



## **IFRRO Statement at WIPO SCCR on 15 June 2011**

IFRRO congratulates you, Mr. Chair, on your appointment and acknowledges the efforts of the efforts of the former Chair; Mr. Jukka Liedes.

1. The shared objective is to facilitate access to intellectual property for persons with print disabilities in as quick and seamless a way as possible.
2. It is in the interest of all that this is done in a way that does not conflict with the interest of copyright holders while offering the intended benefits to the intended beneficiaries.
3. This requires careful framing of exceptions and limitations to exclusive rights in national legislation.
4. It further requires collaborative efforts and innovative and dynamic solutions reflecting the quickly advancing technology. There are already numerous examples of best practices in the publishing industry. Also, there are examples that licensing solutions have proven more flexible and sustainable than solutions built exclusively on legislation.
5. As previously stated IFRRO accepts that exceptions in favour of people with print disabilities may be required in national legislation, as long as they are appropriately and narrowly framed to address the specific purpose that they are intended to serve.
6. Exceptions need to be complemented by licensing solutions. This is, in particular, important in respect of enabling cross-border file transfer.
7. RROs are ready to assist in facilitating licensing solutions in acting as one-stop shops and through collective licensing whenever required.
8. To this end IFRRO has developed tools to assist RROs in enabling this.
9. Any WIPO legal instrument should
  - a. Operate within existing frameworks of legal treaties and in particular observe the principles of the three step test in Article 9.2 of the Berne Convention.

- b. Ensure that exceptions and limitations in national legislation are framed narrowly so as to address the specific need of people with print disabilities only, as set out, for instance, in the European Union Copyright Directive
- c. Enable, facilitate and encourage solutions based on cross-border transfer of files based on collaborative solutions between stakeholders and rightholder approval of files to be transferred.