

ALPSP

Association of Learned
and Professional
Society Publishers

APNET

African Publishers
Network

APPA

Asia-Pacific Publishers
Association

BIEM

Bureau International
des Sociétés Gérant les
Droits d'Enregistrement
et de Reproduction
Mécanique

CISAC

International
Confederation of
Authors and Composers
Societies

ENPA

European Newspaper
Publishers' Association

EPC

European Publishers
Council

EuroCopya

European Federation of
Joint Management
Societies of Producers
for Private Audiovisual
Copying

EWC

European
Writers' Council

FEP

Federation of European
Publishers

FERA

Federation of European
Film Directors

FIA

International Federation
of Actors

FIAD

International Federation
of Film Distributors
Associations

COPYRIGHT EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS JOINT POSITION

WIPO STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS, 17TH SESSION

Every nation can transform the creativity and knowledge of its people into a motor for social, cultural and economic development. The national legislative framework is a critical determinant of whether creative industries can develop. Within this framework, copyright plays a vital role as it is the most important asset for creative industries. Its value and potential for delivering development are determined by the way legal rights function in practice.

The signatory Non-Governmental Organisations - each an international representative for creators, performers or creative industries in its field – base their consideration on the following general principles:

- 1. Existing flexibilities are not only adequate but preferable. There is no need for new international binding norms restricting the freedom to develop locally adapted exceptions and limitations.**
- 2. At national level, all legislative options should be built on a flexible and fair foundation that is based on the notion of lawful access for users respecting the rights of creators and other rightsholders.**
- 3. The signatories can provide many examples of good national models and practices, drafted within the present international norms.**

FIAPF

International Federation
of Film Producers
Associations

FIM

International Federation
of Musicians

ICMP

International
Confederation of Music
Publishers

IFJ

International Federation
of Journalists

IFPI

International Federation
of the Phonographic
Industry

IFRRO

International Federation
of Reproduction Rights
Organisations

IFSP

International Federation
of Scholarly Publishers

IFTA

Independent Film and
Television Alliance

IMPALA

Independent Music
Companies Association

IPA

International Publishers
Association

IVF

International Video
Federation

STM

International Association
of Scientific, Technical
and Medical Publishers

WAN

World Association of
Newspapers

Existing International Binding Norms on Exceptions and Limitations

Exceptions and limitations in copyright legislation are a fundamental part of the copyright system, defining the scope of

growth of audiovisual industries in Eastern and Western African countries, such as Kenya's "Riverwood" and Nigeria's "Nollywood", could be greatly enhanced through the effective application of copyright law to stimulate creativity and investment in the production infrastructure.

The share of local music repertoire is significant in many countries. In Mexico, for example, local repertoire is approximately 70 % of the market. In Argentina, the local repertoire also accounts for the largest segment of the market; about 45 % in 2007, compared to 16 % Spanish and 35 % of English and other repertoires. These repertoires need a properly functioning IP system in order to maintain and increase their potential.

Toolbox of Solutions

Authors, producers, publishers and distributors have every interest to ensure lawful access on reasonable terms. Writers write, musicians perform, producers and publishers develop, finance and distribute content, each with the goal of seeking the widest possible audience, provided that their intellectual property rights are respected and allow them to seek to recover production costs and generate a return on their creative and financial investments. Accessibility is an important issue and there exist a variety of ways to offer access, ranging from selling books, CDs and DVDs to licensing a wide range of electronic delivery and digital platforms.

The needs of important user groups, such as educational establishments, libraries and archives and those of disabled persons, must be taken into account. However, exceptions and limitations are just one tool amongst many. They often provide an inflexible solution to a broad range of different circumstances. Sometimes, sector-specific solutions need to be fashioned. The law should facilitate tailor-made solutions, and in many countries it does.

Collaboration between stakeholders can bring clear advantages in ensuring accessibility in constantly evolving usage scenarios. That is one of the conclusions in the recent study, commissioned by WIPO, on copyright limitations and exceptions for

the visually impaired⁴. Trust and understanding between stakeholders can bring partners to flexible solutions that change over time. The needs of disabled persons can be met by properly analysing and addressing the obstacles they meet with the aim of ensuring their equal treatment. Many stakeholders in the audiovisual sector provide tools to make their products more accessible to people with disabilities: additional features on DVDs including video description for visually impaired viewers and subtitles for hearing impaired.

In the publishing sector, research and educational communities constitute the most significant audiences and markets for some authors and publishers. The very essence of normal exploitation is to offer publications and information services to these non-commercial communities. The interest of research and education is best served by encouraging the creation of new works, publications and information services that serve the communication within these communities.

Innovative partnerships⁵ between publishers, libraries, governments and UN organisations not only provide access, but also training on how to make use of resources voluntarily made available. We are happy to expand more on these examples and other win-win solutions in different creative industries during the course of forthcoming deliberations.

Copyright provides a legal basis for licensing both analogue and digital material. In cases where exceptions and limitations are an appropriate tool, the present framework of commonly accepted international norms (in particular the three-

⁴ Study on Copyright Limitations and Exceptions for the Visually Impaired, prepared by Judith Sullivan, February 20, 2007

⁵ HINARI (Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative) <http://www.who.int/hinari>, AGORA (Access to Global Online Research Agriculture) <http://www.aginternetwork.org>, OARE (Online Access to Research in the Environment) <http://www.oaresciences.org>

step-test) allows for flexible and tailored solutions.

Licensing can interact with Exceptions and Limitations

Licensing agreements can offer wide usage opportunities, based on tailor-made solutions. Agreements can be concluded individually between users and rightsholders, or collectively with collective management organisations, when appropriate. In collective licensing, Reproduction Rights Organisations (RROs) as specialised organisations have a wealth of experience on how to serve educational and library users in different parts of the world. In this area, access by citizens is improved all the time, through a variety of pragmatic solutions which include voluntary agreements.

Licensing agreements should be available to cover all large-scale and systematic copying for education and research. Online accessibility in libraries and other cultural institutions can be achieved through licensing avoiding the risk that exceptions and limitations could conflict with the normal exploitation of the works. Exceptions and limitations can interact in useful ways with licensing agreements and there are many ways to incorporate unremunerated copying into licenses, for example by deducting copies made under an exception or adjusting the remuneration to take into account unremunerated copying.

Well-Crafted National Exceptions and Limitations

In cases where exceptions and limitations are appropriate, they need to be individually crafted and carefully defined at national level. This applies irrespective of the form: specified norms or more general fair use/fair dealing provisions. One important goal is predictability, and any national legislative initiative should be based on a long-term impact analysis. The consequences of an unbalanced solution could endanger the development of national creativity and creative industries, and threaten cultural diversity. That would be to the detriment of creators, performers, publishers, producers, users and ultimately society as a whole.

Good Examples and Practices

The signatories can provide examples of individual and collective licensing where broad access has been achieved on the basis of voluntary agreements and collaborative approaches, providing greater flexibility, predictability and ease of use than solely reliance on statutory exceptions and limitations.

We are happy to give information on appropriate national models and practices in both analogue and digital environments. We look forward to participating constructively in the forthcoming dialogue in the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights.

November 2008