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PRESIDENT  
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE & SECRETARY GENERAL  
Caroline MORGAN

**Ms María Lorena Gutiérrez Botero**  
**Minister of Commerce,**  
**Industry and Tourism**  
**Mr Guillermo Rivera Flórez**  
**Minister of the Interior**

11/12/2017

### CONCERNING THE BILL 146 OF 2017

Dear legislators,

The Bill 146 of 2017 that would modify the Law 23 of 1982 has been drawn to our attention. We are especially concerned about the text in Article 14 on limitations and exceptions to the copyright and related rights. The proposal is for the Senate to consider a limitation and exception to the sharing and make available of copyrighted written works for all levels of education. We and our members, representing authors, publishers and visual artists in over 76 countries around the world strongly oppose this proposal.

The above mentioned measure would have a severe impact on the publishing industry of Colombia, which is the third most important of the continent. The publishers producing technical and scientific texts would be the most affected together with Colombian authors. The proposal would cause a severe drop in the income from secondary uses that they receive from the Collective Management Organisations.

Additionally, the proposed Bill would also affect foreign rightholders given the International agreements signed with them. Finally and most importantly, the Bill 146 of 2017 would violate the Book Law 98 of 1993, the Andean Decision 351 and the Berne Convention.

IFRRO, the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations, the main international network of collective management organisations and creators' and publishers' associations in the text and image spheres, would like to invite Colombian legislators to consider the importance of the creative industries to the Colombian economy, which according to World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) is 3.30%, while the share of employment is 5.80%<sup>1</sup> and pass legislation which enables this industry to further develop to benefit the Colombian society.

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[http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/copyright/en/performance/pdf/economic\\_contribution\\_analysis\\_2014.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/copyright/en/performance/pdf/economic_contribution_analysis_2014.pdf)

International  
Federation of  
Reproduction  
Rights  
Organisations



If you wish to learn more about Collective Management Organisations around the world, how they contribute to the livelihood of authors and publishers and their significant contribution to the flourishing of local cultures, we will gladly take you on that journey and share more information with you about the role they play in securing access to content and enabling compensation to authors and publishers.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rainer Just'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Rainer Just  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Caroline Morgan'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Caroline Morgan  
CEO