

**Joint statement of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 from EMI Music Publishing, PRS for Music, SACEM, STIM, Universal Music Publishing**

**Working Group on a Common Framework for Rights Ownership Information**

- a) It is agreed that a working group ("WG") should be formed with the aim of developing a common framework for rights ownership information ("common framework"), when considering basic principles for the common framework, the WG would agree on its requirements and consider launching a request for proposal ("RFP"). It is noted that SACEM is willing to participate in the WG primarily to deepen and further investigate the rationale behind such a project.
- b) It is agreed that, as a first step, the WG should focus on the rights involved in the online distribution of music; it is also agreed that the WG should also aim to take due account of market developments and consider the increasing dissemination by online means of music e.g. in the field of audiovisual works.
- c) The WG should be composed of the Roundtable participants, including, inter alia, commercial users. Other participants, including other collecting societies pursuing complementary projects (such as PPL) and independent publishers, may be invited at appropriate times to participate to maintain a balance among WG members.
- d) It is agreed that the WG would propose a Roadmap, with a short-term timeframe for meetings and concrete deliverables.

**Industry Standards**

- e) Widespread endorsement and effective implementation of the existing industry standards is important to achieve a common framework; it is further agreed to publicize in the broadest possible way standards that the WG members endorse and implement. The WG should identify the concrete ways in which the participants would facilitate such acceptance and implementation of the standards.

**Open and Transparent Access**

- f) It is agreed that the issue of a more open and transparent access to the rights ownership information should be addressed by the WG. In such discussions, due account should be taken of necessary and justified safeguards against disclosure of confidential information.

**Near-Term Solution(s)**

- g) It is agreed that users would benefit from (a) near-term solution(s) which would facilitate interconnection between the existing rights ownership information systems.