

(By electronic mail: co_review@citb.gov.hk)

Mr Joseph W P Wong
Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology
Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau
Hong Kong

April 30, 2007

Re: Consultation paper on „Copyright Protection in the Digital Environment“

Dear Mr Wong:

The International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers (STM) hereby wishes to express that it strongly supports the comments and concerns set out in the submission of the Hong Kong and International Publishers' Alliance (HKIPA), submitted to you today, April 30, 2007, in connection with the consultation paper on „Copyright Protection in the Digital Environment.“

The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers includes approximately 90 publishers, collectively responsible for more than 60% of the global annual output of research articles, publications of tens of thousands of print and electronic books, references works and databases.

The works of STM publishers are sold and licensed electronically widely to academic and corporate libraries and educational institutions, and the electronic or other delivery of individual copies of articles, including for use by libraries, educational institutions and their patrons, is an important source of revenue for scholarly publishers. Thus, selling and licensing, including to not-for-profit organizations, is, and continues to be, one of the major markets for STM publishers.

STM wishes to thank the Hong Kong authorities for consideration of the comments and concerns of HKIPA and STM.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Mabe
Chief Executive Officer
International Association of STM Publishers