

SCCR/23/2 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2011

Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights

Twenty-third Session Geneva, November 21 to 25, 28, 29 and December 2, 2011

ACCREDITATION OF CERTAIN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

prepared by the Secretariat

- 1. The Annexes to this document list some 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 Annexes to this document.

[Annexes follow]

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

European Dyslexia Association (EDA)

The EDA is an umbrella organization for 37 national and regional dyslexia associations in 24 European countries, legally based in Belgium. The EDA is a non-profit organization and does not seek to get any material advantage for its members. The objectives of EDA are the following: to promote and develop specific support for people with dyslexia, dysorthography, dysgraphia and dyscalculia and to assist educational, social, vocational and cultural integration; to promote all action for persons with specific learning disabilities among which are difficulties in the domain of reading, spelling, writing and calculating; to publish news and to exchange publications between member associations; to promote any research in aetiology, prevention, diagnosis and therapies to be applied; to analyze and carry out a comparative study of services provided by European countries and systems governing the schooling of children with specific learning disabilities in those countries; and to co-operate on a worldwide scale with other organizations with the same objectives. The main activities of the EDA include: the coordination of the activities of its national and regional member organizations; the representation of the European people with dyslexia at the European Commission: the European Parliament, the European Council and UNESCO; the campaigning for exemptions of the copyright for accessible formats at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in cooperation with the World Blind Union and the European Blind Union; raising awareness on the necessity of supporting those who are dyslexic in a positive way. The EDA is strongly interested in the WBU proposed Treaty on Copyright and the Visually Impaired, which was formerly proposed by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay, and which is now under the SCCR Chairman's single text. In addition the EDA is also interested in the outcomes of the Stakeholder Platform.

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[Annex II follows]

Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore International (GRTKF Int.)

The GRTKF Int. is an international NGO umbrella organization of national representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the seven geographical regions of the world. Among the main objectives of GRTKF Int. are the following: implementation of Articles 11(1), 13(1) and 31(1) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other national, regional and international instruments pertaining to them; the coordination of indigenous peoples and local communities positions on traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources at the national, regional and international levels; the protection and promotion of the intellectual property, genetic resources and traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions; provision of worldwide support to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and collaboration with States and the United Nations Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues in the formulation and implementation of national, regional and international protective mechanisms for the intellectual property, traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, worldwide. The GRTKF Int. is active internationally and develops its activity worldwide.

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[Annex III follows]

Indigenous People (Bethechilokono) of Saint Lucia Governing Council (BGC)

The BGC executes the collective decision-making process and customary law of succession of the self-governing administrative mechanism of the Indigenous People (Bethechilokono) of Saint Lucia in compliance with a number of International and regional instruments and decisions, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the International Labour Organization Convention number 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries. The BGC engages in the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (implementation of Articles 11(1), 13(1) and 31(1)) and the International Labour Organization Convention number 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, as well as of other relevant legally binding and non-binding instruments and decisions relating to the rights of the Indigenous People of Saint Lucia. BGC facilitates the free flow of information to and from the designated communities. BGC is the competent authority for preserving, protecting, developing and promoting the intellectual property, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions of the Indigenous People (Bethechilokono). It is mostly active in Saint Lucia, Canada, French Guyana, Martinique, United States of America, United Kingdom, France and the CARICOM region.

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[Annex IV follows]

Society of American Archivists (SAA)

The SAA is the oldest and largest association of professional archivists in North America. Representing more than 6,000 individual and institutional members, SAA is the authoritative voice in the United States of America on issues that affect the identification, preservation, and use of historical records. SAA serves the education and information needs of its members and provides leadership to help ensure the identification, preservation and use of the nation's historical record. More specifically, with regard to SAA's perspective on access to cultural materials, its current strategic priorities include the promotion and provision of the widest possible accessibility of materials, consistent with any mandatory access restriction, such as public statute, donor contract, business/institutional privacy, or personal privacy. SAA's strategic priority for advocacy includes the goal of developing statements on major policy issues, including the public's right to timely and reasonable use of information. SAA's primary activities include the following: keeping its members abreast of the latest news and developments in the profession; providing a wide variety of professional development offerings in various locations throughout the year; advocating for archives and archivists in government and public opinion forums on such key issues as intellectual property, copyright and fair use, declassification or destruction of federal records, abuses of privacy and confidentiality; and covering many other topic areas that may affect the archivists' ability to function in a fair, professional, and successful manner. SAA created its Intellectual Property Working Group in May 2001. The Working Group responds to requests for assistance from the SAA Governing Council, tracks intellectual property issues of concern to archivists, and drafts for the Council's approval responses or position papers as needed.

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[Annex V follows]

French-Speaking Union of the Blind (UFA)

UFA defines itself as the ideal international platform for exchange, consultation, promotion and cooperation between the associations and organizations in the French-speaking world, which work in the field of visual disabilities. French-speaking visually disabled people represent about 20 million people in 70 countries. Its main aims include promoting cooperation between French-speaking developing countries, by providing specialized schools in these countries with books, teaching materials and education grants for visually disabled children and young people: encouraging international cooperation between the publishers of works in Braille in French-speaking countries and the producers of spoken books and digitized works; developing and unifying the different kinds of work done to standardize French Braille; promoting the mass integration of visually disabled children into ordinary classes; helping to set up regional Braille printshops and libraries; and providing coordination for French-speaking libraries and media libraries. The assistance provided by UFA offers support to existing schools, universities and training centers through the supply of adapted books, basic educational materials and IT equipment. Furthermore, different countries have benefitted from UFA aid for their libraries: Gabon, Algeria, Morocco, Burkina Faso and Tunisia, where a modern media library has been devised as part of the actual National Library. To achieve these aims, UFA has created three computerized Braille printshops: in Morocco, Tunisia and Cameroon, and a computerized printing project already exists in Burkina Faso.

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[End of Annex V and of document]