

NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AUTHORITY

**STATE ORGANIZATION
«UKRAINIAN NATIONAL OFFICE
FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INNOVATIONS»
(UANIPIO)**

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT
ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 2023**

**– GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE
OFFICE**

- Outline of main policies and plans aimed at development of industrial design information activities and expected time frames for their realization

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- New projects launched or resumed this year in the context of the policies and plans mentioned above, short description: aims, partners, tasks

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- Main areas of industrial design information activities and related information and communication technology (ICT) practices which were in the focus of attention last year

The main types of information activities in the field of industrial designs include: support of examination of industrial designs applications, the in-house database updating for the use in the examination body, publication of official information on registered industrial designs in the Official Electronic Bulletin «Industrial Property», creation and improvement of information and reference systems (hereinafter referred to as - IRS) for information support of a wide range of users via the Internet.

The document management for industrial design applications is carried out by means of an automated system that has full functionality of the text processing and record keeping at all stages, from application filing to maintenance of the State Register of Ukraine for Industrial Designs.

An automated worksite of the Editorial Department was used to form the information arrays, which are included to the publications in the Official Electronic Bulletin «Industrial Property».

BULLETIN: <https://ukrpatent.org/uk/articles/bulletin-ip>

The International Classification of Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), Fourteenth Edition (LOC (14)) translated into Ukrainian was used for industrial designs classifying.

Starting from January 1, 2023 the Information and Reference System (IRS) "International Classification of Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification)" for LOC (14) in Ukrainian translation, the form and content of which fully conforms to the official publication of the Locarno Classification, published on the World Intellectual Property Organization (hereinafter referred to as - WIPO) website, is available free of charge.

- Statistics: changes in terms of application filings and registrations with respect

to previous year; trends or areas experiencing rapid changes

Applications filed:

in 2022 – 825, in 2023 – 1,112, increased by 34.8 %, as compared to the previous year.

In 2022 – 735 applications were filed by national applicants, in 2023 - 958, increased by 30.3%, as compared to the previous year.

In 2022 – 90 applications were filed by foreign applicants, in 2023 - 154, increased by 71.1%, as compared to the previous year.

Over the course of 2023, a total of 912 applications for industrial designs were filed with the use of the electronic application filing system (82.0 % of the total amount of the industrial design applications filed), increased by 100.4 %, as compared to 2022 (455 applications).

Registered Certificates:

in 2022 – 656, in 2023 – 778, increased by 18.6 %, as compared to the previous year.

In 2023, in comparison with the previous year, the following areas experienced rapid changes: «Leisure and Education» (+35.5%), «Advertising» (+61.4%), «Packaging» (-18.0%), «Textile Goods and Accessories» (+83.3%), «Electricity and Lighting» (+164.0%), and «Construction» (-56.4%).

STATISTICS: <https://ukrpatent.org/en/articles/UKRNOIVI-statistics>

- **Other matters and useful links (URLs): annual report of the Office, news page, statistics, etc.**

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NEWS: <https://ukrpatent.org/en/news>

2. SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE

- **Information and support provided by the Office to applicants regarding filing on paper and/or e-filing (instructions, seminars, etc.) - URLs**

Information for users on different procedures and sources of information on industrial designs, in particular, information on the legislation in the sphere of industrial designs, services and Office's activities related to the information on industrial design, statistical information, etc. is published on the website of the Office.

WEBSITE OF THE OFFICE: <https://ukrpatent.org/en>

For electronic filing of industrial design applications the Electronic Applications Filing System EAFS-2 is used. Applicant's personal account was implemented in the system providing access to all documents generated in the process of interaction between the Office and applicants in the course of prosecution of industrial design applications.

To work with the systems there is the Electronic Filing System User Guide developed and is available in electronic form.

ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS FILING SYSTEM: <http://base.ukrpatent.org/efiling>

Recommendations on the work with systems, rules of drafting an application, etc. are available on the website of the Office at:

ELECTRONIC INTERACTION SYSTEM: <https://sev.ukrpatent.org/>

EXAMPLES OF FILLING OUT APPLICATIONS:

https://ukrpatent.org/uk/articles/pryklady_zapovnennia_zaiav_pv

- Availability of the application dossier in electronic form

All application materials (both primary and secondary) for industrial designs, irrespective of the way they are filed to the Office (in electronic form, on paper carriers, by e-mail, fax and other telecommunication networks), automatically or after scanning are entered and stored in the electronic archive of documents. In order to use application materials during the processing of applications, the integration of technological automated systems with the electronic document archive has been implemented.

- Classification and reclassification activities; classification systems used, e.g. International Classification of Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), other classifications

The International Classification of Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), Fourteenth Edition (LOC (14)) translated into Ukrainian was used for the classifying industrial designs.

The IRS for the LOC (14), translated into Ukrainian, the form and content of which fully corresponds to the official publication of the Locarno Classification on the WIPO website, is accessible for free on the website of the Office.

LOC: <https://base.uipv.org/locarno/>

- Other activities

3. SOURCES OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE

- Main types of publications in the field of industrial design information, outline of the content (industrial design applications, design patents, registrations, etc.) and medium (on paper, on CDs, online - URLs)

Information about industrial designs was provided through publication in electronic publications in the field of legal protection of intellectual property, free information and search internet resources of the Department - the Information and Reference System (IRS) and the Special Information System (hereinafter referred to as SIS):

- the Official Electronic Bulletin "Industrial Property". Information concerning industrial designs was published in Volume 2 of the Official Electronic Bulletin "Industrial Property" in the following sections: "Official Information", "Information on the Grant of Certificates of Ukraine for Industrial Designs" and in Notices section.

In 2023, 52 issues of the bulletin were issued.

BULLETIN: <https://ukrpatent.org/uk/articles/bulletin-ip>

- IRS "International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification)" - this link contains the current of the the Locarno Classification translated into Ukrainian and all previous versions which have expired but are available for informational purposes;

LOC: <https://base.uipv.org/locarno/>

SIS has been created and is in operation at the Office, which provides access to information on any industrial/intellectual property right (hereinafter referred to as IPR/IP) via the Internet in the mode as close to real-time as possible. The search engine of the system, which has a universal search interface, provides open and authorized access to any document of the electronic dossier. Two search engines are implemented in the SIS - simple and advanced. The advanced search has additional search tools, which can be used to limit the search by type of IPR and legal status. Depending on the selected type and legal status, any search parameter can be selected.

SIS: <https://sis.nipo.gov.ua/en/search/simple/>

- **Official Gazettes: main types of announcements, frequency of publication, medium (on paper, on CDs, online - URL), etc.**

In the Notices section of the Official Electronic Bulletin «Industrial Property», with the periodicity of its release, announcements are published in respect of industrial designs (to the extent provided by the respective applicable Law of Ukraine) which include information on changes in the data entered into the State Register of Patents of Ukraine for Industrial Designs, information on issue of duplicates of patents of Ukraine for industrial designs, information on modifications due to the correction of errors and other information relating to the state registration of industrial designs.

BULLETIN: <https://ukrpatent.org/uk/articles/bulletin-ip>

- **Information products (coverage, medium, etc.) available to examiners, including external documentation and databases**

Examiners considering applications for the state registration of industrial designs use the Comprehensive Automated Record Keeping System for Applications for Designations and Industrial Designs (hereinafter referred to as the CARKS ADID).

CARKS ADID provides:

- processes of keeping records of applications for the registration of industrial design rights;
- processes of keeping records of the State Register of Ukraine for Industrial Designs.

The database (DB) of the CARKS ADID contains cases related to the processing of applications for registration of industrial designs and the processing of the State Register of Certificates of Ukraine for Industrial Designs.

The CARKS ADID is integrated into the Information Technology Environment (ITE) of the Office which allows receiving documents related to applications and the State Register of Ukraine for Industrial Designs. The incoming documents may be in paper or electronic form. Paper documents are digitized, after which the document metadata is stored in the DB and the document files are stored in the file storage.

SIS: <https://sis.nipo.gov.ua/en/search/simple/>

- **Information products (coverage, medium, etc.) and services available to external users; conditions of access (e.g., free of charge, subscription, etc.)**

For information support of a wide range of users, free access to the information concerning industrial designs is provided through the website of the Office - IRS "International Classification of Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification)", SIS and the Official Electronic Bulletin "Industrial Property".

The following documents are also freely available on the website of the Office: Annual Reports of the Office, Annual Technical Reports of the Office on Industrial Designs Information Activities, quarterly issues of the Internet publication "Industrial Property in Figures", unofficial translations of WIPO Standards into Ukrainian, which are of the greatest practical importance and relate to various IPRs, including industrial designs ("WIPO Standards" Section).

SIS: <https://sis.nipo.gov.ua/en/search/simple/>

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LOC: <https://base.uipv.org/locarno/>

Legal status information (kind of information, coverage, medium, etc.)

Information concerning the legal status of registered industrial designs to the extent prescribed by the applicable Law of Ukraine is published in the Notices section of the Official Electronic Bulletin "Industrial Property".

BULLETIN: <https://ukrpatent.org/uk/articles/bulletin-ip>

In addition, such information is provided in the SIS.

SIS: <https://sis.nipo.gov.ua/en/search/simple/>

- **Other sources**

4. ICT SUPPORT TO SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE

- **Specific software tools supporting business procedures within the Office: general description, characteristics, advantages, possible improvements**

The main tool for examining industrial design applications and maintaining state registers is CARKS ADID. The whole cycle of the formation, approval, signing, transmission and registration of documents is carried out on the basis of the electronic technology. The integrated search engine enables to search for similar industrial designs in the arrays of national applications and registrations, etc.

- **Hardware used to supporting business processes of the Office**

The server part is based on x86 platform servers manufactured by Hewlett-Packard Enterprise (HPE) (HPE Synergy 480 Gen10, DL380Gen10, DL380Gen8).

Information storage models are:

HPE (3Par StoreServ 8400, 3Par StoreServ 7200, MSA2050, MSA2040).

The Storage Area Network (SAN) is based on the HPE SN3000B switches.

The general network infrastructure is based on:

- a two-device Fortinet FG-600F cluster containing VPN and Firewall modules for Internet connectivity, which provides access control to Internet sites and protects the Department's IT infrastructure from complex threats and malicious attacks (botnets, targeted attacks, APT and zero-day attacks);
- FortiMail-VM virtual appliance for protecting email servers;
- an internal router (built on a Unix server) to support the local computer network of the Office.

The local computer network includes a set of HPE Aruba 8320, HPE Aruba 2930M, HPE Aruba 2540-48, HP 2530-48, HP 2510-48 switches and is divided into fifty virtual networks (Vlan).

The server infrastructure is fully virtualised. The physical servers run Microsoft Hyper-V Server 2019 and VMware ESXi, which allow to create and operate the productive virtual servers. The virtualization servers are grouped into Hyper-V clusters, which allow for high availability of the productive servers running Microsoft Windows Server 2019, Microsoft Windows Server 2016, Microsoft Windows Server 2012R2, Microsoft Windows Server 2012, Microsoft Windows Server 2008R2 and CentOS 7.

The database management systems used are MS SQL Server 2017, MS SQL Server

2016, MS SQL Server 2014, MS SQL 2008R2, MS SQL 2005, PostgreSQL, MySQL.

The Active Directory (AD) domain structure is designed to allow the centralized management of all information resources, including users, computers, files, peripherals, access to services, network resources, websites, databases, etc.

Several domain controllers are used to organize the fault tolerance of the domain structure.

The WSUS server provides updates to the operating systems of servers and client computers.

The ESET Antivirus Server provides centralized management of all anti-virus programs on users' computers, updates antivirus databases, and generates reports on database updates and existing threats.

Data is backed up using Veeam's Veeam Backup & Replication software product, which provides continuous data protection for reliable recovery of Windows servers. There is a disaster recovery plan for all servers and services.

Other Microsoft System Center 2019 products are also used, namely: Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM) for virtualization management, System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) 2012R2 for operating system installation and software configuration.

The measures taken to develop the IT infrastructure in the current period were aimed at building the fail-safe core of the computer network, increasing its bandwidth, security and manageability, replacing outdated hardware components of the infrastructure, consolidating and virtualizing servers. Virtualization servers are clustered to ensure high availability of all systems.

In total, the corporate network consists of 676 personal computers, 24 physical and 122 virtual servers, 6 data storages and various switching equipment.

For the information systems users the Internet connection is provided to search and browse information.

- Internal databases: coverage, updates, interlinks with external sources

The data from a number of sources (internal and external) are used while carrying out examination of applications for industrial designs:

- The database of international registrations of industrial designs. The information is downloaded to this database from the WIPO website (<https://www3.wipo.int/designdb/en/>).
- The Central Electronic Document Archive (CEDA) database, providing for storage of documents and their attributes in electronic form.

The in-house databases are updated in the course of processing applications and within maintenance of the respective State Register

The CARKS ADID is used to process applications for registration and maintain the State Register of Ukraine for Industrial Designs.

According to the national legislation of Ukraine, the procedure for consideration of applications for registration of an industrial design involves only formal examination. However, the CARKS ADID has a search capability that meets the requirements for examination and maintenance of the State Register of Ukraine for Industrial Designs.

As of January 1, 2024, 46,141 industrial designs were registered in the database CARKS ADID.

The CARKS ADID is the source of data for the SIS during data publication, which is

performed on a weekly basis.

- Establishment and maintenance of electronic search file: file building, updating, storage, documents from other Offices included in the search file

Information concerning international registrations of industrial designs is downloaded in batches once a day from the WIPO website and stored in the database of international registrations of industrial designs. CARKS ADID is populated and updated in the course of examination, processing of agreements on the transfer of rights, issuance of licenses and maintenance of the state register. The whole cycle of the formation, approval, signing, transmission and registration of documents is carried out on the basis of the electronic technology. The integrated search engine enables to search for similar industrial designs in the arrays of national and international applications and registrations, etc.

- Administrative management electronic systems (register, legal status, statistics, and administrative support)

The administrative management functions are implemented in Designations AS using separate software subsystems and modules.

Thus, to maintain the registers and legal status of titles of protection industrial designs, multifunction subsystems are operative within the automated system. The information from this system is forwarded to relevant databases for publication and for drawing statistic reports.

The Indicators AS is characterized by the capability to form multiple reports and implementation of a mechanism of calculation of indicators by objects which have multiple details for all IP rights. The Indicators AS is built on a modular basis and provides automation of data loading, preparation of data arrays, and drawing of statistic reports.

The website of the Office provides free access to: - information on industrial designs published in monthly reports, Annual Reports, Annual Technical Reports of the Trademark Information Activities of the Office, quarterly issues of the online publication "Industrial Property in Figures" (statistical information).

- Other matters

- 5. PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AIMED TO SUPPORT USERS IN ACCESS AND EFFICIENT USE OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION

- Office's library (if deals with industrial design information): equipment, collection management, network of libraries in the country, cooperation with foreign libraries

In order to satisfy public needs for patent information in Ukraine, which is necessary for study and analysis in the process of creation, legal protection and use of IPR rights, work continued to restore the functioning of the Public Patent Documentation Collection (PPDC).

The main source of acquisition of foreign patent documentation by the PPDC has long been the international exchange of patent documentation with foreign offices. Due to such international cooperation, the state system of IPR has accumulated significant funds of both current and retrospective patent documentation.

The WIPO Depository Library has been operating in Ukraine, providing free-of-charge access to documents

- Publications related to different business procedures and trademarks sources available to users, for example, books, brochures, Internet publications, etc.

The Office`s website provides free access to:

- information on industrial designs published in the Annual Reports, Annual Technical Reports of the Office, quarterly issues of the booklet «Intellectual Property in Figures» (statistical information).

BOOKLET:

<https://nipo.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/IP-in-Figures-2023-en-web.pdf>

INFORMATION DASHBOARD:

https://nipo.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Information_Dashboard-web.pdf

In order to provide information support to the development and functioning of the Office, in particular, to improve the Ukrainian patent and terminology base, standardization and unification of terminology in the intellectual property sphere, the Office carries out translation of the WIPO Standards into Ukrainian, primarily those that have more practical value and relate to various IPRs, and ensures their timely updating.

In total, twenty-nine WIPO Standards have been translated (with no official status) and are available on the website of the Office in WIPO Standards section.

WIPO STANDARDS TRANSLATION WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS:

<https://ukrpatent.org/en/articles/standarti-voiv>

- **Cooperation with universities, technology and etc.**

The Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC) is an international project to support inventions, innovations and start-up projects launched by WIPO, implemented in Ukraine by the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine and the Office.

Regional TISCs are established through the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation and an Agreement on the establishment and further functioning of the TISCs.

Project implementation:

As of the end of 2023, 30 TISCs are functioning in Ukraine including the TISC Head Office and 16 TISCs opened in 2023 in 8 regions and Kyiv.

In 2023, the TISC Head Office provided 22 consultations on the development of innovation activities, creation of innovative projects, commercialization of IPRs, and technology transfer.

In 2023, according to the monitoring of the TISC Head Office, the regional TISCs of Ukraine responded to user requests, including: assistance in using the WIPO ARDI and ASPI databases - 23; provision of general information on legislation in the field of innovation and intellectual property - 300.

The specialists of the Office (outside the TISC project activities in Ukraine) provided 479 consultations on applications for IPRs: inventions and utility models; industrial designs; trademarks.

The TISC Head Office provided 8 consultations and methodological support to the TISC network members on the connection and use of the WIPO ASPI and ARDI databases.

TISC: <https://tisc.nipo.gov.ua/ipguides.html>

- **Education and training: training courses, e-learning modules (URLs), seminars, exhibitions, etc.**

Detailed information on the activities of the Office in 2023 is published on the website of the Office, in particular, in the quarterly issues of the booklet «Intellectual Property in Figures», as well as in the 2023 Annual Report.

In 2023, the specialists of the Office participated in specialized and educational events in the sphere of intellectual property, organized by the Office and other international organizations, including WIPO, EPO, EUIPO, etc.

Specialists of the Office completed the WIPO Academy Distance Learning courses on the following topics:

- Online seminar on the protection of intellectual property rights in the fashion industry, June 7, 2023;
- Online seminar on the protection of intellectual property rights in sports activities, July 19, 2023;
- Online seminar on the protection of intellectual property rights in the jewellery industry, September 20, 2023;
- An online lecture for students of the Ukrainian Fashion Education Group project on typical intellectual property rights in the fashion industry, October 10, 2023;
- An online lecture for students of the Ukrainian Fashion Education Group project on atypical intellectual property rights in the fashion industry, December 12, 2023;
- WIPO DL101 General Course on Intellectual Property;
- WIPO DL302 Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications;
- Cross-Regional Experience-Sharing Online Workshop on IP for Women Entrepreneurs in the Industrial Design Sector, organized by the WIPO Transition and Developed Countries Division, April 12, 2023;
- WIPO Webinar «What does a gaming lawyer do?», December 8, 2023;
- WIPO Webinar «The Quest to Help Game Developers LevelUP their Intellectual Property», December 12, 2023.

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- Other activities

– 6. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION

International exchange of industrial design information in machine-readable form (e.g., official gazettes)

The international exchange of patent documentation is carried out by the Office, which was recognized in 2003 as the Centre for International Exchange of Publications in accordance with the Convention on the International Exchange of Publications adopted on December 3, 1958 by the UN General Conference on Education, Science and Culture.

In 2023, in the framework of international exchange, the Office continued the transition to free international exchange of patent documentation on intangible media, namely by providing access to it via the Internet and spreading data exchange, mainly through the offices' FTP servers.

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- Participation in international or regional events and projects related to industrial information

In 2023, the Office continued international cooperation in the field of intellectual property with WIPO, EPO and intellectual property offices of other countries.

Representatives of the Office participated in the work of WIPO Task Forces (including online), preparation of relevant proposals and information on Ukraine (if necessary) at sessions and meetings of WIPO Committees and Working Groups (online), in particular, in

the work of the Task Forces (TF) of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) on the development of new WIPO Standards, their updates, as well as other CWS projects:

- 20th EUIPO Liaison Meeting on Cooperation, March 28, 2023;
- 22nd EUIPO Liaison Meeting on Designs, March 30, 2023;
- WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property, 30th session, April 24-28, 2023;
- EUIPO 8th meeting of the Anti-Scam Network, May 12, 2023;
- WIPO Program and Budget Committee, 25th session, May 22-26, 2023;
- WIPO Program and Budget Committee, 26th session, June 19-23, 2023;
- Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, 64th series of meetings, July 6-14, 2023;
- International IP Congress: 105th Anniversary of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland, September 21-22, 2023;
- WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, 3rd special session, October 2-6, 2023;
- WIPO Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude and Adopt a Design Law Treaty (DLT), October 9-11, 2023;
- Meeting of the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, October 30-31, 2023;
- WIPO's IP Finance Dialogue: «Expanding Horizons on IP Finance and Valuation», November 21, 2023;
- WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property, Thirty-First Session, November 27 to December 1, 2023;
- WIPO Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, December 4-6, 2023;
- WIPO Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS), December 4-8, 2023;
- South Caucasus and Eastern Europe Expert Level Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights, organized by U.S. Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program in cooperation with the State Agency on Intellectual Property (AGEPI), December 16, 2023;
- Intellectual Property Enforcement Workshop, organized by U.S. Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program in coordination with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Anti-Counterfeiting Network REACT, December 18-20, 2023.

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– **Assistance to developing countries**

Other activities

7. OTHER RELATED MATTERS

The Quality Management System (hereinafter referred to as the QMS) has been introduced and is being applied at UANIPIO in accordance with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 international standard.

In June 2023, a representative of the international certification body DEKRA (DEKRA Certification GmbH) conducted a verification (certification audit) of the compliance of the QMS of UANIPIO with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015. According to the results of the audit, the QMS of UANIPIO meets the requirements of ISO 9001:2015. Audit report No. Z-A 677423/GC/9001. Certificate registration number 32072300505 (*DEKRA Certification Sp. z o.o. Wrocław; 04-07-2023*).

The certificate of conformity is valid until July 3, 2026.

Compliance with the requirements of the international standard ISO 9001:2015 is ensured at UANIPIO. There are 16 QMS processes in operation at UANIPIO, the sequence and interaction of these processes, performance criteria and means of managing these processes, as well as monitoring of QMS processes and service quality at all relevant stages of the QMS processes are defined. To ensure internal communications on quality issues and coordination of activities affecting quality, UANIPIO established a Coordination Council for the development, implementation and maintenance of the QMS, as well as appointed a Chief Commissioner for the implementation and maintenance of the QMS.

The Quality Policy is defined and approved by Order of the UANIPIO No. 96 dated May 17, 2023.

The Coordination Council shall meet at least once every six months. In 2023, 3 (three) meetings of the Coordination Council were held.