

# Announcement

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540

---

## THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION As Revised at Paris on July 24, 1971

On September 18, 1972, the United States deposited with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) its instrument of ratification of the Universal Copyright Convention as Revised at Paris on July 24, 1971, with Protocols.

Ratification by the United States raises to four the number of countries that have adhered to the revised Convention, which will come into force three months after the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, or accession by 12 countries. The other countries which have adhered (as of September 18, 1972) are the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, and Hungary.

This is the first revision of the Universal Copyright Convention (the UCC), which was established in 1952, came into force in 1955, and has been adhered to by the United States and more than 60 other countries. The new text specifically enumerates certain basic rights of authors, including the exclusive rights of reproduction by any means, public performance, and broadcasting. Concomitantly, special exceptions for developing countries are permitted. Generally, these exceptions give developing countries the power to institute procedures for the compulsory licensing of translations and reproductions of works for educational purposes, subject to certain limitations, if the works are not made available in the country concerned within stated time periods. The new provisions of the Convention require no implementing legislation in the United States, since the U.S. copyright law is already in accord with them.

(OVER)

After it comes into force, relations between countries that are a party to the revised Convention will be governed by the revised Convention. As between countries that are party only to the 1952 Convention, and as between a country that is a party to the 1952 Convention and a country that is a party to both Conventions, the terms of the 1952 Convention will govern. However, any country party only to the 1952 Convention may, by a notification deposited with the Director-General of UNESCO, declare that it will admit the application of the 1971 Convention to works of its nationals or works first published in its territory by all countries party to the revised Convention.

Subsequent to its coming into force, the revised Convention is to take effect with respect to any other country that becomes a party thereto, three months after that country has deposited with the Director-General its instrument of ratification, acceptance, or accession.

The revised Convention had been transmitted by the President of the United States to the Senate on March 15, 1972; and on August 14, 1972, the Senate, by a vote of 67 yeas and no nays, advised and consented to its ratification.

The text of the revised Convention is enclosed.