

The Executive Director

DECISION No EX-26-13 of the Executive Director of the Office of 31 July 2026 on the extension of time limits for the parties having their residence or registered office in Japan

The Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (the Office),

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/1001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2017 on the European Union trade mark (EUTMR), and in particular [Article 157\(4\)\(a\) and \(o\)](#) and [Article 101\(4\)](#) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2026/715 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2026 on the European Union designs (codification), and in particular [Article 90\(4\)](#) EUDR thereof,

Having regard to the general principles of EU law, particularly the principle of sound administration, as recognised by Article 41 of the [Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union](#),

Whereas:

- (1) On 28 July 2026, major earthquakes occurred in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan, followed by continuous aftershocks.
- (2) The above constitutes an exceptional occurrence that has severely hindered or interrupted communications between Japan and the Office,
- (3) The exceptional occurrence may prevent parties having their residence or registered office in the affected country from accessing the Office's electronic systems and potentially renders proper communication with the Office very problematic or impossible,
- (4) In addition, communication between parties having their residence or registered office in the affected country and their representatives in the EEA could be obstructed or entirely interrupted,
- (5) The disruption extends to all time limits.

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Article 1
Extension of deadlines

- (1) All time limits expiring between 28 July 2026 and 27 August 2026 inclusive that affect parties in proceedings before the Office having their residence or registered office in Japan are extended until 28 August 2026.
- (2) If the parties to proceedings before the Office choose to meet their procedural obligations before the expiry of the extended time limit by submitting observations, documents or by performing any other procedural act, the relevant time limit will be considered exhausted, and the proceedings will continue without awaiting the expiry of the extension provided for under Article 1(1).

Article 2
Entry into force

This Decision will enter into force on the day following its adoption and will be published in the Official Journal of the Office.

Done at Alicante, 31 July 2026


João NEGRÃO
Executive Director