



**International Federation of Library Associations
and Institutions**

Role of Authorized Entities

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IFLA's involvement

- Libraries are the primary sources of collections of Braille, audio, large print and digital format materials for blind and visually impaired people.
- Organisations for the blind, libraries and other 'authorized entities can send accessible format copies to other countries.

Definition

(c) "authorized entity" means an entity that is authorized or recognized by the government to provide education, instructional training, adaptive reading or information access to beneficiary persons on a non-profit basis. It also includes a government institution or non-profit organization that provides the same services to beneficiary persons as one of its primary activities or institutional obligations [\[2\]](#).

Obligations

An authorized entity establishes and follows its own practices:

- (i) to establish that the persons it serves are beneficiary persons;
- (ii) to limit to beneficiary persons and/or authorized entities its distribution and making available of accessible format copies;
- (iii) to discourage the reproduction, distribution and making available of unauthorized copies; and
- (iv) to maintain due care in, and records of, its handling of copies of works, while respecting the privacy of beneficiary persons in accordance with Article 8.

Organisations

- Specialized agencies which provide services to the visually impaired
- General libraries including public and academic
- For-profit entity using funds to provide services on a non-profit basis to people with disabilities
- Government organisations

'own practices'

- Policies and procedures.
- Register of beneficiary persons?
- Identification of other authorized entities within and between countries.
- Ability to make and distribute accessible format copies?
- Management of process.

Cross-border exchange

- Will allow ‘authorized entities’ in one country to send similar language material to another country to another ‘authorized entity’ or beneficiary person.
- Will enable blind/visually impaired persons, refugees and other communities to access more material through cross-border sharing.

Role of libraries

- Libraries are well placed to become ‘authorized entities’
- Networked nationally and internationally
- During implementation make sure legislation includes libraries as part of the network of ‘authorized entities’

Gracias



Thank you