



**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)**

**STATEMENTS BY EIFL 2026**

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS  
(SCCR/48), 18-22 May 2026**

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED  
RIGHTS (SCCR)**

**48th Session: May 2026**

**Agenda Item 4: Protection of broadcasting organizations**

I am speaking for Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) that works with library consortia in developing and transition economy countries to enable access to knowledge.

Dear delegates, while there is a general consensus on the scope and object of protection, key issues remain outstanding. And while document SCCR/48/3, the current draft text, usefully contains explanatory notes, it does not highlight the important areas on which there is no agreement, nor have these issues been adequately addressed in the draft. For example, three articles important to libraries definitely need more work - Article 7 Right of Fixation, Article 8 Protection of Signals used in making available to the public of stored programmes, and Article 11 Limitations and Exceptions. In their current form, these articles affect access by libraries to the underlying broadcast content, and they risk restricting use of the material by public institutions for social, educational and public interest purposes, even when those uses are permitted by copyright.

# **STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS (SCCR)**

## **44th Session: November 2023**

### **Agenda Items 5 & 6 Limitations and exceptions for libraries and archives, Limitations and exceptions for education and research institutions**

I am speaking for Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) that works with library consortia in developing and transition economy countries to enable access to knowledge.

The WIPO Toolkit on Access to Copyrighted Works, that will be presented tomorrow, emphasizes the role of libraries as “trusted institutions” governed by legal and ethical standards, and specifically tasked with providing access to their collections for the benefit of the public. As such, librarians are in a unique position to professionally manage and apply copyright exceptions to advance the educational, cultural, and development of society at large, in fulfilment of the goal of copyright to promote the progress of science, the arts, and human knowledge.

Dear delegates, there are opportunities at this SCCR to support these public policy goals. The proposals you have before you, in particular the proposal by the African Group, could easily form the basis of text-based work, in line with the workplan on L&Es adopted at SCCR/43, and respecting the mandate to work towards an appropriate international instrument in whatever form. We urge delegates to agree a process to begin text-based work, in a spirit of consensus and without prejudging the outcome, to ensure that libraries everywhere have the rights they need to undertake their missions.

### **Question on the presentation by the authors of the WIPO Toolkit on Access to Copyrighted Works in the Collections of Cultural Heritage Institutions: Libraries, Archives and Museums (SCCR/48/5)**

Thanks for the presentation, and thank you to the authors for their work in preparing the toolkit.

I would like to ask about an important issue mentioned briefly in the toolkit i.e. cross-border uses, described as ‘challenging’ because of the territorial nature of copyright, and the decentralized nature of the internet.

In Europe, in the context of research activities, a study by the European Commission evaluating the effects of the EU copyright framework on research, found that cross-border collaborations between Research Performing Organizations are not reaching their full potential, and it cited the approach by the Marrakesh Treaty as a source of inspiration in potentially addressing the problems. How can the cross-border issues identified in the toolkit also be addressed, taking into account the Marrakesh model?