

Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude a Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities

Geneva, February 22, 2013

ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

prepared by the Secretariat

1. Since the meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude a Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities, on December 18, 2012, when the list of invitees to the Diplomatic Conference was approved (VIP/PM/4 and 6), the Director General has received requests from each of the following non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for admission to attend the Diplomatic Conference as observers:

- (i) Australian Copyright Council;
- (ii) World Disability Foundation.

2. A short profile of each of the NGOs mentioned in paragraph 1, above – its objectives, structure and membership – appears in the Annex of this document. It is proposed that the NGOs mentioned in paragraph 1 be invited to the Diplomatic Conference as “Observers”.

3. The Preparatory Committee is invited to take a decision on the proposal appearing in paragraph 2, above.

[Annex follows]

Australian Copyright Council

Headquarters: The Australian Copyright Council was established in 1968 and it is based in Sydney, Australia.

Objectives: The Australian Copyright Council represents the peak bodies for professional artists and content creators working in Australia's creative industries and Australia's major copyright collecting societies and it aims at promoting understanding of copyright law, lobbying for appropriate law reform and fostering cooperation between copyright creators and consumers.

Structure: The main governing body is the Board and the main officers consist of the Executive Director, Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Board and Treasurer.

Membership: The Australian Copyright Council has 24 member organizations representing the peak bodies for Australian artists such as the Australian Society of Authors as well as the major copyright collecting societies.

World Disability Foundation (WDF)

Headquarters: WDF was established in Istanbul, on January 21, 2010.

Objectives: Its main objectives are the promotion of the universal implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the recognition of the inherent dignity of persons with disabilities and their full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the identification and facilitation of the removal of social and economic, legal, political and environmental barriers that inhibit the full and effective participation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities.

Structure: The main governing bodies are the Board of Trustees, the Managerial Board as well as the Advisory and Supervisory Boards. The main officers consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and two technical directors.

Members: The World Disability Foundation is one of the founders of the World Disability Union (WDU), a global initiative and international organization currently composed of members from 65 countries in 6 continents.

[End of Annex and of document]