

NCC NOTICEBOARD

Nigerian
Copyright
Commission



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Nigeria endorses Beijing Treaty for Protection of Audiovisual Performances

NIGERIA is now signatory to the Beijing Treaty for the Protection of Audiovisual Performances with effect from June 25, 2012.

Director-General of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Mr. Afam Ezekude endorsed the treaty on behalf of Nigeria during the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances held in

DG'S OFFICE NEWS

Beijing, China, from June 20 to 26, 2012.

The Director-General, who led the Nigerian delegation, indicated that the treaty made provisions for strengthening the economic rights of film actors and other performers with a view to boosting their income from their creative works.

According to him, the Treaty would enable performers to share with producers the revenue generated internationally from audiovisual productions.

The Treaty, he added, also grants performers the moral rights to prevent lack of attribution or distortion of their performances.

The Director-General stated that WIPO has noted the importance that member-states attached to the subject-matter of the Treaty, considering the attendance of Conference by 156 member-states of WIPO, which reckoned it as the highest level of participation ever at a WIPO Diplomatic Conference.

The Director, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCI), Mr. John Asein, was on the Nigerian delegation to the Conference.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS

Copyright Commission takes piracy zero- tolerance policy to Alaba Market

THE Nigerian Copyright



Director, Public Affairs Department (DPA), Sir Charles O. Obi, speaking on "NCC's Zero Tolerance for Piracy" during the talk-shop in Alaba

Commission (NCC) has taken its outreach programme to traders in Alaba International Market, Lagos with the aim of creating awareness on the ills of piracy and NCC's zero tolerance policy on piracy.

The interaction between officials of the Commission and stakeholders of International Market Association (IMA) Alaba, tagged "NCC Zero Tolerance for Piracy", was held in form of a talk-shop on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, at the main hall of the Electronic Towers in Alaba,

with many key stakeholders in the Electronics and Fancy Furniture segments of the market in copyright owners; it also undermined national economic development.



The DPA displays an anti-piracy campaign poster at the talk-shop

attendance.

The Director, Public Affairs Department of NCC, Sir Charles Olisaeloka Obi, assured all genuine stakeholders that pirates would find it difficult to operate as a result of the Commission's on-going enforcement interventions.

He stated that the illegal exploitation of copyright works known as piracy was a crime and emphasised that the vision of the Commission under the charge of the Director-General, Mr. Afam Ezekude, remained "enforcement, enforcement, enforcement."

Noting that piracy was a theft condemned by all religions, cultures and societies, the Director, Public Affairs stressed that the Commission remained committed to its zero-tolerance for piracy, adding that it would continue to carry out its mandate through anti-piracy campaigns such as the one that took place in Alaba International Market.

According to him, copyright piracy did not only constitute a hindrance to the continued productivity of

He urged pirates to disengage from further acts of piracy before the law would catch up with them, adding that the Commission would work hand-in-hand with the genuine traders in Alaba in order to expose the bad ones. "If you know anyone still indulging in this illegal business, let us

know so that we will pick him up. I know some of you who are very honest and we are counting on you to help us in this struggle," he stated.

The Director enjoined the IMA Anti-piracy Task Force to collaborate with the Commission's Lagos Operational Office and gave assurance that the Commission was taking steps to stop security operatives from aiding and abetting pirates in and around Alaba Market.

He expressed concern that, "people that have been arrested in Kano, Sokoto, Onitsha and other parts of the country would tell us they got pirated

materials from Alaba and most of them would say you (marketers) don't give them receipts so that goods purchased would not be traced to where they were bought".

He underscored the ills of piracy as an illegal business which allowed a pirate to reap where he or she had not sown.

"Some of these creators of intellectual property take loans from banks to produce these works. How do you expect them to recoup their investment and pay back the loans?" the Director queried.

He admonished the Alaba traders to avoid piracy: "Stop buying, producing and marketing pirated goods because everywhere around the world, Alaba has been known to be notorious. You need a good public relations man to turn the image of Alaba around, if you have really changed."

He assured that the Commission would protect both locally produced and foreign works. "Our own works are protected in foreign countries, so why won't we protect theirs? I am begging you now to stop; if you don't and you are caught, we will also not listen to



Chairman, IMA Alaba, Chief Dr. Celestine Ezeani, delivering his welcome address while the DPA, Sir Charles O. Obi (m) and an executive of IMA, Alaba, look on

your pleas. The same shop you use in pirating people's works, you can use it to do legitimate business and make good money from it," he said.

In his remarks, the NCC Lagos Office Zonal Manager, Barrister obvious that these guys do not have an idea of what they are doing.”



Pirated optical discs estimated at N15million, seized by IMA Alaba Anti-piracy Task Force being publicly burnt after the talk-shop

Chris Nkwocha urged the traders and the market's Antipiracy Task Force to collaborate with the Commission by providing it with useful information on the activities of pirates in the market.

Earlier, in his welcome address, the Chairman of International Market Association, Alaba, Chief Celestine Ezeani, had disclosed that: "As soon as I assumed office, I told the pirates that it was not going to be business as usual and it has remained that way. They are occupying neighbouring houses to carry out their criminal activities".

The association's chairman pointed out that: "The same machines used for genuine works are the same machines used for pirated works, because I have heard of cases where some churches give jobs to these boys and they do it genuinely. Even some of these musicians do the same. I have heard of an incident where a pirate said that the law enforcement agency had been embarrassing him just when he decided to do this one 'genuine' business, which is piracy. It is

street value of N15million, which were seized by the Alaba Anti-piracy Task Force, were burnt.

The Personal Assistant to the Director-General on Enforcement and Prosecution, Mr. Peters Udomiaye, was among the NCC officials in attendance.

PROSECUTION NEWS

Genuss Investment Ltd convicted of software piracy, fined N11,100.00

GENUSS

Investment Ltd has been convicted of software piracy and sentenced to a fine of N11,000.00 by the Federal High Court, Benin.

Justice Idris J. of Federal High Court Lagos, delivering judgement in a piracy case, FHC/L/460C/11, NCC vs Genuss Investment Ltd, IMA in Alaba instituted by Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), convicted and sentenced the accused company on information on June 16, 2012.

The Commission was represented by Senior Copyright Officer, Douglas Najime, Esq. as prosecution counsel. No defence counsel.

2 optical disc pirates bag 6 months imprisonment each without fine

THE Federal High Court, Benin, has sentenced two persons, Okereke Uchenna and Ndidi Agwu, to six months imprisonment each without the option of fine, upon their conviction in separate cases of sound recording and cinematograph film piracy preferred against them by the Nigerian Copyright



Zonal Manager, Lagos Operational Office, Barr. Chris Nkwocha, makes a remark while the Personal Assistant (Enforcement/Prosecution) to DG NCC, Mr Peters Udomiaye (l) and , Chief Dr. Celestine Ezeani , listen

Commission (NCC).

In a judgement delivered on June 26, 2012 in Benin, the Court

convicted and sentenced one the option of payment of N18, following the lapse of the March 31, 2012 deadline issued them by the Commission to regularize their operations.

In another judgement delivered on in case No. FHC/B/23C/12, NCC vs CHUKWU ARISI and ANOTHER, the Court convicted the pirates and sentenced them to three months imprisonment or a fine of N17, 000.00 each.



Chairman, Music Label Owners Association and representative of Nigerian Music Industry Coalition, Mr. Ajayi Joel, explaining a point while two executives of IMA Alaba listen

AGWU.

NCC prosecution counsel in both cases was Chief Copyright Officer, Mike Okezie Madueke, Esq. No defence counsel.

3 sound recording pirates get 3 months imprisonment each

THE Federal High Court, Benin, delivering judgement in separate cases instituted by Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), convicted three persons of sound recording and film piracy, sentenced them to three months imprisonment each and imposed various sums as option of fine.

In case No. FHC/B/26C/12, NCC vs STEPHEN IGWE, the Court in a judgement on June 20, 2012, convicted and sentenced the pirate to three months imprisonment or

NCC prosecution counsel in both cases was Chief Copyright Officer, Mike Okezie Madueke, Esq. No defence counsel.

REGULATORY NEWS

Copyright Commission sanctions 7 optical disc plants

The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has sanctioned seven Optical Disc Plants for various operational irregularities in violations of the Nigerian Copyright Act 2004 and the Copyright Optical Discs Plants Regulations 2006.

Sanction letters were issued to the erring plants in June 2012

fine of N17, 000.00 each.

In a similar judgement on June 22, 2012, in case No. FHC/B/60C/12, NCC vs OGO ABEL, the Court

convicted the pirate and sentenced him to three months imprisonment with the option of N15, 000.00 fine.

According to him, the registration of two mastering plants, Ecomax Media Technology and De-Mastering Technology Service Ltd, was withdrawn while that of a replicating plant, Magnet Integrated Ventured Ltd, was also terminated. The three plants were consequently ordered to dismantle their production facilities due to nonfunctioning of the plants for over one year in violation of existing regulations.

The Commission, he stated, suspended the operations of Dallah



A cross section of participants applauding during the NCC talk-shop in Alaba Market

Music International Ltd, due to non-renewal of its registration while CVL Technologies Ltd and Quartz Digital Ltd, both replicating plants, as well as Innotech

Independent Glass Masters Ltd were fined N250,000.00 each for late renewal of registration for the year 2012.

303 Copyright Notification certificates issued in June 2012

A total of 303 Acknowledgements of Copyright Notification were issued by the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) in June 2012. Out of these, 238 certificates issued were based on the backlog of applications between August 2011 and May 2012 but successfully processed in June this year.

The Commission received 118 applications but processed a cumulative total of 316 applications for copyright notification in June 2012. Thirteen (13) out of the applications processed were queried for various irregularities while 40 out of the 118 applications received late in June 2012 were deferred for processing in July 2012.

Acting Head of Regulatory Department, Mr. Mike Akpan, who disclosed this in a report in Abuja, gave a breakdown of the 303 notification acknowledgments issued as 118 for literary

for cinematograph works; and in respect of transfer of rights, five for literary works, four for film, three for sound recording and two for artistic works.

He gave a further breakdown of the 118

applications received and processed in June 2012 at the NCC Headquarters, Abuja and from Zonal and Liaison Offices as 40 from Abuja, 23 from Enugu, 20 from Uyo, 18 from Kano, 8 from Ibadan, 7 from Lagos and 2 from Port Harcourt.

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

8 staff members redeployed

FIVE members of staff of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) have been redeployed across the



An interactive session during a training programme for staff of DAAR Communications by Nigerian Copyright Institute (NCI)

in June 2012.

Director, Administration Department, Mrs. D.A.D. Osahon, JP, who revealed in Abuja, stated that the Director-General, NCC, Mr. Afam Ezekude, approved the redeployment with a view to improving the copyright knowledge and performance of the affected staff members.

Those affected were Mr. Obi Betrand Ezeilo, Assistant Director, Prosecution, moved with effect from June 29, 2012 from the Head Office in Abuja to Lagos Operational Office; and Chief Copyright Officer, Mr. Elijah Akpan, former Zonal Manager, Yola Office, who was transferred to the Onitsha Zonal Office with effect from June 7, 2012. Also redeployed were Mr. Aminu S. Sani, Copyright Officer II, from Kano to Kaduna on June 18; and Mr. Amos O. Abutu, Copyright Officer II, posted from Bauchi to Makurdi on June 13.



Director Human Resources DAAR Communications Plc, Mrs. Ogah Oneze (L) makes a contribution during the training, while Mr. Augustine A. Amodu, Acting Head, Enforcement, NCC; Mrs. Dupe Oladeinde, Director Northern Operations, DAAR Communications Plc and Mr. Aderemi Adewusi, Deputy Director, NCI, listen

works, 92 for sound recording, 79 Headquarters and some Zonal Offices while two others were

Three staff members involved in internal

redeployment at the Head Office, Abuja with effect from June 25, 2012, were Mrs Omoyemi Esan, Senior Copyright Officer), posted from Prosecution

Department to Regulatory Department and Mrs. Justina O. Nkatah,

Chief Clerical Officer, moved from Director-General's Office to Prosecution Department.

All the officers have reported at their new duty posts.

Two officers resign their appointments

THE Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Mr. Afam Ezekude, has approved the voluntary resignation of two officers of the Commission, Mr. Ahmed Mukhtar Dan-Baba, Assistant Director (Kano Office) and Mr. Shittu Jibril, Chief Copyright Officer (Lagos Office).

The Director of Administration, NCC, Mrs. D.A.D Osahon, JP, who announced this in Abuja, informed that Mr. Dan-Baba's resignation took effect from June 8, 2012 while Mr. Jibril resigned with effect from June 2, 2012.

According to her, the officers were Development

Results and

Inventions for the Market" held in Abuja from June 6 to 8, 2012.

The Planning, Research and Statistics (PRS)

not indebted to the Commission.

PRS NEWS

Universities urged to prioritise IP study for national development

NIGERIAN universities have been charged to prioritise the study and application of intellectual property as a basis for boosting national

Department of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) participated in the workshop organised by the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) in partnership with the Islamic Education, scientific and cultural organization (ISESCO).

The workshop, declared open by the Minister of Science and Technology, Prof. Okon Bassey Ewa, also called for focus on development of science and technology to fast-track all facets of our national development.

The workshop emphasised that in line with the present administration's Transformation Agenda and Vision 20:2020, appropriate packaging of research and development (R&D) results has a role in wealth creation through

economic development.

industrial and economic

This was part of the development.

recommendations of a workshop on Acting Head, PRS Department of "Packaging Research and NCC, Mr. Bitrus Dauda, who



A resource person from Standard Chartered Bank, Mr. John Ode, makes a presentation on "Financial Planning and Employee Banking" to Headquarters staff of Nigerian Copyright Commission in June 2012. Listening, seated on the right are: (L-R) Sir Charles O Obi Director, Public Affairs; Mr. Jacob Sunday Fagbemi, Director and Legal Adviser and Mr. Vincent A. Oyefeso, Asst. Director, Public Affairs. Seated on the left are: (L-R) Mrs. Amina Abdulazeez, Deputy Director, PRS; Mr. Mike Obasi, Director, Finance and Accounts. Standing next is Ms. Jane Edu, Deputy Director, Admin, and other



Standard Chartered Bank representative responds to a question. Standing (L) is Director, Admin, Mrs DAD Osahon, JP while seated (L-R) are Director, NCI, Mr. John Asein; Assist. Director, Enforcement, Mr. Jackson Ekwere; Deputy Director, PRS, Mrs. Amina Abdulazeez and Director, Finance and Accounts, Mr. Mike Obasi, and other participants

disclosed this in Abuja, stated that the purpose of the workshop was to underscore the importance of appropriate packaging of R&D results and inventions to attract investors for the benefit industries. The Acting Head of PRS, who led the Commission's delegation at the workshop, added that the workshop also aimed at building the capacity of researchers in packaging their R&D results and inventions for the maximum benefit of the country. A Senior Copyright Officer I, Mrs Olamide Daniels, also attended the workshop.

INTERNAL AUDIT NEWS

Audit Unit verifies NCC assets by June 2012

THE Internal Audit Unit of has ascertained and documented the total cost of the assets of the Nigerian Copyright Commission



Director, Nigerian Copyright Institute (NCI), Mr. John Asein responding to questions while participants listen

(NCC) as at June, 2012.

Internal Auditor of NCC, Mr. Effiong O. Nkereuwem, who disclosed this in a report in Abuja, stated that the net worth of the cost

of the Commission's assets were use of broadcast contents by Daar broken into land and building, plant and machinery, motor vehicles, furniture and fittings, office equipment and books.



A cross section of participants listen as a Standard Chartered Bank resource person makes a presentation on the bank's financial planning packages. Seated are: (L-R) Sir Charles O Obi Director, Public Affairs; Mr. Jacob Sunday Fagbemi, Director and Legal Adviser; Mr. Vincent A. Oyefeso, Asst. Director, Public Affairs; Mr. Idowu Ogunkuade, Deputy Director, Legal; Mr. Bitrus Dauda, Acting Head, PRS; and Mr. Mike Akpan, SA to DG, NCC/Acting Head, Regulatory

NCI NEWS

Daar Communications Pls to create unit for copyright compliance

DIRECTOR-GENERAL, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Mr. Afam Ezekude has called for increased media support for copyright protection just as the Management of Daar Communications PLC signaled its willingness to create a copyright clearance unit to develop a corporate copyright policy for ensuring the best copyright practices in its media operations.

The proposed copyright unit of Daar

Communications would collaborate with the NCC in

carrying out its mandate which would include the prevention and management of infringement and related issues in the generation and

Communications PLC.

The Director of Human Resources of Daar Communications, Mrs. Ogee Onazi, gave indication on plans to set up the copyright unit during the training of members of staff of the media house by Nigerian Copyright Institute (NCI) on June 6, 2012 at the headquarters of Daar Communications Plc, in Abuja, FCT.

In his remarks during the training with the theme, "Copyright Content Users and Content Providers", the Director-General, NCC, who was represented by the Commission's Director of Public Affairs, Sir Charles O. Obi, called on Daar Communications and other media houses partnering with the NCC to engage in active sensitization and education of the public on the values of copyright protection and the need to embrace the culture of respect for creativity.

He urged the participants to maximise the benefits of the training in improving their copyright competence in the performance of their duties and the awareness of the teeming audience of their media organisation.

The Director of NCI, an arm of the NCC, Mr. John Asein, delivered the first lecture entitled, “*An Overview of subsistence ownership and Infringement of Copyright in Broadcast in Nigeria*”, while treating the topics: *Nature of Copyright; Eligible Subject-matter; Criteria for Protection; Duration; Authorship and Ownership; Infringements; Exceptions to Copyright Control; and Actions and Remedies.*

Director Public Affairs, NCC, Sir Charles O. Obi, based his lecture on “*Exploring Media Partnership for Enhanced Copyright Awareness*”, treated such topic as: *What is Copyright?; Mass Media; Why Partnership with Mass Media?; Challenges Facing NCC in Actualizing its Mandate; Ills of Piracy; NCC's Public Relations Strategies; Ignorance, Apathy, Prejudice and Hostility.*

The Deputy Director, Enforcement, NCC, Mr. Augustine A. Amodu, spoke on “*Copyright Enforcement in Nigeria*” and treated the topics: *Functions of Enforcement; Powers of the Commission/Copyright inspectors; Piracy, Industries and Persons Affected by Broadcast Piracy; Effects of Broadcast Piracy; and Challenges/Success/Way forward.*

A Senior Copyright Officer, Regulatory, NCC, Mr Kunle Olatunji, who spoke on the title, “*Collective Management of Copyright: Implications for*

Broadcasting”, treated the topics: *Historical Background of Collective Management of Copyright; Basic Concept and Characteristics of Collective Management; Antecedence of*



Group photograph of participants and facilitators of the DAAR Communications training. [4th L, 1st row]: Sir Charles O Obi, Director, Public Affairs, NCC; Mr. John Asein Director, NCI; Mrs. Ogah Oneze, Director Human Resources, DAAR Communications Plc and Mr Adaremi Adewusi, Deputy Director NCI [3rd R]

in Nigeria; Regulation of Collective Management of Copyright; Implications of Collective Management of Copyright for Broadcasting Industry; and Licensing Scenario for CMOs.

Earlier, the Director of Northern Operations of Daar Communications Plc, Mrs Dupe Oladeinde, had, in her welcome address, noted the significance of the training in boosting the job performance of the participants as content users and providers.

NCI affirms commitment to continuous staff training

THE Nigerian Copyright Institute (NCI), a training arm of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), has reiterated its commitment to sustained manpower development

for the Commission through continuous staff training in critical areas of skills acquisition relevant to enhancing the actualisation of its mandate.

The Director, NCI, Mr. John Asein, who was represented by the Institute's Deputy Director, Mr. Aderemi Adewusi, stated this in Abuja, on June 28, 2012, while declaring open the second part of an in-house training programme for some staff members on Computer Appreciation and System Management.

The Director urged the participants to take the best advantage of the training in improving on their job performance, adding that the training would provide them with adequate information on the dynamics and uses of the computer in the course of their duties.

The resource person, Mr. Adebajo Odugbesan, Executive Officer, Accounts, made presentations on the topics: *Wireless Security and USB Security; Attacks and Threats/Viruses; and Software Application.*

The training was attended by 16 participants drawn from the NCI, Administration Department, Regulatory Department and Legal Unit.

The first leg of the training was held on May 9, 2012.

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VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS OF NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION (NCC)

VISION

To harness the potentials of creativity for national development.

MISSION

To advance the growth of the creative industry in Nigeria through the dissemination of copyright knowledge, efficient administration and protection of rights.

STRATEGIES

- Strengthen the policy and legislative framework for a more effective copyright protection.
- Increase the level of copyright awareness;
- Promote effective and proactive enforcement of rights;
- Strengthen human resource and institutional capacity for better service delivery;
- Maintain a policy of strategic engagement with stakeholders.

CORE VALUES

The Commission is guided by the following core values:

C – COMMITMENT:	Commitment to the mandate.
O – OPENNESS:	Openness and transparency.
R – RESPONSIVENESS:	Responsiveness to stakeholder needs.
E – EFFICIENCY:	Efficiency in service delivery