



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

Agenda item: exceptions and limitations

SCCR, 38th Session. April 3, 2019

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has been actively engaged in discussions about exceptions and limitations for libraries since SCCR took up this topic a decade ago. It was therefore with great enthusiasm and gratitude that we noted DG Gurry's remarks on Monday indicating that L&Es for libraries, archives and museums are mature enough that area where progress can now be anticipated. We agree.

Twice in the past few years, IFLA has engaged librarians from various regions of the world in focused conversation about the ways in which current copyright regimes could be improved to facilitate their public service work. These conversations, coupled with the comprehensive studies SCCR commissioned from Professor Kenneth Crews, have formed the basis for the modest list of exceptions and limitations we have espoused at SCCR.

Today, we are deeply grateful to SCCR's Member States and Secretariat for approving and organizing the 3 regional seminars that will provide fresh opportunities in the next few months for practitioners in the field to be heard. Librarians are proud to be trusted guardians of, and guides to, the print and digital record comprising our global information system. We are keen to embrace new possibilities to work across borders to meet users' needs.

We look to the Member States in this body to listen to the reasonable concerns of library practitioners in all regions of the world, and to take appropriate action to facilitate our professional commitment to preserve and make knowledge accessible for all.

Thank you, Mr. Chair