San José, June 16, 2017

LETTER OF INTENT FOR A WORK PLAN

Participants in the *WIPO Sub-Regional Workshop on the Production and Exchange of Accessible Works* endorse this letter of intent which containing elements for a joint work plan composed of 5 areas of action, for the purpose of cooperation in increasing the production and exchange of written works in accessible formats.

1. **National legal framework**
* promoting national legislation that reflects the objectives of the Marrakesh Treaty;
* establishing conditions that offer legal certainty, in accordance with the provisions of the Marrakesh Treaty, for the adaptation, production, distribution and exchange of works in accessible formats by authorized entities and persons with disabilities;
* setting up mechanisms to ensure the protection, storage and proper use of the personal data of beneficiaries, according to the legislation of each country;
* considering the inclusion of other disabilities in the national legal framework governing accessible formats; and
* at the request of Member States, possible WIPO assistance with the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty.
1. **Cataloguing works in accessible formats**
* undertaking the necessary work to enable national organizations develop catalogues of existing works in accessible formats and a consolidated catalogue at national level;
* managing national and international cooperation to facilitate access to information on existing catalogues in each Member State; and
* national and international cooperation to achieve and promote the dissemination of a minimum standard of information for inclusion in catalogues of accessible works.
1. **Authorized entities**
* ensuring that the national regulatory processes governing authorized entities have the active participation of organizations representing persons with disabilities;
* during the national regulation process, taking account of the importance of local governmental and non-governmental organizations already engaged in the adaptation, production, distribution and exchange of works in accessible formats; and
* making the information relating to authorized entities more accessible to interested parties.
1. **Production of accessible formats**
* In the countries of the region, the production of copies in the Braille, Audio, Word, TXT and RTF formats predominates.
* There is a clear need to strengthen the capacity of organizations to produce accessible formats in use more efficiently and to include new formats.
* The Accessible Book Consortium (ABC), Latin American Blind Union (ULAC) and other entities are invited to develop capacity-building projects with organizations in the region.
1. **Cross-border exchange**
* It is a priority to have an accessible international database that provides information on catalogues of accessible works existing in various countries.
* The use of existing digital tools such as TIFLOLIBROS and others is recommended.
* The ABC Book Service, among others, is a tool that provides access to international catalogues and facilitates cross-border exchange.

The efforts and initiatives of WIPO, including the ABC, are gratefully acknowledged and ULAC is recognized as a reference organization in the region for the development, dissemination and promotion of adherence to and effective implementation of the Treaty. In this regard, among other activities, ULAC establishes alliances with organizations such as the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

There is a need for the competent government bodies of the countries of the region to allocate the necessary resources for the effective implementation of the Treaty.

ABC, with the contribution of ULAC and IFLA, is requested to prepare a guide in Spanish in an accessible format, including information on its operation and structure, the procedure for accessing the catalogue of the Book Service, the various accessible formats and their forms of production and international standards for the cataloguing of copies in accessible formats.