

ON INTERNET BROADCASTERS

Whereas FIA supports international and national efforts to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expression;

Whereas Internet broadcasters play an increasingly vital role in disseminating culture, distributing cultural products and connecting performers with audiences;

Whereas national and international regulations, laws and conventions were often drafted without adequate consideration of Internet broadcasters;

Whereas increasing corporate concentration in the technology sector is creating new, powerful, multinational corporate entities with ability to significantly control cultural distribution;

Whereas the global nature of the world-wide web, and the multinational operations of internet broadcasters can often frustrate efforts of national governments to bring Internet broadcasters into their regulatory, legislative and taxation systems, and

Whereas when Internet broadcasters are able to bypass existing national laws and regulatory systems designed to promote and finance cultural diversity, the legitimacy of those laws and systems are undermined,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT FIA URGES ALL AFFILIATES TO LOBBY THEIR NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. To ensure that Internet broadcasters abide by national content production obligations similar to those applicable to conventional broadcasters;
2. To ensure that Internet broadcasters remit appropriate and fair taxes to national governments where they broadcast or distribute content;
3. To co-ordinate and convene at an international level on how to implement and enforce these measures whether through international trade agreements, treaties or through bodies like UNESCO and OECD.

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