



Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM)

Country Report Poland

Annual report to the IFLA CLM committee
Durban South Africa 2007

Copyright

Revision of copyright law

A several amendments to Copyright Act occurred during last year but not all affected libraries. In accordance with a ruling from the Constitutional Tribunal law will strengthen the intellectual rights of individuals and punish those who break copyright laws more rigorously. For infringing copyright law, the courts will be able to mete out a fine of up to three times the price of a license fee. Due to lobby activities of librarians and consumers organizations serious revision of TPMs were blocked. Ministry of Culture which administrates Copyright Law has decided to take more time for public consultation. Ministry announces also comprehensive revision Copyright Law.

New legislation

Legal deposit

Legal deposit is a subject of a big discussion amongst librarians, publishers and officials. According to current law seventeen libraries have a right to receive legal deposit copies of all publications issued in Poland. Publishers claim number of copies. Law needs also to be changed in order to apply to digital publications.

Revision of law

DRM (mentioned above)

Lobby activities

On behalf of Polish Librarians Association I prepared statement on proposal for amendment to Copyright Act. Statement was well received by organisations such as InfoSoc Poland and Creative Commons Poland. It was cited in several articles in press and librarians concerns were explained. As a matter of fact, for the first time legal issues concerning libraries were so recognized in press.

Strategic plans for future

Close cooperation with InfoSoc Poland in lobby activities.

Ministry of Culture has appointed a team of experts on Digital Libraries. This year sub-group responsible for copyright issue is going to be appointed. I received un-formal invitation to chair the group.