

3 January 2014

Mr. David Gilo Director General Israel Antitrust Authority 4, Am V'Olamo St. P.O.B. 34281 Jerusalem 9134102 Israel

By post and email: gilod@aa.gov.il; lishka@aa.gov.il

Dear Sir,

Re: TALI's status and operations

The International Affiliation of Writers Guilds (IAWG) is an international body representing guilds of professional screenwriters. The IAWG includes representatives from the Film Writers Association of Mumbai, La Guilde Francaise des Scénaristes (France), the New Zealand Writers Guild, the Scriptwriters Guild of Israel, the Société des auteurs de radio, télévision et cinéma (Québec), the Writers Guild of America, East, the Writers Guild of America, West, the Writers Guild of Canada, the Writers Guild of Great Britain, and the Writers Guild of Ireland.

We are writing to express our concerns about the Israeli Antitrust Authority's ("the Authority") claims against TALI. We understand that the Authority contends that a collecting society should not exist for audiovisual rights in Israel on anti-competition grounds. This argument is contrary to the experience of all our member guilds, which represent writers under a variety of legal arrangements, none of which outlaws such a collecting society on that basis.

As the Authority establishes its position on the matter, we urge you to account for the importance of TALI to audiovisual creators. It is common around the world that the rights of audiovisual creators are collectively managed by a representative society. Collective management provides a practical way to provide audiences with access to audiovisual works, while still fairly remunerating creators of those works. Competition law has not been used to limit this access or remuneration.



We refer you to the position articulated by CISAC and its supporting study of its member audiovisual societies, which highlighted no cases of the objections you are considering.

TALI is essential to the continued development and flourishing of the Israeli audiovisual sector and to the livelihood of local screenwriters and directors. We know this from the experiences of our member guilds.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Golick, Chair, Policy and Research Group

On behalf of the International Affiliation of Writers Guilds

Film Writers Association of Mumbai
La Guilde Francaise des Scénaristes (France)
New Zealand Writers Guild
Scriptwriters Guild of Israel
Société des auteurs de radio, télévision et cinéma (Québec)
Writers Guild of America, East
Writers Guild of America, West
Writers Guild of Canada
Writers Guild of Great Britain

CC: TALI, 1 King David St. Tel Aviv 64953, Israel

Writers Guild of Ireland