

Extending European patent protection to Morocco

From 1 March 2015, it will be possible to extend the protection of a European patent to Morocco.

Morocco will not be a member of the European Patent Convention, so will not be included in the standard designation fee. A separate "validation fee" will be payable to extend protection to Morocco.

A European patent validated in Morocco will confer essentially the same protection in Morocco as it would in the member states of the European Patent Organisation.

The validation fee for Morocco is due within 6 months of the publication of the European search report. For a PCT application, the fee is due by the deadline for entering the European regional phase. This is the same deadline by which the designation and extension state fees need to be paid.

Only European applications and PCT applications having a filing date on or after 1 March 2015 will be eligible.