

BA A2K Platform Newsletter

Non Periodic Issue (10)

November 2010



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Creative Commons in the Arab World in Arabic

By Hala Essalmawi

The Creative Commons (CC) in the Arab world was initiated by two Jordanian lawyers, Ziad Maraqa and Rami Olwan at Abou Ghazala Law Firm. They started working on the translation of the first Arabic CC License in 2004, and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) inaugurated the discussion on the CC and its importance to the Arab world since June 2005.

After the [Digitally Open](#) conference in Doha, last October, a regional meeting was held for members of CC communities and project leads, from Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Syria and UAE, with CC staff including Joi Ito, CEO and Diane Peters, General Counsel. The meeting was generously sponsored by [ictQatar](#).

The main achievement of this meeting was the standardization of terminology of the main CC terms in Arabic including the name of the license itself “Al Mashaa Ebdai” المشاع الإبداعي.

This means that there will be an unported Arabic license, and that the terms and name of the licenses used in the 22 Arabic-speaking countries will be unified.

It was also announced in the meeting that the Egyptian CC license will be available soon. The Process of the launch is in full swing.

If you would like to participate, share, or sponsor the Egyptian CC license launching, please contact the project lead at: (a2k@bibalex.org)



Facilitating Access to Culture in the Digital Age - WIPO Global Meeting on Emerging Copyright Licensing Modalities

The Global Meeting on Emerging Copyright Licensing Modalities Took place on November 4 and 5, 2010, at the WIPO's headquarters in Geneva. The event was organized in the framework of the Development Agenda Thematic Project on Intellectual Property and Competition Policy . The BA A2K Project Lead [participated](#) in the event.

For more info click [here](#)

Latest Events

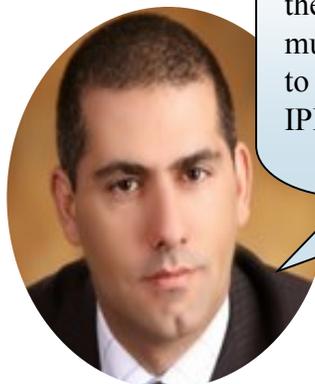
Guidelines for Researchers Workshop

27 September 2010 - 30 September 2010

In cooperation with TWAS-ARO, DAAD, Elsevier, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Legal Department; the Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP) has organized a workshop focused on three main topics: Proposal Writing and Research Promotion, Author Skills and Publishing, and Intellectual Property Rights. The IPR sessions gave a general introduction about IP laws with more details about patent and copyright. The participants had the chance to discuss the relation between IP and development, patent and research, and the exceptions and limitations to copyright. In addition they worked on some study cases in the mentioned topics beside open access, Creative Commons and free and open software.



“Intellectual Property rights became an element of the New World Trade system”



“The balance of IP protection is leaning more in favor of IPRs holders at the expense of public interest. This must be urgently addressed in order to achieve the genuine objectives of IPRs protection.”



“With due respect to our international obligations and national copyright laws, it is our role to dream, seek, ask and work for an intellectual property system that provides proper balance between the rights of right holders and the rights of society to access, use and disseminate knowledge which in turn promotes innovation and creativity”

Latest IP-A2K Publications

Access to Knowledge in the Age of Intellectual Property

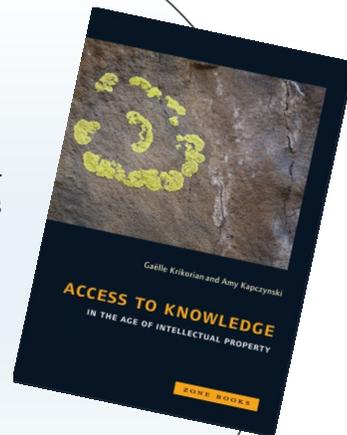
By Gaëlle Krikorian and Amy Kapczynski

Since their emergence on the international scene, developing countries have sought to reform and adapt global rules regulating the generation and dissemination of knowledge to take into consideration their specific socioeconomic circumstances and levels of development. Their participation in what is now known as the access to knowledge (A2K) movement is part of their effort to achieve this objective.

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"Whenever there is a conflict between human rights and property rights, human rights must prevail."

Abraham Lincoln

Access to knowledge in Africa The role of copyright

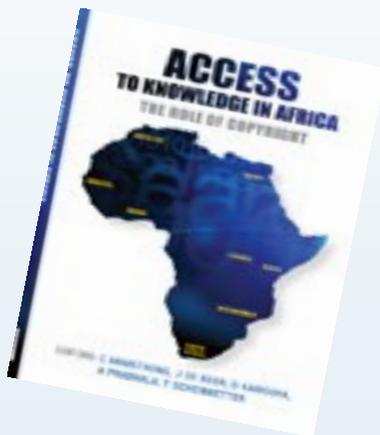
By C Armstrong, J De Beer, D Kawooya, A Prabhala, T Schonwetter

Egypt is located in the northeast corner of Africa and has a strategic geographic position connecting the Mediterranean Sea with the Indian Ocean. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the Red Sea to the east, Sudan to the south and Libya to the west. Egypt is the world's 38th largest country, covering an area of about 1 001 450 km².

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Intellectual Property and Human Development: Current Trends and Future Scenarios

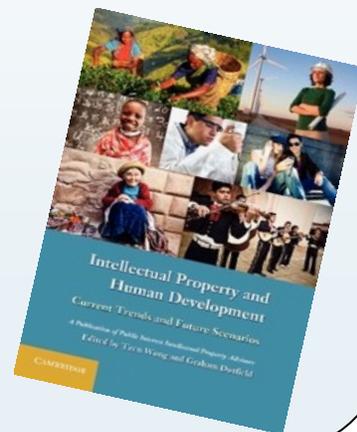
By Graham Dutfield, Tzen Wong

The terms of protection for patents and copyright have been expanding over the centuries (and particularly in the last decades). Under the TRIPS Agreement, 18 patent rights are now granted for a minimum term of twenty years from the filing of application (Article 33), though this tends to require the periodic payment of renewal fees; otherwise patents will prematurely lapse.

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Translated Material From the BA A2K Project

Harmonization or Differentiation in Intellectual Property Protection?

(August 2004)

By Graham Dutfield and Uma Suthersanen

The international law of IP is complex, evolutionary and highly dynamic, never more so than today. Businesses that operate across national boundaries are never satisfied with the current IP rules, at least not for long. Since certain governments are structured in ways that allow the interests of such businesses headquartered within their jurisdictions (or even sometimes outside them) to convert rapidly to national trade policies and negotiating strategies that align closely to these interests, the pressure for change can become irresistible.

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To view full Arabic version click [here](#)

Disclosure of Origin and Access and Benefit Sharing

The special case of seeds for food and agriculture

(October 2005)

By Walter Smolders

Before 9000 BC food was collected by hunting-gathering. The transition to domestication involved sometimes selection for features of varieties, like seed dispersal and seed germination features, by the then “farmers” that were vital to ensure survival of wild species but undesirable for domestication.

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To view full Arabic version click [here](#)

Suggested Reading

Access to Knowledge for Consumers

Reports of Campaigns and Research

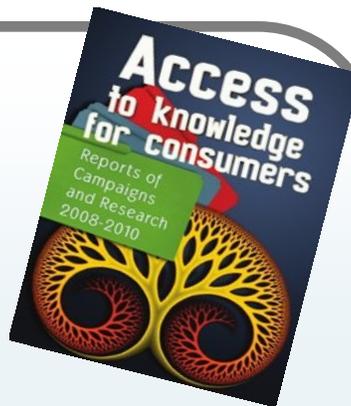
(2008–2010)

By Jeremy Malcolm

A global survey of consumers, targeting 25 countries, was conducted by Consumers International through its members over 2009 and 2010, to investigate the barriers that impeded them from effectively accessing and using copyright materials. The survey was designed to be implemented in two phases; the first of which would involve face-to-face interviews with consumers in the target countries to reveal the nature of the barriers they faced in general terms, and the second a larger-scale questionnaire that would focus in on the identified barriers and quantify their scale.

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