to the trademark owner (or their representative) agreeing to specified conditions or amendments as deemed necessary by the Trademark Office

Application is deficient

Where an application is found to have an error or omission, either in the information entered in the application form, or in the documents required with an application, no decision on the registration of the mark will be taken until the deficiency in the application is corrected.

The notification sent by the Trademark Office will inform the trademark owner (or their representative) of the nature of the deficiency, error of omission, and the required action.¹⁴

- If the application was filed by a representative, the notification will be sent to them at the address given.
- If no representative has been authorized by the trademark owner, the notification will be sent to the named trademark owner at the address given in the application.

The trademark owner (or their representative) will have 90 days from the date of the notification to complete the required action.¹⁵

The trademark owner (or their representative) may seek clarification from the Trademark Office or make alternative proposals for consideration by the Trademark Office. In such cases, the clock will still be running, and any action must be completed within the 90 days from the date of the notification. Failure to comply with

¹⁴ Notice No. QF 308.

¹⁵ Article 6 of the Regulations.

any requirements within this period will result in the application being deemed abandoned.¹⁶ There is no provision to extend this period.

Where an application is deemed abandoned as a result of a filing deficiency, there is no provision for an appeal against this action.

Application correctly filed

Provided the application has been correctly filed, the Trademark Office must formally examine the trademark, often referred to as the 'substantive' examination.

Substantive examination considers whether the mark applied for takes a distinctive form that is capable of distinguishing the goods or services listed in the application. Further information on the requirements and process in the substantive examination of a trademark can be found in the Examination Guidelines.

Following this examination, the trademark owner (or their representative) will be sent a notification of the decision of the Trademark Office, either accepting the trademark for registration, or refusing registration.

Acceptance for registration may require the trademark owner (or their representative) to agree to specified conditions, amendments or to comply with requirements.

Accepted - no conditions, amendments, or requirements

Where the decision of the Trademark Office is to accept the mark for registration without any conditions, amendments or requirements, the trademark owner (or their representative) will be sent a notification confirming the decision of the Trademark Office to accept the mark for registration. The notification, either in writing or electronically, will be sent to the address specified:¹⁷

- If the application was filed by a representative, the notification will be sent to them at the address given.
- If no representative has been appointed, the notification will be sent to the named trademark owner at the address given in the application.

The trademark owner (or their representative) will be required to pay a 'publication fee' within 30 days of the notification of acceptance. Payment is made via the ePortal. See Application Guidelines for information on the payment of publication fees.

¹⁶ Article 12.4 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 6 of the Regulations.

¹⁷ Notice No. QF308.

Failure to pay the required fee within 30-days of the period will result in the application being deemed abandoned.¹⁸ There is no provision for the period to be extended, and there can be no an appeal against this action.

Accepted subject to conditions, amendments, or requirement

The Trademark Office may impose restrictions or modifications to a trademark 'as deemed necessary to identify that trademark and eliminate any possible risk of confusion with a registered or deposited mark.'¹⁹ The Trademark Office also has a wider power to impose restrictions and modifications to the trademark 'for any other reason at its sole discretion.'²⁰

Where the decision of the Trademark Office is to accept a mark for registration conditional on the fulfilment of certain conditions, or the introduction of amendments or restrictions to the application, the trademark owner (or their representative) must be sent notification of the decision.²¹ The notification may be sent in writing or electronically to the address specified in the application for registration:²²

- If the application was filed by a representative, the notification will be sent to them at the address given.
- If no representative has been appointed, the notification will be sent to the named trademark owner at the address given in the application.

The notification will set out the basis or reasons for any requirements or amendments, and the action that must be taken before the application will be accepted for registration. A period of 60 days from the date of the notification is allowed for the trademark owner or their representative to respond.²³

Within this 60-day period the trademark owner or their representative must either accept any conditions, amendments, or requirements, or alternatively, file an appeal against the decision of the Trademark to make the acceptance conditional. Whilst any conditions, requirements or amendments remain, any further action on the application is in effect suspended.

The Trademark Office will consider arguments or counter proposals from the trademark owner (or their representative). However, failure to comply with any

¹⁸ Article 10 of the Regulations.

¹⁹ Article 12.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

²⁰ Article 12.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

²¹ Notice No. QF308.

²² Article 6 of the Regulations.

²³ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 7 of the Regulations.

conditions, requirements or complete any amendments within this 60-day period will result in the application being deemed abandoned.²⁴ There is no provision for this period to be extended.

Where the trademark owner or their representative accepts the requirements set out in the notification (or subsequently agreed with the Trademark Office), a further notification will be sent by the Trademark Office confirming acceptance of the application for registration. The notification will also inform the trademark owner (or their representative) of the requirement to pay a publication fee, which must be paid within 30 days of the notification of acceptance.²⁵

Should the trademark owner (or their representative) not accept any requirements set out in the notification, they have the right to challenge the decision to make acceptance of a mark subject to a condition, requirement, or amendment.²⁶ The challenge is by means of an appeal to the Grievances Committee.²⁷

Any appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the notification.²⁸ There is no provision to extend this period. Failure to challenge the decision within the 60-day period will result in the application being deemed abandoned.²⁹ There is no provision for an appeal against this action.

Application refused registration

Where the Trademark Office decides that a trademark should be refused registration 'for a reason of its own',³⁰ the trademark owner (or their representative) must be notified in writing or electronically of the reasons for such a decision.³¹ The reference to 'for a reason of its own' makes a distinction between a decision taken by the Trademark Office (sometimes referred to as 'ex-parte') and an objection by 'an interested party'.³²

The notification must clearly set out and explain the reason for the refusal to enable the trademark owner (or their representative) to fully understand the issue with the mark, and should they wish, appeal against the refusal.

²⁴ Article 13.2 of the GCC Trademark Law.

²⁵ Article 10 of the Regulations.

²⁶ Article 7 of the Regulations.

²⁷ Article 8 of the Regulations – 'In each GCC Member State, the competent Minister shall establish a committee to examine the grievances ...'

²⁸ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

²⁹ Article 13.2 of the GCC Trademark Law.

³⁰ Article 7 of the Regulations.

³¹ Article 12.3 of the GCC Trademark Law.

³² Refers to an objection by a third party under Article 14.2 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 12.1 of the Regulations.

The trademark owner (or their representative) may appeal a decision to refuse registration before the Grievances Committee.³³ An appeal must be filed within 60 days of the notification;³⁴ there is no provision to extend this period.

Failure to challenge the decision within the 60-day period will result in the application being deemed abandoned.³⁵ There is no provision for an appeal against this action.

Suspension of an application

The Trademark Office may suspend the registration of a trademark for a reason of its own.³⁶ An application will enter a period of suspension where a mark is determined to be acceptable subject to the fulfilment of a condition or requirement. The trademark owner or the representative may challenge the suspension of an application by means of an appeal to the Grievance Committee.³⁷

Appealing to the Grievance Committee

A trademark owner (or representative) who wishes to challenge the decision of the Trademark Office to refuse registration of a trademark (for a reason of its own) must do so within 60 days of the notification of the date of the notification of the decision.³⁸

If the trademark owner (or their representative) does not challenge the decision (either to refuse registration or make registration subject to a condition or amendment) the application shall be deemed abandoned. There is no provision for this 60-day period to be extended and there is no provision for appeal against this action.

Who may file a Grievance?

An application to the Grievance Committee may be made by the trademark owner or by a representative.³⁹ However, only trademark owners (individuals or legal entities) that hold the nationality of the Kingdom of Bahrain, or foreign trademark owners authorized and carrying on a commercial activity in the Kingdom of Bahrain are permitted to make an application to the Grievance Committee without using a representative.

Nationals of the Kingdom of Bahrain

³³ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 7 of the Regulations.

³⁴ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

³⁵ Article 13.2 of the GCC Trademark Law.

³⁶ Article 7 of the Regulations.

³⁷ Article 7 of the Regulations.

³⁸ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 7 of the Regulations.

³⁹ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

Where the trademark owner (individual or legal entity) holds the nationality of the Kingdom of Bahrain, they may file the application to the Grievance Committee on their own behalf or using a duly authorized agent.⁴⁰

If the application for registration of the trademark was properly filed by a trademark owner without using an agent, they may appoint an agent for the sole purpose of managing the application to the Grievance Committee. Similarly, a trademark owner may appoint a different agent to represent them for the sole purpose of the application to the Grievance Committee.

Any agent used to represent a trademark owner, whether or not appointed at the time of application, must be approved and recorded in the Register of trademark registration agents.⁴¹ Approval and inclusion of an agent in the Register of Trademark Agents is determined by the Intellectual Property Directorate.⁴²

Where an agent is appointed for the first time, a Power of Attorney must be provided. The agent or representative must submit:⁴³

- copy of the Power of Attorney
- original of the Power of Attorney
- translation of the original Power of Attorney into Arabic

The Power of Attorney must be:

- signed by the applicant for the trademark
- Apostilled⁴⁴/notarized by a Notary Public
- legalized in Bahrain or an Arab Consulate in the applicant's country

These documents are uploaded at the same time as any documents that the trademark owner (or their representative) wish to submit in support of their application to the Grievance Committee.

⁴⁰ Article 13.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

⁴¹ See Decision No. 58 of 2018 on the Registration of Industrial Property Agents.

⁴² Article 2 of the Regulations.

⁴³ Article 4.2 of the Regulations.

⁴⁴ Certificate that authenticates the signature of a public official on a document for use in another country. It certifies the capacity in which that public official acted and, where appropriate, the identity of a seal or stamp, which the document bears, e.g. a notary public seal.

Foreign applicants

In the case of a foreign (non-Bahraini) trademark owner resident in the Kingdom of Bahrain who is carrying on a commercial activity in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the application (appeal) to the Grievance Committee may be filed by the trademark owner or by an approved and authorized agent.

A foreign (non-Bahraini) trademark owner who is not resident and conducting a commercial activity in the Kingdom of Bahrain may only make an application (appeal) to the Grievance Committee using an approved and authorized agent.

Using a different representative in the application to the Grievance Committee

A trademark owner that appointed a representative to file the application for registration of a trademark may continue to use that agent for an application to the Grievance Committee. Should they so wish, they may appoint a different agent to represent them for the sole purpose of the application to the Grievance Committee.

Any agent used to represent a trademark owner must be approved and recorded in the Register of trademark registration agents.⁴⁵ Approval and inclusion of an agent in the Register of Trademark Agents is determined by the Intellectual Property Directorate.⁴⁶

Where an agent is being appointed for the first time, a Power of Attorney authorizing the agent to act on behalf of the trademark owner in the application to the Grievance Committee must be provided. The agent or representative must submit:⁴⁷

- copy of the Power of Attorney
- original of the Power of Attorney
- translation of the original Power of Attorney into Arabic

The Power of Attorney must be:

- signed by the applicant for the trademark
- Apostilled⁴⁸/notarized by a Notary Public
- legalized in Bahrain or an Arab Consulate in the applicant's country

⁴⁵ See Decision No. 58 of 2018 on the Registration of Industrial Property Agents.

⁴⁶ Article 2 of the Regulations.

⁴⁷ Article 4.2 of the Regulations.

⁴⁸ Certificate that authenticates the signature of a public official on a document for use in another country. It certifies the capacity in which that public official acted and, where appropriate, the identity of a seal or stamp, which the document bears, e.g. a notary public seal.

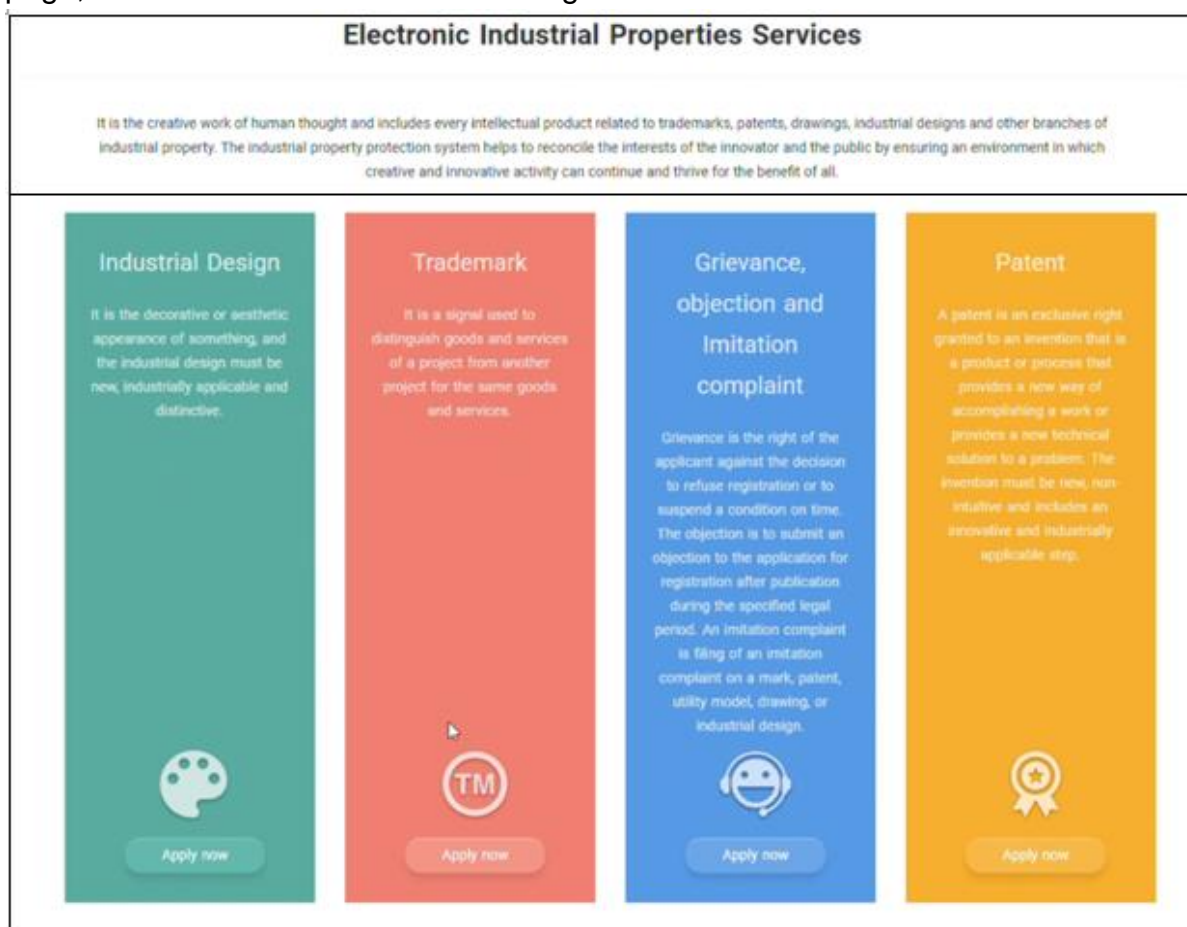
Filing an application to the Grievance Committee

Trademark e-Services

The Kingdom of Bahrain has an Electronic Industrial Property Services portal through which an application to the Grievance Committee can be filed. The **Trademark e-Services** can be accessed at <https://service.moic.gov.bh/ipd/login>

Use of the Electronic Industrial Property Services portal requires the completion of a registration

After entering their login details at the Electronic Industrial Property Services landing page, users will be taken to the following screen:



The section headed '**Grievances, objection and imitation complaint**' (blue column) provides access to the application form to challenge (appeal) to the Grievance Committee against a decision of the Trademark Office to:

- refuse registration
- make registration subject to the fulfilment of a condition, requirement, or amendment

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

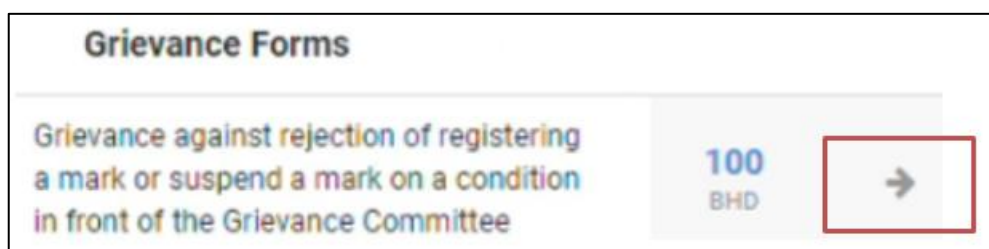
- suspend action on an application

A fee is payable for each of these actions.

At the bottom of the section, clicking the cursor on **Apply now** will open the following screen:

Services of Grievance, Objection and Complaint office					
Objections Forms		Grievance Forms		Imitation complaint Form	
Application for Opposition Against a Mark Registration	200 BHD →	Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee	100 BHD →	Request for Imitation complain submission	0 BHD →
Request a hearing session	0 BHD →				
Respond to an opposition against a mark registration	0 BHD →				

The application is started by clicking the cursor on the arrow in this section:



This opens the following information screen:

Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee

1 2 3 4 5

This form is used to grievance against refusal decision by trademark office on trademark application or its conditional suspend, in accordance with law No. (6) of 2014 approving the trademarks law of the Gulf Cooperation council states (Gulf cooperation council).
The payable fees for grievance against refusal decision or suspend a mark on a condition are for each class separately.

Required evidence

- The application shall be accompanied by a copy of the duly signed and authenticated power of attorney document from the right holder whom hold the right to submit the grievance.
- Any supported documents to grievance shall be attached.

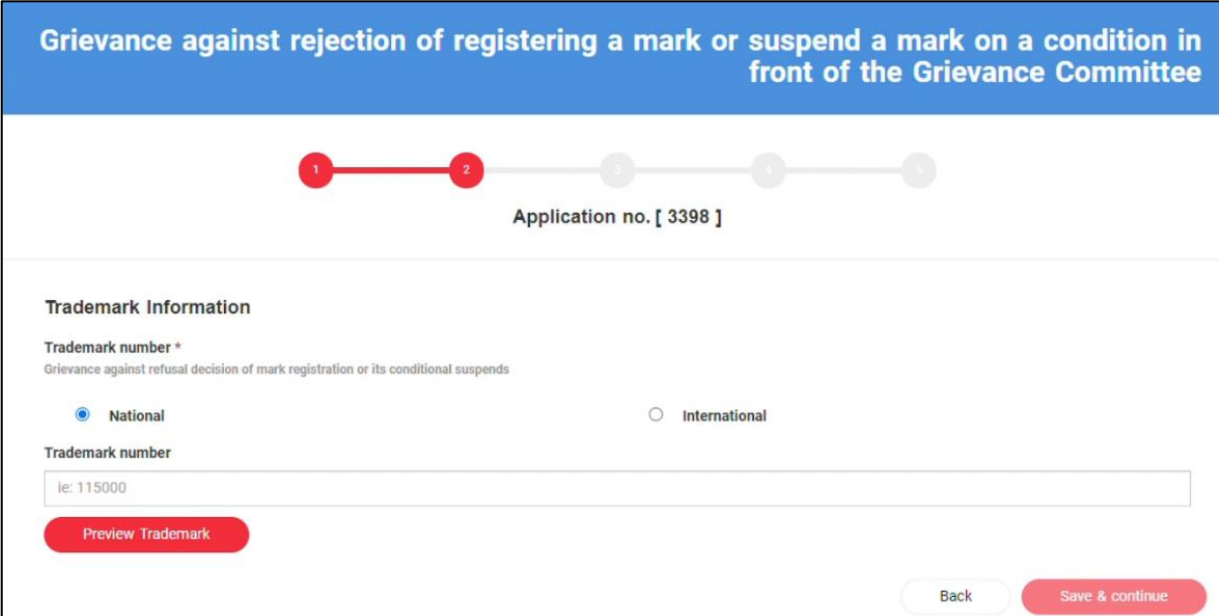
Caution!
The information will be saved in every step. Please hit the "Save" button while filling the form to continue in later time.

Start

This reminds the user that:

- a fee is payable for each trademark application included in the application to the Grievance Committee
- A Power of Attorney must be provided where a representative is being appointed for the first time
- Supporting documents (if any) must be attached

Clicking the cursor on **Start** opens the following screen:



Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee

Application no. [3398]

Trademark Information

Trademark number *

Grievance against refusal decision of mark registration or its conditional suspends

National International

Trademark number

ie: 115000

Preview Trademark

Back Save & continue

In this screen the details of the trademark application being appealed to the Grievance Committee are entered. A separate application to the Grievance Committee must be made for each trademark to be challenged before the Grievance Committee.

The screen requires completion of two pieces of information:

- an indication of whether the application to the Grievance Committee relates to a national trademark, or an international trademark.
 - A national trademark is an application for registration of a trademark made directly to the Trademark Registration office of the Kingdom of Bahrain. This includes any application using a priority under a

multilateral international convention such as the Paris Convention⁴⁹ to which the Kingdom of Bahrain is a party.

- An International Trademark is a registration effected under the Madrid Protocol⁵⁰, designating the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The type of mark is selected by clicking the cursor on the appropriate button.

- Number allocated to the application for registration being appealed to the Grievance Committee.
 - This is the number allocated to the application by the trademark registration system of the Kingdom of Bahrain.


In the **Trademark number** field, the number of the trademark application to be challenged before the Grievance Committee is to be entered. Provided the number exists in the trademark registration system of the Kingdom of Bahrain, clicking the cursor on **Preview trademark** will open a window displaying the information relating to that trademark recorded in the trademark registration system:

⁴⁹ Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (as amended on September 28, 1979).

⁵⁰ Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (as amended on November 12, 2007).

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee



Application no. [3398] - File No. [118455]

Trademark Information


Trademark number *
Grievance against refusal decision of mark registration or its conditional suspensions

National
 International

Trademark number
 118455

Preview Trademark

Mark Summary

Mark no.	118455
Sequence no.	1
Mark type	BH/T
Application type	National
Application date	Jan 29, 2017
Protection date	Jan 29, 2017 - Jan 29, 2017
Mark image	

Class number	List of Goods and services (in Arabic)	List of Goods and service (in English)
42	لتفصيل الأنظمة الأساسية لبرمجيات (PaaS) نظام أساسي كخدمة- حاسوب لبرمجيات الأوامر الصوتية و التعرف الصوتي , برمجيات تحويل المحكي إلى مكنوت وتطبيقات برمجية يتم تشغيلها صوتيا, نظام أساسي بميز الأنظمة الأساسية لبرمجيات حاسوب لبرنامج (PaaS) كخدمة لتفصيل الأنظمة الأساسية (PaaS) مساعدة شخصية, نظام أساسي كخدمة لبرمجيات حاسوب لأتمتة منزلية وبرمجياتتكمامل الأجهزة المنزلية, نظام لبرمجيات اتصال لاسلكي لإرسال صوت وسعيات وفديو وإرسال لتفصيل برمجيات حاسوب تستخدم (SaaS) بيانات, برمجيات كخدمة للتحكم في معلومات يتم التحكم فيها صوتيا فقط وأجهزة مساعدة لتعسا بخدمات حاسوب لإدارة (SaaS) شخصية, بخدمات كخدمة	-Platform as a service (PaaS) featuring computer software platforms for voice command and recognition software, speech to text conversion software, and voice-enabled software applications; Platform as a service (PaaS) featuring computer software platforms for personal assistant software; Platform as a service (PaaS) featuring computer software platforms for home automation and home device integration software; Platform as a service (PaaS) featuring computer software platforms for wireless communication software for voice, audio, video, and data transmission; Software as a service (SaaS) featuring computer software used for controlling stand-alone voice

Mark Owner

Owner Type	Natural person (individual)	
Name	أمازون تكنولوجيز , إنك	AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Address	تيري أفينيو, نورث سياتل, ديلبو ايه 98109, أمريكا	410 TERRY AVENUE, NORTH SEATTLE, WA 98109, USA
Postal code		
Phone number		
Email		
Country of residence	الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية	
Nationality	الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية	

Legal representative of the owner of the mark

Legal representative no.

Legal representative type Patent agent

Legal representative nature Natural person (individual)

Name	أبو غزالة للملكية الفكرية - تي إم بي اجنتس	abu-ghazaleh intellectual property -TMP agents
Address	ص. ب. 990 المنامة - مملكة البحرين	p.o box 990 manama kingdom of bahrain
Postal code		
Phone number		
Email		
Country of residence	البحرين	
Nationality	البحرين	

Back
Save & continue

The information displayed should be carefully checked to ensure that the correct trademark is being challenged before the Grievance Committee. Clicking the cursor on **Save and continue** will open the following screen:

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee

1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5
Application no. [3398] - File No. [118455]

Cause of Grievance *
Must be written in Arabic Only

B I ﷲ ﷻ

I

Back Save & continue

In the field headed 'Cause of the grievance' the applicant must enter the basis on which they challenge the refusal to register, and/or the imposition of conditions or amendments by the Trademark Office as a condition of registration. This must be entered in Arabic. Documents to support these submissions may be attached in the next stage of the application.

To return to the previous screen and revisit the preview of the application being appealed to the Grievance Committee, click the cursor on **Back**. To proceed with the application, click the cursor on **Save and continue**.

The next screen allows the trademark owner (or their representative) to add any documents to support the application to the Grievance Committee.

Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee

1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5
Application no. [3398] - File No. [118455]

Attachments *
Please attach the required documents such the power of attorney (if any)

File name	File Description

Add

Back Save & continue

Documents that are to be submitted with the application (including a Power of Attorney, if required) can be added by clicking the cursor on **ADD**. This will enable the selection and uploading of the desired files. There is no restriction on the number or format of the documents that may be added but must be no larger than 10MB. Should any difficulty be encountered in adding a document, the Trademark Office should be contacted at the earliest opportunity. Documents filed outside of the 60-day period will not be accepted.

Each file added must be allocated a file name and a brief description of the document entered. The file description may be entered in Arabic.

When all the required documents have been added, clicking the cursor on **Save and continue** will move to the next screen. It is advisable to check the list is complete before clicking the cursor on **Save and continue**.

If **Save and continue** is selected before the list is finalised, or a change to the documents attached to the application is required, clicking the cursor on **Back** in the next screen will return to the screen where documents may be added or deleted.

Clicking the cursor on **SAVE and continue** without any documents being added to the application will open a pop-up dialogue box:

Industrial Design Trademark Grievance, objection

It seems the form has no attachments included, are you sure you want to continue?

OK Cancel

Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee

1 2 3 4 5

Application no. [3398] - File No. [118455]

Attachments *
Please attach the required documents such the power of attorney (if any)

File name	File Description

Add

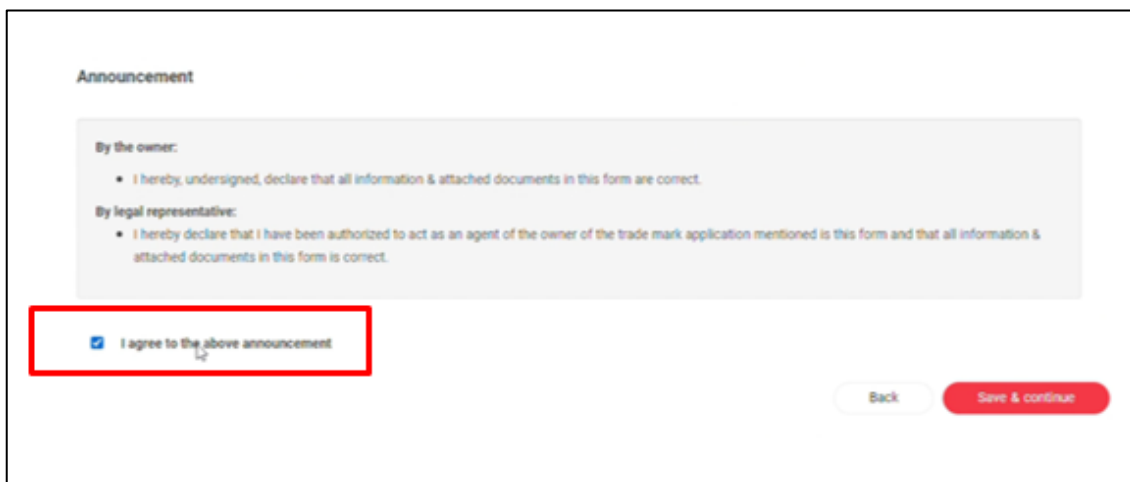
Back Save & continue

It seems the form has no attachments included, are you sure you want to continue?

OK Cancel

If clicking **Save and continue** without adding any documents was a mistake, clicking the cursor on **Cancel** will return to the screen allowing documents to be added to the application. If no documents are to be added to the application, click the cursor on **OK** and then **Save and continue**.

The next screen headed Announcement requires that the trademark owner, or their legal representative if that is who is submitting the application, to declare that the information entered in the application to the Grievance Committee and documents attached are correct.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Announcement". It contains two sections for declarations:

- By the owner:**
 - I hereby, undersigned, declare that all information & attached documents in this form are correct.
- By legal representative:**
 - I hereby declare that I have been authorized to act as an agent of the owner of the trade mark application mentioned in this form and that all information & attached documents in this form is correct.

Below these sections is a checkbox labeled "I agree to the above announcement" which is checked and highlighted with a red box. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Back" and "Save & continue".

In the case of an application being submitted by a legal representative, the declaration confirms that they are authorized to act as an agent on behalf of the owner of the trademark application being appealed to the Grievance Committee. In the case of a representative being appointed for the first time for the sole purpose of making the application to the Grievance Committee, evidence of this authority in the form of a Power of Attorney should have been attached to the application in the previous section of the application to the Grievance Committee.


If a Power of Attorney has not been attached, clicking the cursor on **Back** will return to the section of the application where the Power of Attorney can be added. If a Power of Attorney is required, but not submitted within the 60 days from the date of the notification of refusal, or the acceptance of the application subject to a condition, requirement or amendment, the application to the Grievance Committee will not be accepted. The consequence of this will be that the application for registration of the trademark will be deemed abandoned.⁵¹ There is no provision to appeal this action.

To confirm acceptance of the declaration, the cursor is clicked on the check box 'I agree to the above announcement' and then clicked on **Save and continue**.

The next step in the application to the Grievance Committee sets out the information entered in the application. The purpose of this screen is to enable a review the details, and to make any changes, if necessary.

⁵¹ Article 13.2 of the GCC Trademark Law.

Preview before confirmation



Application no. [3398] - File No. [118455]

Application Preview

Please be sure that all information are correct, a new request with payment will be required for any further changes

Application type	Grievance against rejection of registering a mark or suspend a mark on a condition in front of the Grievance Committee
Trademark number	118455
Application fee	100.000 BHD
Cause of Grievance	سبب التظلم

[Edit](#) [Continue](#)

Should any of the information need to be amended, clicking the cursor on **Edit** will open a screen to enable this.

This Application Preview does not list any documents that have been attached to the application. These can be reviewed by clicking the cursor on **Back**, which returns to the previous 'Announcement' screen, and on that screen, clicking the cursor on **Back** to return to the screen where the documents added may be viewed, and if required added to or changed.

If the details of the application to the Grievance Committee are correct and complete, clicking the cursor on **Continue** will move to the next step in the application process, which is the payment of the fees.

Application to the Grievance Committee cannot be amended

Once the application to the Grievance Committee has been submitted, it will not be possible to add or change any of the information entered or add any new documents to support the grounds for the application.

Should the owner of the trademark application wish to amend the application to the Grievance Committee, the original application will need to be withdrawn, and a new application filed. It will not be possible to file a new application to the Grievance Committee unless and until the earlier application has been withdrawn.

If a new application to the Grievance Committee is to be made, this must be filed within the 60-day period from the date of the notification of the decision to refuse the application for registration, or to make acceptance for registration subject to a condition requirement or amendment. A fee will be payable for any new application.

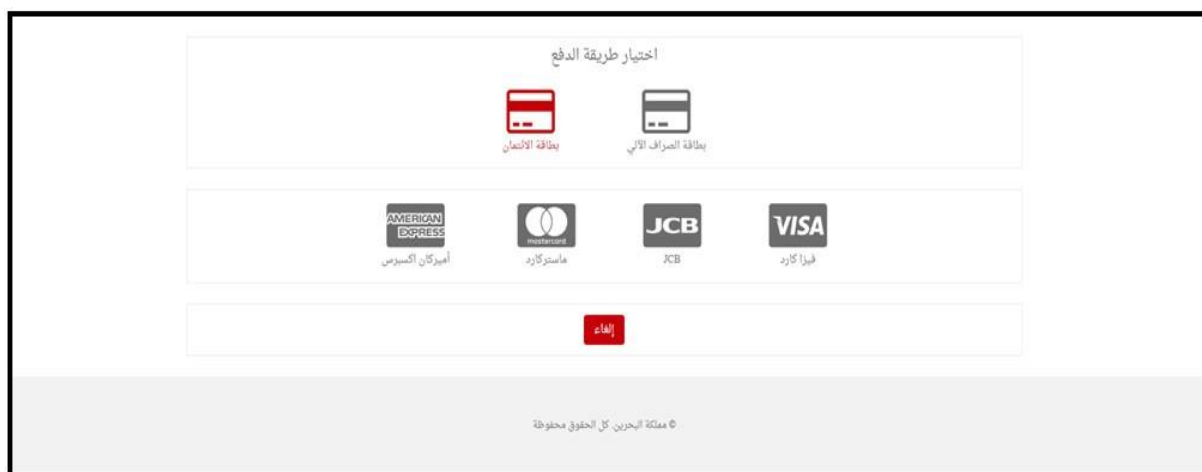
Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

If an application to the Grievance Committee is withdrawn and no new application is filed within the 60 days from the date of the notification of the decision to refuse, the application for registration will be deemed abandoned. There is no provision to appeal against this action.

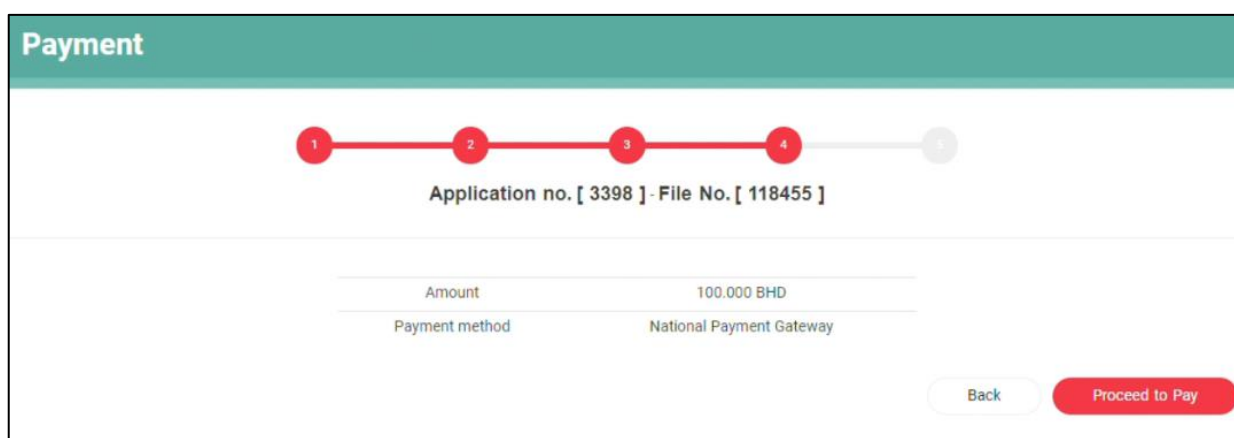
Payment of appeal fee

If the information relating to the application to the Grievance Committee is correct, and the **Continue** option selected, the next screen that opens requires the payment of the fee.

The screen will display the amount of fee payable. The source from which the funds are to be taken will be selected from the following options:



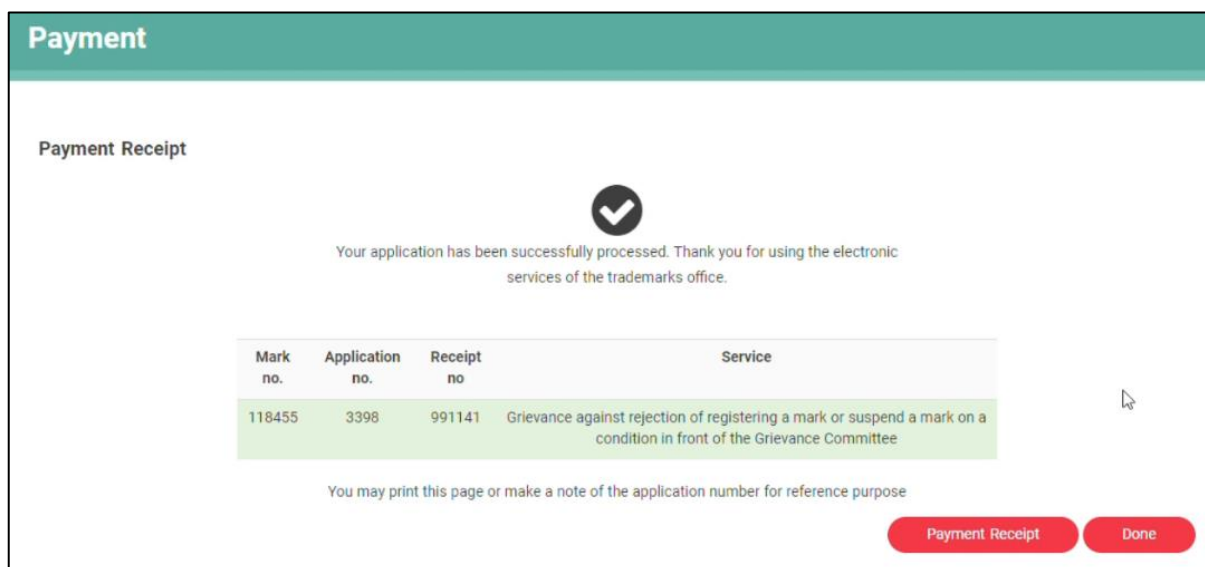
Clicking on the preferred payment method will open a screen to enable details of the account to be entered.



Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Clicking the cursor on **Back** will return to the previous page, allowing a review of details of the trademark listed in the application to the Grievance Committee. To continue with the payment, the cursor is clicked on **Continue to pay**.

If the payment is successful, the following screen will be displayed:



The screen will also display:


Mark no.	number of the application for registration of the trademark
Application no.	number allocated to the application to the Grievance Committee
Receipt no.	record of the payment of the fee
Service	action for which fee has been paid

To print a paper receipt, click the cursor on **Print Receipt**. Clicking the cursor on **Done** will close the screen

If the payment has not been accepted, the following page will be displayed:

Payment

Payment Receipt



The payment transaction has been cancelled. The due amount has not been received

Payment gateway response

Application no.	Status no.	Status description
31284	4002	Transaction Declined - Bank Error

If the required amount has been deducted, please contact the intellectual property directorate.

Done

Should the above screen be shown, clicking the cursor on Done will go to the following screen advising the user to contact the Trademark Office:

تنويه برجوع الخدمات الإلكترونية للملكية الصناعية

نود أن نلفت عنايتكم بأنه يمكنكم تقديم شكاوى التقليد من خلال برنامج خدمات الملكية الصناعية الإلكترونية مع تحيات قسم رقابة الملكية الصناعية

الأخوة والأخوات الأفاضل مستخدمي خدمات الملكية الصناعية الإلكترونية الكرام ،

نود أن نلفت عنايتكم بأن جميع الخدمات الإلكترونية تعمل حالياً على موقع وزارة الصناعة والتجارة والسياحة، في حال واجهتم أية مشاكل يرجى التواصل عبر حسابات البريد الإلكتروني المبينة في الجدول أدناه:

	العلامات والرقابة والتصاميم الصناعية	براءات الاختراع
الدعم الفني (IT)	ip_support@moic.gov.bh	PA-Support@moic.gov.bh
المكاتب والأقسام	IPonline@moic.gov.bh	patentonline@moic.gov.bh

مع تحياتي

مكتب العلامات التجارية ومكتب براءات الاختراع وقسم رقابة الملكية الصناعية
إدارة العلاقات التجارية الخارجية

Done

The Grievance Committee

A challenge to the decision of the Trademark Office to refuse registration of a trademark (for a reason of its own) or to make registration conditional on accepting an amendment or requirement is made to the Grievance Committee.⁵²

The Grievance Committee will consider applications to them relating to trademarks filed with the Trademark Office (national trademark) and designations of the Kingdom of Bahrain in a registration under the Madrid Protocol (international trademark). The owner of an international trademark (or their representative) has the same right of appeal to the Grievance Committee, and subsequently, to the National Court.

There is no set time limit by which the Grievance Committee must issue their decision following an application to them. However, once the Grievance Committee has reached a decision, the applicant for registration (complainant) or their representative must be notified of the decision in writing or electronically within thirty days from the date of its issuance.⁵³

Should the decision not be notified to the applicant or their representative within this 30-day period, the applicant may appeal to the competent court, which in the Kingdom of Bahrain is the National Court.

Grievance rejected – national trademark

Where the decision of the Grievance Committee is to reject the application to them and maintain the refusal of registration or the requirements imposed by the Trademark Office, the owner of the trademark (or their representative) will be sent a formal notification of the decision.⁵⁴

The owner of the trademark (or their representative) has the right to appeal the decision of the Grievance Committee before the National Court within sixty days from the date of the notification of the decision of the Grievance Committee.⁵⁵ There is no provision to extend the period for appeal to the Courts.

If the owner of the trademark (or their representative) does not file an appeal to the Court within this period, or files an appeal, which is not successful, the refusal of the registration of the mark will be final.

Grievance accepted – national trademark

⁵² Established under the requirements of Article 8 of the Regulations which, inter alia, requires: 'In each GCC Member State, the competent Minister shall establish a committee to examine the grievances...'

⁵³ Article 9 of the Regulations.

⁵⁴ Notice No. QF399.

⁵⁵ Article 9 of the Regulations.

Where either the Grievance Committee or the National Court accepts the grievance, the owner of the trademark (or their representative) will be sent a notification of the decision.⁵⁶

This will allow 30 days from the date of the notification in which to pay the fee for the publication of the trademark in the bulletin. See the following section headed 'Publication.'

Grievance rejected – international trademark

Where the decision of the Grievance Committee is to reject the application and maintain the refusal of registration or the requirements imposed by the Trademark Office, the owner of the international trademark designation (or their representative) will be sent a formal notification of the decision.⁵⁷

The decision to maintain the rejection of the international trademark designating the Kingdom of Bahrain will also be notified to the International Bureau of WIPO.⁵⁸

Grievance accepted – international trademark

Where either the Grievance Committee or the National Court accepts the grievance, the owner of the trademark, or their representative will be sent a notification of the decision.⁵⁹ The owner of the international trademark will have 30 days from the date of this notification in which to pay the fee for the publication of the trademark in the bulletin. See the following section headed 'Publication'.

Publication

All trademarks accepted for registration must, before proceeding with the registration, be published in the bulletin.⁶⁰ The publication will include the following information:⁶¹

- number of the application and the date of submission of the application
- name, address, and nationality of the registration applicant
- copy of the trademark
- name and address of the agent
- products or services for which the mark is to be registered, and their class

⁵⁶ Notice No. QF407.

⁵⁷ Notice No. QF399.

⁵⁸ Notice No. QF336 or Notice No. QF384.

⁵⁹ Notice No. QF336.

⁶⁰ Article 14.1 of the GCC Trademark Law.

⁶¹ Article 10b of the Regulations.

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

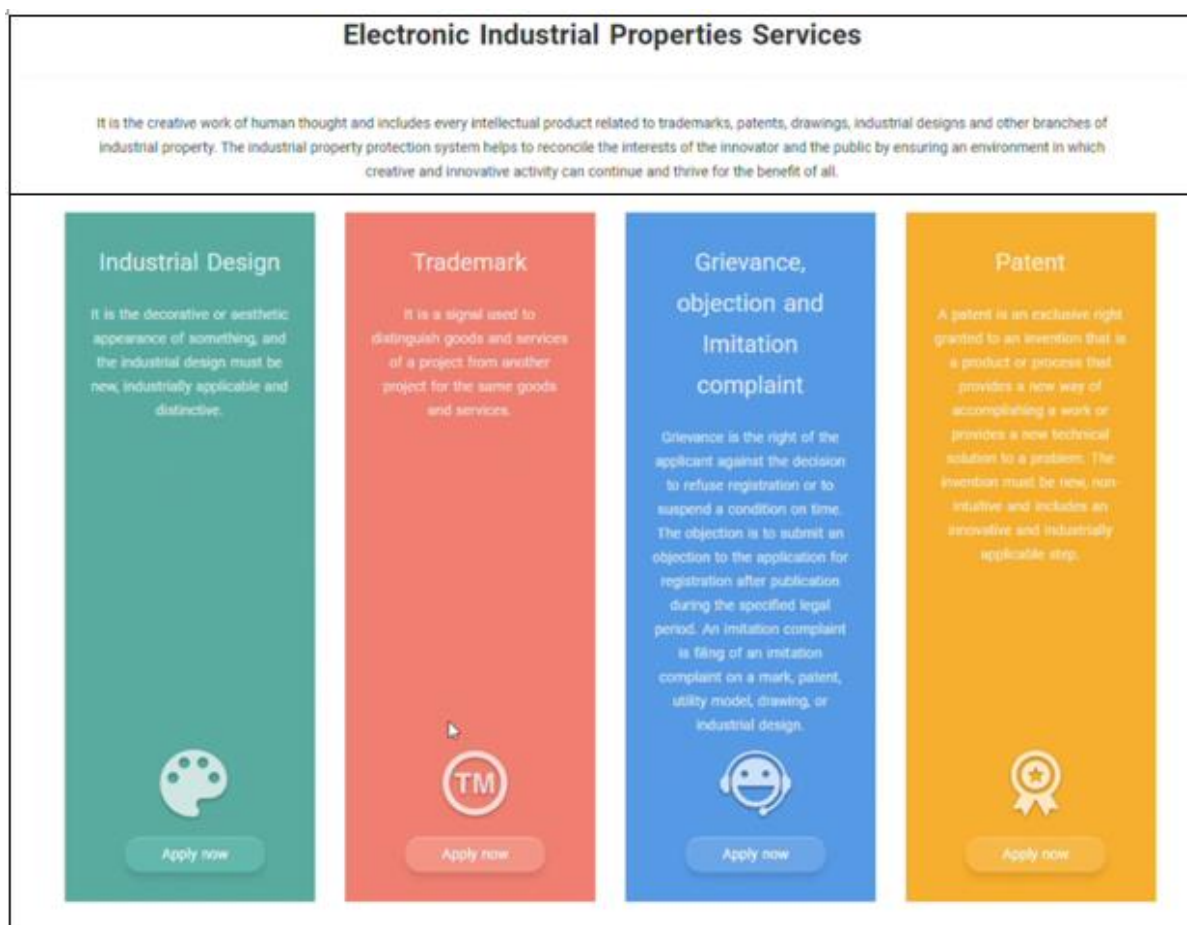
- limitations and requirements
- priority claim, if any (filing date, number and State where the earlier mark (from which priority is claimed) was filed)

A fee is payable for publication which is paid by the trademark owner or his agent.⁶² The publication fee must be paid within 30 days from the date of the notification of the acceptance of the mark for registration. Failure to pay the fee within this time will result in the application being deemed abandoned. There is no provision for appeal against this action.

Payment of the fee

The fee for publication of a trademark is via the **Trademark e-Services**, which can be accessed at <https://service.moic.gov.bh/ipd/login>

After entering their login details at the Electronic Industrial Property Services landing page, users will be taken to the following screen:



⁶² Article 10.a of the Regulations.

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

At the bottom of the column headed TRADEMARKS, clicking the cursor on **Apply now** will open the following screen:

Trademark Services					
Mark registration statuses		Renewals and changes		Other processes	
Application for registration of national mark	100-200 BHD →	Renewal	650-750 BHD →	Amendment / cancelation / withdrawal	150 BHD →
Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark	50-100 BHD →	Changes / Assignments related to Owner	150 BHD →	Initial request for a mark examination	100 BHD →
Payment of Registration fee for one or more mark	500 BHD →	Changes related to Representative	150 BHD →	Copy / Inquires	100 BHD →
		License / Mortgage	200-300 BHD →	Process related to International Mark	20-100 BHD →

Under the heading **Mark registration statutes**, clicking the cursor on the arrow in the section **Payment of the publication fee for one or more mark** will start the process to pay the publication fee.

Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark

General instructions

- This form is used to publish the following types of registration applications:
 - Trademark
 - Collective mark
 - Certification mark
 - The mark of public welfare bodies or professional institutions
- The fees payable are payable based on each category and the type of application for registration.
- All items on the form must be filled, except for the legal representative item to be filled in when a legal representative is present.
- All data in the fields must be written in Arabic except for the fields in which the word "English" is written should be written in English.

Who has the right to apply for the publication of the application for registration of a mark

- The owner of the mark
- The legal agent appointed by the trademark owner and registered in the trademark registry

Notice

The decision to accept the registration shall be considered final sixty days after the publication of the declaration of the mark without an objection to its registration or a final decision in this regard by the specialized court. The applicant shall pay the registration fee within 30 days from the date of the final decision to accept the registration of the mark (publication ad) or else it is considered abandoned.

Start

Under the heading **General Instructions**, information tells the user that:

- this part of the ePortal is used to pay the fee for the publication of four types of mark:
 - Trademarks
 - Collective marks
 - Certification marks
 - Marks of public welfare bodies or professional institutions.

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

- a separate fee is payable for each mark, whether a Trademark, Collective mark, Certification mark or a mark of public welfare body or professional institution.
- all parts of the form must be completed. The exception is the section requiring the entry of the details of a legal representative. This may be left blank where there is no authorized agent acting for the trademark owner.
- unless indicated otherwise, the form is to be completed in Arabic. For example, where the title of an information field indicates that it is to be completed in English.
- that the owner of the trademark (application) or a representative acting on behalf of the trademark owner may apply for publication of the mark. A representative must be duly authorized and approved by the Trademark Office.

The section headed **Notice** reminds the user that the acceptance of the mark is not final until it has been published and a period of 60 days has passed without objection (opposition) to its registration by a third party⁶³ or where there is an objection, the final decision is to allow the mark to be registered. In both cases, a registration fee will be payable.

To proceed with the process of paying the publication fee, the cursor is clicked on **Start**. This opens a screen where details of the marks to be published can be added.

Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark

1 2 3 4

Publishing the following marks *

Mark No. _____

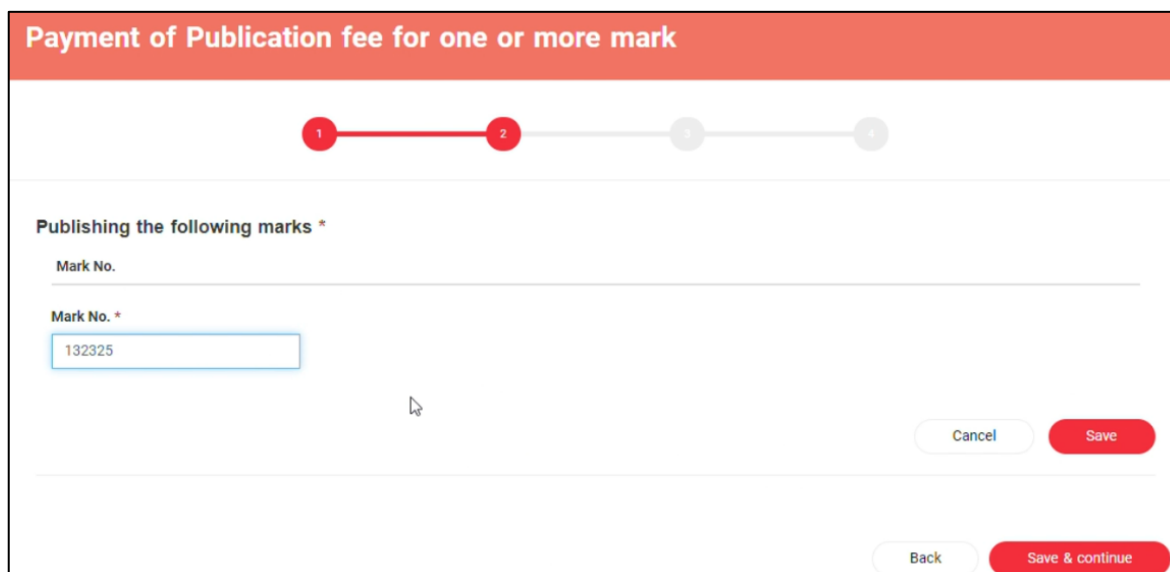
Add

Back Save & continue

⁶³ Article 14.2 of the GCC Trademark Law and Article 12.1 of the Regulations. In the 60 days following publication of a mark, any interested person may submit to the Trademark Office, a written objection to the registration of the mark.

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

The screen contains the heading **Publishing the following marks***, the asterisk indicating that the marks to be published should be identified by entering the **Mark No.** although this will not be possible until the cursor has been clicked on **Add**.



Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark

Publishing the following marks *

Mark No.

Mark No. *

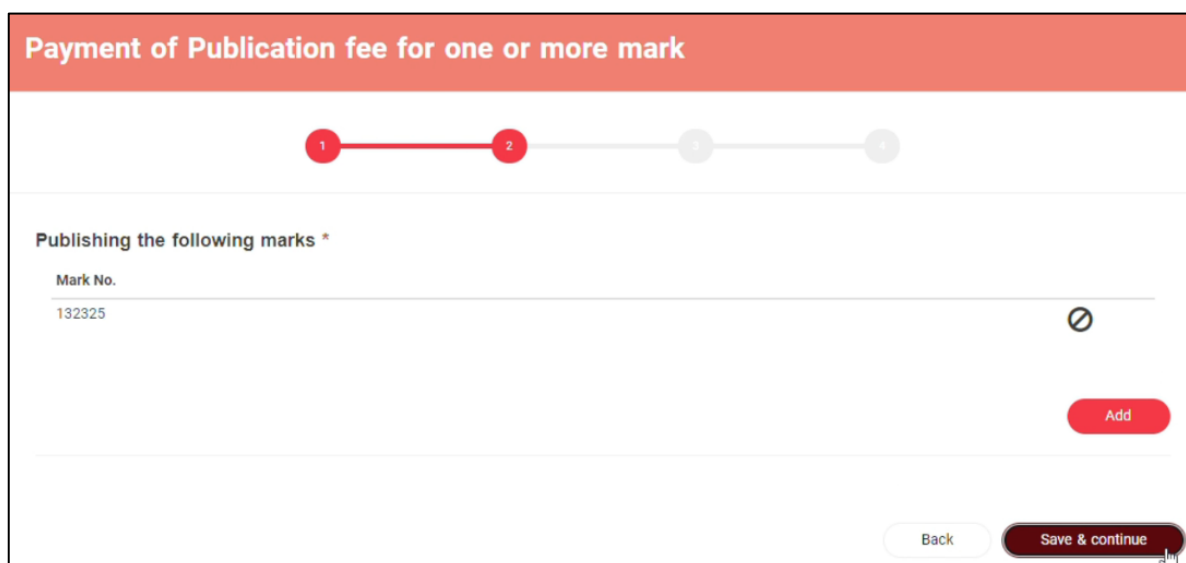
132325

Cancel Save

Back Save & continue

This will open a screen with a field headed **Mark No*** in which the number of the trademark to be published is entered. This is the number allocated to the application when it was filed for registration with the Trademark Office of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

After entering the number, click the cursor on **Save**. The number entered will now be displayed beneath **Mark No.** More trademarks can be added by clicking the cursor on **Add** and entering the trademark number.



Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark

Publishing the following marks *

Mark No.

132325

Add

Back Save & continue

Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

In this screen it is not possible to edit or remove any of the mark numbers listed. If a number displayed is not correct, click the cursor on **Back** to return to the previous screen and re-enter the correct number.

When all of the trademark numbers for the marks to be published have been entered, clicking the cursor on **Save and continue** will open a preview screen where the list can be reviewed.

Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark



Preview Trademarks

Trademark (132325)

Back

Save & continue

If there is an error in the number(s) or further marks need to be added, clicking the cursor on **Back** will return to the previous screen allowing the details to be edited or further numbers added.

If the list is complete and correct, clicking the cursor on **Save and continue** will open another preview screen.

Preview before confirmation



Application no. [6858]

Application Preview

Please be sure that all information are correct, a new request with payment will be required for any further changes

Application type	Payment of Publication fee for one or more mark
Trademark number	Amount
132325	50 BHD
Total amount	50 BHD

Continue

The text beneath the heading **Application Preview** advises that the user ensure the information displayed is correct. After the application for publication has been

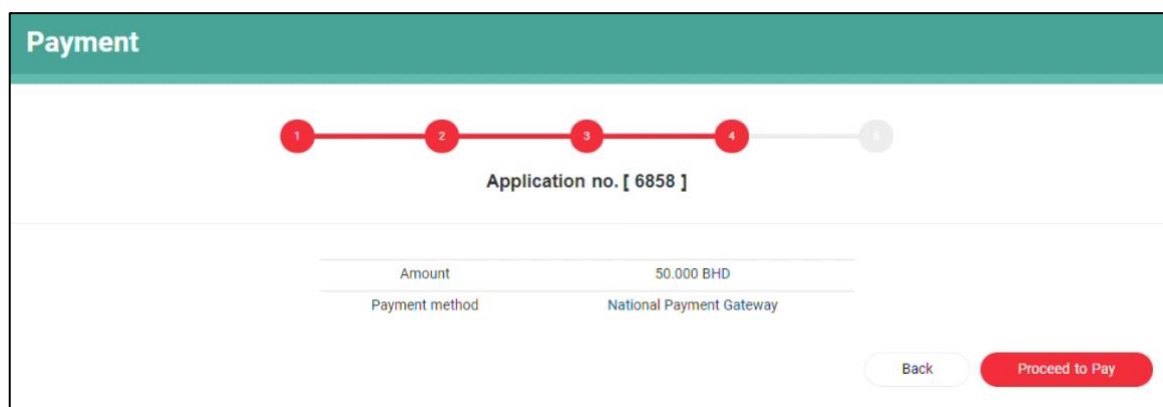
Guidelines on the Grievance process in the Kingdom of Bahrain

submitted, any amendment will require the filing of a new application and the payment of a new publication fee. The screen will display:

Application type	This is the reason for the payment of the fee. This will be automatically completed by the system based on the information provided.
Trademark number	Lists the trademark number(s) for which the fee is being paid
Amount	Shows the amount of fee payable for each of the numbers listed
Total amount	Total amount of the fees to be paid based on the information provided in the application.

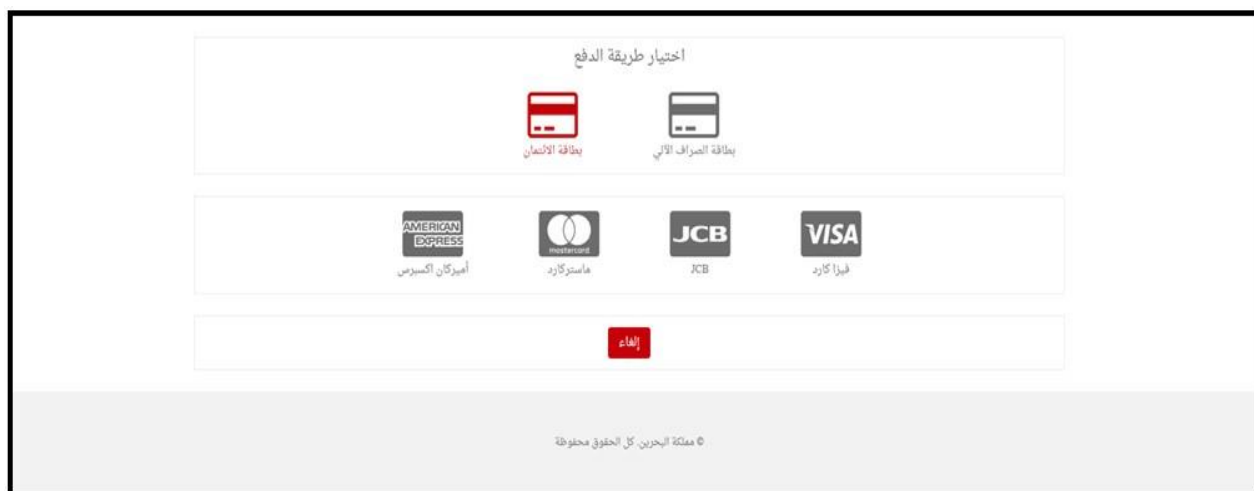
At this stage of the application process there is no functionality to go back and edit the list of marks to be published. If there is an error in the application, exit the ePortal application and start a new application.

If the information displayed is correct, clicking the cursor on **Continue** will proceed to the payment screen.



The screenshot shows a payment screen with a green header labeled "Payment". Below the header is a progress indicator with five steps, where steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 are highlighted in red, and step 5 is greyed out. Below the progress indicator, the text "Application no. [6858]" is displayed. Underneath, there are two rows of information: "Amount" with the value "50.000 BHD" and "Payment method" with the value "National Payment Gateway". At the bottom right, there are two buttons: a white "Back" button and a red "Proceed to Pay" button.

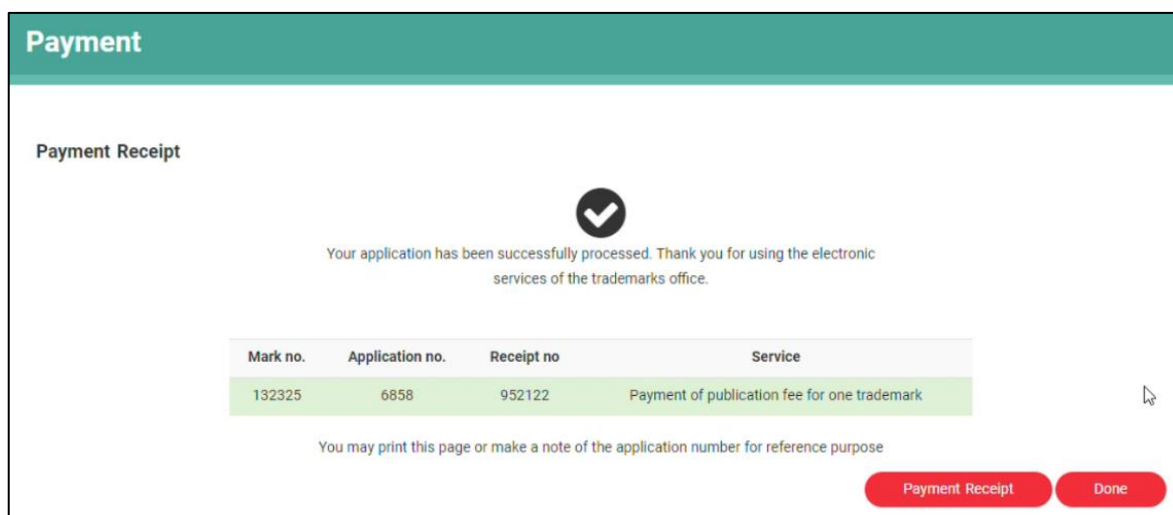
The screen will display the amount of fee payable. The source from which the funds are to be taken will be selected from the following options:



Clicking on the preferred payment method will open a screen to enable details of the account to be entered.

Clicking the cursor on **Back** will return to the previous page, allowing a review of details of the trademark listed. To continue with the payment, the cursor is clicked on **Proceed to pay**.

If the payment is successful, the following screen will be displayed:



The screen will also display:

Mark no. number allocated to the application(s) for registration of the trademark

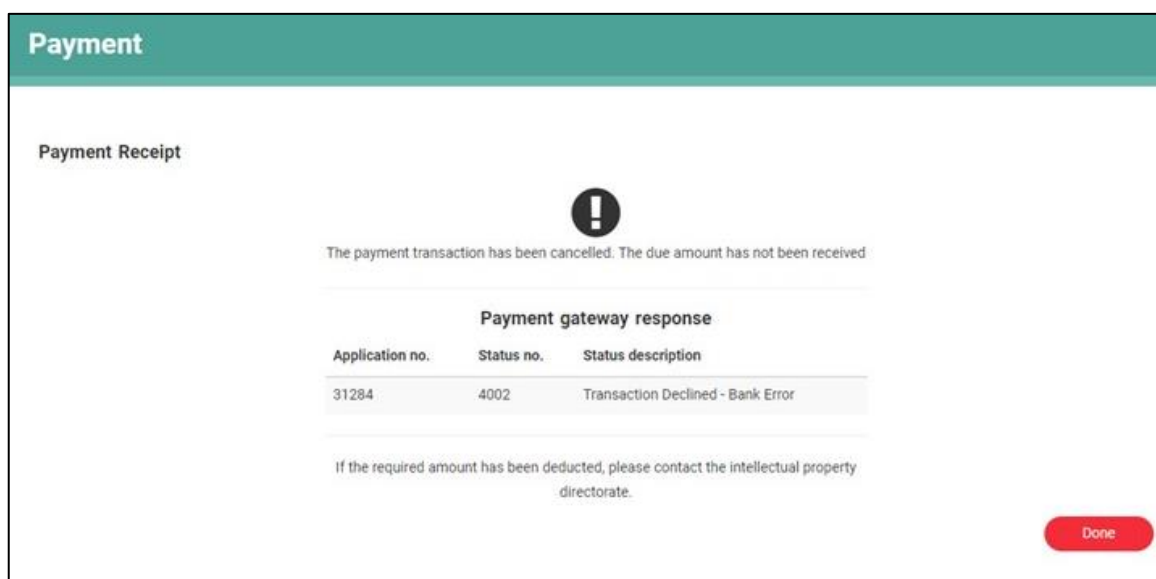
Application no. number allocated to the application for payment of the publication fee

Receipt no. number allocated to record payment of the fee

Service action for which fee has been paid

To print a paper receipt, click the cursor on **Print Receipt**. Clicking the cursor on **Done** will exit the application.

If the payment has not been accepted, the following page will be displayed:



Should the above screen be shown, clicking the cursor on **Done** will go to the following screen advising the user to contact the Trademark Office:

تنويه برجوع الخدمات الإلكترونية للملكية الصناعية

نود أن نلفت عنايتكم بأنه يمكنكم تقديم شكاوى التقليد من خلال برنامج خدمات الملكية الصناعية الإلكترونية مع تحيات قسم رقابة الملكية الصناعية

الأخوة والأخوات الأفاضل مستخدمي خدمات الملكية الصناعية الإلكترونية الكرام ،
نود أن نلفت عنايتكم بأن جميع الخدمات الإلكترونية تعمل حالياً على موقع وزارة الصناعة والتجارة والسياحة، في حال واجهتم أية مشاكل يرجى التواصل عبر حسابات البريد الإلكتروني المبينة في الجدول أدناه:

	العلامات والرقابة والتصاميم الصناعية	براءات الاختراع
الدعم الفني (IT)	ip_support@moic.gov.bh	PA-Support@moic.gov.bh
المكاتب والأقسام	IPonline@moic.gov.bh	patentonline@moic.gov.bh

مع تحياتي

مكتب العلامات التجارية ومكتب براءات الاختراع وقسم رقابة الملكية الصناعية
إدارة العلاقات التجارية الخارجية

Done