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Presentation notes

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to this side event which IFRRO has organized on the sidelines of the 29th Session of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. It is a great pleasure for us to have you here with us.

As you are aware, Copyright has evolved as one of the most important means of providing access to copyright works. Authors and publishers are encouraged to create more works through incentives offered by the copyright system. Users such as educational institutions on the other hand are able to legally access copyright works through the copyright system.

Developing countries and least developed countries rely on to a larger extent foreign works for use for education. It is therefore important to ensure that there is an effective means of protecting these works so that to ensure that authors of those materials are able to generate more for the benefit of the learners. However, in some countries such as Malawi, there is a policy change by the Government which encourages use of copyright works authored and published by Malawian authors and publishers respectively in primary as well as secondary schools. Tertiary institutions on the other hand relatively depend on foreign materials, though even there, results of the Survey which was conducted in 2005 showed that 49% of the copyright works that were reproduced in two of our colleges were authored by Malawian authors while 48% were written by Malawian authors and locally published and 35% were written by foreign authors and published by foreign publishers.