Resolution adopted by the IFRRO Annual General Meeting on 2 November 2016

The International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO), at its Annual General Meeting in Amsterdam, declares that it strongly opposes the proposed broadening of the exception in the Singapore Copyright Act to allow the reproduction and making available of up to 10% of a published work by educational institutions without prior consent or payment of remuneration.

In Singapore, appropriate and effective legal measures are already in place, including collective licensing by CLASS, the local copyright management organisation and member of IFRRO. There is no compelling reason to justify the proposed change, which will expand the already significant free use without remuneration to authors and publishers to a level that will make collective licensing by CLASS redundant, with substantial loss of income to authors and publisher as a consequence.

For these reasons, the IFRRO Annual General Meeting 2016 requests the Singapore Government:

1. not to proceed with the proposed change to the Copyright Act to broaden the exception in the Singapore copyright legislation to allow unauthorised copyright of greater portions of works without remuneration to authors and publishers,
2. engage in a dialogue with the stakeholders - CLASS, authors, publishers and their representative organisations, and educational institutions – to clarify the need of the educational establishments for reproducing learning resources, including examining whether the current limits of the statutory licence require changes

IFRRO has 144 members in 80 countries, representing the creative and publishing communities. The creative industries and the cultural sector are fundamental to the digital economy, and pivotal in sustaining national culture and cultural identity.