

## EUROPEAN UNION

**Services Directive.** On 15 February, the European Parliament adopted the 'Services Directive' without excluding Collective Management Organisations (CMOs) such as RROs from its scope. IFRRO, together with AIDAA, EVA, GESAC, and GIART had addressed a [joint letter](#) to European Parliament Members asking for an exemption as these organisations are already subject to separate and specialised regulatory activities which take into account their special role in promoting cultural diversity - but was not heard.

**Studies on Copyright Directives.** The European Commission has commissioned two studies from *IViR*: one on the implementation of the Copyright Directive (2001/29) and one to review all copyright directives. Both are to be delivered in the first half of 2006.

## LICENSING

**CAL** (Australia) has applied to the Copyright Tribunal after failing to reach an agreement with the Australian body representing schools on the value of school copying and what aspects should be monitored. A preliminary hearing is set for 21 February 2006. Another hearing, set for April, will see CAL argue for surveyors' rights to receive copyright payments for works copied by the New South Wales State Government. The hearing is the first step in securing licence fees from the Australian Government for their use of survey maps and plans.

**Stichting Reprorecht** (The Netherlands) has renewed the agreement with VNO-NCW and MKB Nederland. In association with the business sector, SR plans to conduct two surveys, one to examine the use of copyright works in Dutch business enterprises including digital copying; the second to look into copyright licensing in Western Europe. The surveys will form a basis for negotiations with representatives of the business sector on the fees to be paid in 2007.

## LEVIES

The European Union is currently carrying out a study on private copying. IFRRO has made a [submission](#), *inter alia*, to stress the need for an understanding of the concept when assessing levy systems in relation to reprography. IFRRO has also [commented](#) on the statement made by CEA, EICTA and JEITA, which we find both biased and erroneous. We are amenable to discussions

Volume 9 – Number 1 - February 2006  
on principles of levy systems, but they must be based on accurate assessments.

## DISTRIBUTION

**CLASS** (Singapore) has made its first distribution of fees for the photocopying of copyright works to Singapore rights holders. The total distributed amount was SGD 532,000 (EUR 280,000) of which SGD 457,000 involves licence fees collected in Singapore and SGD 75,000 received from overseas.

**COPY-DAN** (DK) has distributed DKK 135.3 mill. (EUR 18.2 mill) to some 25,000 rights holders for copying in 2005. (<http://www.copydan.dk/>)

## LATIN AMERICA

**ABDR** has, over the few past years fought efficiently against the piracy of printed works. The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) has asked that Brazil be moved from the Priority Watch List to the Watch List. On 6 and 7 February, ABDR organised open meetings on the fighting of piracy and strategies for the administration and licensing of reprographic rights in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. *Magdalena Vinent* and *Olav Stokkmo* were IFRRO speakers and *Mauro Lorch*, *Bruno de Carli* and *Dalton S.M Filho* were ABDR speakers.



ABDR Directors *H. Farinha* and *R. Troncon*, *M. Vinent* (CEDRO), *E. Bruder* (President of ABDR). Photo. *O Stokkmo*

## DIGITAL ISSUES AND LICENSING

**Pan-European one-stop shop for licensing online music rights.** EMI has announced that it will entrust the management of its online and mobile rights for its UK and US catalogue to MCPS-PRS and GEMA jointly (<http://www.emi-group.com/Press/2006/press6.htm>)

## ASIA - PACIFIC

On 22 February, IFRRO's Secretary General gave a presentation on IFRRO at the meeting of the Intellectual Property Expert Group (IPEC) of APEC. The objective was, *inter alia*, to initiate discussions on IFRRO-APEC cooperation. Eleven of the 21 APEC members have RROs in membership of IFRRO, and two more have RROs with prospects of membership.

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## COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

**CEDRO** (Spain) received some 23 complaints in 2005 (16 more than in 2004) from rights holders reporting the existence of websites offering free access to copyright protected works with no prior authorisation. As a result, eight websites, have been closed down. Since 2004, CEDRO has been granting authorisation to allow the digital use of protected works, such as the scanning of extracts from books and periodicals, or by means of the publication of such works on intranets.

**HONG KONG.** On 9 February the Customs Office of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau raided seven copyshops and confiscated 1,200 copies of books worth HKD 140,000 (EUR 16,000).

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## EU i2010 DIGITAL LIBRARIES

IFRRO has made a [submission](#) to support the EU initiative on digital libraries. The preservation of literary, scientific and artistic expressions benefits all. When mandated, RROs are well set to administer collective licensing schemes in respect of digitisation and the making available of works in libraries. The collective administration of rights can also contribute to a solution to deal with 'orphan' works. IFRRO wishes to cooperate with the Commission on the project, and IFRRO's Honorary President, Tarja Koskinen-Olsson, is a member of the i2010 Digital Libraries High Level Group. All submissions on the EC consultation paper on the Digital Libraries, including those from many IFRRO members are available on [http://europa.eu.int/information\\_society/activities/digital\\_libraries/consultation/replies/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/consultation/replies/index_en.htm)

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## ORPHAN WORKS

**US Copyright Office report on Orphan Works.** According to a study issued on 31 January by the US Copyright Office on problems related to 'orphan' works, the preferred solution would be to limit the remedies rights holders have to claim damages and injunctive relief, provided the user makes a reasonable search. The report sets out how one might determine what a reasonable search is and how the law could limit the remedies that rights holders could claim when they come to light. (<http://www.copyright.gov/orphan>)

## COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

**Benin.** On 12 January 2006 the Parliament adopted a new Copyright Act which includes stipulations on reprography and private copying. The new law clearly establishes a basis for an RRO.

**France.** In December 2005, the Parliament has examined the government proposition for the implementation of the Directive 2001/29/EC. The government who requested the emergency procedure expected the proposition to be voted before Christmas. However the discussion has been suspended after the intermediary vote of an amendment on a legal licence for peer-to-peer exchanges. The discussion should resume in March further to additional consultations.

**Germany.** In January, the government published new proposals for the "reform" of the German Copyright Law. These include changes to the levy system. It would still apply to all copy devices and storage mediums, but there are proposals for the requirement that a device must be used to a "significant extent" (at least 10%) to copy copyright material, with a ceiling for the remuneration of 5% of the sales price, and that tariffs shall be negotiated on the basis of evidence of actual use. A broad coalition of organisations, including VG WORT and VG Bild-Kunst, representing the complete spectrum of German rights holders, including both authors and publishers, has been formed to oppose these proposals.

**Sweden.** A booklet with a brief overview of the Swedish copyright system recently published by the Ministry of Justice is available at <http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/6156/a/56762>

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## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**CAL** (Australia) has introduced a new fund for the development of Australian creators' skills and expertise. Successful applicants will be offered up to AUD 5,000. (EUR 3,112) ([www.copyright.com.au/news%20releases/25\\_01\\_06.htm](http://www.copyright.com.au/news%20releases/25_01_06.htm))

**AAP and PA** (UK) have co-sponsored a publishing industry delegation in India during the 17<sup>th</sup> World Book Fair in New Delhi at the end of January, to meet with high level government officials on matters of promoting and protecting copyright. <http://www.publishers.org/press/releases.cfm?PressReleaseArticleID=307>

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## FROM THE BOARD

IFRRO welcomes **Polska Ksiazka** (Polish Books) as new Associate Member. (<http://www.ifrro.org/show.aspx?pageid=members/associatemembers/polska%20ksiazka>)

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## EVENTS

**April 23, World Book and Copyright Day, UNESCO**