



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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PI 14

WORKING DOCUMENT

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Working Party on Intellectual Property (Copyright)
No. Cion prop.: 5076/14 PI 1
Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled
- Presidency compromise proposal

Delegations will find in the Annex a presidency compromise proposal regarding the above mentioned draft Council Decision, for discussion at the meeting of the Working Party on 28 February.

Changes compared to the Commission proposal are marked.

Draft

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

of ...

on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 114 and 207 in conjunction with Article 218(5) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Since 22 January 2011 the European Union has been bound by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; its provisions have become an integral part of the European Union legal order.¹
- (2) On 26 November 2012 the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate, on behalf of the European Union, an international agreement within the World Intellectual Property Organisation on improved access to books for print impaired persons.

¹ Council Decision 2010/48/EC of 26 November 2009 concerning the conclusion, by the European Community, of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. OJ L 23, 27.1.2010, pp. 35-61.

- (3) The negotiations were successfully concluded at the Diplomatic Conference held in Marrakesh from 17 to 28 June 2013 and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled [...] was adopted on 27 June 2013.
- (4) The Treaty establishes a set of international rules which ensure that there are limitations or exceptions to copyright at national level for the benefit of persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled and enable the cross-border exchange of accessible format copies of published works that have been made under limitations and exceptions to copyright.
- (5) The Treaty [...] is open for signature by any eligible party for one year after its adoption. It should be signed on behalf of the European Union, subject to its conclusion at a later date,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The signing of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Marrakesh Treaty’) on behalf of the Union is hereby approved, subject to the conclusion of the said Treaty² [...].

Article 2

The President of the Council [...] is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered [...] to sign the Marrakesh Treaty on behalf of the Union [...].

² The text of the Marrakesh Treaty will be published together with the decision on its conclusion

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President
