

ROLE OF AUTHORIZED ENTITIES

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AUTHORIZED ENTITY - DEFINITION

Marrakesh Treaty defines AE as:

- Entity authorized or recognized by government to provide education, instructional training, adaptive reading or information access to ‘beneficiary persons’ on a non-profit basis.
- Also includes government institutions or non-profit organizations that provide same services to beneficiary persons.
- Treaty does not prescribe approval process to qualify as Authorized Entity. Organization simply has to meet these criteria.

AUTHORIZED ENTITY – DUTIES

- Serving VIP as “primary activities” or institutional obligations;
- verify conditions for being a beneficiary
- limit distribution to them
- discourage unauthorized uses
- maintain due care and keep records.

What is required in national law?

- Countries **must provide in domestic copyright law for a limitation or exception** to the right to reproduce published works in alternative formats, make them available to persons with print disabilities, and allow for export and import of accessible format copies.
- Such limitation or exception in national copyright law may allow that *Authorized Entities* are permitted to:
 - *produce* these accessible format copies without the authorization of the rights holder
 - *obtain* accessible format copies from another Authorized Entity and
 - *supply* those copies to beneficiary persons by any means

Role for AEs in support of national ratification

Advocacy with lawmakers – Sample of successful approach

- *Understand* current domestic law provisions and provisions of Treaty – what needs to change.
- *Engage* with consumer organizations interested in advocating with government on their own behalf.
- *Promote* Treaty aspiration – to help end the ‘global book famine’ worldwide for people with print disabilities – with national government policy advisors and legislators.
- *Explain* how print-disabled citizens and print-disabled community worldwide will benefit from national copyright law aligned with Treaty principles.
- *Provide* input to draft legislation, if requested.

Role for AEs in implementing Treaty provisions (1)

Once Treaty ratified by the country and instruments of ratification deposited with WIPO, AE **positioned to implement** Treaty provisions in support of its goal

- Consider whether **need for further government involvement** to ensure the goal of the Treaty is advanced nationally.
- Produce and deliver **published works in accessible formats** to support education, employment, leisure reading and full social inclusion of persons with print disabilities.
- Consider **options to facilitate exchange of accessible formats** with other AEs worldwide.
- Determine **with whom to exchange accessible formats** to enhance ability to support reading needs of your print-disabled community.

Role for AEs in implementing Treaty provisions (2)

- Provide holistic solution of Kit, Content and Confidence by:
- Ensure Availability of content required by the beneficiaries in language and format of their choice.
- Building basic library infrastructure to bring in efficiency and accountability in delivering content to beneficiaries.
- Ensure availability of digital book reading device in affordable cost, compatible with local language and connected to the library. such as:
 - Smart Phone or Computer with Screen Reading software
 - DAISY book player
 - Refreshable Braille Display
- Provide training to beneficiaries.
- Work with research organisations and industry to fill technology gaps in delivering Kit, Content and Confidence to beneficiaries.

EXAMPLE FROM INDIA

- DAISY FORUM OF INDIA: A network of 164 government and nongovernment organisations, public libraries, educational institutions supported by research organisations, industry partners and international organisations.
- Worked with government of India to amend the copy-right law to introduce exceptions for production of accessible format books.
- India became first country to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty.
- Launch of Multi-agency combine Online library with 320000 titles; 26000 members and growing.
- Screen reading software and daisy player released in high quality seven Indian languages and covered all Indian languages through e-speak.
- Worked with IIT and Industry to produce affordable Refreshable Braille Display compatible with Indian languages.
- About 20000 daisy player/android devices provided free of cost to beneficiaries by Government of India.
- Provides training to beneficiaries: (3 month computer training / 3 day smart phone training / 7 days training for refreshable braille display)
- Holds Meetings and seminars for orientation, awareness and acceptability.
- Collaboration with Central and State Text Book Boards to adopt inclusive publishing policy and work flow.
- Provides accessible book production training to publishers and VI organisations in collaboration with DAISY Consortium.
- Building capacity in braille presses to use available accessible digital books from publishers and online library.

THANKYOU

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