

Letterhead of Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society

HKRRLS views on the subject regarding "Enforcement action taken By the Government following the commencement of Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2000".

What is HKRRLS?

It is a licensing body for published works.

It is the only reproduction rights organisation (RRO) operating licence schemes for reprographic rights of about 1.7 million publications in Hong Kong & around the world.

It is in effect a part of copyright enforcement - a legal alternative to make copies for different purposes.

It helps users comply with our law.

It helps turn illegal users to legal users.

It helps copyright education.

It helps speed up the dissemination of information and knowledge through collective copyright management.

It helps publishers, authors, photographers, script writers, visual artists to enforce their rights.

It helps copyright owners work out licensing solutions.

HKRRLS's concern:

- 1. Can Hong Kong remain competitive without respecting copyrights?**
- 2. Can our workforce be transformed to knowledge based workers without respecting copyrights?**

3. Who decide in which copyright category should be respected and rewarded? the law? or the users?
4. Can we ask for more from the Government if our law has already provided the following enforcement tools?
 - 4.1. Licensing scheme
 - 4.2. Copyright Tribunal
 - 4.3. Civil remedy
 - 4.4. Criminal sanction
5. Should the Government be involved in the deals between copyright owners and Users?
6. Is it in the public interest to risk loosing Hong Kong's goodwill in "market economy" and "IPR compliance" in the world market place when the short-sighted business community if pulling back the enforcement of the law?
7. Hong Kong Government has done its job in informing both the copyright owners and users the consequence of the law.
Our media has conveyed the message.
Our education community are well prepared to share the value to students, as the primary and secondary schools are covered by the HKRRLS's Licence Scheme since April 2000.
8. In fact, the law is being enforced by copyright education in a very effective way.
9. As to the public concern of newspaper clippings, the market will soon have the answer to the licensing solutions.
That the copyright owners and users will have to deal with from time to time.

Let's look forward to generate more responsible, creative and knowledge based workforce in near future.

End/HKRRLS