

**BL O/0465/26**

**TRADE MARKS ACT 1994**

**SUPPLEMENTARY DECISION ON COSTS**

**IN THE MATTER OF REGISTRATION NO. UK907001159**

**IN THE NAME OF MEBO INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

**FOR THE TRADE MARK:**

**MEBO**

**IN CLASSES 3, 5 AND 44**

**AND**

**AN APPLICATION FOR REVOCATION ON THE GROUNDS OF NON-USE**

**UNDER NO: 508028**

**BY ZANOTTI LTD**

## **BACKGROUND**

1. On 19 May 2026, I issued a substantive decision in the above identified proceedings<sup>1</sup> in which I found the application for revocation brought by ZANOTTI LTD (“the applicant”) against UK registration number 907001159, in the name of MEBO INTERNATIONAL, INC. (“the proprietor”), was successful. In that decision I stated:

### **“COSTS**

38. Given that the outcome of this decision has terminated the proceedings, I must consider the matter of costs. As the applicant has not instructed professional representatives, they are entitled to make a request for an award of costs, including accurate estimates of the number of hours spent on a range of given activities relating to the revocation proceedings. However, I note that the applicant has not been provided with a cost proforma. As a result, I am unable to deal with the issue of costs at this stage.

39. Accordingly, a copy of the cost proforma will be provided to the applicant upon the issuance of this decision. The applicant is hereby invited to file a completed cost proforma to the Tribunal within 14 days of the date of this decision. Once this is received, I will issue a supplementary decision dealing with the issue of costs. In the event that the applicant fails to file a cost proforma within 14 days of the date of this decision, I still propose issuing a supplementary decision dealing with the issue of costs.”

2. The applicant was provided with a copy of the costs proforma by the Tribunal and filed a completed copy of the same on 19 May 2026. I will now make a decision as to costs.

## **DECISION**

3. The applicant’s completed costs proforma is as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> BL O/0428/26



Tribunal Cost Pro Forma	
Form types	Time spent in hours/minutes
Notice of Opposition	
Notice of Cancellation	4 hours
Notice of Defence	
Considering forms filed by the other party	2 hours
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 hours</b>
<b>Official fees for the above forms</b>	<b>£ 200</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 200</b>
Preparing evidence/written submissions and considering and commenting on the other side's evidence/written submissions	
Description of activity	Time spent in hours/minutes
Carefully reading, reviewing, and analyzing the extensive evidence in chief filed by the Proprietor, consisting of the Witness Statement of Zhang Qian and its 12 accompanying exhibits (Exhibits ZQ1 to ZQ12), to evaluate whether to file evidence in reply or request an oral hearing."	8 hours
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8 hours</b>
Preparing for a hearing	
Description of activity	Time spent in hours/minutes
<b>TOTAL</b>	
Other Expenses	
Description of activity	Time spent in hours/minutes
<b>TOTAL</b>	

Total Time Claimed: 14 Hours Total Fees Claimed: £200 Signature: Tamer El Shazly 19/05/2026

4. With consideration of the above, I am guided in this decision by the scale of costs set out in Tribunal Practice Notice ("TPN") 1/2023, as well as the guidance on how costs should be allocated to parties that are not represented professionally.

5. First and foremost, I remind myself that the Tribunal awards costs on a contributory rather than a compensatory basis. It is important to note that only costs which have been incurred during, and as part of, these proceedings are relevant, such as filing official forms, evidence and written submissions, etc.

6. I also take into account Mr Hobbs QC's (as he then was) comments in *Amaro*, O/257/18:

“17. [...] an award of costs is required to reflect the effort and expenditure to which it relates without inflation for the purpose of imposing a financial penalty by way of punishment on the paying party. The determination of a ‘reasonable’ amount to award must depend on the nature and circumstances of the case at hand.”

7. It should be noted that there is no right to be awarded the amount claimed. This is subject to an assessment of the reasonableness of the claim and must also take account of the registrar’s practice of awarding costs on a contributory, not compensatory, basis.

8. With regards to the ‘Preparing evidence/written submissions and considering and commenting on the other side’s evidence/written submissions’ section of the ‘Tribunal Cost Pro Forma’, I note that the applicant has claimed 8 hours for ‘carefully reading, reviewing and analysing’ the proprietor’s evidence. In this regard, I accept that an unrepresented party would take longer to consider the evidence, than for example, a trade mark attorney, etc., however, I do not consider the proprietor’s evidence to be particularly complex, lengthy or excessive. Accordingly, I find the 8 hours claimed by the applicant to be excessive for the task undertaken. Consequently, I consider 4 hours for reviewing the proprietor’s evidence to be reasonable.

9. I have set out below my assessment on the applicant’s claim made. I remind myself that the Civil Procedure Rules Part 46 and the associated Practice Direction set the amount payable to litigants in person at £19 per hour. In accordance with Annex A of TPN 1/2023, I consider the following to be a fair and reasonable award of costs:

Official filing fee (Form TM26(N))	£200
Preparing a statement and considering the other side’s statement (6 hours x £19)	£114
Considering the other side’s evidence (4 hours x £19)	£76
<b>Total</b>	<b>£390</b>

10. I therefore order MEBO International, Inc. to pay ZANOTTI LTD, the sum of £390. This sum should be paid within 21 days of the expiry of the appeal period or, if there is an appeal, within 21 days of the conclusion of the appeal proceedings.

**Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2026**

**Sam Congreve  
For the Registrar**