

**[ IPO ORDER NO. 140, December 23, 2004 ]**

**STREAMLINING OF TRADEMARK REGISTRATION (REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION FOR PURPOSES OF OPPOSITION)**

WHEREAS, trademarks play a very important role in business and in the economic development of the country;

WHEREAS, there is a need to further streamline existing trademark registration procedures to ensure a more expeditious processing of trademark applications and continuously update the TM database;

WHEREAS, after due deliberation and critical analysis, trademark applicants may, in the exercise of their own business judgment, request an earlier publication of their marks for purposes of opposition where the application has been pending for eleven (11) months or longer;

NOW, THEREFORE, the following rules shall govern requests for publication for purposes of opposition:

1. These rules shall be referred to as the Request for Publication Rules ("RPR").
2. (1) Only applications that fulfill the formality requirements under Secs. 124 and 127 and registrability requirements under Sec. 123.1 of the IP Code may be published for purposes of opposition.  
  
(2) Applications that are involved in any Inter Partes or any IP Violation case pending before the Bureau of Legal Affairs, including those appealed to the Director General, the Court of Appeals, or the Supreme Court, as well as those pending in regular courts are excluded and cannot be the subject of a request for publication for purposes of opposition ("Request").
3. A Request may be made following the schedule indicated below:

Application Filing Date	Request for Publication
December 31, 1994 or earlier	Beginning February 1, 2005
December 31, 1995 or earlier	Beginning March 1, 2005
December 31, 1996 or earlier	Beginning April 1, 2005
December 31, 1997 or earlier	Beginning May 1, 2005
December 31, 1998 or earlier	Beginning June 1, 2005
December 31,	Beginning July 1, 2005