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CEBS non-paper on the roadmap for the work of the Standing Committee on Copyrights and Related Rights (SCCR) regarding protection of broadcasting organizations

For a long time Central European and Baltic States Regional Group (CEBS) and its Members have shown support for expediting the work of SCCR on establishing standards of the international protection of broadcasting organizations in the form of a binding treaty.

Last two years Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights managed to successfully resolve two main issues of its agenda resulting in Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind visually impaired or otherwise print disabled. This is the proof that reasonable and balanced approach, ensuring continued respect for copyright and creativity, are underlying values of the work of WIPO as a whole.

CEBS believes that it is a high time to strongly focus the work of the Committee to find a way to conclude the treaty on protection of broadcasting organizations in the nearest future. As experience has shown the first step to achieve the goal and prepare the ground for calling the diplomatic conference is agreeing on a stable and reasonable roadmap of the work of SCCR. We take into consideration that within the topic of protection of broadcasting organizations still there is significant work to be done and discrepancies between the positions of WIPO Members are to be bridged. Obviously, this can be achieved only if this concrete topic is devoted sufficient time in the 2014 meetings to improve the current text of the proposal for the treaty.

Having this in mind, the Regional Group of Central European and Baltic States puts into consideration of the General Assembly of WIPO and all its Members the following proposal for the roadmap for further work of SCCR.

The WIPO General Assembly:

1) direct that the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights should accelerate and finalize the work on the broadcasters' treaty as a matter of priority;
2) schedule that within three Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights meetings planned prior to 2014 General Assembly, no less than 3 days per meeting is devoted on refining the text of SCCR/24/10 rev.;
3) direct that the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights submit to the 2014 General Assembly a text developed during these meetings and the GA take stock and consider progress made and decide on convening of a Diplomatic Conference in 2015.