

■ NEW APPOINTMENTS

Starting with its first edition this year, IFRRO wishes its members and its partners a happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year! Our January issue is a resume of our activities in 2003 and mainly of the decisions endorsed by the AGM 2003 in Brussels.

New President

After two consecutive mandates as IFRRO's President, André Beemsterboer stepped down, leaving behind him a stronger organisation, with a well defined role on the international copyright stage and a clear policy line for the promotion of reprography worldwide.



*Peter Shepherd,
President of IFRRO © photo Kai Nordberg*

AGM 2003 elected a new President in the person of **Peter Shepherd**, Chief Executive at Copyright Licensing Agency Ltd., UK. Peter Shepherd has 28 years of experience in publishing and 7 years at CLA and has been member of the IFRRO Board since 1999.

On taking up his new function, Peter Shepherd declared that three things are essential for strengthening IFRRO's position over the next two years: *“First is team building. Second is delegation. I think it's time to loosen up a bit and let the power flow down to the regional groups and technical WGs and Committees.*

“The third thing which is vital for IFRRO is to maintain solidarity between the groups here represented - writers, illustrators, publishers and others. Communicating our messages effectively will represent the key to success.”

IFRRO members also elected new First Vice-President – Michael Fraser (CAL - Australia); Second Vice-President – Litten Hansen (Copy-Dan - Denmark). Magdalena Vinent (CEDRO - Spain) was elected new Director, representing RRO members; Jean Lissarague (CFC - France) Substitute Director, representing RRO members, and Jens Bammel (IPA) Substitute Director, representing Associate members - publishers.

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New Members

IFRRO is pleased to welcome new RRO members: the *Reproduction Rights Society of Nigeria* (REPRONIG) and *Sociedad de Gestión de Derechos Literarios*, Chile (SADEL) as well as new Associate Members, *Agency of Lithuanian Copyright Protection Association*, Lithuania (LATGA-A); *Publishers' Association of South Africa* (PASA); *Russian Rightsholders' Society on Collective Management of Reprographic Reproduction Rights* (COPYRUS) and *The American Illustrators' Partnership* (AIP).

Trinidad and Tobago have also applied for RRO membership and the Copyright Agency of Slovenia (AAS) for Associate Membership. The Membership Committee is now reviewing their applications.

■ IFRRO AGM 2003

Hosted by REPROBEL, the Belgian RRO, IFRRO's Annual General Meeting 2003 took place from 12 to 14 November in Brussels, capital of Europe and headquarters of the IFRRO Secretariat.

IFRRO's AGM stood out as an exceptional event, bringing together a record number of participants as well as high-ranking national and international political figures, such as Fientje Moerman, Belgian Ministry of Economy, in charge of reprography.

Mrs Moerman highlighted the fact that "copyright and rights management are at the very heart of the internal market and the information society" and called on national, European and international policy makers and legislators, to balance in a fair manner the interests of all parties, including the rightsholders and collective societies.



*Fientje Moerman, Belgian Minister of Economy
© photo Eric de Mildt*

The lively debates of IFRRO AGM 2003 also enjoyed and benefited from the valuable contributions of Mr Patrick Masouyé, Acting Director of Copyright Collective Management Division within World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and of Mr Jörg Reinbothe, Head of Copyright and Neighbouring rights, DG Internal Market Directorate, European Commission.

IFRRO-WIPO Co-operation Agreement

Mr Masouyé congratulated IFRRO for endorsing the Co-operation Agreement in the field of Development, signed with WIPO on October 22nd 2003. This agreement is a major achievement for IFRRO development work especially as far as developing countries are concerned. In all these countries, IFRRO will endeavour to establish and strengthen appropriate copyright legislation and infrastructures for collective management of rights, as well as increase awareness on the role, functions and benefits of RROs (For the press release and full text of the Agreement see <http://www.ifrro.org/papers/index.html>).



*Patrick Masouyé; Michael Fraser and Peter Shepherd
© photo Eric de Mildt*

Patrick Masouyé also met with the chairs of IFRRO's Regional Groups and Honorary President Tarja Koskinen-Olsson to discuss practical actions for the implementation of the Agreement. Next IFRRO-WIPO meeting is scheduled to take place in Brussels on February 16th 2004.

Development Fund

During a session dedicated to development work, Fund Administrator Michael Fraser presented new guidelines and templates to be used by RROs interested to apply for grants and loans (application forms can be downloaded from http://www.ifrro.org/ifromember/agm/agm2003/development_fund.html). He mentioned that the templates and guidelines should be considered as a first step to a more structured way of spending money from the Development Fund. This instrument may be adapted to respond to each region's specificities. The Regional Committees and their regional chairs should be the driving forces behind the execution of templates.

Other AGM News

Michael Fraser, also Treasurer of IFRRO, reported that the overall situation of IFRRO was positive, enjoying a healthy financial structure and clear bookkeeping. The activity of the organisation is expected to become more intense in 2004, with a large communication and awareness policy to be launched in the first half of the year and with the take off of a large number of Development Fund activities in all the regions of the world.

The big success of last year's Annual Meeting was also due to the organisation of specialised module sessions on : **digital systems, cross-border licensing** and **international development work**. Numerous RROs competed in taking part in these modules in order to present their work and their philosophy for running reproduction rights in the modern world of digitalisation and globalisation. In this

context, CCC (USA), ACCESS COPYRIGHT (Canada) and REPROBEL (Belgium) demonstrated their web based-licensing systems, on-line rights holder services, etc.

As expected, IFRRO's next AGM will take place in Singapore at the invitation of the Copyright Licensing and Administration Society of Singapore Limited (CLASS), on Wednesday October 27th and Thursday October 28th 2004, followed by a regional symposium on Friday October 29th.

All presentations and speeches given during the AGM are now available electronically under <http://www.ifrro.org/papers/index.html#presentations>

■ NEWS FROM TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

Document Delivery Group

The Members of IFRRO agreed that they will endeavour to apply the Principles for International Document Delivery, endorsed by the Board and by the publishers' representatives in June 2003, in all relevant situations, while awaiting to officially vote on the statement at next year's Annual General Meeting in October 2004. The full text of this document can be found under http://www.ifrro.org/ifromember/agm/agm2003/referencematerials/document_reportagm2003.pdf

Working Group on Copying of Visual Material

Joanna Cave, CEO of Design and Artists Copyright Society Ltd (DACS) has replaced Gerhard Pfennig as chair of the WG on Copying of Visual Material. For the next 12 months, the group aims to develop its research into the patterns of copying copyright protected visual materials, as well as to reconsider the current distribution policies and the different approaches to cross border licensing.

Legal Issues Committee

The newly constituted Legal Issues Committee met in Brussels for the first time and elected its Chair - Caroline Morgan of the Copyright Licensing Agency (CAL). Created as a technical advisory group, the LIC will commence its first year of activity by analysing the opportunity and the principles that should constitute the basis of IFRRO's Code of Conduct and by defining the main components of a Digital Bi-Lateral Agreement.

Working Group on the Reprographic Licensing of Musical Works

Fiona Loader, Manager at Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society (AMCOS) has been elected new chair of the Working Group on the Reprographic Licensing of Musical Works. The group shall be working on a new questionnaire to define the works licensed and the impact of national legislations on licensing practices. Fees structure for Music RROs will also be a subject of reflection for the Group.

The Digital Issues Working Group

Throughout its four annual meetings last year, the Digital Issues Working Group drafted a glossary of "digital" terms, as well as a diagram for IP traffic. The results of their extensive and visionary work were collected into a single booklet. Launched at the AGM and available partially in electronic version on IFRRO's intranet under <http://www.ifrro.org/papers/index.html#presentations>, the complete booklet is also available in paper form via the Secretariat.

The success of the AGM module session "RROs AND THE DIGITAL WORLD" among IFRRO's membership and outside partners, including the European Institutions and WIPO, determined the group to explore further into subjects such as web based-licensing systems, standards and identifiers and data exchange.

■ REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Working Group for Africa and the Middle East

In 2003, the Norwegian Development Agency of the Norwegian Government (NORAD) has continued to finance *Copyright Society of Malawi* (COSOMA) under the supervision of Kopinor whereas Kopinor has developed start-up funding for new RRO member REPRONIG (Nigeria) and provided funding as well for CopyGhana, the Reproduction Rights Project *Copyright Society of Ghana* (COSGA).

Asia Pacific Committee

Another moment of particular importance for the development and educational work of IFRRO was the ceremony of repayment of the CLASS loan. This repayment proved the validity of the Development Fund philosophy and proved the need for continuing to trustfully encourage emerging RROs in their early stages of activity. In Paul Wee's view, the financial and the know-how support from mentor RROs to these emerging structures are invaluable. He has asked IFRRO to consider similar assistance also for other RROs in the Asia Pacific region, such as Malaysia.

In its action plan for 2004, the Asia Pacific Committee would like to develop an RRO island network through the University of the South Pacific (on the Caribbean model).

Latin America Committee

The Chair of the Committee, Magdalena Vinent reported that the Committee gained significant importance in 2003, through the establishment of new RROs and/or publishers and authors' organisations in the region. She highlighted the particular efforts of SADEL in Chile and of AUTOR in Uruguay. Panama and Costa Rica are also close to launching similar reprographic rights organisations.

European Group

The European Group experienced one of its most eventful years, both in terms of internal restructuring and European representation and lobbying. Since November 2003, all members of the group, both RRO full members and associate members, now have the right to vote, according to the number of votes entrusted to them within the General Assembly. Willing to reduce the much time-consuming bureaucracy, the Group also decided to delegate to the European Development Working Group, the power of submitting Development Fund applications directly to the Board.

In terms of its political agenda, the European Group carefully monitored throughout the year the developments in the field of digital rights management, initiated by the European Commission. It also concentrated very much on an initiative of Ms *Raina Mercedes Echerer*, Member of the European Parliament, to establish a framework for collective management in Europe. Invited to speak as special guest during the European Group's meeting in November, Ms Echerer emphasized the need for this report, so that it clarifies the role of the RROs in the protection of copyright and their accrued responsibility in an enlarged and legally diverse European Union.

■ OTHER NEWS FROM MEMBERS

REPROBEL



Francis De Braekeleer
© photo Eric de Mildt

Frédéric Young, CEO of Reprobel as well as Managing Director of the Belgian branch of author societies SACD/SCAM has passed the reins to his successor, Francis De Braekeleer, who has become new Director General of Reprobel as from 1 January 2004.

Reprobel with an income of over €12, 870, 000 for the year 2002-2003 now counts a staff of 20 people. The new management has been asked to prepare a triennial plan 2004-2006 and adapt the organisation to its new autonomous legal personality. Frédéric Young will continue to serve as Director on IFRRO's Board until the end of his mandate in October 2004.

PLS

As from January 2004, Alicia Wise has taken up her appointment as PLS's new Chief Executive. Dr. Wise who has held senior positions with the UK's Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) for the last five years has considerable experience in the innovative use of digital content in education. In these positions, she has overseen hundreds of projects dealing with content delivery, e-learning, e-science etc. Alicia Wise can be contacted at : awise@pls.org.uk

COPYRO

It is with pleasure that we have learned that Eugen Uricaru, President of the Board of the



Romanian RRO - COPYRO - has been appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in November 2003. His mandate will include *inter alia* cultural policy .

Eugen Uricaru

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CEDRO

After months of intense negotiations with national administration and interest groups, CEDRO succeeded to reach an agreement with the Association of Spanish Importers and Producers of Reproduction Machines, for the payment of a standard levy on each scanner (10€) and multifunctional machine (16€). Differential fees relating to the technical performances of the machines will be further negotiated.

ACCESS COPYRIGHT

Minutes before this Newsletter was supposed to be mailed to our membership, we were informed about the great success of Access Copyright in closing down the illicit activities of a Montreal based copy shop - U Compute. The closure of this illegal business, through the order of the Federal Court of Canada, was accompanied by the seizure of over 2 200 photocopied university textbooks and of 2 100 individual digital files which fed the copy shop illegal print business.

■ NEW IFRRO PUBLICATIONS

A Directory for internal use only has been put together and circulated at the end of last year. This new Directory includes information regarding the members of all working groups and committees, active within IFRRO. The Directory will be updated twice a year. The vigilance and assistance from IFRRO's membership, as well as from the chairs of the respective working groups and committees, are essential for keeping up to date this document. IFRRO Secretariat thanks you in advance for pointing out all changes which may occur during the year in relation to this directory (available on the intranet via <http://www.ifrro.org/ifrromember/wgs-comm/directory.doc>)

■ AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS – LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

Starting with this issue, we will launch a new section dedicated to advertisements and other awareness campaign documents designed by our members with the aim to increase knowledge on copyright and its limits, combating of piracy, signing of licences, etc.

The first to share with us its experience is the Belgian society, REPROBEL.

REPROBEL has been publishing yearly, since 1998, a folder distributed to all interested parties: businesses, copyshops, civil service

departments, educational establishments, associations, the self-employed, members of the professions and individuals.



The cover page of this folder features a copy of the Belgian Official Journal which refers to the royal decree of 15 October 1997 whereby Reprobel has been entrusted to collect and distribute the remuneration for reprography. The circled paragraph reads: "*Finally! A fair compensation for authors and writers for their photocopied works.*"

IFRRO ACTIVITIES – 2004

European Development Working Group, Copenhagen, 19th January

Asia Pacific Committee, European Group and Document Delivery Group, Equipment Levy Forum, Brussels, 16th February

Board meeting, Brussels, 17th February

WG on copying of Visual Material intends to meet in London in March

WG on Newspapers and similar Publications, venue tbc, 7th June

Board Meeting, Copenhagen, 28th -29th June

WG on Copying of Visual Material intends to meet in September (location tbc)

AGM 2004 & Regional Symposium, Singapore, 25th - 29th October