

**WIPO Member States Call for an International Instrument at
Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar in Singapore**

**Regional Seminar for the Asia Pacific Group on Libraries, Archives, Museums and
Educational & Research Institutions in the Field of Copyright
Singapore, 29-30 April 2019**

WIPO member states made explicit calls for an international instrument on exceptions and limitations for libraries, archives, museums, research, and education in three of the four sub-regional working groups at the Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar in Singapore.

Western Asia

“There is a need to lobby for an international instrument with more precise and simpler terminology to find more balance between authors’ monopolistic rights and contributions to society with the aim of enhancing the fair digital distribution of works, and enabling use of exceptions and limitation.”¹

Members of the working group: Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Syria, United Arab Emirates.

ASEAN and others

“Some members called for an international treaty as a useful guide for the domestic legislation process.”

Members of the working group: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.

South Asia

“If we have some sort of convention or instrument giving guidelines on these issues and planning at the regional or sub-regional level, we can get progress. We also need a cross-border convention. The Berne Convention covers this slightly, but given that the world has gone global, the changes to laws have not been made commensurate with the global changes. We should have some laws and regulations that allow for access to international data, with some legitimate possibilities for cross-border uses. Students need fair pricing for educational purposes. Preservation is imperative; we need to make all efforts to mitigate risks.”

Members of the working group: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

¹ All quotations based on notes taken by observers.