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CARTA DIR. Nº **041**
Santiago, 30 MAR 2011

Mr. Yoshiyuki IWAI
Commissioner
Japan Patent Office
3-4-3 Kasumigaseki
Chiyoda - ku
Tokyo 100 - 8915
Japan

Dear Mr. Iwai:

Considering the recent natural disaster occurred in Japan, situation that is sadly familiar to Chile, we would like to provide some guidance as to the relevant provisions available in our system for those that, victim of circumstances out of their control, might miss a deadline or time limit within the granting procedure of an Intellectual Property Right at INAPI.

According to article 26 of our Law N° 19.880, the Administration may, ex officio or upon request of an interested party, grant an extension of a deadline, if according to the circumstance this will not infringe the rights of third parties. One of the possible circumstances to be considered under this article, are any natural disaster such as an earthquake or a tsunami that affects the place where the applicant or his representative resides. However this article requires that the application is filled on or before the deadline upon which the extension is requested.

After an extensive review of our legal system, we have concluded that there is no other rule that might address circumstances such as this.

Our Office understands your particular situation, and shares the concerns and preoccupation your people are enduring. We would like to offer all our collaboration on this and any other related matter. To facilitate communication, if you require further assistance or information, please email at [REDACTED]

Kind regards,



PG/GNC