

WIPO STANDING COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS  
30th session: 29 June – 3 July, 2015

Statement of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Representative on  
Preservation

[SCCR/29/4: Consolidation of Proposed texts contained in Document SCCR/26/3](#)

**Preservation**

1. *“It shall be permitted for libraries and archives to reproduce published and unpublished works, or materials protected by related rights, regardless of their format, without the authorization of the copyright owner;*
2. *The copies made in accordance with paragraph (1) may be used in place of the original works or materials preserved or replaced, for purposes such as education, research and preservation of cultural heritage, and for the uses permitted by this instrument/treaty, in accordance with fair practice.*
3. *The reproduction referred to in paragraph (1) shall be made for non-profit uses, in the general interest of the public and for human development, without conflicting with the normal exploitation of the work or unreasonably prejudicing the legitimate interests of the author. This activity may be exercised in situ or remotely.”*

**Intervention:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Congratulations upon your re-election; your leadership has been critical and will continue to be critical to the open dialog that is necessary for this body.

I speak on behalf of the International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA), the international body representing over 650,000 library professionals in 150 countries.

IFLA supports the normative text contained in the consolidated document prepared by the African Group, Brazil, Ecuador, India and Uruguay - SCCR/29/4, and thanks these Member States for their efforts and support.

Preservation is one of the most critical, frequently-exercised, and widely approved activities of libraries and archives. Other colleagues will give specific examples of preservation challenges facing their institutions and constituencies. But I would like to open the discussion with a few general points:

First, not all preservation activities require copying – for example, deacidification of printed books. But many preservation activities do require copying. The critical point within the framework of this discussion is that copying for preservation is not for the purpose of creating additional copies for use, but solely for preservation.

Second, preservation standards and practices vary according to the medium being preserved. Preserving paper-based documents is different from preserving film, which is different from preserving digital files. The need for preservation exists in a variety of media and formats and may include the migration of content from obsolete storage formats to different formats. This is why the phrase in the consolidated text, “regardless of their format,” is essential.

Finally, and perhaps most important within this venue, libraries and archives must collaborate across borders to preserve the complete cultural heritage of peoples who have migrated, and whose recorded history exists in libraries and archives in multiple countries. Our colleague from the British Library gave some excellent, specific examples of this issue at our side [event on Tuesday](#), and you will hear additional examples at this session. These cross-border needs clearly require normative action at the international level: they **cannot** be resolved at the national level. We therefore remain mystified that some Member States continue to assert either that these challenges do not require a cross-border solution or that they are not important enough for SCCR to address.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.