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GRENADA

ACT NO. 16 OF 2011

I assent,

CARLYLE ARNOLD GLEAN
Governor-General

September 15, 2011.

AN ACT to provide for the registration of Patents.

[By Notice].

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives, and by the authority of the same as follows—

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the

PATENTS ACT, 2011

Short Title and commencement.

and shall come into force on a date to be fixed by the Minister, by Notice published in the Gazette.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

Interpretation.

“Court” means, the Supreme Court;

“foreign application” means, any application for a patent filed by an applicant outside of Grenada;

“International Patent Classification” means, the classification according to the Strasbourg Agreement of March 24, 1971;

“invention” means, an idea of an inventor which permits, in practice, the solution to a specific problem in the field of technology;

“Journal” means, the Journal of Intellectual Property referred to in section 3(d) of this Act;

“Minister” means, the Minister responsible for Patents;

“Office” means, the Commerce and Intellectual Property Office established, pursuant to the provisions of the Corporate and Intellectual Property Office Act;

“Paris Convention” means, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of March 20, 1983 as last revised;

“patent” means, the title granted to protect an invention;

“patentee” means, the person to whom a patent has been granted;

“Patent Cooperation Treaty” means, the Patent Cooperation Treaty of June 19, 1970;

“priority date” means, the date of the earlier application that serves as the basis for the right of priority provided for, in the Paris Convention;

“Register” means, the Register of Patents referred to in Section 4;

“Registrar” means, the Registrar of Corporate and Intellectual Property appointed, pursuant to the Corporate and Intellectual Property Office Act;

“utility model certificate” means, a certificate granted for an invention under Part XII.

PART II

FUNCTIONS OF THE REGISTRAR

3. Without derogating from the generality of the provisions of the Corporate and Intellectual Property Office Act, the Registrar shall have the following functions and powers under this Act; namely to—

Powers and functions of the registrar.

- (a) process all applications made under this Act;
- (b) grant patents, and register utility model certificates;
- (c) administer granted patents and registered utility model certificates;
- (d) establish and maintain a Journal of Intellectual Property, in which he shall publish all matters that are required to be published under this Act, or any other enactment;
- (e) carry out studies, programmes or exchanges of items or services, regarding domestic and international patent law; and
- (f) provide patent information services, such as making available, for use by the public, in

the prescribed manner, and on payment of any prescribed fees, the patent literature.

Register.

4.—(1) The Registrar shall maintain a Register of Patents, in which he shall record all matters required by this Act, or the Regulations made thereunder, to be recorded, and shall also, in a section of the Register created for that purpose, register utility model certificates.

(2) Any person may, upon payment of the prescribed fee, and in accordance with any prescribed conditions, consult, inspect, make a copy of, or obtain an extract from, the Register.

(3) The Register shall be prima facie evidence of anything required or authorised by this Act to be registered, and shall be admissible and sufficient evidence of any such thing.

(4) A certificate signed by the Registrar, and certifying that any entry which he is authorised by this Act to make, has or has not been made, or that any other thing which he is authorised to do, has or has not been done, shall be prima facie evidence, and shall be admissible and sufficient evidence of the matters so certified.

(5) Each of the following, that is to say, a copy of—

(a) an entry in the Register, or an extract from the Register which is supplied under subsection (2); and

(b) any document kept in the Corporate and Intellectual Property Office, or an extract from any such document, or any matter

which has been published in the Journal,
which is to be a certified copy or a certified
extract;

shall be admitted in evidence without further proof, and
without production of the original, and such evidence shall
be sufficient evidence of the matter stated therein.

(6) In this section, “certified copy” and “certified
extract” mean, a copy or extract certified by the Registrar
and sealed with his seal.

PART III

PATENT REQUIREMENTS

5.—(1) Subject to section 9, a patent may be granted only Patentable
inventions.
for an invention which satisfies the following conditions—

- (a) the invention is new;
- (b) it involves an inventive step; and
- (c) it is capable of industrial application.

(2) An invention may be, or may relate to, a product
or a process.

6.—(1) An invention is considered to be new, if it does Novelty.
not form part of prior art.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, prior art in relation
to an invention means, anything which has, at any time
prior to the filing date, or where priority is claimed, the
priority date, of the application claiming the invention, been
disclosed to the public anywhere in the world, by oral or
written description, by use, or any other way.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the disclosure to the public of a matter constituting an invention, shall not be taken into consideration, if it occurred within twelve months immediately preceding the filing date or, where priority is claimed, the priority date of the application, and the disclosure was due to, or in consequence of—

- (a) acts committed by the applicant or his predecessor in title; or
- (b) an abuse committed by a third party, with regard to the applicant or his predecessor in title.

(4) In the case of an invention consisting of—

- (a) a substance or composition for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body, by surgery or therapy; or
- (b) diagnosis practised in the human or animal body,

the fact that the substance or composition forms part of prior art, shall not prevent the invention from being taken to be new, if the substance or composition in any such method, does not form part of prior art.

Inventive step.

7. An invention shall be considered as involving an inventive step, if having regard to the prior art relevant to the application claiming the invention as defined in section 6 (2), it is not obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Industrial application.

8. An invention shall be considered as being capable of industrial application, if it can be made or used in any

kind of industry, including, without limitation, agriculture, fishery, handicraft and services.

9.—(1) The following, even if they are inventions within the meaning of this Act, shall not be protected as patents—

Matters excluded from patent protection.

- (a) a discovery, scientific theory or mathematical method;
- (b) a scheme, rule or method for doing business, performing a mental act or playing a game or a programme for a computer; and
- (c) methods for the treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy, as well as diagnostic methods practised on the human or animal body.

(2) Subsection (1) (c) shall not apply to products for use in any of the methods specified therein.

(3) A patent shall not be granted for an invention, the commercial exploitation of which it is necessary to prevent in Grenada, in order—

- (a) to protect public order or morality, including, to protect human, animal or plant life or health; or
- (b) to avoid serious prejudice to the environment.

(4) The refusal to grant a patent in respect of an invention referred to in subsection (3), shall not be based solely on the ground, that the commercial exploitation is prohibited by a law in force in Grenada.

PART IV

RIGHT TO APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN A PATENT

10. Any person may make application for a patent, either alone or jointly with another.

Who may apply for a patent.

Right to a patent. **11.**—(1) The right to a patent shall belong to the inventor.

(2) If two or more persons have made an invention jointly, the right to the invention shall belong to them jointly.

(3) Where two or more persons have made the same invention independently of each other, the person whose application bears the earliest filing date or, if priority is claimed, the person whose application bears the earliest validity claimed priority date shall, unless that application is abandoned or withdrawn by the applicant, or rejected by the Registrar, have the right to the patent.

(4) The inventor shall be named as such in the patent, unless in a special written declaration signed by him and addressed to the Registrar, he indicates that he does not wish to be so named.

(5) Any promise or undertaking made by the inventor to any person, to the effect that he will make such a declaration, shall be void.

(6) The right to a patent may be assigned or transferred by succession.

Invention by employee or person commissioned. **12.**—(1) Where an invention is made in execution of a contract of employment or for the execution of work, the right to the patent shall, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, belong to the employer or the person who commissioned the work, as the case may be.

(2) Where an invention referred to in subsection (1), acquires an economic value much greater than the parties could reasonably have foreseen at the time of concluding the contract of employment, or for the execution of work, as

the case may be, the inventor shall be entitled to equitable remuneration, which may be fixed by the Court, in the absence of an agreement between the parties.

(3) Where an employee whose contract of employment does not require him to engage in any inventive activity makes, in the field of the activities of his employer, an invention, using information or means placed at his disposal by his employer, the right to the patent for such invention, shall be deemed to accrue to the employer, in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the contract of employment—

Provided that the employee shall be entitled to equitable remuneration which, in the absence of agreement between the parties, may be fixed by the Court, taking into account his emoluments, the economic value of the invention, and any benefit derived from it by the employer.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared, that when an invention is made by an employee whose contract of employment does not require him to engage in inventive activity, or in a field of activity different from that of his employer, and without using information or means put at his disposal by the employer, the right to the patent for such invention shall accrue to the employee.

(5) The rights conferred on the inventor under subsections (1), (2), (3) and (4) shall not be restricted by contract.

(6) This section shall not apply to an invention made before the coming into force of this Act.

Judicial
assignment
of patent
application or
patent.

13.—(1) Where the essential elements of the invention claimed in a patent, or an application for a patent has been unlawfully derived from an invention, for which the right to the patent belongs to another person, such other person may apply to the Court for an order, that the said patent application or patent be assigned to him.

(2) The Court shall make such order as it sees fit, upon hearing such application.

(3) No application for the assignment of a patent under subsection (1) shall be entertained by the Court, after the expiry of five years from the date of the grant of the patent, unless it is shown, that any person registered as an owner of the patent knew, at any time of the grant or, as the case may be, of the transfer of the patent to him, that he was not entitled to the patent.

PART V

APPLICATIONS

Application for
a patent.

14.—(1) Every application for a patent shall be filed with the Registrar in the prescribed form, and shall contain—

- (a) a request;
- (b) a description;
- (c) one or more claims;
- (d) one or more drawings where required; and
- (e) an abstract.

(2) The request shall contain—

- (a) a petition that a patent be granted;

(b) the name of and other prescribed information relating to the applicant, the inventor, and agent, if any; and

(c) the title of the invention.

(3) Where the applicant is not the inventor or a joint inventor, the request shall be accompanied by a written statement justifying the applicant's right to the patent.

(4) The description shall disclose the invention in a manner which is sufficiently clear and complete, to permit a person having ordinary skill in the art to carry out the invention, and shall, in particular, indicate at least one mode known to the applicant, in which the invention can be carried out.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4), the ordinary skill in the Art shall be determined in accordance with the standards pertaining in Grenada.

(6) The claim or claims shall—

(a) define the matter for which protection is sought;

(b) be clear and concise; and

(c) be supported by the description.

(7) The description and the drawings may be used to interpret the claim or claims.

(8) The Registrar may require an application to file drawings, where these are necessary, for the understanding of the invention.

(9) The purpose of the abstract is to provide technical information, and shall not be taken into account for the purpose of interpreting the scope of the protection sought.

(10) An applicant may, at any time before the patent is granted, withdraw his application.

(11) An application for a patent shall be accompanied by the prescribed application fee.

Unity of invention.

15.—(1) An application for a patent shall relate to one invention only, or to a group of inventions so linked, so as to form a single general inventive concept.

(2) The applicant may, at any time before a patent is granted, divide the application into two or more applications, (referred to in this section as “divisional applications”), provided that each divisional application shall not include any matter which was not disclosed in the initial application as filed.

(3) Each divisional application shall be accorded the filing date and, where applicable, the priority date, of the initial application.

(4) The fact that a patent has been granted on an application that did not comply with the requirements of unity of invention under subsection (1), shall not be a ground for the invalidation of the patent.

Amendment of application.

16. The applicant may, at any time before a patent is granted, amend the application, but the amendment shall not include any matter which was not disclosed in the initial application as filed.

17.—(1) Where two or more persons apply jointly for a patent, they shall, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, have equal undivided shares in the application, and none of them shall deal with the application in any way without the consent of the other. Joint applicants.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), if any step is required to be taken to save the application from being abandoned, any applicant may, on his own behalf, and on behalf of any other joint applicant, take such step without recourse to the other applicant or applicants.

18. (1) An application for a patent may contain a declaration claiming the priority, as provided for in the Paris Convention, of one or more earlier national, regional, or international applications, filed by the applicant or his predecessor in title in, or for any State Party to the said Convention, or any member of the World Trade Organisation. Right of priority.

(2) Where the application contains a declaration under subsection (1), the Registrar may require the applicant to furnish, within the prescribed time, a copy of the earlier national, regional or international application, certified as correct, by the Office with which it was filed.

(3) Where the earlier application is not in English, the Registrar may require a translation thereof in English, verified by the translator, that the translation is, to the best of his knowledge, complete and faithful.

(4) The effect of the declaration referred to in subsection (1), shall be as provided in the Paris Convention.

(5) Where any requirement of this section or the Regulations pertaining thereto is not fulfilled, the declaration

referred to in subsection (1), shall be considered as having not been made.

Conversion
of patent
application.

19. (1) At any time before the grant or refusal of a patent, a person may, upon payment of the prescribed fee, convert his application into an application for a utility model certificate.

(2) No person may convert an application under subsection (1) more than once.

(3) A utility model certificate shall be granted for any new shape, configuration or arrangement of components of any device, tool, implement, mechanism or other object, or any part thereof, that makes for improved or different operation, use, manufacture of the object incorporating it, or which allows it with any usefulness, advantage or technical effect that it did not have previously.

(4) The subject matter of the utility model shall be considered to be new, if it does not form part of the prior art in accordance with section 6.

(5) A utility model shall be considered as involving a sufficiently inventive step, if having regard to the differences and similarities between the claimed invention and prior art, the claimed invention does not result in a common manner from the prior art, relevant to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

(6) The subject matter of a utility model shall be considered susceptible of industrial application, if it can be made or used in any kind of industry including agriculture.

Information
concerning
corresponding
foreign
applications.

20.—(1) The applicant shall, if requested by the Registrar, furnish him with the date and number of any application for a patent filed by him abroad, relating to the same, or essentially

the same invention, as that claimed in the application filed with the Registrar.

(2) The applicant shall also, if requested by the Registrar, furnish him with the following documents relating to any foreign application referred to in subsection (1)—

- (a) a copy of any communication received by the applicant, concerning the results of any search or examination carried out in respect of the foreign application;
- (b) a copy of the patent granted on the basis of the foreign application;
- (c) a copy of any final decision, rejecting the foreign application, or refusing the grant requested in the foreign application referred to in subsection (1).

(3) Subsection (2) (a) and (c), shall not apply where the Office is an elected Office within the meaning of section 2, and has received, or will receive, an international preliminary examination report.

(4) Any document furnished pursuant to this section—

- (a) shall, if not in English, be accompanied by a translation thereof in English, verified by the translator, that the translation is, to the best of his knowledge, complete and faithful; and
- (b) may be used only for facilitating the evaluation of the novelty and the inventive

step for which the patent application is made.

Disclosure of matter, etc., between earlier and later applications.

21. Where an application is made for a patent under section 14, and a declaration is made in accordance with section 18 (1) in, or in connection with that application, specifying an earlier application, the first-mentioned application, and any patent granted in pursuance thereof, shall not be invalidated by reason, only of the fact that any subject matter disclosed in the earlier application, was made available to the public at any time after the date of filing of the said earlier application.

Filing date.

22.—(1) The Registrar shall record as the filing date of an application for a patent, the date of receipt of the application, provided that at the time of its receipt, the following requirements are satisfied—

- (a) the documents filed contain an express or implied indication, that the granting of a patent is sought;
- (b) the documents filed identified the applicant or applicants;
- (c) the documents filed is information which, on the face of it, appears to be a description of the invention.

(2) Where the application does not comply with the requirements of subsection (1), the Registrar shall so inform the applicant in writing, and shall invite him, subject to section 16, to file the required amendment.

(3) The Registrar shall then record, as the date, the date of receipt of the amendment referred to in subsection (2).

(4) Where the applicant fails to make the required amendment, the application shall be treated as if it had not been filed.

(5) Where the application refers to drawings which are not included in the application, the Registrar shall invite the applicant to furnish the missing drawings and, if the applicant complies, the Registrar shall record, as the filing date of the application, the date of the missing drawings.

(6) Where the applicant fails to comply with subsection (5), the Registrar shall record as the filing date of the application, the date of receipt of the application, and shall treat any reference to the said drawing as non-existent.

23. After recording a filing date, and if the application is not withdrawn, the Registrar shall examine the application to determine whether— Examination.

- (a) it complies with the requirements of section 14 (1), (2), (3) and (11), and the Regulations pertaining thereto:-
- (b) it complies with the requirements of this Act;
- (c) it complies with the requirements of the Regulations, as have been designated by the Regulations, to be formal requirements; and
- (d) information requested under section 20, if any, has been provided.

24.—(1) Subject to section 22 (2) to (4), where the Registrar is not satisfied that the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have been complied with, the Registrar shall refuse the application, and so inform the applicant in writing, stating the reasons for the refusal. Refusal or grant of patent.

(2) Where two or more patent applications for the same invention, having the same filing date or the same priority date, are filed by the same applicant or his successor in title, the Registrar may, on the ground, refuse to grant a patent in respect of more than one of the applications.

(3) Where the Registrar refuses an application under subsection (2), he shall so inform the applicant in writing, stating the reasons for his refusal.

(4) Where the Registrar is satisfied that the application, as originally filed or as amended, complies with the requirements of section 23, he shall grant the applicant a patent.

(5) Where the Registrar grants a patent, he shall—

(a) publish in the Journal, a notice of the grant of the patent;

(b) publish in the Gazette, a notice of the grant of the patent;

(c) issue a certificate of the grant of the patent and a copy of the patent to the applicant; and

(d) record the patent in the Register.

(6) The Registrar shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, make a copy of any patent granted under this section, available to any person who requests such copy.

(7) The Registrar shall, upon the request of the owner of the patent, amend the text or drawings of the

patent, in order to limit the extent of the protection conferred thereby, provided that the amendment would not result in the disclosure contained in the patent, going beyond the disclosure contained in the initial application, on the basis of which the patent was granted.

(8) The patent shall be deemed to be granted, on the date on which the Registrar publishes a notice of the grant of the patent in the Journal.

PART VI

PROVISIONS AS TO PATENTS AFTER GRANT AND DURATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PATENT

25.—(1) Subject to subsection (2), a patent shall expire 20 years after the filing date of the application thereof.

Duration and
maintenance of
patent.

(2) In order to maintain a patent or patent application, the owner of the patent or the applicant, shall pay in advance to the Registrar, for each year, starting one year after the filing date of the application for the grant of the patent, the prescribed annual fee.

(3) Where the period prescribed for the payment of the annual fee expires, and payment of the said fee has not been made, the Registrar shall give the owner of the patent or the applicant, as the case may be, a grace period not exceeding six months, within which he must pay the annual fee.

(4) The owner of the patent or the applicant, as the case may be, shall, when paying the annual fee in accordance with paragraph (1), also pay, to the Registrar, the surcharge prescribed for late payment.

(5) A patent shall lapse, or a patent application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn, if the annual fee is not paid in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(6) If a patent ceases to have effect under this section, the Registrar shall enter the lapse in the Register and publish it in the Journal

Surrender of
patent or claim.

26.—(1) The owner of a patent may, at any time by notice given to the Registrar in the prescribed manner, offer to surrender his patent, or one or more claims contained in his patent.

(2) Where an offer is made under this section, the Registrar shall advertise the offer in the prescribed manner, and any interested person may, within the prescribed period commencing on the date of the publication of the advertisement, give notice to the Registrar, of his opposition to the proposed surrender.

(3) Where notice of opposition is duly given under this section, the Registrar shall notify the owner of the patent in writing, and determine the question.

(4) Where the Registrar is satisfied, that the patent or any claim or claims contained in the patent may properly be surrendered, he may accept the offer and record his acceptance in the Register, and shall, as soon as practicable, publish a notice of his acceptance in the Register, and shall, as soon as practicable, publish a notice of his acceptance in the Journal.

(5) From the date of publication of the notice under subsection (4), the patent or claim or claims shall cease to have effect, but no action for infringement shall lie in respect

of any act done before that date, and no right to compensation shall accrue for any use of the patent invention before that date, for purposes of the State.

(6) Where a patent has been granted to two or more persons, a notice in accordance with subsection (1), shall be signed by each of them.

27.—(1) Any person who claims to have acquired the property in a patent, or application for a patent, by virtue of any transaction to which this section applies, shall be entitled, as against any other person who claims to have acquired that property by virtue of an earlier transaction to which this section applies if, at the time of the later transaction—

Effect of registration on rights in patents.

- (a) the earlier transaction was not registered; or
- (b) in the case of any application, notice of the earlier transaction had not been given to the Registrar; and
- (c) in any case, the person claiming under the later transaction did not know of the earlier transaction.

(2) Subsection (1) shall apply equally to the case where any person claims to have acquired any right in or under a patent, or application for a patent, by virtue of a transaction to which this section applies, and that right is incompatible with any such right acquired by virtue of an earlier transaction to which this section applies.

(3) This section applies to the following transactions—

- (a) the assignment of a patent, or application for a patent, or a right in it;

-
- (b) the mortgage of a patent, or application, or the granting of security over it;
 - (c) the grant, assignment of a licence or sub-licence, or mortgage of a licence or sub-licence, under a patent or application;
 - (d) the death of the owner or one of the owners of any such patent, or application of any person having a right in a patent, or application and the vesting of any such right, by an assent of the personal representative of the applicant or owner of a patent; and
 - (e) any order or directions of a Court or other competent authority—
 - (i) transferring a patent or application or any right in, or under it, to any person; or
 - (ii) that an application should proceed in the name of any person, and in either case, the event by virtue of which the Court or authority, had power to make any such order or give any such directions.

(4) Where an application for the registration of a transaction has been made, but the transaction has not been registered, registration of the application shall, for the purposes of subsection (1) (a), be treated as registration of the transaction.

(5) For purposes of this section, “transaction” includes an instrument and an event.

PART VII

PROPERTY IN PATENT APPLICATION AND
PATENTS

28.—(1) A patent or application for a patent is personal property (without being a thing in action), and any patent or any such application and rights in, or under it, may be transferred, created or granted in accordance with subsections (2) to (6). Nature of, and transactions in patents.

(2) Subject to section 29 (2) (b), any patent or any such application, or any right in it, may be assigned or mortgaged.

(3) Any patent or any such application or right, shall vest by operation of law, in the same way as any other personal property, and may be vested by an assent of personal representatives.

(4) Subject to section 29 (2) (b), a licence may be granted under any patent, or any such application, for working the invention which is the subject of the patent or the application; and—

(a) to the extent that the licence so provides, a sub-licence may be granted under any such licence, and any such licence or sub-licence may be assigned or mortgaged; and

(b) any such licence or sub-licence, shall vest by operation of law, in the same way as any other personal property, and may be vested by an assent of personal representatives.

(5) Any of the following transactions, that is to say—

(a) any assignment, or mortgage of a patent or any such application, or any right in a patent, or any application; or

-
- (b) any assent relating to any patent, or any such application or right,

shall be void unless it is in writing, and is signed by or on behalf of the parties to the transaction, or in the case of an assent or other transaction by a personal representative, by, or on behalf of the personal representative, or in the case of a body corporate, is so signed, or is under the seal of that body.

(6) An assignment of a patent, or any such application or a share in it, and an exclusive licence granted under any patent, or any such application, may confer, on the assignee or licensee, the right of the assignor or licensor to bring proceedings by virtue of section 38, for a previous infringement.

Joint ownership
of patent.

29.—(1) Where a patent is granted to two or more persons jointly, each of the patentees shall, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, be entitled to an equal undivided share in the patent.

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section 4, a joint patentee shall not be entitled, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, and in the absence of the consent of the joint patentee or patentees to—

- (a) make, use, exercise, or dispose of the patented invention;
- (b) grant a licence, or assign or mortgage the whole or any part of this interest in the patent; or
- (c) take any step, or institute any proceedings relating to the patent;

provided that he may, without recourse to any other joint patentee, pay any annual fee which is payable.

(3) Where a patented article is disposed of by a joint patentee, the person who acquires the patent, or any person making a claim through him, shall be entitled to deal with that article, in the same manner as though the article had been disposed of by the patentees jointly.

(4) Any joint patentee may institute proceedings for infringement, and shall give notice thereof to any other joint patentee, any such other joint patentee may intervene as co-plaintiff, and recover any damages in respect of any damage he may have suffered as a result of the infringement.

PART VIII

RIGHTS OF THE OWNER OF PATENT

30.—(1) The exploitation of a patented invention in Grenada by any person other than the owner of the patent, shall require the authorization of the owner of the patent. Rights conferred by patent.

(2) For the purposes of this section, exploitation of a patented invention means, where the patent has been granted in respect of a product—

- (a) making, importing into Grenada, offering for sale, selling and using that product;
- (b) doing any act referred to in paragraph (a), in respect of a product obtained by means of that process.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), and to sections 31, 32, and 35, the owner of the patent shall have the right to

bring an action against any person who exploits the patented invention in Grenada, without his authorization.

(4) The rights under the patent shall not extend to—

- (a) acts in respect of articles which have been put on the market in Grenada by the owner of the patent, or with his consent;
- (b) the use of articles on aircraft, land vehicles or vessels of other countries, which temporarily, or accidentally, enter the airspace, territory or waters of Grenada;
- (c) acts done only for experimental purposes relating to a patented invention;
- (d) the extemporaneous preparation for individual cases, in a pharmacy, of a medicine, in accordance with a medical prescription or acts concerning the medicine so prepared; or
- (e) acts performed by any person, who, in good faith, before the filing or, where priority is claimed, the priority date of the application on which the patent is granted, and Grenada was using the invention, or was making effective and serious preparations for such use.

(5) The right of prior user referred to in subsection (4) (e), may be transferred or devolved only together with the enterprise or business, or with that part of the enterprise or business, in which the use or preparations for use have been made.

31.—(1) Where a patent is granted for an invention, a person who, before the date of filing of the patent application, or if priority was claimed, before the date of priority, does, in good faith in Grenada, an act which would constitute an infringement of the patent, if it were then in force, or makes effective and serious preparations in good faith to do such an act, shall have the rights specified in subsection (2).

Right to
continue use
begun before
date of filing or
priority.

(2) The rights referred to in subsection (1) shall be the following, namely—

- (a) to continue to do or, as the case may be, to do that act himself; and
- (b) if the act was done, or preparations had been made to do it, in the course of a business:—
 - (i) to assign the right under paragraph (a);
 - (ii) to transmit the right under paragraph (a) to his heirs on his death or, in the case of a body corporate, on its dissolution, to any person who acquires that part of the business in the course of which the act was done, or preparations had been made to do it; or
 - (iii) to authorise the act to be done by any partners of his, for the time being, in that business,

and the doing of that act, by virtue of this subsection, shall not amount to an infringement of the patent concerned.

(3) The rights specified in subsection (2), shall not include the right to grant a licence to any person to do an act referred to in subsection (1).

(4) Where a product which is the subject of a patent is disposed of by any person to another, in exercise of a right conferred by subsection (2), that other, and any person claiming through him, shall be entitled to deal with the product in the same way as if it had been disposed of by a sole owner of the patent.

Exploitation by Government or authorised person.

32.—(1) Where—

- (a) the public interest, in particular, national security, nutrition, health, or the development of other vital sectors of the national economy so requires; or
- (b) the Minister has determined that the manner of exploitation, by the owner of the patent or his licensee, is anticompetitive, and he is satisfied that the exploitation of the invention in accordance with this subsection would remedy such practice,

the Minister may decide that, even without the agreement of the owner of the patent, a Government agency or a third person designated by the Minister, may exploit the invention.

(2) The exploitation of the patented invention, shall be limited to the purpose for which it was authorised, and shall be subject to the payment to the said owner, of an adequate remuneration, therefore, taking into account, the economic value of the Minister's authorization, as determined in the said decision, and, where a decision has been taken under subsection (1) (b), the need to correct anti-competitive practices.

(3) The Minister shall make his decision after hearing the owner of the patent and any interested person.

(4) A request for the Minister's authorization to exploit a patented invention, shall be accompanied by evidence, that the owner of the patent has received, from the person seeking the authorization, a request for a contractual licence, but that that person has been unable to obtain such a licence on reasonable commercial terms and conditions, and within a reasonable time.

(5) Subsection (4) shall not apply in cases of—

- (a) national emergency or other circumstances of extreme urgency, provided, however, that in such cases, the owner of the patent shall be notified of the Minister's decision as soon as reasonably practicable;
- (b) public non-commercial use; and
- (c) anti-competitive practices determined as such by the Minister, in accordance with subsection (1) (b).

(6) The exploitation of a patented invention in the field of semi-conductor technology, shall only be authorised for public non-commercial use, or where a judicial or administrative body has determined, that the issuance of the non-voluntary licence would remedy such practice.

(7) An authorization under this section shall not exclude—

- (i) the conclusion of licence contracts by the owner of the patent; or
- (ii) the continued exercise, by the owner of the patent, of his rights under section 30 (2); or

(iii) the grant of a non-voluntary licence under section 35.

(8) Where a third person has been designated by the Minister, the authorization may only be transferred with the enterprise or business of that person, or with the part of the enterprise or business, within which the patented inventions are being exploited.

(9) The exploitation of the patented invention by the Government agency or third person designated by the Minister, shall be predominantly for the supply of the market in Grenada.

(10) Upon the request of the owner of the patent, of the Government agency or the third party authorised to exploit the patented invention, the Minister may, after hearing the parties, vary the terms of the decision, authorizing the exploitation of the patented invention, to the extent that changed circumstances justify such variation.

(11) Upon the request of the owner of the patent, the Minister shall terminate the authorization, if he is satisfied, after hearing the parties, that the circumstances which led to his decision have ceased to exist and are unlikely to recur, or that the Government agency, or third person designated by him, has failed to comply with the terms of the decision.

(12) Notwithstanding subsection (11), the Minister shall not terminate the authorization, if he is satisfied, that the need for adequate protection of the legitimate interests of the Government agency, or third person designated by him, justifies the maintenance of the decision.

Prevention of indirect use of invention.

33.—(1) While in force, a patent shall confer, on its owner, the right to prevent all persons, not having his

authorization, from supplying or offering to supply in Grenada, a person, (other than a person entitled to engage in commercial working of the patented invention), with means relating to an essential element of that invention, for putting it into effect therein, provided that the person knows, or it is obvious to a reasonable person in the circumstances, that those means are suitable for putting, and are intended to put, that invention into effect.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply, where the means referred to therein, are staple commercial products, except where the person induces the person supplied, to commit acts which the owner of the patent is entitled to prevent, by virtue of section 30.

(3) Any person who commits an act referred to in paragraph (c) or (d) of section 30 (4), shall not be considered to be a person entitled to engage in commercial working of the invention for the purposes of subsection (1).

PART IX

VOLUNTARY AND NON-VOLUNTARY LICENCES

34.—(1) Subject to section 29, the owner of a patent application or patent, may grant a licence in respect of the relevant invention. Voluntary licences.

(2) Any licence contract concerning a patent or an application thereof, shall be filed with the Registrar, who shall keep its contents confidential, but shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee, record it in the Register, and publish a reference thereto in the Journal in the manner prescribed.

(3) Until such contract has been so recorded, the licence shall have no effect against third parties, unless otherwise decided by the Court.

(4) In the absence of any provision to the contrary, in the terms of a licence contract, a licensee may not extend, to another person, the authorization conferred on him by the owner in accordance with subsection (1), nor may he assign or mortgage his licence.

(5) In the absence of any provision to the contrary, in the terms of a licence contract, the owner of a patent may continue to enjoy the rights conferred on him by sections 30 and 33.

(6) To the extent that the licence has been granted as an exclusive licence, the owner may not grant a licence in respect of the invention to a third person, and may not himself do any of the acts referred to in sections 30 and 33.

(7) If, before the expiration of the licence contract, any of the following events occur with respect to any patent application or patent, which is the subject of that contract-

- (a) the patent application is withdrawn or is deemed to be withdrawn;
- (b) the patent application is treated as if it had not been filed;
- (c) the grant of the patent is refused; or
- (d) the patent is invalidated,

the licensee shall, from the date of the event, no longer be bound to make any payment directly relating to that patent application or patent.

(8) In any case referred to in subsection (7), the licensee shall have the right to repayment of the payments already made, and directly relating to the patent application or patent in question, provided that he has not benefited from the licence.

35.—(1) At any time after the expiration of four years from the date of the filing of a patent application, or three years from the date of the grant of a patent, whichever happens later, any interested person may apply to the Court for the grant of a non-voluntary licence under the patent, on the grounds that the patented invention is not being exploited, or is being insufficiently exploited by working the invention in Grenada, or by importation into Grenada. Non-voluntary licences.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a non-voluntary licence shall not be issued, if the owner of the patent satisfies the Court that circumstances exist, which justifies the non-exploitation or insufficient exploitation of the patented invention in Grenada.

(3) The Court shall, where it grants a non-voluntary licence, fix—

- (a) the scope and function of the licence;
- (b) the time limit within which the licensee must begin to exploit the patented invention; and
- (c) the amount of the remuneration to be paid to the owner of the patent, and the conditions of the payment thereof.

(4) The beneficiary of the non-voluntary licence shall—

- (a) have the right to exploit the patented invention in Grenada, in accordance with the Court's order;
- (b) commence the exploitation of the patented invention within the time stipulated in the said order; and
- (c) thereafter, exploit the patented invention insufficiently.

(5) Where the invention claimed in a patent, (referred to in this section as a "later patent"), cannot be exploited in Grenada, without infringing a patent granted on the basis of an application benefiting from an earlier filing, or, where appropriate, priority date, (referred to in this section as an "earlier patent") and provided that the invention claimed in the later patent involves an important technical advance of considerable economic importance, in relation to the invention claimed in the earlier patent, the Court may, upon the application of the owner of the later patent, issue a non-voluntary licence, to the extent necessary to avoid infringement of the earlier patent.

(6) Where a non-voluntary licence is issued in accordance with subsection (5), the Court shall, upon the application of the owner of the earlier patent, issue a non-voluntary licence in respect of the later patent.

(7) In the case of an application for the issuance of a non-voluntary licence in accordance with subsections (5) and (6), subsection (3) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, except that no time limit need be fixed by the Court.

(8) In the case of a non-voluntary licence issued under subsection (1), the transfer may be made only with the

later patent, or, in the case of a non-voluntary licence issued under subsection (5), only with the earlier patent.

(9) An application for a non-voluntary licence shall be subject to payment of the prescribed fee.

(10) No licence shall be granted under this section, in respect of a patented invention in the field of semi-conductor technology.

(11) Section 32 (2) to (12) and 65 (2) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

36. The powers of the Court on an application under section 35, shall be exercised with a view to ensuring, that the inventor, or other person beneficially entitled to a patent, receives adequate remuneration, having regard to the economic value of the licence.

Exercise of powers on applications under section 35.

PART X

INFRINGEMENT

37. Subject to the provisions of sections 30 (4), 32 and 35, the performance, in relation to a patent, of any act referred to in sections 30 and 33, without the authorization of the owner of the patent shall, while it is in force, constitute an infringement.

Infringement.

38. (1) The owner of the patent shall, in addition to any other right, remedy or action available to him, have the right, subject to sections 30 (4), 32 and 39, to institute Court proceedings against any person who infringes the patent, by performing, without his authorization, any of the acts referred to in section 30 (2), or who performs acts which make it likely that infringement will occur.

Proceedings for infringement.

(2) A claimant in proceedings for infringement shall be entitled to relief by way of—

- (a) an injunction;
- (b) the seizure, forfeiture or destruction of:—
 - (i) any infringing product or article, or of any product;
 - (ii) any article, instrument or thing, by means of which any infringing product or article was produced;
- (c) damages;
- (d) an account of the profits derived from the infringement; or
- (e) any other relief provided for in any other law.

(3) The Court shall not, in awarding damages under this section, also order, in respect of the same infringement, that the claimant be given an account of the profits derived from the infringement.

(4) In any proceedings for infringement, the respondent may counter-claim for the invalidation of the patent and, by way of defence, rely upon any ground on which a patent may be invalidated.

(5) In any proceedings under this section, the claimant shall, before instituting the proceedings, give notice thereof to every licensee under the patent in question, whose name is recorded in the Register, and any such licensee shall be entitled to intervene as claimant.

(6) Where a licensee requests the owner of a title of protection granted under this Act, to institute Court proceedings for a specific relief, and the owner fails to do so, the licensee may bring an action under this section, and the court shall grant him any relief specified in subsection (2), or any other relief provided for in the general law.

(7) In any proceedings for infringement, other than criminal proceedings, where the subject matter of the patent is a process for obtaining a product, the burden of establishing that the product was not made by the process shall rest on the respondent if—

- (a) the product is new; or
- (b) a substantial likelihood exists, that the product was made using another process, and the owner of the patent has been unable, through reasonable efforts, to determine the process used.

(8) In requiring the production of evidence, the Court shall take into account, the legitimate interests of the defendant, in not disclosing his manufacturing and business secrets.

(9) The Court shall, in awarding damages under this section, calculate such damages, taking into account, the amount of a reasonable royalty which would have been payable by a licensee or sub-licensee, in respect of the patent concerned.

39.—(1) In proceedings for infringement of a patent, damages shall not be awarded, and no order shall be made for an account of profits, against a respondent who proves, that

Restrictions
on recovery of
damages for
infringement.

at the date of the infringement, he was not aware, and had no reasonable grounds for supposing that the patent existed; and a person shall not be taken to have been aware, or to have had reasonable grounds for so supposing, by reason only of the application to a product of the word “patent” or “patented”, or any word or words expressing or implying that a patent has been obtained for the product, unless the number of the patent accompanied the word or words in question.

(2) Where an amendment of the description of a patent has been allowed under the provisions of this Act, no damages shall be awarded in proceedings, for an infringement of the patent, committed before the decision to allow the amendment, unless the Court is satisfied that the description as published, was framed in good faith and with reasonable skill and knowledge.

Relief for
infringement of
partially valid
patent.

40.—(1) If the validity of a patent is put in issue proceedings, for infringement of the patent, and it is found that the patent is only partially valid, the Court may, subject to subsection (2), grant relief in respect of that part of the patent which is found to be valid and infringed.

(2) Where in any such proceedings it is found that a patent is only partially valid, the Court shall not grant relief by way of damages, costs or expenses, except where the claimant proves that the description was framed in good faith, and with reasonable skill and knowledge and, in that event, the Court may grant relief in respect of that part of the patent which is valid and infringed, subject to the discretion of the Court, as to costs or expenses, and as to the date from which damages should be reckoned.

(3) As a condition of relief under this section, the Court may direct that the description be amended to its satisfaction, upon an application made for that purpose under section 45, and an application may be so made accordingly, whether or not all other issues in the proceedings have been determined.

41.—(1) Where in any proceedings before the Court, the validity of a patent to any extent is contested, and that patent is found by the Court to be wholly or partially valid, the Court may certify the finding, and the fact that the validity of the patent was so contested.

Certificate of contested validity of patent.

(2) Where a certificate is granted under this section, and in any subsequent proceedings before the Court, for infringement of the patent concerned, or for invalidation, a final order or judgment is made or given in favour of the party relying on the validity of the patent, as found in the earlier proceedings, that party shall, unless the Court otherwise directs, be entitled to his costs or expenses as between attorney-at-law and client, (other than the costs or expenses, or any appeal in the subsequent proceedings).

42.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the holder of an exclusive licence under a patent, shall have the same right as the owner of the patent, to bring any proceedings in respect of any infringement of the patent committed after the date of the licence, and references to the owner of the patent in this Act, relating to infringement, shall be construed accordingly.

Proceedings for infringement by exclusive licensee.

(2) In awarding damages or granting any other relief in any such proceedings, the Court shall take into account any loss suffered, or likely to be suffered by the exclusive

licensee, as a result of the infringement, or, as the case may be, the profits derived from the infringement, so far as it constitutes an infringement of the rights of the exclusive licensee as such.

Effect of non-registration on infringement proceedings.

43. Where by virtue of a transaction, instrument, or an event to which section 27 applies, a person becomes the owner or one of the owners, or an exclusive licensee of a patent, and the patent is subsequently infringed, the Court shall not award him damages, or order that he be given an account of the profits, in respect of such subsequent infringement occurring before the transaction, instrument, or event is registered, unless—

- (a) the transaction, instrument, or event is registered within the period of six months beginning with its date; or
- (b) the Court is satisfied, that it was not practicable to register the transaction, instrument, or event before the end of that period, and that it was registered as soon as was practicable thereafter.

PART XI

INVALIDATION OF PATENT

Invalidation of patent.

44.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Court may, on the application of any interested party, invalidate a patent on any of the following grounds—

- (a) that the invention is not an invention as defined in this Act;

- (b) that the patent concerned is not patentable under section 5, or does not satisfy the requirements of section 6 (1), (2) and (3), and sections 7 and 8;
- (c) that the invention is a matter which should, in accordance with section 9, have been excluded from patent protection;
- (d) that the patent was granted to a person who was not entitled thereto, under section 11 or 12, as the case may be;
- (e) that the patentee's application did not satisfy the requirements of section 14 (4) to (7);
- (f) that the subject matter of the patent extends beyond the content of the patent application as filed or, if the patent was granted on a divisional application, it extends beyond the content of the relevant earlier application as filed; or
- (g) that the protection conferred by the patent has been extended by an amendment, which should not have been allowed.

(2) Any invalidated patent, claim or part of a claim, shall be regarded as being void from the date of the grant of the patent.

(3) An application for the invalidation of a patent, shall be served on the patentee, and filed with the Court, in the manner and within the time prescribed.

(4) The Registrar of the Supreme Court shall notify the Registrar of the final decision of the Court, and the

Registrar shall forthwith record it and publish a reference thereto in the Journal.

Amendment of patent in infringement or invalidation proceedings.

45.—(1) Subject to subsection (5), in any proceedings before the Court, in which the validity of a patent is put in issue, the Court may allow the owner of the patent to amend the patent in such manner, and subject to such terms, as to advertising the proposed amendment, and as to costs, expenses or otherwise, as the Court thinks fit.

(2) Any interested person may give notice to the Court, of his opposition to an amendment proposed by the owner of the patent under this section, and if he does so, the Court shall notify the owner and consider the opposition, in deciding whether the amendment should be allowed.

(3) An amendment of a description under this section shall have effect, and shall always be deemed to have effect from the grant of the patent.

(4) Where an application for an order under this section is made to the Court, the applicant shall notify the Registrar, who shall be entitled to appear and be heard, and shall appear, if so directed by the Court.

(5) No amendment shall be allowed under this section, if it discloses a matter which extends beyond that disclosed in the description of the granted patent, or extends the scope of the protection conferred by the patent.

PART XII

UTILITY MODEL CERTIFICATES

Application of provisions relating to patents.

46.—(1) Except as otherwise provided under this Part, the provisions of this Act relating to patents and applications,

shall apply to utility model certificates and applications thereof.

(2) Sections 5, 7, and 44 (1), shall not apply to utility model certificates and to applications thereof.

47.—(1) An invention shall qualify for a utility model certificate, if it is new and industrially applicable.

Qualification of invention for utility model certificates.

(2) An invention for which a utility model certificate is applied for, shall not be considered new, if it differs from earlier inventions only in minor respects, or in details which are immaterial to the function or application of the invention.

48. A utility model certificate shall expire seven years after the filing date of its application, and shall not be renewed.

Duration of utility model certificates.

49.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Court may, on the application of any interested person, invalidate a utility model certificate on any of the following grounds—

Invalidation of utility model certificate.

- (a) that the invention relating to the certificate is-
 - (i) not new or industrially applicable; or
 - (ii) contrary to public order or morality;
- (b) that the description and claim or claims, do not disclose the invention in a manner which is sufficiently clear and complete, to permit a person having ordinary skill in the art, to carry out the invention, and do not indicate at least one model known to the applicant, for carrying out the invention;
- (c) that the claim or claims do not define the matter for which protection is sought;

- (d) that the claim or claims are not clear or concise, and are not fully supported by the description;
- (e) that the drawings necessary for the understanding of the invention, have not been filed as required under this Act; and
- (f) that the person to whom the utility model certificate has been granted, is not the inventor or his successor in title.

(2) An application for the invalidation of a utility model certificate, shall be served on the person to whom the certificate has been issued, and filed with the Court in the manner and time prescribed.

(3) The Registrar of the Supreme Court, shall notify the Registrar of the decision of the Court to invalidate a utility model certificate, and the Registrar shall forthwith record it and publish a reference thereto in the Journal.

Conversion of application for utility model certificate.

50.—(1) At any time before the grant or refusal of a utility model certificate, an applicant may, upon payment of the prescribed fee, convert his application for a utility model certificate, into an application for a patent, and the latter application shall be accorded the filing date of the initial application.

(2) No person may convert an application under subsection (1) more than once.

PART XIII

INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Application of treaties.

51. The provisions of any international treaty in respect of industrial property to which Grenada is party, shall apply

to matters dealt with by this Act and, in case of conflict with the provisions of this Act, shall prevail over the latter.

52.—(1) The Patent Cooperation Treaty, (referred to in this section as “the Treaty”), the Regulations made thereunder, and the Administrative Instructions made under those Regulations, shall be given full effect.

Implementation
of Patent
Cooperation
Treaty.

(2) Where reference is made in this section to the Treaty, such reference shall include the Regulations and Administrative Instructions referred to in subsection (1).

(3) The Office shall process international applications in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, and in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the Regulations made thereunder.

(4) Where the provisions of this Act and the Regulations made thereunder, conflict with those of the Treaty, the provisions of the Treaty shall prevail.

(5) An international application designating Grenada shall, subject to this section, be treated as an application for a patent, or a utility model certificate, filed under this Act, having as its filing date, the international filing date, accorded under the Treaty.

(6) The Office shall act as a receiving Office, in respect of any international application filed with it, by a resident or national of Grenada.

(7) An international application filed with the Office as receiving Office, shall be filed in a prescribed language, and the prescribed transmittal fee shall be paid to the Registrar, within one month of the date of receipt of the international application.

(8) The Office shall act as a designated office, in respect of an international application, in which Grenada is designated for the purposes of obtaining a national patent, or a utility model certificate, under this Act.

(9) The Office shall act as an elected Office, in respect of an international application, in which Grenada is designated as referred to in subsection (8), if the applicant elects Grenada for the purposes of an international preliminary examination under Chapter II of the Treaty.

(10) The Office, as designated Office or elected Office, shall not commence the processing of an international application, before the expiration of the time limit referred to in subsection (11), except if the applicant complies with the requirements of that subsection and files, with the Office, an express request for the early commencement of such processing.

(11) The applicant, in respect of an international application designating Grenada shall, before the expiration of the time limit applicable under Article 22 or 39 of the Treaty, or of such later time limit, as may be prescribed in the Regulations—

- (a) pay the prescribed fee to the Office; and
- (b) if the international application was not filed in, and has not been published under the Treaty as a translation into a prescribed language, file, with the Office, a translation of the international application, containing the prescribed contents, into such language.

(12) Where the applicant does not comply with the requirements of subsection (11), within the time limit

referred to in that subsection, the international application shall be considered as having been withdrawn for the purposes of this Act.

(13) In this section, the terms “designate”, “designated Office”, “elected Office”, “international application”, “international filing date”, “international preliminary examination” and “receiving Office” have the same meanings as in the Treaty.

53.—(1) Judicial notice shall be taken of the Grenada Convention, the Patent Cooperation Treaty, or any other industrial property Convention or Treaty to which Grenada may become party, and of any bulletin, journal or gazette published under such Convention or Treaty.

Judicial notice of certain treaties.

(2) any document referred to in any such bulletin, journal or gazette, shall be admissible as evidence of any instrument or other act thereby communicated, or of any institution established by, or having functions under any Convention or Treaty referred to in subsection (1).

PART XIV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

54.—(1) Any changes in the ownership of a patent or utility model certificate, or in the ownership of the application thereof, shall be in writing, and shall, upon the request of any interested party to the Registrar, be recorded and, except in the case of an application, be published in the Journal.

Changes in ownership.

(2) A change under subsection (1) shall be of no effect against third parties, until it has been recorded.

Correction of errors.

55.—(1) The Registrar may, of his own volition, or upon the written request of any interested person, correct any clerical error or error in translation or transcription, in any application filed under this Act, or in any document filed in pursuance of such application, and the Registrar may also correct any clerical error in the Register.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not be construed as giving the Registrar any power to correct in the Register, any application or document in a material way.

Extension of time.

56.—(1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that the circumstances justify it, he may, upon the written request of any interested person, and upon such terms as he may direct, extend the time for doing any act, or taking any proceeding under this Act, and the Regulations made hereunder.

(2) The extension may be granted, even though the time for doing the act or taking the proceeding has expired.

(3) The Registrar shall give written notice of any extension to the parties concerned.

Exercise of discretionary powers.

57. The Registrar shall, before exercising any discretionary power vested in him by this Act, or the Regulations made thereunder, give any party to a proceeding before him, the opportunity of being heard, if his decision might adversely affect that party.

Agents.

58. Every applicant whose ordinary residence or principal place of business is outside Grenada, shall be represented by an attorney-at-law who is resident in Grenada and practising in Grenada, in accordance with relevant law.

Jurisdiction of Court.

59. The Court shall have jurisdiction in cases of disputes relating to the application of this Act and an applicant may,

within two months of any decision by the Court, appeal to the Court of Appeal.

60.—(1) Any person who intentionally or willfully ^{Offences.} performs any act which constitutes an infringement as defined under section 37, commits an offence, and is liable to a fine of not less than fifteen thousand dollars, but not more than forty thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for a term of not less than five years, but not more than twelve years, or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(2) Any person who, knowing the same to be false—

- (a) makes, or causes to be made, a false entry in the Register;
- (b) makes, or causes to be made, any document falsely purporting to be a copy of an entry in the Register; or
- (c) produces, tenders or causes to be produced or tendered as evidence, any such entry or copy thereof,

commits an offence, and is liable to a fine of not less than ten thousand dollars, but not more than thirty thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for not less than three years, but not more than ten years, or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(3) Any person who knows the same to be false, makes a false statement or representation that—

- (a) a patent or utility model certificate has been granted to him, or to any other person, in respect of any invention; or

- (b) he has been granted an exclusive or non-voluntary licence to use any patent or utility model certificate,

which statement or representation induces another person to act thereon, commits an offence, and is liable to a fine of not less than five thousand dollars, but not more than twenty thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years, but not more than five years, or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(4) Any person who falsely represents that anything disposed of by him for value, is a patented product or process shall, subject to subsections (5) to (7), commit an offence, and be liable to a fine of not less than four thousand dollars, but not more than ten thousand dollars.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4), a person, who for value, disposes of an article having stamped, engraved or impressed on it, or otherwise applied to it the word “patent” or “patented” or anything expressing or implying that the article is a patented product, shall be taken to represent that the article is a patented product.

(6) Subsection (4) shall not apply, where the representation is made in respect of a product after the patent for that product or, as the case may be, the process in question has expired, or been invalidated, and before the end of a period which is reasonably sufficient to enable the accused to take steps to ensure that the representation is not made, (or does not continue to be made).

(7) In proceedings for an offence under this section, it shall be a defence for the accused to prove that he used due diligence, to prevent the commission of the offence.

(8) Any person who represents that a patent has been applied for, in respect of any article disposed of for value by him, and

(a) no such application has been made; or

(b) any such application has been refused or withdrawn,

commits an offence, and is liable to a fine of not less than four thousand dollars, but no more than ten thousand dollars.

(9) Subsection (8) (b) shall not apply, where the representation is made in respect of a product after the patent for the product or, as the case may be, the process in question has expired or been invalidated, and before the end of a period, which is reasonably sufficient to enable the accused to take steps to ensure that the representation is not made, (or does not continue to be made).

(10) For the purpose of subsection (8), a person, who for value, disposes of an article having stamped, engraved or impressed upon it, or otherwise applied to it, the words, "patent applied for" or "patent pending" or anything expressing or implying that a patent has been applied for in respect of the article, shall be taken to represent that a patent has been applied for in respect of the article.

(11) Where an offence under this Act which has been committed by a body corporate, is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to, any neglect on the part of, a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity,

he, as well as the body corporate, commits an offence, and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(12) Where the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, subsection (11) shall apply in relation to the acts and defaults of a member, in connection with his functions of management, as if he were a director of the body corporate.

Immunity regarding official Acts.

61. Neither the Minister or any person employed by the State Office shall—

- (a) be taken to warrant the validity of any patent granted under this Act; or
- (b) incur any liability by reason of, or in connection with, any examination or investigation required or authorised by this Act, or any report or other proceeding, consequent upon any such examination or investigation.

Registrar's annual report.

62. The Registrar shall, before June 1, in every year, make an annual report to the Minister, with respect to the operation of this Act and the discharge of his functions thereunder.

Saving in respect of rights to sell forfeited articles.

63. Nothing in this Act shall affect the right of the State or any person employed by it, to dispose of, or use articles forfeited under the laws, relating to customs and excise.

Time limit for prosecution.

64. A prosecution for an offence under this Act, shall not be commenced after the expiration of five years after the commission of the offence, or one year after the discovery thereof, whichever occurs last.

Regulations.

65.—(1) The Minister may make Regulations providing for any matter which is to be prescribed under this Act, or for giving effect to the purposes of this Act.

(2) Without derogating from the generality of subsection (1), the Minister may make Regulations, prescribing further details for the processing of international applications by, and other functions of the Registrar, in connection with the Patent Cooperation Treaty, including the fees payable, time limits, prescribed languages and other requirements relating to international applications.

66. The Registrar may issue administrative instructions relating to the procedures under this Act, the Regulations made thereunder, and any other enactment relating to industrial property, as well as relating to the general functions of the Intellectual Property office.

Administrative instructions.

67. This Act binds the State.

Act binding on State.

68. The Patents Act, Cap 227 is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

69.—(1) Notwithstanding the repeal of the former Acts, patents granted thereunder shall remain in force but shall, subject to subsection (2) and (3), be deemed to have been granted under this Act.

Transitional.

(2) Patents thus granted, shall remain in force for the unexpired portion of the period of protection provided under this Act, subject to the payment of annual maintenance fees or renewal fees, provided for in this Act.

(3) A person who, on the date of the entry into force of this Act, is the owner of a patent in the United Kingdom, or a European patent designated the United Kingdom, or has filed an application in the United Kingdom for the grant of a patent, or an application for the grant of a European patent designating the United Kingdom may, within 12 months of the entry into force of this Act, file an application for the

grant of a patent for the same invention under this Act, and such application shall be accorded the filing date or priority date accorded to the application or grant, by the United Kingdom Patent Office, or by the European Patent Office, as the case may be.

(4) Where, upon entry into force of this Act, an application made under the Patents and Designs Act is pending, such application shall, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), be dealt with under the said Patents and Designs Act, but the grant shall thereafter be subject to this Act.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Patents and Designs Act shall continue to apply so far as it is necessary, to enable any person applying for a patent before this Act comes into force to do so, but any patent thus granted, shall be deemed to have been duly granted under this Act.

(6) The Minister may, by Order, publish in the Gazette and make any further transitional or saving provisions which appear to him to be necessary or desirable.

2011

Patents

Act 16 417

Passed by the House of Representatives this 8th day
of July, 2011.

ADRIAN C. A. HAYES
Clerk to the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate this 29th day of July, 2011.

ADRIAN C. A. HAYES
Clerk to the Senate

GRENADA

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