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ASIA-PACIFIC BROADCASTING UNION
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

• ASBU

ARAB STATES BROADCASTING UNION
- Tunis, Tunisia

• AUB

AFRICAN UNION OF BROADCASTING
- Dakar, Senegal

• CBU

CARIBBEAN BROADCASTING UNION
- St. Michael, Barbados

• EBU

EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION
- Geneva, Switzerland

• IAB

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTING
- Montevideo, Uruguay

• NABA

NORTH AMERICAN
BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION
- Toronto, Canada

Statement of the World Broadcasting Unions (WBU) to SCCR 45 Meeting on the proposed WIPO Broadcasting Treaty (WBT)

The WBU, representing broadcasting organizations from all regions of the world, are united in this statement to be presented to SCCR 45.

The updating of protections for broadcast signals has been under discussion at WIPO since 1997, following updating of the protections of other rights owners by WIPO treaties in 1996. Protection of broadcast signals under the Rome Convention of 1961 is obsolete in the 21st century. A new international treaty must protect broadcast signals in the modern, digital communications environment where piracy is ever-increasing, damaging broadcasting organizations and all creators contributing to broadcasting.

In 2019, on the recommendation of the SCCR, the General Assembly directed the SCCR to continue its work towards convening a Diplomatic Conference. In November 2023, Member States discussed the Third Revised Text of the WIPO Broadcasting Treaty (document SCCR/44/3). The new Draft WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty (document SCCR/45/3) incorporates comments provided by the Member States with a view to finding an agreement within the WIPO Committee. The WBU welcomes and supports the Draft Treaty text as generally reflecting their objectives for updating the international protection of broadcast signals and providing a sufficient framework for final negotiations at a Diplomatic Conference.

The WBU supports the Draft Treaty text as a framework for final work preparing a Basic Treaty Proposal for the purpose of final negotiations at a Diplomatic Conference.

The WBU urges Member States at SCCR 45 to make a recommendation to the WIPO General Assembly to convene a Diplomatic Conference in 2025 for the adoption of a WIPO Broadcasting Treaty.