

# REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE COPYRIGHT ECOSYSTEM

## INTRODUCTION

During the upcoming 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), an Information Session on the Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the Copyright Ecosystem will take place. In order to provide a clear overview of the “impact on the cultural, creative and educational ecosystem, including copyright, related rights, and limitations and exceptions”, the Secretariat kindly invites Member States and Observers to share existing examples of situations that arose and actions that were taken and/or interventions that were made during the Covid-19 pandemic with respect to the industries or institutions that are being considered in the Information Session. We ask you to describe these situations or actions by providing the information requested below. If you are able to give us some elements of your response before March 15, it could help our researchers who are preparing the overview. In addition, all contributions received by the eve of the Information Session will be uploaded (with your permission) onto the WIPO web site.

Please send this form by email to the following address: [copyright.mail@wipo.int](mailto:copyright.mail@wipo.int) with the subject: “Information Session”.

## INFORMATION REQUEST

1. Full name of the entity or individual submitting the response.  
Society of Audiovisual Authors
2. Contact person with email address and telephone number for questions or clarifications about the submission.  
Cécile Despringre, Executive Director – [c.despringre@saa-authors.eu](mailto:c.despringre@saa-authors.eu)
3. Would you accept having your response made public (e.g. posted on the WIPO website)?  
 Yes  
 No
4. Do you accept having the information contained in your responses mentioned in studies and presentations for the Information Session?  
 Yes  
 No
5. **Brief** description of example, measures or interventions that took place (up to 200 words).  
*(Explanation: Please briefly explain the situation and why it is of interest for the Information Session. Examples could include policies put in place or other measures aimed at increasing the resilience of an industry or institution, or to assist the people they serve.)*

The Society of Audiovisual Authors conducted surveys among its members (collective management organisations – CMOs) on their financial support to authors in time of Covid-19 crisis, the first in April 2020 and a second one in January 2021.

Among SAA's 33 members, 25 CMOs from 18 countries reported that they have either used their regular social funds, established emergency funds for COVID-19 support or a joint fund with the film institute/public authorities to help audiovisual authors in financial difficulty due to the COVID-19 crisis. They have also supported authors via fast-track distributions of royalties, more money distributed, advance payments, donations to other funds and advocacy activities for adequate government support to authors.

Key findings:

- 15 CMOs together provided almost €10 million in total financial support to its members during the first wave. More than €5 million went to audiovisual authors (16 CMOs together).
- This financial support reached a total of more than 5.000 members (by 14 CMOs) and more than 2.600 audiovisual authors (by 13 CMOs).
- The average financial support received by individual members/authors was €2.000 (by 17 CMOs). This figure varies from less than €1K to more than €5K. 8 CMOs answered that beneficiaries received financial support only once. 4 CMOs said it was possible to receive it on a monthly or quarterly basis.

6. Territory where it took place (continent, country, and city or region).  
Europe

7. Relevant sector or sectors.  
Audiovisual including cinema, Choose an item., Choose an item.

7.1 Additional observation or sector not listed above:  
Click or tap here to enter text.

8. Please provide the key lessons from this example.  
The surveys showed that European collective management organisations (CMOs) were quick to mobilise speedy distribution of royalties and financial support to audiovisual authors suffering due to the crisis. A much-needed help for many authors who did not fit the categories to benefit from governments' emergency support.

9. Please provide links to relevant documents or other sources that could provide further information about this example.  
[Press release, 29 May 2020 - Collective management organisations support authors during the COVID-19 crisis](#)  
[Press release, 9 March 2021 - CMOs are a safety net for authors, but there must be other lifelines in the current crisis](#)

10. Please provide any additional comment you might have.  
Click or tap here to enter text.

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