EDITORIAL

In the last months, IFRRO’s agenda has been particularly eventful despite the expected slow down in institutional activity due to the summer holidays. The Brussels Secretariat, as well as the Chairs of the Regional Committees and Members of the Board have successfully covered events on all continents, while also attending to the changes in the European landscape following the election of a new European Parliament and staff reorganisation of the European Commission. During the Dublin Conference looking into the challenges of an enlarged Europe in the field of copyright, IFRRO added its voice to those of other rights holders’ organisations to say goodbye to one of the pillars of European Intellectual Property - Dr Jörg Reinbothe, who overviewed major developments in the copyright acquis during the last decade. Dr Reinbothe has taken up senior responsibilities in another Directorate of the European Commission.

While the historic moment of EU enlargement was accompanied in the IPR field by the release of several important legislative projects, the work under the WIPO-IFRRO Agreement has also entered a new stage of active consultation and co-operation in Latin America, Asia and Africa. Working visits have taken place in Geneva and Madrid, in order to enable the chairs of the respective Latin American regional bureaux to screen and co-ordinate the assistance work on this continent.

At the same time the Asian region will witness a special effervescence in the second half of the year, playing host to several major events. In addition to our own IFRRO AGM that will be hosted by the Singaporean RRO, CISAC will also hold its general meeting in Seoul, where members of IFRRO will be present. Furthermore, within the framework of the WIPO-IFRRO collaboration, a “WIPO Roundtable on Copyright based Industries” will also be organised towards the end of 2004 in Vietnam, which has recently ratified the Berne Convention on the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.

In addition to its impressive international representation, IFRRO’s Secretariat has also given shape to the mandate given by the last AGM to put in place a more effective IT system enabling a greater openness towards the world and the running of a proper, modern Communication Policy. Defining the conceptual side of the Communication Policy and the Mission Statement of IFRRO as well as drawing the tendering procedures have been long and laborious. Now that these are in place, the concrete work will start in mid-August.

The Secretariat has also prioritised the educational role of IFRRO in the last few months, by contracting the writing of three new publications on reprography and collective management, one of which was in co-operation with WIPO and CISAC. The authorship of these books, which will be launched during the AGM 2004 in Singapore, belongs to our Honorary President and IP world expert Tarja Koskinen-Olsson.

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NEW APPOINTMENTS

IFRRO’s Board meeting which took place in Copenhagen 27 to 29 June has welcomed some changes in the chairs and membership of the working groups, such as Franziska Eberhard of ProLitteris as the new Chairperson of the Working Group on Newspapers and Similar Publications, and Samantha Holman of the ICLA as Chairperson of the European Development Group.

The Board has also approved Elin Urkedal of Kopinor to join the Working Group as a member on the Reprographic Licensing of Musical Works.

Special welcome was given by the Board to the new Deputy Secretary General, Franziska Schulze. Franziska is a UK-trained barrister and a German Rechtsanwalt with previous experience in EU and Competition Law as well as IP Law. The need for such a position has become self-evident in the light of the increasing presence of the organisation worldwide and of the multiplication of the legal, technical and educational matters with which IFRRO is confronted.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Access Copyright is pleased to announce the appointment of Maureen Cavan as Executive Director. Ms Cavan joins Access Copyright as a professional executive with extensive experience at senior management levels in some of Canada’s largest communications companies. Working closely with the Board of Directors, Ms Cavan will be responsible for providing vision, leadership and direction to Access Copyright and will manage the overall operations of the organization. Ms. Cavan is looking forward to continuing the important work of furthering the development of data exchange protocols to support international licensing in the digital environment.

As for the world of publishing, it has been the scene of important elections in the last couple of months.

While the Federation of European Publishers elected a new leading team including its President - Dr. Arne J. Bach (Seemann-Henschel-Leipzig), Vice–President - Jonas Modig (Swedish Publishers Association), and Director - Anne Bergman-Tahon, the International Publishers’ Association in Geneva also appointed a new President in the person of Mrs Ana Maria Cabanellas of Argentina.

The FEP also welcomed new publisher members from the accession countries Poland, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Hungary, Lithuania and Slovenia.

Changes have been reported from the Newspaper Licensing Agency, which will be administered by Martin Stevenson starting with 1st October 2004, who will replace Guy McNaughton in the position of Managing Director. Martin Stevenson worked previously as Trinity’s Group Financial Controller.

NEW MEMBERS

IFRRO’s Community has recently enlarged its membership, by welcoming two more RRO members, notably : Asociación Uruguaya para la Tutela Organizada de los Derechos Reprográficos (AUTOR) and The Trinidad and Tobago Reproduction Rights Organisation (TRRO).

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

EUROPE

EU Commission Communication on Collective Management Societies

In April of the current year, the European Commission issued a Communication aimed at giving a snapshot of the issues and impact of collective management societies in the Internal Market. This Communication highlights the complexity of copyright and its management in Europe, and the diversity of interests involved, from the collective management societies and the right holders they are mandated to represent to users and other interest groups. While balanced and visionary on several points, the Communication often falls short of
acknowledging the diversity of collective management in different Member States and in different branches of creative activity.

IFRRO’s response to this paper (that can be found on the intranet address) re-states the need for respect of the diversity of reprography among Member States, seen as a natural consequence of the variation in the copyright traditions in each of the Member States. It insists on the legitimate mandate of RROs as well as on the increasing international intra-branch co-operation (establishment of good practices, bi-lateral agreements) and inter-branch dialogue (e.g. development of common tools, comparable standards, etc).

IFRRO’s position paper also addresses aspects of internal and external control, digital rights management, efficiency and transparency, competition law, etc.

It is expected that the discussions on this Communication to be resumed in September, leaving open the possibility of a more formal regularisation of the sector.

EU: IPR ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE ADOPTED
By adopting the IPR Enforcement Directive in April this year, the EU aims to enhance the intensity of the fight against counterfeiting and piracy. The Directive obliges Member States to implement rules on court orders for information on, seizure of and/or the destruction of suspected bootleg goods. It also contains rules on damages to be paid out to rights holders. For more information please consult: http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/smn/smn34/p10_en.htm

DIGITAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT
As part of the European Commission’s Programme eEurope, a High Level Group of Experts on Digital Rights Management was established, bringing together a few representatives of all the interest groups, including collective management societies. In its first stage, the High Level Group focused on three topics: interoperability, private levies and DRMs, migration to legitimate services. The three papers have been endorsed by the majority of stakeholders, i.e. the consumers abstained from supporting the two latter subjects. A wider consultation on these documents will be launched before the end of this year. In the meantime the documents may be downloaded from EU Commission’s webpage: http://europa.eu.int/information_society/eeurope/2005/all_about/digital_rights

CONFERENCES ON COPYRIGHT
IFRRO has been actively involved in two major conferences organised by the Directorate General for the Internal Market and respectively by the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission.

Peter Shepherd gave an insight into the work of RROs and IFRRO during his speech at the Irish Presidency’s Conference in Dublin on “Copyright in the Enlarged Europe”, while the Secretary General attended the June commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the TRIPS Agreement, looking into the possibility of strengthening the private/public partnership in third countries. The slide shows to the speeches and information regarding the Commission Strategy on the Enforcement of IPR in the Third Countries can be consulted on: http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/issues/sectoral/intell_property/pr110604_en.htm

IFRRO will also celebrate its own major European event in the region, on the occasion of a symposium in Berlin on 6-7 September, which will highlight the challenges of enlargement on copyright legislation and on the establishment of RROs in existing Members States as well as in some of the Accession Countries.

LATIN AMERICA
The professionalisation of IFRRO’s Development Fund procedures led to an unprecedented increase of assistance projects in all the regions of the world in support of RRO development and copyright protection. The Latin American region was the setting for a series of such awareness events, with seminars being organised in Chile and Jamaica and addressing both governments and users organisations. Other conferences will take place before the end of 2004 in Peru and Mexico.

For further information on any of these events, please contact the Chair of IFRRO’s Latin American Committee: Magdalena Vinent of CEDRO (email: mvinent@cedro.org).
ASIA - IFRRO AGM 2004

There are only two months to go until the IFRRO community will meet again, this time in Asia, at the invitation on the Singaporean RRO – CLASS. In addition to the general issues and the elections of the new Board of the organisation, the AGM will be followed by a regional symposium, which will bring together high level participants from over 20 countries in the region as well as public figures of the copyright world, such as speakers from WIPO. The Symposium will offer the opportunity to learn more about the legal, infrastructural and technological developments in the region and about the prospects of establishing Reproduction Rights Societies.

A special place on the agenda of events of the week of 25th October will also be taken by a follow up session from the last AGM 2003 on digital issues.

INTERNATIONAL

WIPO MAKES PROGRESS ON REFORM OF BROADCASTERS RIGHTS

In June, WIPO’s Member states took the reform of broadcasters’ rights one step forward by recommending that the General Assembly convene a diplomatic meeting. A diplomatic meeting is the last step on the road to a new treaty. The current regime under the 1961 Rome Convention on the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations is to be reformed due to the challenges of the digital era and piracy. The member states have yet to find a common position on how to categorise cable-casters and web-casters as well as the scope of rights to be granted under the new treaty, such as whether or not to extend the protection to non-original databases.


DOI

We are delighted to have learnt that the European Union will assign DOIs to all of its publications. This will mean that every official publication from any institution of the European Union, including inter alia the European Commission and its Directorates-General, the European Parliament, the European Court of Justice and the European Central Bank will now employ the DOI identification system for their publications. IFRRO has supported the International DOI Foundation and its research for many years now and is pleased to inform you of this remarkable success.

( www.doi.org )

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

IFRRO-EVENTS

a. The European Group hosts a workshop for newly established RROs of the EU accession countries of 2004 and 2007 in Berlin on 6 and 7 September on “Reproduction Rights Organisations in an enlarged Europe: problem-solving strategies for successful development”.

b. IFRRO’s AGM will take place in Singapore on 28 October at the invitation of CLASS. The AGM will be preceded by meetings of the working groups and committees on the Tuesday and Wednesday. We have now sent out all invitations and have already received a number of reservations. We hope to see you all there, so please send us back your registration forms by 15 August to benefit from the reduced registration fee.

c. The IFRRO Symposium on the “Development of Copyright Protection in the Asia Pacific Region” will take place on 29 October in Singapore. It will bring together representatives from RROs, publishers associations and authors communities.

NON IFRRO-EVENTS

a. The UK Design and Artists Copyright Society DACS will celebrate its 20th anniversary
with a special exhibition in London from 12 to 26 August.

b. The GEDRI’s (the RROs from Spanish speaking countries in Latin America) Annual Meeting will take place in Barcelona on 27 and 28 September 2004.

c. LITA conference on Copyright, 27-28 September, Bratislava, Slovakia

d. World Writers Festival, organised by the India Inter-Continental Cultural Association, will take place 16 to 20 October 2004, Chandigarh, India.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCY

JOB DESCRIPTION
Legal Counsel IPA

The International Publishers Association is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 1896 comprising 78 association members in 65 countries across the world.

IPA represents the interests of the international publishing industry in all international fora and wherever the interests of the international publishing industry are at stake. Core areas of activity are the fight for the freedom to publish and against censorship, for strong copyright and neighbouring rights protection and against piracy, for literacy and for free entrepreneurship in publishing.

IPA seeks a legal counsel whose responsibilities would involve:

- Monitoring of legislative and political developments at international (e.g. WIPO, UNESCO, WTO) and national levels
- Preparation of position papers in consultation with relevant IPA Committees
- Liaising with other international NGOs on initiatives of joint interest and actively participating, where applicable, in their committees or in joint committees.
- Actively lobbying international organisations to influence the wording of declarations and legal instruments.
- Assistance in lobbying national governments in close cooperation with our national member organisations.

- Assistance with the organisation of meetings and events.

Candidate qualifications and experience
The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications

- Legal qualifications, ideally with exposure to several major legal systems.
- A minimum of 2 years of relevant professional experience in the field of intellectual property, copyright, international organisations or the publishing industry
- Experience in or with national or international NGOs
- Computer literate, as little secretarial support is provided
- Fluency in English is a must. Good knowledge of French is ideal. Knowledge of further major languages is an asset

Candidate Profile:

- Service provider mentality
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work independently and in a small team
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment
- Ability to travel, often outside Europe, occasionally at short notice
- Willingness to relocate to Geneva.

What the candidate can expect:
A small young and dynamic team
Exciting and varied work in an international atmosphere
Salary according to experience within the typical confines of an association funded NGO.
All applications will be treated in strict confidence.
Applicants are asked to send their CV to the following address

Jens Bammel
Secretary General
International Publishers Association
3 Avenue de Miremont
1206 Geneva, Switzerland
E-mail: bammel@ipa-ue.org
LATEST NEWS

While closing this edition, the European Commission announced, officially, the names of those 25 Commissioners who will make up the new College, which will come into effect on 1 November:

José Manuel Barroso,
President,
Portuguese

Margot Wallström,
Vice President,
Institutional Relations and Communication Strategy, Swedish

Günter Verheugen,
Vice President,
Entreprise and Industry, German

Jacques Barrot,
Vice President,
Transport, French

Siim Kallas,
Vice President,
Administrative Affairs, Audit and Anti-Fraud, Estonian

Rocco Buttiglione,
Vice President,
Justice, Freedom and Security, Italian

Viviane Reding,
Information Society and Media, Luxembourger

Stavros Dimas,
Environment, Greek

Joaquín Almunia
Economic and Monetary Affairs, Spanish

Danuta Hübner
Regional Policy, Polish

Joe Borg
Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, Maltese

Dalia Grybauskaitė
Financial Programming and Budget, Lithuanian

Janez Potocnik
Science and Research, Slovenian

Ján Figel
Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism, Slovakian

Markos Kyprianou
Health and Consumers Protection, Cypriot

Olli Rehn
Enlargement, Finnish

Louis Michel
Development and Humanitarian Aid, Belgian

László Kovács
Energy, Hungarian

Neelie Kroes
Competition, Dutch

Mariann Fischer Boel
Agriculture and Rural Development, Danish

Benita Ferrero Waldner
External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy, Austrian

Charlie McCreevy
Internal Market and Services, Irish

Vladimir Špidla
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Czech

Peter Mandelson
Trade, British

Ingrid Udre
Taxation and Customs Union, Latvian