

## IPOPHL MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2021-011

Subject: EXTENSION OF DEADLINES FOR FILINGS AND PAYMENTS

WHEREAS, on 27 March 2021, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases ("IATF") issued Resolution No. 106-A placing the National Capital Region and the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal under Enhanced Community Quarantine ("ECQ") until 4 April 2021;

**WHEREAS,** on 28 March 2021, IPOPHL issued Memorandum Circular No. 2021-005 extending the deadlines for filings and payments falling due for the period of 29 to 31 March 2021;

WHEREAS, on 3 April 2021, the Presidential Communications Operations Office announced that the National Capital Region and the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal shall remain under ECQ until 11 April 2021;

WHEREAS, on 10 April 2021, the IATF issued Resolution No. 109-A placing the National Capital Region, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) beginning 12 April 2021 until 30 April 2021;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the transacting public is hereby advised as follows:

- 1. Deadlines for filings and payments falling due for the period of 12 April 2021 to 30 April 2021 are hereby extended for nineteen (19) calendar days.
- 2. The extension of deadlines shall not apply to payments of filing fees for new trademark applications. Thus, the filing date shall be accorded on the day actual payment has been made.
- 3. The extensions shall likewise not apply to the filing of written Third Party Observation (TPO) for inventions and Adverse Information (AI) on utility model and industrial design applications for PPE, medical/health care equipment/devices, and pharmaceutical products urgently needed to contain and address the COVID-19 health situation, which shall be governed by Memorandum Circular 2020-010.
- 4. Applications for patents, utility models, industrial designs and trademarks with a claim of priority shall be filed online to comply with the prescribed period for claiming of priority, provided that voluminous applications, or those which exceed 250 pages, may be filed manually and shall be granted the corresponding extensions.

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5. All online services such as the filing of pleadings, filing of responses to action papers, and payment of fees shall remain available throughout the duration of the MECQ. The public is encouraged to transact all business with IPOPHL through its online platforms which shall remain available.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately and shall remain effective until further notice. Previously issued Memorandum Circulars that are inconsistent with the foregoing are deemed modified, superseded, or amended accordingly.

Done on this 11th day of April 2021 in Taguig City, Philippines

ROWEL S. BARBA Director General

> PIA ANGELICA S. GABRIEL Administrative Officer V