



## **Oslo AGM – IFRRO comes home after 25 years**

The 2009 IFRRO Annual General Meeting will take place in Oslo on 22 October 2009, a quarter of a century after IFRRO was born as a forum there. The AGM week, which is being hosted by IFRRO's Norwegian member, Kopinor, will include creators' and publishers' gatherings as well as a Forum (21 October) on digital libraries and the enabling and administering of access to copyright works in the digital arena. Naturally there will also be birthday celebrations. [See website for further details.](#)

## **Google Book Search Copyright Settlement – Delays and uncertainties**

The US Federal Court has extended the "opt-out"/objection deadline from May 5, 2009 to September 4, 2009. The change in the Opt-Out Deadline has caused the Final Fairness Hearing date to be rescheduled, from June 11, 2009 to October 7, 2009. All other dates in the case will remain the same. Read the full [press release](#). Meanwhile the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice is reported to have opened an enquiry into competition issues raised by the settlement.

## **Arrow launches web-site**

The ARROW Consortium has announced the launch of its website which will provide complete information on the project development: [www.arrow-net.eu](http://www.arrow-net.eu). The website will offer frequent updates on the work done by the different Work Packages of the Consortium and will be a valuable reference for Orphan and Out of print works issues. Read the full [press release](#).

## **CADRA signs up premier Argentine university**

On 29 April, CADRA signed one of its most important licensing agreements. The Buenos Aires University (UBA) and the Argentinean RRO have agreed on the terms of the reprographic reproduction inside the university. The UBA has a student population of around 300,000 and is the largest and most prestigious of the country. The agreement constitutes an important step in the RRO work on behalf of the rightholders and the respect for copyright in Argentina.

## **Pirate Bay 4 appeal against Swedish court verdict**

After the ground-breaking legal victory by the entertainment industry against the owners of the Pirate Bay file sharing site, the four defendants are challenging the verdict delivered on 17 April. Lawyers for the four have questioned the partiality of the Judge, Tomas Norstöm, who, they claim, has links to the copyright industry. Meanwhile Sweden's official enforcement agency has asked for an immediate payment of half the \$3.5 million fine. For details of the case see [April 2009 IFRRO News](#)

## **University of Luxembourg signs reprography agreement**

The University of Luxembourg has just concluded an agreement concerning the reproduction of copyrighted texts and images for administrative and teaching needs. A framework contract was signed on 20 April 2009 between the University of Luxembourg and luxorr (Luxembourg Organization for Reproduction Rights). It covers both traditional sources (books, press...) and also electronic (Internet), including digitalization ("scanning") of press articles. The University has recognized the scientific and cultural contribution of authors and considers it essential to ensure an equitable remuneration for the reproduction of their works.

## **German Authors petition Government on copyright**

1300 German authors have sent an open letter to the Federal Government asserting the importance of respecting copyright laws and urging it to wage a resolute defence of intellectual property rights. The "Heidelberg Appeal" cites GoogleBooks and YouTube as current threats and claims that "intellectual property is being stolen from its producers to an unimagined degree and without threat of criminal proceedings".

## **Belgium stops musical rights loophole**

The Belgian Parliament has amended the article about reprography in the Author Law of 22 December 2008. This allowed the (free) graphic reproduction of complete musical works for educational purposes. Semu, the Belgian music-RRO, initiated an appeal to the Constitutional Court for the suspension and annulment of article, which it did with immediate effect from 23 April.

### France defies European Parliament on 3 strikes Law

The French National Assembly has passed a bill threatening internet pirates with disconnection of their web access, despite an agreement in the European Parliament last month that internet cut-offs can only be put in place after a decision by judicial authorities. The so-called "three strikes and you're out" law would force ISPs to issue two warnings to those identified as downloading illegal material and finally closing down their connection for a third offence. Earlier the European Parliament had passed an amendment to the EU Telecoms Bill restricting the powers to cut off internet connections of illegal downloaders. The amendment is likely to delay the passage of the bill for at least a month.

### Simplified access to journal articles in Norway

Kopinor and The Norwegian Council for Higher Education have concluded an agreement on electronic document delivery in university and college libraries. According to the Norwegian Copyright Act, the library user can get a paper copy of an article or a part of a book. With the new agreement, library users in colleges and universities also can get a scanned copy by e-mail. Newspaper articles, or born-digital material, are not included in the agreement.

### EU internet plans to ease e-buying

The European Commission has launched two initiatives that may have a profound impact on how consumers buy material on line. Meglena Kuneva, the EU Consumer Commissioner recently unveiled the eYouGuide - a new online tool giving practical advice on the "digital rights" consumers have under EU law, including the rights towards your broadband provider, shopping on the web, downloading music and protecting your personal data online and on social networking sites. Earlier Ms Kuneva and her colleague, Viviane Reding, the European telecommunications and media commissioner, outlined a plan for a Europe-wide copyright license for online content.

### National Workshop on Copyright and Private Copy in Mauritius

A national workshop on copyright and private copying, organised by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of Mauritius and MASA, took place in Mauritius on 29 and 30 April 2009. IFRRO was also represented, and was joined by CEDRO. The workshop, attended by participants from Madagascar, the Comoros islands, the Seychelles

islands and Mauritian representatives from different Ministries, the customs authorities, authors, publishers and the industry, triggered many important discussions to promote further progress on the implementation of the equipment levy and the future licensing, especially in the educational field, in Mauritius.



Hon. F. Savadogo, Min. of Culture, Tourism and Communication opens seminar in Ouagadougou. Photo F. Eberhard

### Reprography and Burkina Faso

WIPO and IFRRO in cooperation with the Burkina Faso Government and BBDA, the RRO and multipurpose collective management organisation in the country, organised on 5 and 6 May a seminar for some 100 authors, publishers, various user groups and civil servants in Ouagadougou. In his opening speech Hon. *Filippe Savadogo*, Minister of Culture, tourism and communication, emphasized the importance of legal access to copyright works and compensation to rightholders for the use of their works. BBDA has collected for reprography through a levy since 2006. The seminar was part of an awareness raising strategy ahead of the start up of reprographic licensing beyond levies.

### Regional WIPO-OAPI-IFRRO training programme on copyright and reprography

A regional training programme on copyright and reprography was co-organised by WIPO, OAPI and IFRRO in Yaoundé (Cameroon) between 30 March and 3 April 2009, and attended by representatives from 12 OAPI countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo). This training programme, the first initiative of this kind in OAPI countries, was welcomed as being very useful by all participants, and will hopefully be followed by further similar education programmes in French-speaking Africa.

### EVENTS Preview of 2009

4 June 2009, Digital Issues Forum, Madrid, Spain  
9-10 June 2009, World Copyright summit, Washington DC, USA.

17 June, ePublishing conference, Brussels, Belgium  
19-23 October 2009, IFRRO Annual General Meeting, Oslo/Norway.