

Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights

Twentieth Session
Geneva, June 21 to 24, 2010

Accreditation of Certain Non-Governmental Organizations

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Annex to this document lists non-governmental organizations, which have requested to be granted observer status in sessions of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), according to SCCR's Rules of Procedure (see document SCCR/1/2, paragraph 10).

2. *The SCCR is invited to approve the representation in sessions of the Committee of the non-governmental organizations referred to in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS REQUESTED REPRESENTATION AS OBSERVER IN SESSIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS (SCCR)

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

Association of American Publishers, Inc. (AAP)

Contacto Braille A.C. (CBR)

The Daisy Consortium (DAISY)

European Blind Union (EBU)

Inclusive Planet Foundation (INCP)

The Internet Society (ISOC)

Kenya Union for the Blind (KUB)

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

Nigeria Association of the Blind (NAB)

Norwegian Association of the Blind and Partially Sighted (NABP)

Organismo Mexicano Promotor del Desarrollo Integral de los Discapacitados Visuales, IAP (Discapacitados Visuales IAP)

Organización de Asociaciones y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones para América Latina (TEPAL)

Perkins School for the Blind (PSB)

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)

TransAtlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)

Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC)

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

The ACB, which is primarily active in the United States, strives to improve the well-being of all blind and visually impaired people by: serving as a representative national organization of blind people; elevating the social, economic and cultural levels of blind people; improving educational and rehabilitation facilities and opportunities; cooperating with the public and private institutions and organizations concerned with blind services; encouraging and assisting all blind persons to develop their abilities and conducting a public education program to promote greater understanding of blindness and the capabilities of blind people.

The main activities of the organization are: toll-free information and referral on all aspects of blindness; scholarship assistance to blind/visually impaired post-secondary students; public education and awareness training; support to consumer advocates and legal assistance on matters relating to blindness; leadership and legislative training; consulting with industry regarding employment of blind and visually impaired individuals; governmental monitoring, consultation and advocacy including the "Washington Connection," a national legislative hotline; annual national convention.

Its members and beneficiaries are interested in the availability of published works in accessible formats, such as Braille, large print and audio, which can be read and enjoyed by visually impaired and other reading disabled persons. The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform.

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Association of American Publishers, Inc. (AAP)

As the principal national trade association of the US book publishing industry, AAP represents some 300 companies and organizations that include most of the major commercial book and journal publishers in the United States, as well as many small and non-profit publishers, university presses and scholarly societies. AAP members publish hardcover and paperback books and journals in every field of human interest. In addition to publishing print materials, many AAP members are active in the emerging market for ebooks, while also producing computer programs, databases, Web sites and a variety of multimedia works for use in online and other digital formats. AAP advocates the public policy interests of its members, including the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in all media; the defense of both the freedom to read and the freedom to publish at home and abroad; the advancement of education; and the promotion of literacy and reading.

AAP's active engagement in government affairs, communications and public affairs, education programs, and diversity/recruitment retention programs on behalf of its members encompasses participation in litigation, legislative and regulatory advocacy, and interaction with the news media, academic and library communities, and the technology sector in the US at federal, state and local levels.

AAP's major focus in recent years has been on advocating its members' interests in adequate copyright protection and effective copyright enforcement both in the US and in global markets for their products.

AAP has been actively engaged for many years on behalf of its members in trying to improve the accessibility to print works for students and other individuals with print disabilities.

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Contacto Braille A.C. (CBR)

CBR provides typhological support to the blind, partially sighted and deaf-blind, with the aim of achieving their full and effective integration into society on a self-sufficient and productive basis, by means of the use of the Braille reading and writing system, audio recordings and adapted information technology resources.

The objectives of CBR include the following: to eradicate the social exclusion, discrimination and poverty that, as the case may be, the vast majority of the blind experience the world over; to stamp out ignorance, prejudice, sympathy and inhuman treatment towards the visually impaired; and to bring about equal opportunities in the fields of education, work, information and leisure.

CBR's specific focus lies in including the blind in education, productive work and active participation in society, and that printed Braille resources are provided for their studies, professional activities, and family and community development. This is why there is a pressing need for a total exemption from copyright payments, and the acceptance and support of publishers to share their works and to make them available to the blind in the form of Braille, audio recordings and electronic format.

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The DAISY Consortium (DAISY)

The DAISY Consortium is an international association that develops, maintains and promotes international DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System) Standards. It is managed by a Board made up of representatives from all Full Member organizations. The Consortium is constituted as a not-for-profit association under Swiss law and is governed by Articles of Association. Specifically, the Consortium's vision is that all published information is available to people with print disabilities, at the same time and at no greater cost, in an accessible, feature-rich, navigable format.

The DAISY Consortium develops standards that have the greatest possibility for worldwide adoption with a view to long term development and sustainability. The organization encourages initiatives in developing countries that make DAISY content available and collaborates with IFLA, WBU and UN organizations such as WIPO, ITU, UNESCO, WHO and other stakeholders to influence international copyright laws and best practices in the legal sharing of materials, and to establish an inclusive, global, accessible digital library.

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European Blind Union (EBU)

EBU aims to protect and promote the interests of all blind and partially-sighted people in Europe. Its objects and powers are set out in Article II of its Constitution. EBU currently has 45 member countries, each represented by a national delegation. Its work is directed by an Executive Board of 13 elected members who are accountable to a General Assembly held every four years.

The detailed work of EBU is carried out by Commissions whose areas of activity reflect the major interests of EBU and Steering Groups, whose remit is to help EBU to adequately address the needs of specific segments of the visually impaired population (Elderly, Youth, Women, Partially Sighted, Deafblind, Blind or Partially Sighted with Additional Disabilities).

Its members and beneficiaries are interested in the availability of published works in accessible formats, such as braille, large print and audio, which can be read and enjoyed by vision impaired and other reading disabled persons. EBU follows copyright issues closely through its copyright and right to read working group. The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was formally proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay in 2009. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on the issue

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Inclusive Planet Foundation (INCP)

The INCP, which is primarily working in India, has the objective to facilitate the creation of suitable exceptions in global and national copyright laws, which will allow persons with reading disabilities to access printed material in accessible formats.

At the global level, it assisted in the drafting of the Treaty for Reading Disabilities and are supporting the WBU in advocating for the Treaty. The INCP, along with its partner, the Centre for Internet and Society, has briefed India's negotiators at WIPO on why it is essential that India should support the Treaty.

The activities of the organization are the following: undertaking legal research of copyright law, constitutional law and international law to contextualize the Right to Read of persons with reading disabilities and the necessity for amendment of copyright laws; lobbying with Parliamentarians and political parties to build national consensus between political parties on recognizing the need for an appropriate copyright amendment for the benefit of persons with reading disabilities; building national consensus between disability rights organizations on the issue; providing legal advice and drafting documents including the alternate wording of the proposed amendment as requested by political parties and presenting them to Parliamentarians and political parties; organize Right to Read campaigns nationally to highlight the issues involved and facilitate interaction between policy-makers, publishers and persons with reading disabilities.

Its members and beneficiaries are interested in the availability of published works in accessible formats, such as braille, large print and audio, which can be read and enjoyed by vision impaired and other reading disabled persons. The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, they also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on the issue.

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The Internet Society (ISOC)

The Internet Society is an international nonprofit organization founded in 1992 to provide leadership in Internet related standards, education, and policy. With offices in Washington D.C., USA, and Geneva, Switzerland, it is dedicated to ensuring the open development, evolution and use of the Internet for the benefit of people throughout the world. The Internet Society has more than 100 organizational and more than 28,000 individual members in over 80 chapters around the world. To better serve the regional Internet communities, ISOC has also created five regional bureaus in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America.

The Internet Society considers that protection of copyright in an online environment is an important and current issue for the Internet community, particularly with the growing interest in Internet-focused enforcement measures such as: a graduated response culminating in suspension of Internet access; traffic shaping; blocking; content identification and filtering. ISOC has also a strong interest in intellectual property issues relating to the digital divide and access to knowledge. Accredited by the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), the Internet Society actively participates in the WSIS follow-up and is looking forward to supporting WIPO's efforts in this framework as well.

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Kenya Union of the Blind (KUB)

The main aim of the KUB is to promote the social inclusion of persons with visual impairments through uniting and empowering them as well as advocating for their rights. In order to achieve that aim, its specific objectives are: to advocate for equal rights for persons with visual impairments in Kenya; to promote literacy and readership among persons with visual impairments in Kenya; to promote education, training, employment, trades, safe travel, recreation and general well-being of persons with visual impairments; to seek cooperation, affiliation and effective representation in relevant local and international organizations; to serve in advisory capacity on all matters pertaining to the welfare of persons with visual impairments; and to mobilize resources for the achievement of the Union's objectives and interventions.

The Kenya Union of the Blind is one of the few organizations in Africa that are producing literature in a comprehensive range of accessible formats, including Braille, large print, audio, mp3 and DAISY. In addition, the Kenya Union of the Blind is in the process of establishing a digital library for persons with visual impairments, one of the very few in Africa.

The KBU is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was formally proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. It is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on the issue.

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National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

The purpose of the NFB is two-fold: to help blind persons achieve self-confidence and self-respect and to act as a vehicle for collective self-expression by the blind.

By providing the following: public education about blindness, information and referral services, scholarships, literature and publications about blindness, aids and appliances and other adaptive equipment for the blind, advocacy services and protection of civil rights, development and evaluation of technology, and support for blind persons and their families, members of the NFB strive to educate the public that the blind are normal individuals who can compete on terms of equality.

With more than 50,000 members, the NFB is the largest and most influential membership organization of blind people in the United States. Its members are interested in the availability of published works in accessible formats, such as Braille, large print, and audio which can be read and enjoyed by blind and low vision people and other reading disabled persons. The organization is professionally interested in the WBU-proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired, which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador, and Paraguay.

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Nigeria Association of the Blind (NAB)

The main objectives of NAB are: to promote good relationship among the Blind, and with all the governments of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, missionaries, other governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) governing the welfare of the blind throughout Nigeria and to work in close concert with organizations for the blind outside Nigeria; to educate the blind to cultivate a spirit of self-reliance and self-support, and to discourage all forms of street begging among the blind; and to encourage the training, rehabilitation and employment of people with visual impairment, etc.

NAB is undertaking active lobbying and advocating initiatives for public and or legislative measures in favor of the rights of the blind.

The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on the issue.

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Norwegian Association of the Blind and Partially Sighted (NABP)

The NABP based in Norway, undertakes most of its activities at a national level, but it has also projects in 12 other countries in Africa and Asia.

The main objectives is to fight for the rights for blind and partially sighted people in Norway and also support the visually impaired people in other countries. NABP is also a service providing organization, delivering services in the field of rehabilitation, guide dog training, production of information material in Braille and so on.

The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on the issue.

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Organismo Mexicano Promotor del Desarrollo Integral de los Discapacitados Visuales, IAP
(Discapacitados Visuales IAP)

Discapacitados Visuales IAP has the objective to promote the integral development of the people with visual disabilities in Mexico, through services that allow their access and inclusion in the community. The mission is to offer pedagogical services professionally of qualification, design, accessibility, sensitization and direction that affect the integral development of the people with visual disabilities in Mexico, promoting in this way their total inclusion in the community; with the commitment to work in the implementation of innovative strategies that promote the integral development of the people with visual disabilities in Mexico.

The organization delivers important services, such as qualification in computation and psycho-pedagogical support; printing of Braille material; and recording of spoken book digital (LHD).

The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty for the Blind and Visually Impaired, which is now formerly proposed by Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay and Mexico. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform discussions.

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Organización de Asociaciones y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones para América Latina, TEPAL
(Organization of Telecommunication Associations and Companies for Latin America)

TEPAL is a non-profit organization comprising the pay television associations and companies of North, Central and South America, the Caribbean and the Iberian Peninsula. Its main objective is to represent the common interests of its members by means of: exchanging information and services to achieve better and more efficient results in its activities; encouraging associations and companies which receive, record and/or rebroadcast audiovisual signals and material to acquire the rights from the legitimate owners; promoting the exchange of cultural material between its members, contracting of programs and/or channels for marketing and distribution between its members; protecting free speech and the press for all of its members, as well as pay television activity in general.

Members of TEPAL are linked with intellectual property rights in two ways, since members are both users of third-party works (audiovisual works, music, scripts, and literary and artistic works in general), and copyright and/or related rights' holders with regard to their own productions or those resulting from assignments, as well as with respect to their broadcasts and/or cable signals.

TEPAL's primary interest is in the discussions relating to the draft treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations and the draft audiovisual performances protection treaty.

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Perkins School for the Blind (PSB)

The PSB develop its activities in the following countries. In Africa: Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda; in Asia and the Pacific: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam; in The Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St. Lucia; in the Central and Eastern Europe: Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine; in Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela; in the Middle East: Bahrain, Israel, Jordan; in North America: the United States of America.

The PSB is committed to providing education and services that build productive, meaningful lives for children and adults around the world who are blind, deafblind or visually impaired with or without other disabilities.

It serves 100,000 children and adults who are blind and deafblind in the United States and around the world. Access to information is critical for PSB and for the partners it works with around the world.

Its members and beneficiaries are interested in the availability of published works in accessible formats, such as braille, large print and audio, which can be read and enjoyed by visually impaired and other reading disabled persons. The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which is now proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform.

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Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)

RFB&D is a non-profit organization that provides accessible versions of printed materials for people with print disabilities. It has the United States' largest collection of DAISY digital audio materials, with nearly 60,000 titles in our library; it was instrumental in the development and implementation of DAISY technical standards and serve as the United States representative to the DAISY Consortium. The primary objective is to ensure access to the printed word to all of those who cannot read it because of a disability, with a primary focus is on the provision of accessible educational materials to schools and students at all educational levels.

RFB&D serves individuals who need access to published works in accessible formats. The organization is particularly interested in the ability to exchange content across borders, and so is professionally interested in the outcomes of the Committee's discussions and the consultations related to the WIPO Stakeholders' Platform.

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The TransAtlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)

The TACD is a forum of US and EU consumer organizations which develops and agrees on joint consumer policy recommendations to the US government and the European Union to promote the consumer interest in EU and US policy making as well as in international institutions.

The TACD follows and makes recommendations concerning consumer issues, trade policy and intellectual property issues that affect consumers on both sides of the Atlantic.

The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally, it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholders Platform and other current consultations on this issue.

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Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC)

XRCVC's vision is to "work towards creating an enabling environment to facilitate the development of an inclusive society both at the micro as well as the macro levels thereby providing equal opportunities for holistic growth for the visually challenged."

The key objectives of XRCVC's work include the following: to make the printed word easily accessible to visually challenged individuals; to work towards building a social climate where the visually challenged in India are not actively disadvantaged, but rather empowered to access financial services, educational services and others services like any other citizen; to work towards creating awareness about the lives of the visually challenged persons in the sighted community and relevant stakeholders, to help break the existing myths and engage in such other activities that may; to provide appropriate support and training services to the visually impaired to enable them to overcome any barrier posed because of the impairment and function independently in society.

The XRCVC engages in a range of direct support services as well as advocacy programs, such as print access, financial services, education access, technology support and awareness raising activities.

The organization is professionally interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired which was proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay. Finally it is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholder Platform and other current consultations on the issue.

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