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Production Music Committee Meeting Notes

4 December 2014

Present: Sascha Peters (SP); Damian Slonina (DS); Edwin Cox (EC); Juliette Metz (JM); Martin Nedved (MN); Martin Weinert (MW); Teresa Carbonell (TC); Romano Di Bari (RdB);

Apologies: Alex Black (AB); Daniel Kafer (DK);

Attending: Alex Campbell

The Chair and Rapporteur for this meeting is Juliette Metz.

1. Appointment of Point person from the Production Music Committee (PMC) for the Board

The Point person will be Edwin Cox. It was highlighted that the point person will not need to report back after every meeting, only in the event of important or relevant news.

Actions agreed: EC will be the Board Point Person.

2. PMC Chairman

Juliette Metz will be the PMC Chairman.

3. Communications

It was decided that the PMC would use the website Basecamp as a means of internal communication rather than emails. ICMP will be included in this internal PMC Basecamp group for coordination purposes. The LinkedIn group is working well but it was noted participation should be encouraged and those on the Committee should feel free to post on the group. MW will write an article on the situation with broadcasters in Italy.

Actions agreed: PMC will use basecamp for internal communications; MW will write a piece about the broadcasting situation in Italy.

4. Actions from previous meeting

4a) Progress on the letters for writers/ composers and societies

Royalty free libraries; it was decided at the previous meeting in Athens that members of the PMC would write one letter to composers and one letter to collecting societies highlighting their concerns about royalty free music. The letter for composers, written by DK, is almost complete. It was noted that a letter regarding royalty free libraries to the composers may have the unintended consequence of advertising the business.

EC explained that due to the complexity of this issue, the letter to societies has been delayed. Concerns had been voiced by ICMP that some royalty free repertoire is administered by music publishers under the umbrella of ICMP, and thus any action in this area must be carefully considered. EC has been in contact with ICMP board members to explain that we were targeting royalty free music (not member of any PRO) and not synch fee free music. ICMP board members have understood the concept.

As previously agreed, the letters will be sent to ICMP for approval. In Germany the society already knows about royalty free libraries but is not aware of all the implications. PMC agreed that this issue must be tackled country by country and the Committee will reach out to composers and understand



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their perspective. It was suggested that each member partner with their local society and ask them to educate their members, including composers.

It was decided that the PMC would 'wait and see'; and postpone sending out any external communications on this issue for the moment. The PMC would in the meantime gather intelligence on royalty free libraries in each territory.

The PMC discussed the issue of royalty free music in relation to broadcasters. In the UK, royalty free music was not such a concern as broadcasters such as the BBC had blanket licenses where they paid a set fee. However, in the most recent licensing agreement, mechanisms were included whereby if they use less music they pay less. These agreements are up for negotiation soon, and production music companies were going into the negotiations aiming to have those mechanisms removed.

The strength of royalty free music on digital platforms globally was discussed. Mechanical rights can already be licensed globally and in order to compete, the same must be done for performance rights. The PMC agreed on the need to find solutions for the issues raised by the global nature of the digital market.

Actions agreed: the letters will be postponed; further information will be found about royalty free music in each individual country; PMC will reach out to composers; there is a need to find solutions to the challenges of the digital market.

4b) Larger meeting event

It was decided that the PMC would hold an informal drinks event at MIDEM in June 2015, in a similar fashion to last year. JM will contact the venue.

Actions agreed: there will be a drink events at MIDEM, JM to follow up.

5. Set meetings for 2015

It was proposed to have PMC meetings over Skype every two months. Konga music is hosting an event at the end of February in Barcelona and a face to face PMC meeting could be held then. It was suggested that the PMC meet at NAB in Las Vegas in April and meet with the PMA at its international conference. TC proposes to contact Gary Gross (UPPM) to set this up.

Actions agreed: PMC to hold Skype meetings every two months. TC to contact Gary Gross.

6. AOB

There was no further business so JM closed the meeting.