5-10-2021

PIJIP, Mandela Institute and Recreate SA organized press conference on academic letter on SA CAB. EIFL attended.

PIJIP
Mandela Institute
Recreate SA
EIFL

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South African Copyright Academics Weigh in on Copyright Amendment Bill

On the eve of a Parliamentary meeting to review the President’s Constitutional reservations, a group of leading copyright and constitutional academics have identified technical changes to meet all of the President’s concerns.

The South African Copyright Amendment Bill has been stalled since the President sent it back to Parliament to consider revisions in light of reservations about its constitutionality. The President singled out the Bill’s provisions to guarantee remuneration to artists and to expand exceptions for educational, research, disability, and other public interest uses of copyright works. This Wednesday there will be a meeting of the National Assembly’s Trade & Industry Committee to explore a way forward in dealing with President Cyril Ramaphosa’s reservations. On Monday, a group of legal experts will discuss an opinion outlining specific recommendations to respond to the President’s reservations.
Members of the academic team that signed the opinion will be available to describe their analysis and answer questions, followed by reflections from civil society supporters of the Bill, on Monday, May 10 at 17:00 SAST. Attendees will include:

Signatories to the Academic Opinion

- **Malebakeng Foerere**, University of Witwatersrand, Mandela Institute, Counsel of Record and *expert on artist remuneration*
- **Andrew Rens**, Senior Research Fellow, Research ICT Africa, Senior Policy Fellow, Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, *expert on digital rights and WIPO Copyright Treaty*
- **Sanya Samtani**, Doctoral Researcher, Law Faculty, University of Oxford, Opinion Signatory and *expert on the interface between the right to education and copyright in international law*
- **Sean Flynn**, Director, Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, Senior Research Fellow, University of Cape Town IP Unit, Visiting Researcher, University of Amsterdam, Institute for Information Law, *expert on fair use and on US trade policy*
- **Tobias Schonwetter**, University of Cape Town, IP Unit, *expert on parliamentary consideration of the CAB*
- **Klaus D. Beiter**, North-West University, *expert on language rights*

Commenters

- **Fatima Hassan**, Health Justice Initiative, *expert on IP barriers to COVID*
- **Ben Cashdan**, ReCreate South Africa, a coalition of creators and users for the CAB
- **Faseega Solomon**, SADTU Vice President

Link to academic opinion:
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ni48j0jywTbXgKx7zHFVdITaN1FClLuS/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ni48j0jywTbXgKx7zHFVdITaN1FClLuS/view?usp=sharing)