



Welcome to the April edition of IFRRO News

News from IFRRO

IFRRO welcomes two new members

During April, IFRRO welcomed two new members: [VEGAP](#) and [ORIGINAL](#). To learn more about our new members, click [here](#).

IFRRO Latin American Committee meeting in Bogota



© CDR Seminar Generation of Value of Literary Contents in the Digital Environment, Bogota book fair

The IFRRO Latin American Committee met in Bogota on 18 April. The meeting, chaired by Ana María Cabanellas, gathered the RRO members in the region plus representatives from Costa Rica, Spain, the United States and Japan. The key topics discussed at the meeting were licensing, good governance, implications of the Marrakesh Treaty and exceptions and limitations, among

others. Caroline Morgan, CEO of IFRRO, also participated in the meeting. A seminar on Generation of Value of Literary Contents in the Digital Environment was organised by the [Colombian Intellectual Property Office](#) at the Bogota book fair, to coincide with the meeting. Speakers from the IFRRO community at the seminar included Caroline Morgan, Carol Newman from [JAMCOPY](#), Jorge Corrales from [CEDRO](#), Toshimichi Ishijima from [JAC](#) and Victoriano Colodrón from [CCC](#).

IFRRO at WIPO's Seminar on Copyright and Collective Management in Seoul

From 19 – 23 March, WIPO and the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MCST), conducted a Seminar on Copyright and Collective Management in Seoul, for representatives from Cambodia, Myanmar, and Mongolia. The fifteen representatives, who were either engaged in their national Government intellectual property departments or work at domestic CMOs, learned about the operations and achievements of collective management organizations in South Korea. To learn more about this activity, click [here](#).

IFRRO speaks at Bulgarian EU Presidency Conference on copyright

On 15 March 2018, IFRRO participated in a conference organised by the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union on "Intellectual Property – Copyright". In their opening remarks, Boil Banov, Minister of Culture of Bulgaria, and Mehti Melikov, Director of the Copyright Directorate at the Ministry, commented on the legal environment in Bulgaria and the need to effectively compensate rightholders since at the moment there are "losses for authors linked to both the legal and illegal uses of works". Read more about the event [here](#).

Elections - Board, European Group

Benoît Proot's departure from Reprobel means there is a vacant position as an RRO Director on the IFRRO Board and also a vacancy in the Chair of the European Group (EG). In the interests of minimising the time taken and the additional administrative costs of holding elections the IFRRO Board has decided to:

- Appoint Dora Makwinja, the longest serving substitute RRO director to fill the vacant position of RRO Director until the AGM in 2019, when elections would ordinarily be held,
- As elections for the European Group are already scheduled for October this

year, to ask Samantha Holman and Anders Kristian Rasch to serve as co-Chairs of the European Group until then, and to hold elections as scheduled later this year.

In order to facilitate the holding of the EG elections, Barbara Józwiak from the Association of Authors and Publishers Copyright Polska, has agreed to join the European Group Nominating Committee to replace Bleszynska-Drewicz formerly at KOIPOL. Other members of the Committee are Sandra Chastanet (CFC) and Hege Døssland (Kopinor). More information about the European Group elections will be available at the upcoming meeting in May.

IFRRO upcoming meetings

A number of regional and other committee meetings will be held in the next few months, and we have begun planning for the World Congress in October in Athens.

Spring Meetings, Brussels, 28 and 29 May

The 28th May will be a full day meeting of the **European Group**. We are very pleased to advise that Marco Giorello, Head of Unit, Copyright Unit in the European Commission, DG CONNECT, will speak at the event. The impact of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on RROs will also be discussed. The Board will meet on 27th May, and meetings of other IFRRO technical working groups and fora, including the Legal Issues Forum will also be held on 29 May.

Asia Pacific Committee (APC), 10 & 11 May

The APC will meet on 10 and 11 of May in Hong Kong hosted by HKRRLS.

African Development Committee (ADC), 10 & 11 July

The upcoming meeting of the ADC will take place in Lusaka, Zambia on 10 and 11 July.

IFRRO World Congress and AGM, Athens, 22 – 25 October

The IFRRO World Congress and AGM will be held between 22 – 25 October 2018 in Athens. A draft program has been developed. Sylvie Forbin, WIPO's Deputy Director General, will provide a keynote address on WIPO activities and programs.

An important strategic issue for IFRRO and its members is the impact of

technology and the digital economy on the business models of authors and publishers. To that end, the IFRRO International Conference during the 2018 Congress week in Athens will focus on technology issues and developments.

News from our members

- [CADRA signs an agreement to represent visual artists rights](#)
- [SAZOR, the Slovenian RRO, to start distributing royalties from school usage to rightsholders for the first time](#)
- [CDR signs a new licence with Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas](#)

