

IP UPDATE

19 November 2019

“SOFT-OPENING” PERIOD FOR TRADE MARKS REGISTRATION IN MYANMAR BEGINNING Y2020

SUMMARY

Myanmar’s Trademark Law will be implemented in 2020 in two stages.

The first stage is expected to start on 2 January 2020 with the commencement of a “soft opening” period lasting six months.

The second stage which is targeted for 2 July 2020 will see the launch of the new legal framework.

These dates are subject to change and we will keep you informed of any changes.

This article discusses some of the changes which we will see at the start of next year.

NEW INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF MYANMAR

The new Myanmar Department of Intellectual Property will be established under the Ministry of Commerce of Myanmar.

The Myanmar Department of Intellectual Property will commence a six-month “soft-opening” period for trade marks starting from 2 January 2020 and ending on 2 July 2020.

SOFT OPENING PERIOD

Proprietors with existing trade mark registrations under the current system of registration with Office of the Registration of Deeds will be able to “re-file”

the existing registrations during this “soft-opening period”.

During this six-month “soft-opening” period, new trade marks applications will not be received for registration. This means that applications for trade marks that were not previously registered with the Office of Registration of Deeds before the end of 2019 will only be accepted when the “soft-opening” period ends.

Given the above, it would be advantageous for parties who have yet to register a Declaration of Ownership under the current system to do as soon as possible before the end of this year, so as to try take advantage of the “soft-opening” period.

Please contact us if you would like further information on the soft opening or require assistance with filings in Myanmar under the current or new system.

The content of this article does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied on as such. Specific advice should be sought about your specific circumstances. Copyright in this publication is owned by Drew & Napier LLC. This publication may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, in whole or in part, without prior written approval.

If you have any questions or comments on this article, please contact:



Tony Yeo
Managing Director, Intellectual Property
T: +65 6531 2512
E: tony.yeo@drewnapier.com

[Click here](#) to view Tony’s profile



Yvonne Tang
Director, Intellectual Property
T: +65 6531 2575
E: yvonne.tang@drewnapier.com

[Click here](#) to view Yvonne’s profile



Lim Siau Wen
Director, Intellectual Property
T: +65 6531 2589
E: siauwen.lim@drewnapier.com

[Click here](#) to view Siau Wen's profile

[Click here](#) to learn about our **Intellectual Property Practice**