

PROGRAM 3 COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS

PLANNING CONTEXT

3.1. Fundamental changes have occurred in the global environment for creative works, which produce challenges and opportunities for WIPO. This is most evident in the area of copyright and related rights where digital technology, the Internet and mobile applications are profoundly changing the culture and creative industries.

3.2. The following issues and challenges continue to be relevant in the next biennium. As regards, normative and policy related work, a number of outstanding issues remain to be resolved on the copyright normative agenda. Subjects for the future agenda of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) will also need to be identified.

3.3. In addition, a key challenge for the Secretariat will be to respond to Member States' requests for advice in making their national laws compatible with their international obligations, taking into account the existing flexibilities in the multi-lateral system.

3.4. Developing and least developed countries continue to be challenged by rapid technological developments and the interface of these new technologies with copyright protection systems. It is therefore essential for WIPO to put in place sustainable technical assistance programs which assist such countries to meet related challenges.

3.5. In a rapidly changing world which is increasingly dependent upon digital technologies, the biggest infrastructure challenge will be to ensure that rightsholders receive their full due and that rights users have easy, legal access to the copyright content of their choice.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

3.6. Against the above background, the Program will focus on the following priorities in the next biennium the implementation of which will take duly into account DA Recommendations 1, 6, 12 to 17, 19 and 20.

Normative and Policy Related Work

3.7. Two SCCR meetings will be scheduled each year. Advancement of the normative agenda will focus primarily on facilitating substantive negotiations on SCCR agenda items and responding to Member State requests regarding implementation of new and existing treaties. The facilitation work will relate to the proposed broadcasting treaty, limitations and exceptions for libraries, archives and educational and research institutions, as well as for persons with disabilities (other than print disabilities).

3.8. The new treaties to be implemented are the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled. Work will be undertaken to encourage the implementation of the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties, in coordination with representatives of the beneficiaries of the Treaties, intermediaries involved with implementation, and Member States.

3.9. A number of studies requested by the SCCR and conferences on topical issues will be undertaken during this biennium.