

*English is not an official language of the Swiss Confederation. This translation is provided for information purposes only and has no legal force.*

## **Ordinance on the Protection of the Swiss Coat of Arms and Other Public Signs**

**(Coat of Arms Protection Ordinance, CAPO)**

of 2 September 2015 (Status as of 1 July 2025) 2025 376 (6) [0]

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*The Federal Council,*

on the basis of the Coat of Arms Protection Act of 21 June 2013<sup>1</sup> (CAPA),  
*ordains:*

### **Art. 1**            Responsibility

The implementation of the administrative tasks as stipulated in the CAPA and this Ordinance is a matter for the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI) unless other offices are made responsible.

### **Art. 2**            Language for submissions to the IPI

<sup>1</sup> Submissions to the IPI must be made in an official language of the Confederation.

<sup>2</sup> Where official documents of evidence are not submitted in an official language, the IPI may request a translation and a certificate of its accuracy.

### **Art. 3**            Use of the Swiss coat of arms

The public bodies, organisations and companies entitled to use the Swiss coat of arms in their logo and carry out public tasks as autonomous entities may also use the logo for the identification of commercial services that they provide within the framework of the relevant legal bases.

### **Art. 4**            Other emblems of the Confederation

The following are considered other emblems of the Confederation under Article 4 CAPA:

- a. signs under Annex 6 numbers 1.1–1.3 of the Measuring Instruments Ordinance of 15 February 2006<sup>2</sup> (MIO) and verification marks and verification stamps specified by the Federal Institute of Metrology on the basis of Annex 5 number 2.2 and Annex 7 No 1.2 MIO;
- b. distinctive signs of the four accuracy classes for non-automatic weighing instruments, specified by the Federal Department of Justice and Police on the basis of Article 33 MIO;
- c. hallmarks under Annex II number 1 of the Precious Metals Control Ordinance of 8 May 1934<sup>3</sup>;
- d. the accreditation marks under Annex 4 of the Accreditation and Designation Ordinance of 17 June 1996<sup>4</sup>.

**Art. 5** Content of the list of protected public signs

<sup>1</sup> For each registered sign, the list of the protected public signs contains:

- a. a reproduction of the sign, supplemented with details of the proportions of the parts of the sign, if required; for a coat of arms, the list may contain a description of the coat of arms instead of a reproduction of the sign, supplemented by a sample reproduction of the sign, if required;
- b. the name and address of the competent authority of the public body to whom the sign belongs; and
- c. an indication of whether it is a coat of arms, a flag, an official sign indicating control and guarantee or another public sign

<sup>2</sup> In addition to the particulars under paragraph 1, for every registered sign, the list contains, where applicable:

- a. a list of all elements of the sign, the colours of the sign and a description of the position of the elements;
- b. a reference to the enactment in which the sign is regulated;
- c. the registration number of signs which have been registered as collective or guarantee marks by a public body.

**Art. 6** Information about the content of the list

The IPI provides information on the content of the list.

<sup>2</sup> SR 941.210

<sup>3</sup> SR 941.311

<sup>4</sup> SR 946.512

**Art. 7<sup>5</sup>** Assistance in connection with goods being brought into or taken out of the customs territory

Articles 7–9 apply to assistance provided in connection with goods unlawfully marked with protected public domestic or foreign signs being brought into or taken out of the customs territory, including the storage of such goods in a customs warehouse or duty-free warehouse.

**Art. 8** Application for assistance<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An application for assistance may be submitted by those entitled under Articles 20, 21 or 22 of the CAPA.

<sup>2</sup> Applications must be submitted to the Federal Office for Customs and Border Security (FOCBS).<sup>7</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Once the FOCBS has received the application in full, it shall decide on it within 40 days.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The approved application is valid for a period of two years unless a shorter period of validity is requested. It may be renewed.<sup>9</sup>

**Art. 9<sup>10</sup>** Other provisions applicable to assistance

Articles 54a and 55–57 of the Ordinance of 23 December 1992<sup>11</sup> on the Protection of Trade Marks and Indications of Source also apply to assistance.

**Art. 10** Transitional provisions

Time limits set by the IPI prior to this Ordinance coming into force which are running on the day this Ordinance comes into force remain unchanged.

<sup>5</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>6</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>7</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>8</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>9</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>10</sup> Amended by No I 6 of the O of 14 May 2025 on the Introduction of a Simplified Procedure for Destroying Small Consignments in Intellectual Property Law, in force since 1 July 2025 (AS **2025** 376).

<sup>11</sup> SR **232.111**

**Art. 11** Commencement

This Ordinance comes into force on 1 January 2017.