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### EVENTS:

**27-30 October 2014** [IFRRO World Congress](#), Seoul, Korea

**8-12 December 2014** [WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights \(29th session\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

**24-26 March 2015** [30th IPA Congress](#), Bangkok, Thailand

### LINKS TO OTHER NEWS:

[GCA Copyright Magazine](#)

[IPA Newsletter July 2014](#)

## **IFRRO**

### **IFRRO/WIPO study on Text and Image based Copyright Levies published**

IFRRO has published with WIPO a joint study on Text and Image based Copyright Levies. It is the first comprehensive and detailed study of text and image levies (TI levies) world-wide. It analyzes the origins, scope and current use of these levies around the world, their role in ensuring easy legal access to copyright material, and shows how and why TI levies are different from audio and audio-visual private copying levies. The aim is to provide transparent information on the administration of the levy system with regard to authors, publishers, users of copyright works, manufacturers, importers, and other stakeholders.

“This is an important study”, said IFRRO’s President, Rainer Just. “At a time when there is an intensive debate on the role and mechanics of copyright and need for Collective Management, this report gives the facts and rationale on one well-used and respected method of balancing the interests of creators and users – the Copyright Levy.”

The study is available on both the [IFRRO](#) and [WIPO](#) websites.

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### **IFRRO moves offices**

IFRRO will move offices from Thursday 28 August 2014. The new premises are situated at Rue du Prince Royal 85, 1050 Brussels. Telephone numbers and email address will remain the same.

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### **IFRRO welcomes IAF as a new member**

IFRRO has accepted the International Authors Forum as a new member in the Creator and Publisher Association category.

The International Authors Forum is a forum for authors’ organisations to discuss various issues relevant to their own countries and to find out more about what is being done regarding similar situations across the globe. It is a forum to discuss and share knowledge and help to find solutions. These solutions might include consultation and/or research within the membership and identifying ways of benefiting or advising particular regions or statements of support on various initiatives.

This brings IFRRO’s membership to 143 members in 78 countries.

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### **IFRRO sends open letter to EC Vice President Kroes**

In an open letter to Vice-President Neelie Kroes, IFRRO has highlighted the misconceptions that led the Commissioner for mail Networks, Content and Technology to proclaim that “the Single Market is crying out for Copyright reform” in a speech to the IV/R conference in Amsterdam on 2 July 2014.

In particular Kroes’ praise for the amendments to copyright legislation in Canada and Japan, has ignored the immense damage to the creative sector that has resulted, especially in

Canada. The Commissioner asserts that “the sky has not fallen” following these reforms and that innovation and creation are flourishing. The figures tell a different story. The lost annual income to the creative industry is over 20 million euro, publishers are cutting down on their investment in educational publishing and more than one third of authors affiliated to Canadian RRO, Access Copyright declare that they will not be creating as many new works due to the loss of income resulting from the changes in the Canadian copyright legislation.

The full text of the letter is available [here](#).

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## **RRO News**

### **Mauritius Rights Management Society replaces MASA**

Following a new Copyright Act in Mauritius, the Mauritius Rights Management Society (MRMS) has replaced the Mauritius Society of Authors (MASA).

MRMS will take over MASA’s activities and all of its previously agreed reciprocal agreements made with foreign societies. The telephone numbers and address remain the same.

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## **Development**

### **SEA Panama, the Panamanian RRO officially authorized to operate**

On 18 July, the operations of the Authors and Publishers Association of Panama (SEA Panama) were authorized by the government. This became effective after the publication of the resolution on the Official Gazette.

IFRRO’s CEO, Olav Stokkmo, said in a comment that he welcomed this achievement of Panamanian authors and publishers. The establishment of SEA Panama means better protection for copyright holders, and an improvement in the situation for users of copyright works who will get increased opportunities for enhanced legal access to the world’s scientific and cultural heritage. It also confirms that copyright continues to be an important factor in cultural development around the world.

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## **UNESCO**

### **UNESCO Literacy Prizes 2014**

On 11 August UNESCO announced the five winners for its International Literacy Prizes 2014. The Prizes consist of the King Sejong Literacy Prize for organisations that are involved in the fight for literacy, and the Confucius Prize for Literacy for organisations promoting literacy among rural adults and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls. The theme chosen for this year’s awards was “literacy and sustainable development”. The winning organisations were from Ecuador, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Spain and South Africa.

## **Ecuador**

The Ministry of Education of Ecuador was recognised for its project on “Basic Education for Youth and Adults”. This project provides a comprehensive teaching programme to the learners and, in particular, teaches indigenous populations in their mother tongue.

## **Burkina Faso**

The Association for Promoting Non-Formal Education in Burkina Faso received the award for a programme directed towards women to improve their education, health, as well as their economic situation, and is being implemented in five languages. Within Burkina Faso, IFRRO’s RRO member, the Bureau Burkinabé du Droit d’Auteur (BBDA), is a multipurpose CMO created in 1985 that supports the local creative industries by providing rightholders with remuneration and financing various cultural activities.

## **Algeria**

The Algerian Association for Literacy was honoured for its work on a greater integration of women who live in extreme poverty in rural regions by improving their literacy skills and supporting them in their professional endeavours.

## **Spain**

The fourth organisation to be awarded was the Spanish Lifelong Learning School for Community Development Poligono Sur that helps Spanish citizens, North African migrants and Roma people to enhance their professional and literacy skills through community activities and in a multicultural environment. In Spain, CEDRO, IFRRO’s RRO member, represents 20,309 authors and 1,926 publishing houses and works to ensure that they receive fair remuneration for the secondary uses of their works. CEDRO also plays an important social role by supporting various projects and trainings for rightholders in Spain (more information can be found [here](#)).

## **South Africa**

Finally, the fifth winners were the South African Moltano Institute for Language and Literacy and the American International Literacy Institute for their joint initiative “Bridges to the Future” that helps people from all ages in rural areas to gain new ICT-skills. Useful learning content on health, vocational education and sustainable development is also made available to them. IFRRO has RRO members in both South Africa (DALRO) and the USA (CCC, the Copyright Clearance Center) that work on a daily basis to support authors and publishers and to foster cultural diversity in these countries.

## **IFRRO and IPA’s nominations**

IFRRO, which has the status of a NGO in official partnership with UNESCO, also put forward a nomination for this year’s Literacy Prizes - a Dutch organisation co-founded by the Dutch Publishers Association, the Commissie Propaganda van het Nederlandse Boek (CPNB), which promotes book reading in the Netherlands. Among other initiatives, the CPNB is responsible for organising the Dutch book week every year and is also regularly launching campaigns to support book reading as a lifelong habit – for example, their last campaign “Vaders voor lezen” aims at encouraging all fathers to read books to their young children. More information on the CPNB is available [here](#).

Also, the RRO member of IFRRO in Malawi, COSOMA, had been nominated by the International Publishers Association for the Prizes. This nomination was a recognition of COSOMA’s participation in the Reading Circles in Rural Community Primary Schools project

in Malawi. COSOMA launched this project in 2010 together with the Book Publishers Association of Malawi in order to fight illiteracy in the most rural areas of Malawi by creating libraries in schools that were lacking educational textbooks. These libraries are filled with books donated by publishing houses, a condition of the programme being that libraries be also open to people in the surrounding areas; this has enabled young women who had dropped schools to have access to books and to eventually re-enrol in secondary education.

Although the CPNB and COSOMA were not among the winners this year, we acknowledge the wonderful work that they have done and continue to do every day to reach those furthest away from books and education.

Further information on the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes is available [here](#).

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