NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION

COPYRIGHT ADVISORY

In line with Government policy to ensure adequate return on creative investment and boost the creative economy, the new Copyright Act, 2022 has improved on the rights of authors to ensure just rewards and recognition for their intellectual efforts. The rights granted in respect of music and audiovisual works include the exclusive right to do or authorise the public performance, communication to the public and making available of the works.

This is to inform the general public, especially owners of business premises such as hotels, guest houses, clubs, lounges, bars, restaurants, malls, supermarkets, shops, event centres, gyms, fitness centres, theatres, cinema halls, banking halls, factories, aircrafts, public transportation systems, buses, taxis, television and radio broadcast stations, telecnication companies, digital service providers, etc., that they are required under the new Act to obtain appropriate licence, or authorisation for the use of copyright content in their operations.

Failure to comply with the relevant provisions of the Copyright Act (copy available at www.copyright.gov.ng) may expose operators to civil and criminal liability under the law.

Appropriate licence for copyright content may be obtained from appropriate Collective Management Organisations (CMOs) approved by the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) to negotiate and collect royalties on behalf of authors, performers and producers.

In discharge of its statutory mandate under the Act and in order to ensure that the rights of authors are respected, Copyright Officers will henceforth be conducting routine checks on premises where music and audiovisual work are exploited, to ensure compliance as required under the Copyright Act.

For further information, contact the Commission by phone: 09019001400 or by email: info@copyright.gov.ng. You may also contact the Audiovisual Rights Society of Nigeria (AVRS) for audiovisual works or the Musical Copyright Society of Nigeria (MCSN) for Music and Sound Recordings.

(Signed)
Director-General

Respect Copyright! Inspire Creativity!