

COU13-0568

Santiago de Chile, May 24, 2013

The Minister of Justice and Police of the Republic of Suriname
Mr E.C.J. Belfort
Henck Arronstraat 01
Paramaribo
Suriname

Honorable Minister,

We have noticed a recent withdrawal of the operating license of SASUR as copyright collective society in SURINAME

The direct result of this withdrawal determines that music-utilizing companies in Suriname do not have a legitimate license from a Copyright Management Organization, which has been commissioned to represent the global repertoire of musical works in Suriname, by reciprocal agreements signed with our members

According to our records, SASUR activities are legitimate and legal under SURINAMESE law, and this decision of the Ministry of Justice has been issued without a prior hearing of SASUR.

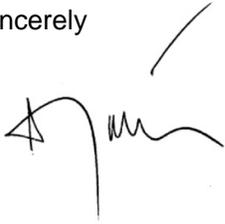
Considering this serious situation, we are heading back to the Government of Suriname begging to restore the viability of the effective exercise of copyright in your country, according to international treaties, notably the Berne Convention and TRIPS.

Unfortunately, this situation of national and international law breach, applies to the use of the global repertoire at CARIFESTA, the important event which will take place in August 2013, in Suriname

Meanwhile, we urge you Hon. Minister that your Government give enough information to companies which are using the global repertoire of musical works protected, represented by our members, that they are not authorized to use this worldwide repertoire and if they use those works it is a serious breach of Suriname's domestic law and international treaties that Suriname is committed to fulfill.

Finally, we wish to express our interest in being able to contact you Hon. Minister or a person appointed by you, to collaborate in solving this situation urgently.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Santiago Schuster
Director of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs
CISAC
e-mail: santiago.schuster@cisac.org