

----- Original Message -----

From: CLASS-Singapore

To: mary_chow@citb.gov.hk

Cc: secretariat

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2006 9:56 AM

Subject: Hongkong SAR's proposal on copyright licensing

Ms Mary Chow

**Deputy Secretary for Commerce, Industry
and Technology (Commerce and Industry)**

Level 29, One Pacific Place

88 Queensway

HONG KONG

By e-mail (mary_chow@citb.gov.hk)

Dear Madam,

We refer to the Hong Kong SAR's proposed copyright initiatives for 2006.

As Southeast Asia's leading Reprographic Rights Organisation, we, the Copyright Licensing and Administration Society of Singapore, wish to reiterate our support for the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO) in its submission of 9 January 2006 regarding the Hong Kong authorities' "refined proposals on various copyright related issues" .

We wish to confirm the existence of a statutory requirement for reproduction of copyright works in educational institutions in the Singapore Copyright Act. This specifically allows all government educational institutions to reproduce limited portions of such works. In return, rightsowners are given equitable recompense. As the national RRO, CLASS administers the statutory licensing scheme, which covers all Government schools, junior colleges, polytechnics and universities.

In this connection, should the Hong Kong SAR decide to proceed to remove such an obligation for a photocopying licence as offered by the HKRRLS in Hong Kong, we strongly believe this would be a step back for Hong Kong as we, in the region, move forward towards better protection of and respect for intellectual property.

As such, we wish to respectfully request that the SAR reconsider this proposal, and to abort such an initiative.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

PaulWeeKiangNghee

Paul Wee,
Chief Executive Officer,
CLASS Limited,
10, Collyer Quay,
#17-01, Ocean Building,
Singapore 049315