



## Cape Verde accedes to the Banjul Protocol

Adré Pretorius  
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Legal updates: case law analysis and intelligence

- Cape Verde has deposited its instruments of accession to the Lusaka Agreement, as well as the Harare, Banjul, Swakopmund and Arusha Protocols
- It is understood that Cape Verde can be designated in applications in terms of these protocols from 14 October 2022
- Cape Verde's IP Code has not yet been amended to make provision for the recognition of ARIPO registrations

Following the decision by the Cape Verdean Parliament to accede to the Lusaka Agreement (ARIPO's founding treaty), the Harare Protocol on Patents and Designs, the Banjul Protocol on Marks and the Swakopmund Protocol on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Folklore in January this year (see the announcement by ARIPO [here](#)), ARIPO has now **announced** that Cape Verde deposited its instruments of accession to these protocols, as well as to the Arusha Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, on 14 July 2022. It is therefore understood that Cape Verde can be designated in applications in terms of these protocols from 14 October 2022.

This makes Cape Verde the third country to join the Banjul Protocol in as many years, with [Mozambique](#) having joined in 2020 and [The Gambia](#) in 2021. While the Harare Protocol has seen significant uptake, the Banjul Protocol has been a bit slower. This accelerated accession to the Banjul Protocol is therefore a welcome development.

Although **Cape Verde's IP Code has not been amended to make provision for the recognition of ARIPO registrations to date, it is understood that the registry is working on amendments to address this.** Further, the ARIPO Secretariat is working hard to expand its reach and simplify the registration of IP rights for applicants.

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Adré Pretorius

Author

[apretorius@vonseidels.com](mailto:apretorius@vonseidels.com)

Von Seidels

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