

■ JOINT IFRRO-WIPO-CISAC PUBLICATION

In October, IFRRO launched a joint publication with WIPO and CISAC entitled "From Artist to Audience". The booklet is the first concrete result of a co-operation between WIPO and these two international federations representing authors, publishers and collective management organisations. It aims to explain in a simple way the idea of copyright: how copyright work is created; how it finds its ways to the audience and the public; and the type of services provided by RROs and other collective management bodies. The booklet is available electronically to IFRRO-members on http://www.ifrro.org/papers/booklet_wipo_cisac_ifrro.pdf



Cover Joint IFRRO-WIPO-CISAC Publication

■ AFRICA

Nigerian Minister of Culture studies Management of Reprographic Rights

At the suggestion of IFRRO member REPRONIG, mentor RRO KOPINOR invited the Hon. Minister of Culture of Tourism of the

Federal Republic of Nigeria, Ambassador *Frank Nchita Ogbuewu*, to make a working visit to Norway in November. The Hon. Minister and his delegation visited three collective management organisations in Oslo, and had meetings with Norway's Minister of Culture, Mrs. *Valgerd Svarstad Haugland*, Deputy Minister *Yngve Slettholm*, as well as with IFRRO's Secretary General *Olav Stokkmo*.



Stokkmo, Adewopo, Ekanem and the Hon. Minister of Culture and Tourism, Ambassador Ogbuewu (Photo: T.S. Meyer)

The copyright law in Nigeria provides for a levy scheme to the benefit of rights holders. It is expected that the scheme will become operational when Cabinet approves regulations on the matter in the near future.

Among the members of the Minister's delegation were the new Director General of the Nigerian Copyright Commission, *Adebambo Adewopo* and the Executive Director of REPRONIG, Dr. *Inyang Anietimfon Ekanem*.

■ EUROPEAN UNION

Information Society Directive. All but five EU Member States have implemented the EU Directive on Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society. Belgium, Finland,

France and Sweden have draft laws to implement. Spain is currently without an initiative to implement the Directive.

■ LATIN AMERICA

GEDRI on the web. The Spanish and Portuguese speaking RROs in membership of IFRRO have established GEDRI (Grupo de Entidades de Derechos Reprográficos de Ibero América) as a forum for the exchange of information and experiences and a framework for common activities. At the last Guadalajara International Book Fair (27 Nov to 5 Dec), GEDRI provided information on collective management and unveiled its new web page: www.gedri.net. CEDRO, IFRRO and CERLALC were represented at its last annual meeting, held on 27 and 28 September in Barcelona. CEDRO and CERLALC also attended the Guadalajara Book Fair, where they hosted a copyright conference together with CEMPRO.

■ ASIA PACIFIC

A seminar on collective management in Vietnam was co-hosted by IFRRO and the Copyright Office of Vietnam in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City from 2-5 November. The seminar coincided with Vietnam's accession to the Berne Convention and the inauguration of the *Vietnam Literary Copyright Center*. CAL's *Caroline Morgan* and IFRRO's *Franziska Schulze* gave presentations at the event.



Dr. Vu Manh Chu, Director General of the Copyright Office of Vietnam Caroline Morgan, Franziska Schulze (Photo F. Schulze)

The **EU-China Joint Statement** from the Hague Summit on 8 December, available at <http://www.theepc.be/>, includes plans for cooperation over fighting violations of IP rights, as well as continued dialogue on the Information Society. In addition, the **5th Asia-Europe Meeting** in Hanoi from 7-9 October

had national culture and cultural diversity in the Information Society on the agenda. Education, culture and the information society is on the ASEM 2004-06 Work Programme (http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/asem/intro/). We regret that copyright related issues were omitted from the discussions at the **ASEAN Summit** in Vientiane on 29-30 November (<http://www.aseansec.org/16631.htm>)

■ COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

Last August, a seller was convicted by the Canadian Federal Court to pay **Access Copyright** CAD100,000 in statutory damages for having illegally copied titles produced by Canadian publishers onto CDs. <http://www.accesscopyright.ca/resources.asp?a=152>

In **Finland**, police raided the BitTorrent file-swapping site, arresting 34 people. The site counted 10,000 users who had illegally downloaded copies of films, videos, music and games. If convicted, operators of the site face up to two years' prison, and are liable for claims for damages from content owners (http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/12/14/finnish_police_raid_bittorrent_site/print.html).

On 10 December, the **US Supreme Court** agreed to deal with the appeal from the 9th Circuit on the Grokster decision on whether file-sharing services are liable for their customers' unlawful exchange of copyright material (*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios v. Grokster*, 04-480 (www.supremecourtus.gov)).

■ LICENSING ACTIVITIES

CCC (Copyright Clearance Center), the US RRO, and the international law firm Squire Sanders & Dempsey, have concluded a licensing agreement according to which they can distribute copyright protected material internally (<http://www.copyright.com/>).

Estonia. Autori Hüvitius Fond, which already administers the Public Lending right, has recently been authorised by the Ministry of Culture to administer the operator levy in Estonian copyright law. On 23 November, George Zannos (OSDEL) and Paul Greenwood (VG WORT) participated in a workshop on reprography in Tallinn, co-organised by the Estonian Ministry of Culture and the Greek European Public Law Center under the EU PHARE programme.