



**INDEPENDENT MUSIC PUBLISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

**To:** rdavies@thedti.gov.za; INeethling@thedti.gov.za; NNdikandika@thedti.gov.za; jfubbs@parliament.gov.za; Mmahlobo@parliament.gov.za; loctober@thedti.gov.za; [EMsiza@thedti.gov.za](mailto:EMsiza@thedti.gov.za) **Cc:** ahermans@parliament.gov.za; tmadima@parliament.gov.za; david@sheer.co.za; secretariat@impforum.org; Pierre Mossiat <pierre.mossiat@strictly-confidential.net>; niclass@bjorlund.com; Teresa Alfonso <talfonso@teddysound.com>; Teri Nelson Carpenter <Teri@reelmuzikwerks.com>; Francesca IMPF Oyez! <franci@oyez.it>; Simon Platz <SPlatz@bucksmusicgroup.co.uk>; Ger Hatton <gh@gerhatton.eu>; Annette Barrett <annette.barrett@reservoir-media.com>

**Subject:** Concerns regarding Copyright Amendment Bill **Brussels, November 23, 2018**

**Reference:** [Concerns regarding the current Copyright Amendment Bill](#)

Esteemed Minister, Deputy Minister, Members of Parliament, DG, I am writing to you as President of the Board of Directors of the Independent Music Publishers International Forum (IMPF\*) to express our disquiet regarding some of the retrograde elements of the current Copyright Amendment Bill.

At the quarterly meeting of the IMPF Board held in New York last week, we passed a unanimous resolution stating our grave concern that the opportunity to update South Africa's laws to safeguard online music, is being overlooked. Global trends show that protecting online music results in a renewed investment in the music industry, and a successful amendment to your Bill would be one that boosts copyright, thereby enhancing South Africa's outstanding musical talent and growing your vital and dynamic music market.

The IMPF Board urges the Portfolio Committee therefore to extend its public participation process to include clauses in the revisions of the Bill that have undergone material changes, and to take into account the submissions of the music industry so as to arrive at a Bill which will protect composers, authors and all rightsholders of music. IMPF is fully supportive of the submission of the Music Publishers Association of South Africa to the latest, albeit limited, consultation.

We anticipate and hope that you will be able to achieve a balanced Copyright Bill for the benefit of all.

Yours sincerely,

Pierre Mossiat, President of the Board of Directors



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IMPF serves as a global network and meeting place for independent music publishers to share experiences and best practices; exchange information on the legal framework and music publishing environment and to coordinate actions and support projects relevant to songwriters, composers, and music publishers. IMPF represents the interests of the independent music publishing community internationally and aims to ensure a favourable environment for artistic, cultural, linguistic, and commercial diversity. [www.impforum.org](http://www.impforum.org)