

Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh Treaty)

Assembly

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STATUS OF THE MARRAKESH TREATY

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. This document provides information on signature as well as on ratification of, and accession to, the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (“Marrakesh Treaty”). It also provides an update on the status of Marrakesh Treaty promotion and implementation.

I. MARRAKESH TREATY SIGNATURE

2. On June 27, 2013, the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude a Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities adopted by consensus the Marrakesh Treaty, which was opened for signature on June 28, 2013. In accordance with Article 17 of the Marrakesh Treaty, the Treaty remained open for signature at the headquarters of WIPO for one year after its adoption, that is, until June 27, 2014.

3. As of June 27, 2014, the 80 eligible parties listed in Annex I had signed the Treaty.

II. MARRAKESH TREATY ENTRY INTO FORCE

4. Article 18 provides that the Treaty shall enter into force three months after 20 eligible parties have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession. The twentieth deposit was made on June 30, 2016.
5. On September 30, 2016, the Marrakesh Treaty entered into force.
6. 2026 marks the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Marrakesh Treaty. This milestone will be celebrated at an event during the 2026 WIPO Assemblies.

III. MARRAKESH TREATY RATIFICATION AND ACCESSION

7. As of March 30, 2026, the 102 WIPO Member States listed in Annex II and the European Union have ratified or acceded to the Marrakesh Treaty. The 103 Contracting Parties to the Treaty cover 129 WIPO Member States.

IV. MARRAKESH TREATY INFORMATION ACCESS POINT

8. Article 9.1 of the Marrakesh Treaty provides that “Contracting Parties shall endeavor to foster the cross-border exchange of accessible format copies by encouraging the voluntary sharing of information to assist authorized entities in identifying one another. The International Bureau of WIPO shall establish an information access point for this purpose.”
9. In April 2018, the Marrakesh Treaty Information Access Point was established by the International Bureau of WIPO and published on the WIPO website at <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/marrakesh-treaty/>.

V. MARRAKESH TREATY PROMOTION

10. Between October 2024 and December 2025, WIPO’s Copyright Law Division and the Secretariat of the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) co-organized three major regional events aimed at moving from Marrakesh Treaty principles to practical outcomes. By strengthening legal and technical capacities in the Pacific, the Caribbean and Arab countries, these events focused on improving access to information for persons with print disabilities through the ABC.
11. The Sub-regional “Right to Read” Conference for Pacific Island Countries – The Marrakesh Treaty and the ABC took place from October 30 to November 1, 2024, in Sydney, Australia. Supported by the WIPO-Australia Funds-in-Trust Program, the event brought together representatives from associations for persons with disabilities, including those for blind persons, and intellectual property (IP) authorities from nine Pacific island countries. Participants addressed challenges in improving reading for print-disabled individuals. Discussions highlighted the importance of local collaboration and of leveraging resources like the ABC Global Book Service (GBS).
12. The regional workshop for selected Caribbean countries Enabling Access – Unlocking the Potential of the Marrakesh Treaty took place in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from November 25 to 27, 2025. Co-hosted with the Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) and the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS), the event gathered representatives from 13 Caribbean countries. Given that the region shares a common secondary school curriculum and examinations, the ability to share accessible educational

materials offers significant potential to multiply the impact of the Marrakesh Treaty across the Caribbean. This was affirmed by the Chief Executive Officer and Registrar of the Caribbean Examinations Council, who, speaking at the workshop, announced that the Council would make it explicit in all contractual arrangements with publishers that all learning resources be produced in accessible digital formats that are compatible with assistive technologies, including braille and large print.

13. The regional workshop Enabling Access – Activating the Marrakesh Treaty in the Arab Region was held in Tunis, Tunisia, from December 8 to 10, 2025. Organized in cooperation with the Tunisian Organism for the Protection of Copyrights and Related Rights (OTDAV), the workshop brought together representatives from copyright offices and libraries for the blind from 14 countries. The discussions focused on accelerating accession to and implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty. A critical discussion concerned the underrepresentation of Arabic-language titles in the ABC Global Book Service catalogue.

14. The Secretariat has also engaged in a number of additional activities, including legislative assistance, at the national level.

15. *The Assembly of the Marrakesh Treaty is invited to take note of the “Status of the Marrakesh Treaty” (document MVT/A/11/1).*

[Annexes follow]

**SIGNATORIES OF THE MARRAKESH TREATY TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO
PUBLISHED WORKS FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND, VISUALLY IMPAIRED OR
OTHERWISE PRINT DISABLED (AS OF JUNE 27, 2014)**

The following eligible parties signed the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Holy See, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, and Zimbabwe (80).

[Annex II follows]

RATIFICATIONS OR ACCESSIONS TO THE MARRAKESH TREATY TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO PUBLISHED WORKS FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND, VISUALLY IMPAIRED OR OTHERWISE PRINT DISABLED (AS OF MARCH 30, 2026)

The following Member States and international organization ratified or acceded to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, and European Union (103).

[End of Annex II and of document]