



SERVING AUTHORS WORLDWIDE
AU SERVICE DES AUTEURS DANS LE MONDE
AL SERVICIO DE LOS AUTORES EN EL MUNDO

COU20-0238

March 23rd, 2020

This open letter to governments internationally was issued today by the President and Vice-Presidents of CISAC, the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers.

CALLING ON GOVERNMENTS FOR GLOBAL ACTION TO HELP CREATORS

The coronavirus crisis is posing an unprecedented threat, on a global scale, to a generation of people who make a living and a profession as creators. We write today as the President and Vice Presidents of CISAC, and as artists from different regions of the world, to call for action by governments on a global scale to help creators survive the current crisis and eventually help lead it to recovery.

CISAC is the largest creative network in the world, with over 230 member authors societies representing 4 million working creators of all repertoires.

Creators of music, audiovisual works, visual arts, drama and literature are the backbone of national cultures and of economies. Even now, it is their creative works which are everywhere helping and connecting millions of people who are having to endure a life of quarantine.

But creators are in a uniquely fragile position. The large majority of them are self-employed and dependent on royalties paid by authors societies. Today, and in the coming weeks and months, creators will be among the worst affected by the crisis.

Authors societies are doing their best, maintaining royalty distributions and using emergency social funds where possible. However, CISAC members from across the world, are reporting a collapse of cultural and entertainment activity, affecting concerts, festivals, exhibitions and all the main platforms where creative works are used.

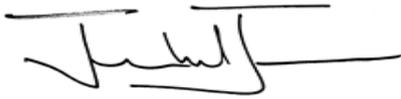
Creators are by nature self-motivated entrepreneurs and will be an enormously positive force in helping drive the economic recovery in the future. But they urgently need rescue measures now, and only the lever of government policy will have the impact required.

Several governments, such as France, have acted, for example with emergency funding for creative sectors; others such as Argentina, Chile and Peru, have already identified protection for the creators (for example via tax and social security concessions and emergency payments) as a priority.

It is imperative that governments in all countries act for creators now and ensure the highest level of support possible.

We thank you for your support and for understanding the vital importance of creators in the future of our culture and society.

Kind regards,



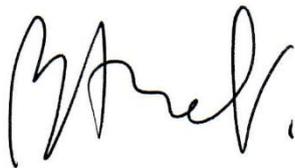
Jean-Michel Jarre, electronic music composer and performer
CISAC President



Angélique Kidjo, singer and songwriter
CISAC Vice President



Marcelo Piñeyro, film director, screenwriter
CISAC Vice President



Miquel Barceló, visual artist
CISAC Vice President



Jia Zhang-ke, film director, writer and producer
CISAC Vice President

About CISAC

CISAC – the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers – is the world’s leading network of authors’ societies (also referred to as Collective Management Organisations, or CMOs).

With **more than 230 member societies** in **120 countries**, CISAC represents over four million creators from all geographic regions and artistic repertoires including music, audiovisual, drama, literature and visual arts. CISAC is presided over by electronic music pioneer **Jean-Michel Jarre** and the organisation’s vice-presidents are: Beninese singer **Angélique Kidjo**, Argentinean film director **Marcelo Piñeyro**, Spanish visual artist **Miquel Barceló** and Chinese film director, scriptwriter and producer **Jia Zhang-ke**.

CISAC protects the rights and represents the interests of creators worldwide. Founded in 1926, it is a non - governmental, not-for-profit organisation with headquarters in France and regional offices in Africa, Latin America (Chile), Asia-Pacific (China) and Europe (Hungary).

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