

**Activities regarding combat of piracy  
by the Hellenic Copyright Organization –  
up to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2007  
(update since 12<sup>th</sup> March 2007)**

Since the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2007 there have been a number of activities regarding the combat of piracy in the relevant sectors, in which the Hellenic Copyright Organization (HCO) is dedicated. Apart from our more general and everyday tasks, e.g. answering telephone calls, e-mails regarding the right of authors and rightholders, there are also projects which target the aforementioned aim. They are the following:

**Education**

**First Degree Education/Elementary School:**

1. Two programs for the youth generation education are in progress. The first program, which is organised in co-operation with Microsoft, targets **the pupils of the last year of elementary school**. A relevant pamphlet containing the basic copyright notions is ready and so are the competition details. Within the next two weeks it will be distributed to schools. We have secured prizes in order to ensure the fullest participation to the competition.
2. The **chapter on copyright in a book designed for elementary school** has already been approved and is included. We have already drafted and sent to Pedagogical Institute the pertinent teacher background material.
3. A **Manual for the elementary school** explaining in a comprehensive way the basic notions of copyright to the pupils has been drafted and within one month will be completed.
3. Additionally a **Manual for the teachers** regarding the basic notions of copyright has been drafted and within one month will be also completed.
4. A **website is designed** in order to host the competition and to function as an information source for copyright on the internet for the young generation.

**Secondary Degree Education/ High Schools & Lyceums:**

1. The second program targets **High School and Lyceum students**; its subject is the creation of **the best slogan against piracy**. Very tempting prizes have been established for this competition (such as two trips to LA- Hollywood, laptops and the like). This program is organised in cooperation with the

EPOE-MPA, the IFPI and the BSA. The relevant circular has been distributed to the schools by the Ministry of Education.

2. A **Manual for the secondary education** explaining in a comprehensive way the basic notions of copyright to the students has been drafted and within one month will be completed.
3. A **website is designed** in order to host the competition and to function as an information source regarding the topic of copyright in internet for the young generation.

### **Theatrical Play**

We have placed **under the auspices of HCO a theatrical play for kids**, that describes the theft of copyright in the most appropriate way for children and spreads the respect for copyright.

### **Police Officers:**

1. A **number of seminars** for the training of **police officers** concerning recent legal developments as well as problems arising from selling counterfeited and pirated goods were held in Athens and Thessaloniki.
2. Seminars regarding basic copyright issues were also given to the **Police Academy** with the view to educating future officers. A copyright seminar is scheduled to be incorporated, on a regular basis, in the formal Police Academy Curriculum.
3. A **Manual presenting the basic notions of copyright in a simple and straightforward manner** is being prepared by the HCO staff to cover the specific educational needs of **police officers**.

### **Customs Officers:**

1. A **number of seminars** for the training of **customs officers** concerning recent legal developments as well as the problems arising from selling counterfeited and pirated goods were held. in Athens and Thessaloniki
2. A **Manual presenting the basic notions of copyright in a simple and straightforward manner** is being prepared by the HCO staff to cover the specific relevant educational needs of the **customs officers**.

3. **A Copyright seminar** will be **incorporated in the formal Customs Officers Academy Curriculum** and will take place in January or February 2008.

### **Higher Civil Servants**

One of our goals is to incorporate the **Copyright course in the official training program of Higher Civil Servants** (Institute of Education – National Centre for public Administration/ Ministry of Internal Affairs) – note that some attempts towards this direction have already been made.

### **Public awareness**

#### **Wider Public:**

1. For the purpose of raising awareness the HCO has celebrated the **World Intellectual Property Day, on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2007** with remarkable success for a second time. Two theatrical plays, one for children and another one for adults, especially written for this Day were among the activities: they also included a photography exhibition, popular Greek and jazz music concerts as well as speeches and talks on copyright, patents and trademarks. There was also a dance event, the choreography of which was especially created for this Day using as a theme the idea of Copyright. In the celebration took part the Ministry of Development, the Organization for Industrial Property, collecting societies and other institutions. The activities enjoyed a wide publicity in mass media (TV news bulletins and reviews in 10 newspapers).  
For the celebration of the World Intellectual Property Day in 2008 **reservations have been made for the appropriate location and meetings with all the relevant institutions have been arranged** in order to the activities to be organized. This celebration of IP Day will focus on education.
2. **A telephone card** was issued with the topic of the celebration of World Intellectual Property Day in the framework of the relevant activities.
3. An **informative flyer on the HCO** and basic notions of copyright was published and distributed.
4. A **very analytical Manual explaining the basic notions of copyright** to the wide public has been drafted and within one month will be completed. Two additional Manuals regarding Collective Management and Public Performance are also prepared by HCO in order to inform the wide public -and not only- about those subjects.

5. A **spot** on creativity & innovation as well as radio public service announcements were broadcast by public and private TV and radio stations all throughout the World IP Day 2007. Additionally, in spring another TV spot on software piracy was broadcast by public and private TV stations alike, as a public service announcement.
6. A **summer campaign** was realized so as to deter the public from buying counterfeited and pirated cds and dvds. It was broadly published in newspapers.
7. In the spirit of introducing the public to the general notions of copyright, additional **interviews** were either published in **newspapers** or broadcast on **TV stations**.
8. **Awards** were presented to certain departments of **Police and the YPEE** by the HCO, the EPOE, the IFPI and the BSA as recognition of their contribution in combating piracy.
9. The **HCO website** will be completed till the end of the year and will offer a range of online services to the public and the groups of special interest. More importantly, it will contain a **section dedicated to piracy**. In this section, among other things, technical information on the recognition of counterfeited works will be accessible.
10. A **seminar is scheduled for February 2008**. Its subject will bear on internet piracy matters and the presentation of the newly constructed HCO website. In addition it will present the results of a survey, which was conducted by the Statistics Division of Athens University of Economics and Business and specializes in internet piracy of music, dvd's and software.

#### **Journalists and Publishers:**

The HCO has organized a **seminar** in November. **The topic covered journalists' and publishers' copyright problems and subsequent solutions**. A significant number of publishers, journalists, media representatives and academics have attended the seminar.

#### **Musicians:**

1. The HCO has co-organized a seminar in November in Thessaloniki with the Association of Conservatorium Alumni. **The seminar dealt with musicians' copyright problems and subsequent solutions**. A significant number of musicians and wide public have attended the seminar.

### **Legal Community:**

1. The HCO **website** under construction, will provide a section on all relevant case law, the relevant copyright Acts and international treaties and a comprehensive bibliography for copyright. In addition, basic information on copyright and collecting societies will be accessible.
2. An **international Congress regarding IP Policies and Politics** is scheduled to take place in **June 2008**. In this Congress known scholars and IP officials around the world will be invited to trace the developments of IP, to underscore the IP challenges and to find the possible ways forward.

### **Small and Medium Enterprises**

1. The **HCO has co-organised with the Chamber of Rethimno and the Industrial Organization an informative seminar regarding Creative Industries** in the premises of the Chamber of Rethimno. During the seminar the interesting for the small and medium enterprises copyright aspects were presented.
2. A very analytical **Manual explaining the most interesting aspects of copyright for the small and medium enterprises** has been drafted and within one month will be completed.

### **Co-ordination of various institutions and organizations**

1. Concomitantly, a **fourth meeting of a task force** (formed by representatives from the public and private sector – the HCO, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Justice, the YPEE (tax police), the Hellenic Police, the Customs Agencies the MPA/EPOE, the BSA and the IFPI) was held. During this meeting numerous subjects were discussed: majorly the Ministerial Decree for administrative penalties and the activation through a ministerial decree of paragraph 11 of Act n° 3377/2005 (see below under **Legislation**) dealing with open-air markets illegal trade and the pertinent competence of municipality police.
2. **Meetings** took place at the premises of HCO **in order to regulate the application of the new Ministerial Decree for administrative penalties** and to find the best way to implement it. The meetings were of legal technical nature since a construction of a database is also required for the full implementation of the pertinent Decree.

3. **A number of meetings have been realized and some further ones are scheduled to confront the internet piracy.** The first weapon to this battle is the establishment of a trustworthy co-operation with the **ISPs** and towards this direction serious efforts are being made.

### **Ministry of Finance**

Some meetings have also been realized with the General Secretary of the Ministry of Finance in **order to normalize the implementation of the new Ministerial Decree for administrative penalties** and to overcome some problems of financial nature.

### **Ministry of Justice**

The Vice-Attorney General of the Supreme Court (Arios Pagos) has issued a **circular stressing out that piracy has taken the form of organized crime despite the effective legal framework for the protection of copyright.** He also drew the General Attorneys attention to the observance of previously issued relevant circulars and, more particularly to penal remedies. Given that the judicial power is independent of everything, there is no other means of influencing the work of judges and general attorneys other than educating them and urging the Supreme Court to issue similar circulars, if and when necessary. All other acts would constitute inadmissible interference with the judicial power.

### **Ministry of Public Order**

We are in discussions with **the competent Greek Police departments (the Electronic Crime Division and the OPKE - Group for the Prevention and Suppression of Crime)** in order to find effective ways of fighting internet and street piracy. More specifically **raids** are scheduled to take place in September; the purpose is not only to arrest street “pirates” but also to attack the warehouses, where the pirated cds and dvds are manufactured.

### **Legislation - Enforcement**

1. The necessary **Ministerial Decree for the activation of the administrative sanctions has been issued** (a. 65A Act n<sup>o</sup> 2121/1993). To normalize the application of this Ministerial Decree and to clarify some enforcement matters a Manual has been drafted and within one month will be completed.
2. A ministerial decree has recently been issued by the deputy Minister of Development. **In this decree the procedure of confiscation, destruction**

**or disposal of illegal merchandises traded by means of outdoor commerce is regulated** (Κ1-1178/25-06-2007 regulating paragraph 11 of Act n° 3377/2005). For the activation of this decree contacts have been established with the Municipality Police in Athens. HCO considers the realization of some seminars around Greece to inform Municipality Police about the possibilities that the new Ministerial Decree offers. A meeting with some representatives of the Municipality Police in Athens has already taken place with the presence of MPA-EPOE.