**Reforms to be brought to the Copyright Committee**

This year’s Copyright Committee Meeting and Forum was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 14 - 15 March 2016. Participants from 18 different organisations attended the event which proved to be useful, informative and interesting.

The opening speech for the meeting was given by Dr Javad Mottaghi who spoke about the importance of the copyright committee and its usefulness for broadcasters. He requested that members participate and have a vocal role in the process for the adoption of the WIPO Broadcasters’ Treaty. “The legal department will be more proactive with members and create a legal resources platform for the benefits of our members” he added. The keynote address was delivered by Dato Adila Chek Omar from RTM-Malaysia. She highlighted the excellent working relationship between the RTM and the ABU and also extended her support for ABU activities in the future. Dato Adila also spoke about the RTM and Malaysian Government’s support for the WIPO Broadcasters’ Treaty.

During the meeting, Ms Aminath Shayaan Shahid from PSM-Maldives was elected as the Vice-Chair in replacement of Ms A. Ward who has left SBS for a teaching job. The Committee Meeting was chaired by Mr Yan Bo and Mr Nawaz Dookhee represented the ABU Secretariat. Discussions also focused on the exchange of information regarding legal and copyright matters among members and the publication of an e-legal Update on a regular basis where members can contribute with articles and update on case laws in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Copyright Forum with the theme “**Sports, News and online Infringements”** was highly successful with eminent speakers around the region and as far away as Dubai, UK and the Netherlands. Topics covered were live sports, protection of news, technologies to prevent signal thefts and copyright infringement and arbitration. There was a good turnout and participants felt that sessions were very current and informative.

Many participants have asked the legal department to conduct in-country workshops relating to intellectual property. Mr Dookhee will be conducting the workshops.

Participating organisations at the Copyright Committee Meeting and Forum were: PBC-Pakistan, SLRC-Sri Lanka, MTV-Sri Lanka, Thai PBS-Thailand, NHK-Japan, IRIB-Iran, TVTM-Turkmenistan, BTV-Bangladesh, TDM-Macau, CCTV-China, PSM-Maldives, NBT-Thailand, SAPPRFT-China, RTM-Malaysia, RRI-Indonesia, Prasar Bharati-India, Irdeto-Singapore, FIT-China, NBA-China and MCMC-Malaysia.