

PROGRAM & PARTICIPANTS

UPDATED 9/19/2025



INTERNATIONAL
**COPYRIGHT
INSTITUTE**



SEPTEMBER 15-19, 2025 | WASHINGTON, DC

Introductions and the Work of WIPO

Dining Room A, James Madison Memorial Building

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Per Diem Disbursement

Please gather in the lobby of the Capitol Hill Hotel at 8:00 a.m. U.S. Copyright Office staff will meet participants to walk to the Library of Congress Madison Building, where per diem funds will be disbursed. The next opportunity to receive per diem funds will be Friday, September 19.

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Speakers

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sherine Greiss, Copyright Development Senior Coordinator, Department for Development Cooperation, Regional and National Development Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Emily Lanza, Senior Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

Maria Strong, Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Participant Introductions

Participants will introduce themselves to the group and share their interests and objectives for the week.

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

BREAK

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The International Copyright Framework

Presenters will review the obligations (including rights, exceptions and limitations, and other key issues) in the Berne Convention; the WTO TRIPS Agreement; the WIPO Copyright Treaty; the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty; the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled; and the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances. Participants are invited to identify issues of interest to them for discussion in later panels.

Speakers

Maria Strong, Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

Chris Weston, Senior Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Current Copyright Developments

This session will consider the current copyright discussions taking place at WIPO, both in the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) and in other contexts. Participants are invited to share their perspectives on these topics during the session.

Speaker

Andrew Foglia, Deputy Director, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

Chris Weston, Senior Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

BREAK

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Copyright as a Driver of the Creative Economy: WIPO's Copyright Development Work

This session will examine how copyright supports the creative economy, delving also into WIPO's ongoing efforts and current initiatives in the area of copyright development.

Speaker

Sherine Greiss, Copyright Development Senior Coordinator, Department for Development Cooperation, Regional and National Development Sector, WIPO

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Presentations of Country Reports by Participants

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

U.S. Copyright and Registration Systems

Dining Room A, James Madison Memorial Building
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Overview of U.S. Copyright Law

Participants will receive a general overview of key aspects of U.S. copyright law, including how the United States implements copyright treaties and how legal, policy, and judicial developments in the United States contribute to the economy, culture, and public discourse. This session will also feature a discussion of the work of the Copyright Claims Board.

Speakers

Brandy Karl, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel,
U.S. Copyright Office

Melinda Kern, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Copyright Office

Elizabeth Porter, Ringer Fellow, U.S. Copyright Office

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

WALK TO THE THOMAS JEFFERSON BUILDING, GREAT HALL

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tour of the Jefferson Building and Group Photo

The group will travel together to the historic Jefferson Building via the underground tunnel. The tour will begin with a professional group photo, a copy of which participants will receive at the closing ceremony. Participants will then enjoy an exclusive guided tour of the historic Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress.

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Keynote Speech and Lunch

WHITTALL PAVILION, GROUND FLOOR, THOMAS JEFFERSON BUILDING

Guest Speaker

Regan Smith, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the News/Media Alliance,
and former General Counsel of the U.S. Copyright Office

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

RECONVENE IN DINING ROOM A, MADISON BUILDING

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Copyright Registration Systems

This session will discuss the benefits of registration systems, the legal standards used for registration, and the challenges of operationalizing a registration system. Much of this session will cover the standards and processes used by registration specialists in the Copyright Office when examining materials in registration claims.

Speakers

Daniel Feitel, Senior Copyright Specialist, Office of Registration Policy and Practice, Literary Division, U.S. Copyright Office

Heather Wiggins, Registration Supervisor, Office of Registration Policy and Practice, Literary Division, U.S. Copyright Office

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

BREAK

3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Registration Demonstration

To continue the discussion on registration, this session will include specific case studies of registration examination. There will be time for group discussion on the issues presented during these registration sessions.

Speakers

Daniel Feitel, Senior Copyright Specialist, Office of Registration Policy and Practice, Literary Division, U.S. Copyright Office

Alison Lowell, Registration Supervisor, Office of Registration Policy and Practice, Performing Arts Division, U.S. Copyright Office

Intergovernmental Coordination

Dining Room A, James Madison Memorial Building
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Interagency Work on Intellectual Property and Trade

Speakers will discuss how different U.S. government agencies work together on intellectual property issues to build an effective trade enforcement strategy, and how they engage with foreign governments to foster effective protection and enforcement.

Speakers

Michelle Sara King, Intellectual Property Team Lead and Senior International Trade Specialist in the Office of Standards and Intellectual Property at the International Trade Administration

Alaina van Horn, Chief, Intellectual Property Enforcement Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Michelle Yang, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Innovation and Intellectual Property, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

Moderator

Taylor Schumacher, Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Domestic and Multi-Territorial Licensing Models

Speakers will explain how digital content is distributed, licensed, and marketed, and how copyright law can facilitate the development of these industries. The panel will then discuss how certain aspects of copyright law in the digital age (such as licensing vs. ownership) may affect digital content in more fundamental ways than they affect content in physical formats.

Speakers

Catherine Zaller Rowland, Vice President, General Counsel, Copyright Clearance Center, speaking on behalf of the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organizations

Lui Simpson, Executive Vice President, Association of American Publishers

Shannon Sorensen, Senior Vice President, Legal and Business Affairs, National Music Publishers' Association

Rob Woodward, Associate General Counsel, ZeniMax Media

Moderator

Danielle Johnson, Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Strategic Partnerships**

This session will delve into the importance of reaching audiences about the work of an intellectual property office, how to raise awareness of copyright and the creative economy, and how strategic partnerships can be developed.

Speakers **Lisa Marflak**, Chief, Outreach and Education Division, U.S. Copyright Office

Sherine Greiss, Copyright Development Senior Coordinator, Department for Development Cooperation, Regional and National Development Sector, WIPO

Moderator **Miriam Lord**, Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Public Information and Education, U.S. Copyright Office

Discussion with Participants

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **BREAK**

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Tour of Law Library and U.S. Copyright Office Exhibit**

Participants will gather in Dining Room A and then walk to have two tours – first of the Law Library of the Library of Congress and second of the “Find Yourself in Copyright” exhibit of the Copyright Office.

AI, Enforcement and Collective Management

Dining Room A, James Madison Memorial Building

DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Best Practices in Collective Management

Participants will learn about the internal governance, transparency, and best practices of collective management organizations (CMOs); compliance issues; and how CMOs can educate the public on copyright and collective licensing.

Presenter **Michel Allain**, Senior Manager, Collective Rights Management Team, Copyright Management Division, Copyright and Creative Industries Sector, WIPO

Speaker **Catherine Zaller Rowland**, Vice President, General Counsel, Copyright Clearance Center

Country Participant **Dora Susan Makwinja**, Malawi

Moderator **Michele Woods**, Director, Copyright Law Division, Copyright and Creative Industries Sector, WIPO

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Collective Management in the Musical Composition and Sound Recording Sectors

This session will discuss issues specific to collective management collection and distribution involving music (music compositions) and sound recordings.

Speakers **Amanda Carmichael**, Senior Vice President, International, SoundExchange

Todd Dupler, Vice President, Advocacy & Public Policy, Recording Academy

Rick Marshall, General Counsel, Mechanical Licensing Collective

Moderator **John Riley**, Acting Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Copyright Office

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Digital Enforcement**

Speakers will discuss a variety of challenges related to protecting and enforcing works in the digital environment and examine possible approaches for solutions.

Speakers **Kenneth “Ken” Mallory**, Vice President, Media Policy and Regulatory Counsel, Motion Picture Association

Chris Mohr, President, Software & Information Industry Association

Meredith Filak Rose, Senior Policy Counsel, Public Knowledge

Moderator **Andrew Foglia**, Deputy Director, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. **BREAK**

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Artificial Intelligence and Digital Replicas**

This session will focus on issues related to digital replicas (sometimes called “deep fakes”) – that is, the use of digital technology to realistically replicate an individual’s voice or appearance without their authorization.

Speakers **Duncan Crabtree-Ireland**, National Executive Director and Chief Negotiator, SAG-AFTRA

Sally Rose Larson, Senior Vice President, Government and External Affairs, Digital Media Association

Jessica Richard, Senior Vice President, Federal Public Policy, Recording Industry Association of America

Moderator **Michele Woods**, Director, Copyright Law Division, Copyright and Creative Industries Sector, WIPO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

Economic Work and Participant Discussion

Dining Room A, James Madison Memorial Building

DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Per Diem Disbursement

Please meet in the Madison 1st Floor Lobby to go to the Travel Office for the final per diem disbursements. This will be the last opportunity to collect per diems.

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Breakfast Reception

Please join us in Dining Room A for a breakfast reception before the day's sessions begin.

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Economics and Copyright and How They Support Creative Economies

This session will cover key economic concepts as well as ongoing research work and data gathering by both the Copyright Office and WIPO, as well as ongoing research being done by the economic community regarding the creative economies.

Speakers

Dimitar Gantchev, Acting Director, Creative Industries Division, WIPO

Michael Palmedo, Research Statistician, Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Copyright Office

Ryan Safner, Economist, Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Copyright Office

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Moderated Discussion with Country Participants

Participants will have an opportunity to reflect on the program and how the presentations informed their view of the copyright issues their countries hope to address, as well as share suggestions for future follow-up.

Moderator

Emily Lanza, Senior Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Closing Ceremony

Participants will receive certificates of attendance and hear final remarks from the organizers.

Speakers

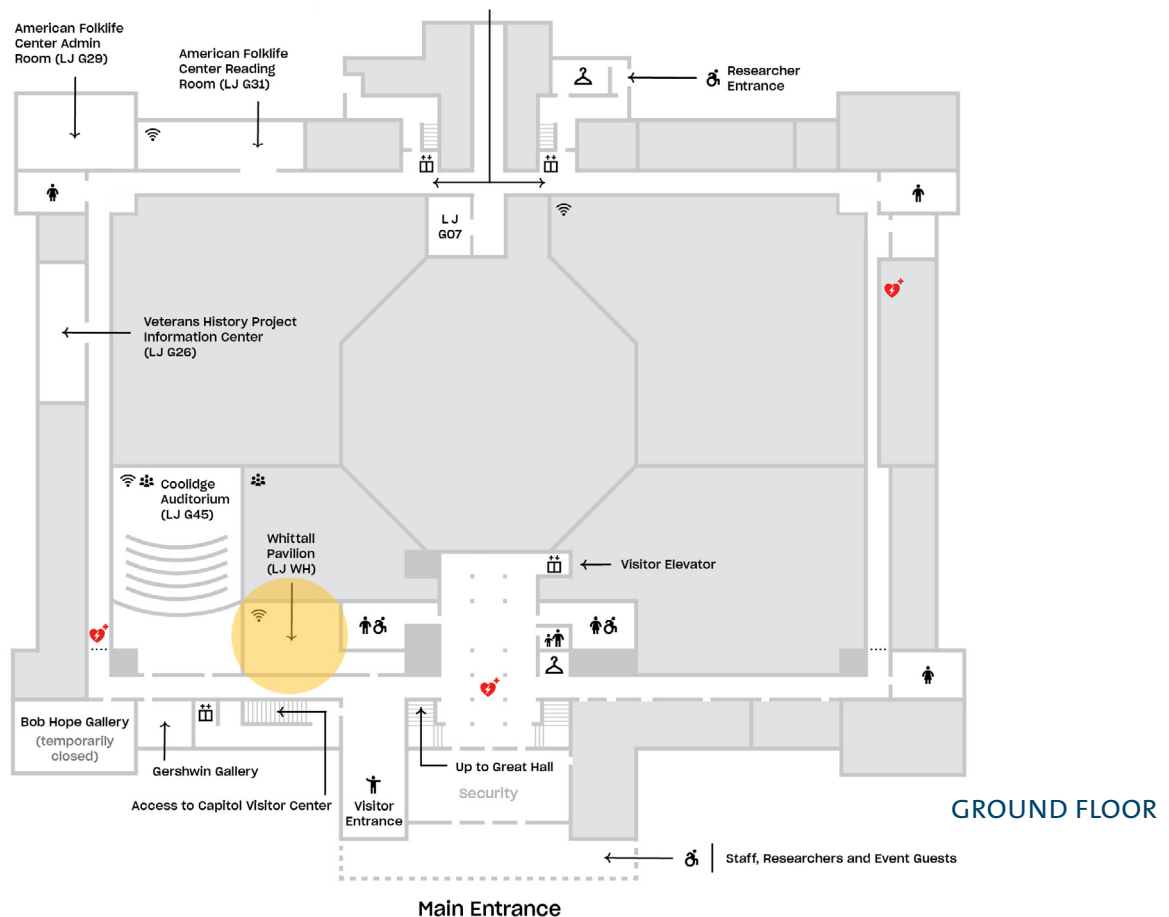
Sherine Greiss, Copyright Development Senior Coordinator, Department for Development Cooperation, Regional and National Development Sector, WIPO

Emily Lanza, Senior Counsel, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

Maria Strong, Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

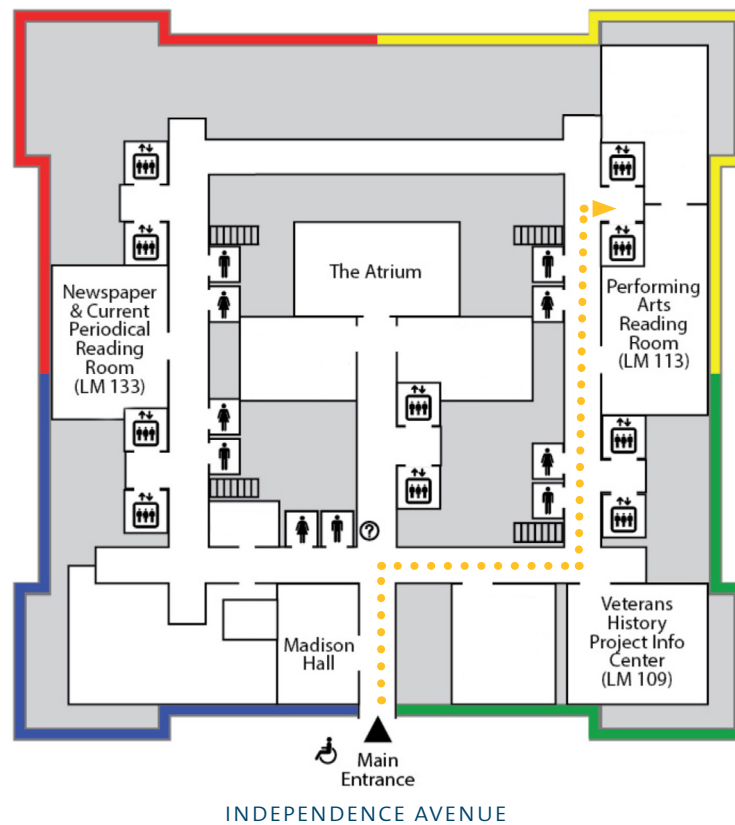
Michele Woods, Director, Copyright Law Division, Copyright and Creative Industries Sector, WIPO

THOMAS JEFFERSON BUILDING | LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



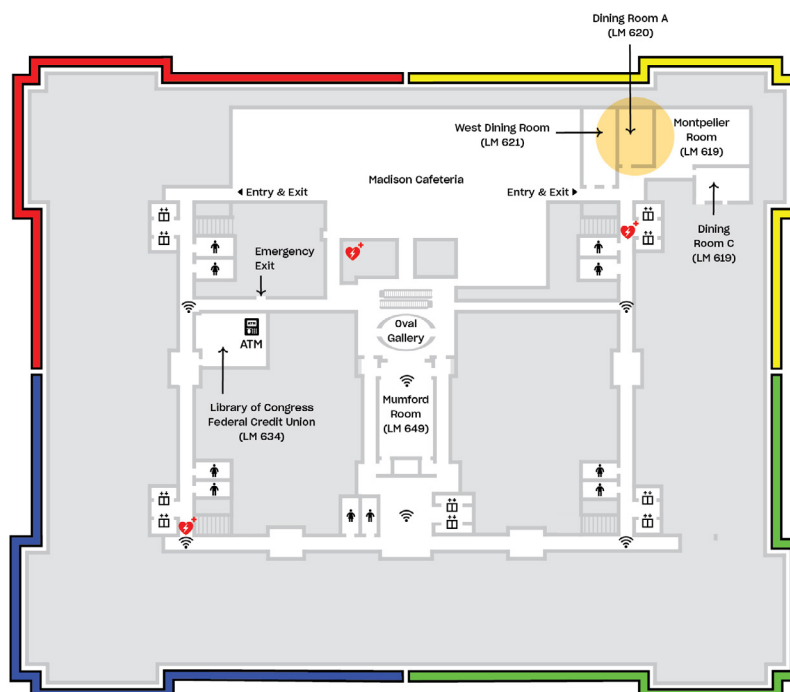
JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL BUILDING | LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

FIRST FLOOR



ICI SESSIONS WILL BE HELD
ON THE SIXTH FLOOR IN
DINING ROOM A

SIXTH FLOOR



WHERE TO EAT NEAR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

IN THE MADISON BUILDING

MADISON CAFETERIA

(Sandwiches/Burgers)
6th Floor, LM 625
(closes @ 2:00 p.m.)

DUNKIN DONUTS

(Coffee/Breakfast)
Ground Floor, LM G47
(closes @ 2:00 p.m.)

SUBWAY

(Sandwiches/Salads)
Ground Floor, LM G47
(closes @ 2:00 p.m.)

TAKE OUT & DINE IN

BURRITO BROTHERS

(Mexican)
205 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 543-6835

YOUNG CHOW/ANNIE CHEN

(Chinese/Sushi)
312 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 544-6788

HUNAN DYNASTY

(Asian Fusion)
215 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 546-6161

SWEETGREEN

(Salads)
221 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 547-9338

STARBUCKS

(Coffee/Sandwiches)
237 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 544-9783

SANTA ROSA TAQUERIA

(Mexican)
301 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 450-4800

GOOD STUFF EATERY

(Burgers)
303 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 543-8222

WE, THE PIZZA

(Pizza)
305 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 544-4008

LE BON CAFÉ

(French)
210 2nd Street SE
(202) 547-7200

LE PAIN QUOTIDIEN

(Bakery/Salads/Sandwiches)
660 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 459-9147

BELGA CAFE

(Belgian)
514 8th Street SE
(202) 544-0100

MR. HENRY'S RESTAURANT

(Pub)
601 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 546-8412

JAB WE MET INDIAN KITCHEN

(Indian)
515 8th Street SE
(202) 930-6190

DINE IN

SONOMA RESTAURANT & WINE BAR

(American)
223 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 544-8088

HAWK 'N' DOVE

(American)
329 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 547-0030

TUNE INN

(Pub)
331 Pennsylvania Ave SE
(202) 543-2725

BULLFEATHERS

(Pub)
410 1st Street SE
(202) 484-0228

TALAY THAI RESTAURANT

(Thai)
406 1st Street SE
(202) 546-5100

TED'S BULLETIN

(American/Breakfast)
505 8th Street SE
(202) 544-8337

AMBAR CAPITOL HILL

(Balkan)
523 8th Street SE
(202) 813-3039

ROSE'S LUXURY

(American)
717 8th Street SE
(202) 742-3570

TORAI SUSHI

(Japanese/Sushi)
751 8th Street SE
(202) 525-2053

TRATTORIA ALBERTO

(Italian)
508 8th Street SE
(202) 544-2007

PARTICIPANTS

BAHRAIN

MARYAM ABDULLA

Maryam Abdulla is the Head of the Copyright Office at the Ministry of Information in Bahrain. She has over sixteen years of experience in copyright protection and supporting creators. She is co-founder of an artificial intelligence-focused magazine featured on the Ministry's website and has published articles on the rights of authors and creators in the context of AI.

Abdulla previously served as Assistant Legal Counsel at Gulf Air Company, addressing a wide range of legal issues. She is also a legal consultant for the Bahrain Intellectual Property Society (BIPS), working internationally to enhance legal frameworks and promote best practices.

Abdulla is dedicated to education and awareness, delivering lectures and developing guidelines for creators in line with Bahraini copyright law. Her active participation in regional and international conferences, campaigns, and Arab League meetings highlights her commitment to advancing intellectual property rights.

BANGLADESH

S.M. ARSHAD IMAM

S.M. Arshad Imam is Additional Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh, serving as Copyright Registrar since June 2025. Previously, he worked for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs as a Project Director, working with vulnerable women groups in the poorest villages to enhance them to rise to a higher livelihood. Before that, he was the Director of Libraries under the Department of Archives and Libraries. Prior to joining the Bangladesh Civil Service, he served under the Ministry of Jute, M/O Planning/Planning Commission and Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Ministry of Finance (Economic Relations Division, ERD), Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division), Ministry of Labour and Employment, and Bangladesh Election Commission. He earned honors and a master's degree from Dhaka University.

BOTSWANA

KEITSENG NKAH MONYATSI

Keitseng Nkah Monyatsi is Copyright Administrator at the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority within the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Botswana, where she is a key driver in the development of Botswana's copyright system, which includes driving policy and international engagements. She has led the process for Botswana's accession to the Marrakesh and Beijing treaties and is wrapping up the process for accession to the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization's (ARIPO's) Kampala Protocol for Voluntary Registration of Copyright and Related Rights.

Monyatsi has also served as Adjunct Lecturer in IP at the University of Botswana; Copyright Department Head at ARIPO; Principal Research Officer at the Department of Research Science and Technology; Program Coordinator at the University of Botswana's Centre for Scientific Research, Indigenous Knowledge and Innovation; IP Consultant at Armstrongs Attorneys; and Trademark Examiner at the Registrar of Companies.

Monyatsi has co-authored several publications on indigenous knowledge and surveyed and authored a report on collective management of rights in ARIPO member states. She has been a consultant in the development of the Botswana National Policy on Indigenous Knowledge Systems and the Rwanda National Intellectual Property Strategy. She holds a master's degree in intellectual property from the University of New Hampshire School of Law in the United States and a bachelor of commerce from the University of Botswana.

CAMBODIA

SIM SATTA

Sim Satta serves as Director of the Department of Copyright and Related Rights at the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts in Cambodia. His work focuses on formulating and implementing copyright policy, strengthening the legal framework, and raising public awareness of copyright and related rights. He has collaborated extensively with national and international partners to advance cooperation in copyright protection and enforcement. Satta had also represented Cambodia in numerous international forums, contributing to initiatives that foster creativity, safeguard intellectual property, and support cultural development.

PARTICIPANTS

ECUADOR

FERNANDO ZURITA CASTILLO

Edison Fernando Zurita Castillo is the National Director of Copyright and Related Rights at the National Service for Intellectual Rights (SENADI). With a strong background in the protection, registration, and management of copyright and related rights, he leads strategies to strengthen intellectual property in Ecuador, aligning actions with national and international organizations. His work seeks to position intellectual property as a true tool for innovation, economic development, and social benefit. Additionally, he has professional experience in corporate communication, marketing, and strategic management, designing campaigns and content to strengthen institutional visibility and engagement. Castillo participated in the 2025 Capacity Building Project for the Creation, Utilization and Protection of Intellectual Property, organized by Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) in South Korea. He spoke at and participated in the international congresses and seminars on communication, sustainability, and event management as well as leadership and strategy programs at prestigious regional institutions.

EGYPT

MENNA-T-ALLAH EL-KOTAMY

Menna-t-allah El-Kotamy is the Executive Secretary to the Chairman in the Copyright Office within the Egyptian Intellectual Property Authority (EGIPA).

INDONESIA

ACHMAD IQBAL TAUFIQ

Achmad Iqbal Taufiq is Legal Analyst for the Direktorat General Intellectual Property in Indonesia.

JAMAICA

SHANTAL ENGLISH RICHARDS

Shantal English Richards is Deputy Director/Legal Counsel at the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO) in the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce. She provides legal advice and guidance to management and staff; assists in the development and implementation of policies, procedures, and programs related to legal compliance and risk management;

negotiates contracts and agreements; and offers counsel on a range of legal issues including and external to IP laws. She ensures that JIPO operates within the bounds of the law and that it minimizes risks and exposure. She has also represented JIPO, and by extension Jamaica, at several international and local forums.

She is the author of six books and has served as Adjunct Tutor at The University of the West Indies, Faculty of Law; Copyright and Related Rights Manager at JIPO; and Director of Law Practice and Director of Litigations at Banjoko Law. She has conducted and presented at legal seminars on diverse matters of law.

English Richards studied at The Queen's School, The University of the West Indies, and the Norman Manley Law School. She is actively involved in community development and is a motivational speaker, spending most of her spare time writing, volunteering, researching, and making a positive impact in the lives of others.

KAZAKHSTAN

ILYAS KABDULIN

Ilyas Kabdulin is Head of the Department of Copyright and Related Rights for the Committee of Intellectual Property Rights at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, a position he's held since February 2025. He previously served as Chief Expert on Copyright and Related Rights for the Ministry.

Kabdulin began his professional career in 2016 as a Trademark Expert at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In 2019, he received the Bolashaq scholarship from the government to further his education in the United States. He studied English at the University of California San Diego and earned a master's degree from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles in 2023. Kabdulin previously received a bachelor's degree in law in 2015, a master's degree in economy and business in 2016, and a bachelor's degree in government relations in 2018.

KENYA

SHARON CHAHALE WATA

Sharon Chahale Wata is Deputy Executive Director for Training and Research at the Kenya Copyright Board and an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. She holds an LLB from the University of Nairobi and LLM in intellectual property law from the University of Turin, Italy. She has also taken courses in senior management

PARTICIPANTS

and strategic leadership development at the Kenya School of Government, where she also lectures part time.

She is an accomplished intellectual property lawyer with eighteen years of industry experience, having served as a Copyright Prosecutor, CEO of a Collective Management Organization, and an Intellectual Property Trainer. She also contributes to articles in *Copyright News*, published quarterly by the Kenya Copyright Board, as well as the *Copyright Lawyer Magazine*, based in the United Kingdom. She has past consultancy experience in various areas, including intellectual property law, environmental law, human rights, democracy, and governance issues.

MALAWI

DORA SUSAN MAKWINJA

Dora Susan Makwinja is Copyright Administrator and Executive Director of the Copyright Society of Malawi and has been with the organization since October 1997. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the African Committee of International Confederation of Societies of Composers and Authors.

Makwinja has also been a board member and First Vice President of the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organizations (IFRRO) Board in Belgium and Chairperson of the African Committee of IFRRO. She chaired, as a representative of the Malawi Government, the African Regional Intellectual Property (ARIPO) Technical Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. She has also contributed to the development of National Intellectual Property Policies for Botswana, Nigeria, Zanzibar, and Kenya. Additionally, she has worked for the United National Development Program in Malawi, has been a WIPO expert on copyright and related rights and on collective management of copyright and related rights, and has been a tutor for WIPO distance learning programs.

Makwinja holds a master of intellectual property law, commerce and technology, from the University of New Hampshire in the United States. She also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Southampton and a bachelor of social sciences (computer and statistics) from the University of Malawi.

MALDIVES

UZMA ABDUL LATHEEF

Uzma Abdul Latheef is the Executive for Investor Services at Invest Maldives, the government's central agency for investment promotion and facilitation under the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. She advocates for inward investments and oversees marketing and promotional activities for foreign investments in the Maldives.

Previously, Latheef served as Consultant for Trade and Investment, where she contributed to the Ministry's mandate on trade, investment, and economic development. She also worked as an Economic Development Associate on the Asian Development Bank's Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Development Project. Latheef has held key positions on the Ministry's Bid Committee and the Labour Quota Committee and has been a member of the National Civil Society Awards Committee, managed by the Ministry of Youth and Community Empowerment.

In addition to her government work, Latheef was Acting Council Secretary for the Maldives National University Council and a part-time lecturer in marketing and business management.

Latheef holds a master's degree in strategic management from the University of Birmingham and a bachelor's degree in international business management from Staffordshire University, both in the United Kingdom. She has received the Maldives President's National Award for Special Achievement in 2020 and 2015 in recognition of her academic accomplishments.

MOROCCO

BILAL MZIAOU

Bilal Mziaou is Head of the Royalties Collection Department at the Moroccan Copyright Office (BMDAV). He began his career as an auditor before joining BMDAV in 2017, where he has since taken on positions of increasing responsibility. Today, he oversees royalty collection operations, contributes to the modernization of internal processes, and brings a cross-cutting expertise in collective copyright management. He also represents BMDAV in international forums such as the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations

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(IFRRO), and Societies' Council for the Collective Management of Performers' Rights (SCAPR). He holds a master's degree in management sciences.

NEPAL

SABITA KARKI

Sabita Karki is the Registrar of Nepal Copyright Registrar's Office at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation. She previously held roles as Chief Instructor at the Nepal Postal Training Centre; Under Secretary, Planning Section and NGOs/INGOs Coordination Section, at the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens, Nepal; Under Secretary, Administration, at the Language Commission; and Section Officer at various Government Departments of Nepal. She holds master's degrees in political science, public administration, and rural development and bachelor's degrees in law and education, all from Tribhuvan University Nepal. She has published articles in the Nepal Postal Training Centre's *The Post* on foreign employment, participation of women in public policy making and decision process, and an analysis of the situation of national and international nongovernmental organizations.

NIGERIA

SUNDAY OLUWASEUN POPOOLA

Sunday Oluwaseun Popoola is an Assistant Director at the Nigerian Copyright Commission, where he has served since 2007. He plays a strategic role in shaping and implementing copyright policies in the film, music, and publishing sectors. He manages the Office of the Chief Executive and provides guidance to stakeholders on their rights and obligations under the Copyright Act, fostering a balanced and responsive copyright system. Beyond his administrative duties, he has actively promoted inter-agency collaboration and built partnerships with corporate bodies to advance respect for intellectual property. His contributions include supporting enforcement measures to curb piracy, enhancing cooperation among government institutions, and strengthening the framework for protecting Nigeria's creative economy. Popoola holds a master's degree in public administration and has acquired nearly two decades of extensive experience in copyright administration, policy formulation, and stakeholder engagement. He has broadened his expertise through

professional development, on-the-job training, and through the online courses, including the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Distance Learning DL-101 (General Course on Intellectual Property) and DL-201 (Advanced Course on Copyright and Related Rights). His professional pursuits reflect a strong commitment to using intellectual property as a tool for national growth and sustainable development.

PARAGUAY

PEDRO SEGOVIA CABALLERO

Pedro Segovia Caballero is the Director of Promotion of Creative Industries and Folklore at the National Directorate of Intellectual Property of Paraguay (DINAPI) in Paraguay. He formerly served as Head of Substantive Examination Department, Directorate of Industrials Designs and Models and as a University Teaching Instructor. He holds a degree from the National University of Asuncion College of Law with a postgraduate specialization in civil law.

PHILIPPINES

EMERSON CUYO

Emerson Cuyo is the Director IV, Intellectual Property of Copyright and Related Rights in the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines. In this pioneering role, he has led the formulation and implementation of policies and programs that strengthen the protection of copyright and related rights while supporting the development of the Philippines' creative and cultural industries. He was also recently designated as Supervising Director of the IP Rights Enforcement Division, where he provides strategic direction in enhancing enforcement mechanisms against intellectual property violations. Through these concurrent functions, Cuyo contributes to IPOPHL's mission of fostering a balanced and inclusive intellectual property system that safeguards rights, promotes innovation, and advances the public interest. He likewise represents the Philippines in regional and international fora, including engagements with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), where he actively promotes dialogue and cooperation on copyright and enforcement.

PARTICIPANTS

SURINAME

DARREL U.G. PINAS

Darrel U.G. Pinas is the Chief Legal Officer at the Bureau of Intellectual Property of Suriname. He also serves as Lead External Logistic and Legal Consultant at Humus Consulting NV and has previously served as Senior Legal Officer at the Ministry of Trade and Industry (now known as the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation, Department of Legal Affairs and Intellectual Property Office).

Pinas holds an LLM and LLB from the Anton de Kom Universiteit Suriname and a certification by the “Centrum voor Democratie en Rechtspleging” (mandatory assessment and educational Institute for entering the Suriname Bar Association known as “de Surinaamse Orde van Advocaten”). He is skilled in formulating, developing, and drafting legal products and strategies, especially regarding Intellectual Property and Civil Law.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

JIHAN WILLIAMS-KNIGHT

Jihan Williams-Knight is the Registrar of the Intellectual Property Office in the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs of St. Kitts and Nevis. She holds a master’s degree in intellectual property law from Queen Mary University of London, with specializations in creative industries, international trade, and media regulation. As an author and spoken word poet, she has a deep love for art and has dedicated her life to creating art and helping other creative persons protect their works, especially Caribbean women.

UKRAINE

LIUBOV MAIDANYK

Liubov Maidanyk is the Deputy Director of the Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO), where she focuses on advancing copyright and related rights law, policy, legal development, and supporting creative industries in Ukraine. She also is the Chairman of the Appeals Commission of patent attorneys within the UANIPIO.

Maidanyk is an Associate Professor and holds a PhD in law, a master’s degree in IP from the Institute of Intellectual Property of the Odesa National Law

Academy, and a master’s degree in law from the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Maidanyk is a member of the Association Littéraire et Artistique Internationale (ALAI) and a member of the ethical and legal committee for the development of a national LLM.

Maidanyk has worked in the IP sphere for over ten years, including harmonizing Ukrainian legislation with EU standards. Her previous roles include Senior Lecturer in the Department of Civil Law and Legal Support for Tourism at Kyiv University of Tourism, Economics and Law; Assistant in the Department of Intellectual Property at the Faculty of Law at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; and Associate Professor in the Department of Intellectual Property and Information Law at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. She is the author of over fifty scientific and educational works on intellectual property topics.

ZAMBIA

KENNETH MUSAMVU

Kenneth Musamvu is a Zambian civil servant with nineteen years of extensive experience in copyright and intellectual property rights administration. He began his career as Registrar of Copyright in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services, where he played a key role in promoting and safeguarding the rights of creators and rights holders. He is currently serving as Manager, International Affairs and Copyright at the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA), where he oversees copyright administration and represents Zambia in regional and international intellectual property engagements. He is currently overseeing the review of the Copyright and Performance Rights Act, where a new Copyright and Related Rights Bill is being developed.

Musamvu holds a bachelor of laws (LLB) degree and a bachelor of mass communication degree from the University of Zambia and a master of intellectual property (MIP) from Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe. He has also participated in numerous specialized training programs on copyright and related rights, further strengthening his expertise in the field. His career reflects a strong commitment to advancing intellectual property systems and fostering creativity and innovation in Zambia and beyond.

