RESOLUTIONS

The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), the Norwegian Copyright Development Association (NORCODE), the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), in collaboration with the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organizations (IFRRO), organized a Workshop on collective management of copyright and related rights on September 30, 2015 in Lagos, Nigeria.

The purpose of the Workshop was to bring together all licensed collective management organizations (CMOs) in Nigeria to discuss the current state of their activities and consider measures that are necessary to bring collective management to full operation where it is currently not the case.

The Workshop was declared open by the Director General of NCC, Mr. Afam Ezekude, who in his opening remarks, informed participants of the ongoing reform of the Nigerian
copyright law and efforts towards the implementation of the Copyright (Levy on Materials) Order 2012, among other activities and programmes of the Commission.

Stakeholders in the Copyright sector, and especially the management and members of all CMOs licensed by NCC - Reproduction Rights Society of Nigeria (Repronig), Copyright Society of Nigeria (COSON) and Audio-Visual Rights Society of Nigeria (AVRS) - participated actively in the deliberations and put forward their visions on how collective management could be made more effective in the different fields of operation.

At the end of deliberations, participants made the following resolutions to enhance collective management in Nigeria:

1. A Forum of CMOs will be formed to enable sharing of best practices and experiences among different licensed CMOs; create awareness, render mutual support and collaborate on joint lobbying activities.

2. To support the speedy implementation of the Copyright (Levy on Materials) Order 2012, two simultaneous actions from the rights holder constituency are needed:

   a. Advocacy from prominent rights holders, supported by their CMOs, will address the issue for the attention of relevant Government Authorities to speed up implementation of the Order.

   b. A supporting letter from international non-governmental organizations representing rights holders, (CISAC, IFRRO, SCAPR and IFPI) will be sought to address the importance of the issue to the Nigerian Authorities in support of the position of the national CMOs.

3. Licensing of educational institutions for their rampant copying in analogue and digital forms is an area where effective and efficient collective management is
needed. To achieve this goal, revitalization of the activities of Repronig is urgently needed. This would be greatly assisted by training and technical assistance.

4. There is need for Nigerian CMOs to work towards achieving a high level of transparency, accountability and governance in their operations and relations, taking into account the recommendations in the WIPO Transparency, Accountability and Governance (TAG) Project Compendium.

5. As communication is considered to be a prerequisite for successful CMO activities, the workshop recommended to all CMOs to apply different channels and especially social media in its widest sense to make rights holders, users and the general public to know and understand their activities.

6. There is a need for NCC to implement legal and regulatory policies to support effective licensing activities by CMOs, including inspection of user outlets.

7. Additional measures should be made by NCC and the private sector to encourage greater awareness on collective management among rights holders, users and the general public.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY PARTICIPANTS OF THE WORKSHOP,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015