



Creative Commons statement on Using Copyright to Promote Access to Information and Creative Content at CDIP/9 (Geneva, May 2012); prepared but not delivered.

Thank you Mr Chairman.

We would like to congratulate the Secretariat for commissioning such a thorough and important report. Creative Commons believes that copyright can indeed be used to promote access to information and creative content. The issue of access to knowledge is of considerable importance to WIPO's work on development, and particularly in achieving its work on the Development Agenda.

There is a lot to discuss from each of the three papers that constitute the report. As a small comment on format, we would have liked to have had the recommendations adequately numbered, as at the moment it is a bit difficult to refer to specific items in a concise manner.

Having said that, we would like to encourage the prompt implementation of the following recommendations:

1. From Part I, we echo the call to have more work at WIPO that informs, educates and promotes Open Access for education and research.
2. From Part II, we second the call for WIPO should include open source licensing and IPR issues in technical training. We are fully aware that this is already taking place, but we would like other open content licensing tools to be included, not just for software. This would include Creative Commons and other open content licensing.
3. From Part III, we share the report's assessment that many member states do not have any laws and/or policies promoting access to and re-use of government information. This is a situation that has to be reversed, so we agree wholeheartedly with recommendation 2, which states that: "Governments should be encouraged to clear the copyright status of public sector information and other intellectual property rights that might prevent the public from accessing and re-using public sector information. Governments might consider implementing one of three models: (1) placing all public sector information in the public domain; (2) excluding only official acts from copyright protection and allowing re-use of other types of public sector information under permissive (open) licenses, or (3) protecting all public sector information but allowing re-use through copyright waivers or permissive (open) licenses."

Thank you.