



## **ZAMBIA JOINS THE EUIPO'S TMVIEW**

The Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) finalised its integration of trade mark information into the TMview search tool on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. The integration, which is as a result of the MoU between PACRA and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), entails that the business community and members of the public can access the Zambian trademarks on TMview.

With PACRA on board the TMview, the search tool now contains data from 77 participating Intellectual Property offices. The addition of more than 60,000 trade marks from PACRA means that TMview now provides information and access to more than 106.5 million trade marks in total.

Using the TMview search tool, local entrepreneurs and businesses can efficiently and conveniently search and access the trade marks sitting on the PACRA database to determine, on the face of it, if a potential mark would be available for registration. The TMView will also show the status of their current filing or registration, trade marks competitors in their area of business have and whether a potential mark for which they seek to file for registration may be refused due to an already existing application or registration.

Further, the TMview search tool will allow local entrepreneurs and businesses gain insights into the global goods and services markets in the 77 participating countries. In addition, for those wishing to branch into exports, the tool will assist in determining whether their trade marks will infringe registered rights in those countries of interest and also enable local entrepreneurs to file for registration trade marks that are not already registered in the export destination countries

Since the introduction of TMview on 13 April 2010, the tool has processed around 102,8 million searches. The integration of PACRA in TMview is a concrete result of the EU funded project called Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) Action for Africa (AfrIPI), which is directed by the European Commission and executed by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

More information can be accessed at [www.tmview.org](http://www.tmview.org) and <https://internationalipcooperation.eu/en/afripi>

