

Collective Administration of Performers' Rights and Piracy in Africa

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Noting that within the field of intellectual property rights, a new African context has emerged, with numerous national laws currently being modified to protect performers and a new impetus for collective management. Given the constant increase in the international use of African musicians and the wish to develop local production, determining the content of contracts entered into by African artists and musicians represents an important element of union action, including documents which have to enable identification of musicians who participate collectively in recording sessions. In addition, copyright collecting societies, in the present context, will be given collective management for performers' rights, which could provide a fresh impetus in the fight against piracy. Regional coordination on legal suits should make it possible to intervene against those who run cassette production plants in a few African countries or against importers of cassettes produced illegally outside the African continent.

The Congress decides to support the actions of the FIM African Committee with regards to performers' rights and in particular regional or sub-regional coordination of measures against piracy and instigation of standard contracts which enable viable implementation of rights.