



• ABU

ASIA-PACIFIC BROADCASTING UNION
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

• AIR/IAB

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTING
- Montevideo, Uruguay

• 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

• NABA

NORTH AMERICAN
BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION
- Toronto, Canada

Statement of the World Broadcasting Unions (WBU) to SCCR 42 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 42.

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 Protection of broadcast signals under the Rome Convention of 1961 is obsolete in the 21st century digital communications environment.

In 2019, on the recommendation of the SCCR, the General Assembly directed the SCCR to continue its work towards convening a Diplomatic Conference stating:

“In view of the steady progress made in recent SCCR sessions, the GA invites the SCCR to continue its work towards convening a diplomatic conference for the adoption of a treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations, aiming for the 2020/2021 biennium, subject to Member States reaching consensus in the SCCR on the fundamental issues, including specific scope, object of protection and rights to be granted.” (WO/GA/51/5Rev)

After delay during the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2021 text-based work was resumed by the Acting SCCR Chair and the SCCR Vice-Chair at the “Friends of the Chair” group, and the “Revised Draft Text of the WIPO Treaty on Broadcasting Organizations” was published in March 2022 as SCCR 42/3.

The World’s Broadcasting Organizations support the Revised Draft Text as generally reflecting their objectives for updated international protection of broadcast signals, and they urge Member States to support it as the basis for final work for preparation of a basic proposal for a Diplomatic Conference to finally adopt a treaty.

Specifically, the WBU requests that the SCCR:

- **Commit to work to finalize a draft treaty text suitable to become a Basic Proposal for a Diplomatic Conference by the end of this year, planning such additional work in dedicated meetings as necessary;**
- **Recommend to the WIPO General Assembly to convene a Diplomatic Conference in 2023 for adoption of a WIPO Broadcasting Treaty (WBT) conditional on a consensus draft treaty text being finalized by the SCCR.**