

Declaration of

“Motores para el cambio: Primer Encuentro Iberoamericano sobre Derecho de Autor y Tratado de Marrakech”

Leaders of national and parliamentary libraries from fifteen countries in Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, México, Panamá, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as well as Spain, represented by IFLA's President-Elect; met at the Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación Argentina in Buenos Aires on October 28 and 29, 2015, at the international seminar “Motores para el cambio: Primer Encuentro Iberoamericano sobre Derecho de Autor y Tratado de Marrakech.” IFLA and the Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación Argentina organized the seminar to discuss the need for updates to national and international copyright legislation to ensure that libraries and archives have the ability to fulfill their missions for their users and society.

At the seminar, the representatives shared their country's current situations in providing access to materials for the visually impaired and they shared the barriers and risks that libraries face every day when national copyright legislation lacks exceptions and limitations.

The participants of “Motores para el Cambio” recognize:

1. The importance of regaining balance between the right to access digital and analog information and copyright to ensure the free production and diffusion of knowledge and culture.
2. The need to urgently move forward copyright exceptions and limitations and associated laws in the Latin American and Caribbean region through national and international reform for the common good.
3. The value of collaboration between national libraries and library associations for their mutual benefit and to increase understanding of how copyright exceptions and limitations can benefit Latin American and Caribbean libraries.
4. That the scope of work IFLA is undertaking on copyright exceptions and limitations at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) requires the attention and support of libraries and national library associations.
5. The need to defend the public domain against the trend of extending the terms of copyright after the life of the author.

The participants agreed to the following actions:

- To seek collaboration with national library associations to raise awareness of libraries about the impact of copyright legislation on their products and services.
- To promote copyright law reform at national and international levels to enable access to knowledge, creativity and culture.
- To further collaborate with the Unión Latinoamericana de Ciegos by establishing a regional joint working group to promote the endorsement and implementation of the Marrakech Treaty in Latin American and Caribbean countries.
- To raise awareness among national representatives to WIPO about the need for copyright exceptions and limitations, in particular to ensure cross-border access for libraries.
- To solicit our governments so that IFLA is included in WIPO's intellectual property training, particularly for the WIPO ESGAE course directed to Latin America.
- To endorse IFLA's agenda to adopt an international instrument at WIPO that establishes copyright exceptions and limitations and associated laws for the benefit of libraries and archives.