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Subject:	The IARU Magazines copyright issue		
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The IARU Magazines copyright issue

Proposal to avoid copyright problems for articles exchanged between IARU Region 1 magazines

For decades it has been said that all articles in any of the IARU Region 1 magazines of the member societies could be copied/translated in any of the other magazines without problems and without violating copyright law.

It has been stated over and over again and hence established as a fact!

But suddenly a claim of violated copyrights arrived on the editor's desk of "OZ" – the Danish amateur radio magazine. My immediate reaction was to refer to the "well known fact" mentioned above! But panic broke out in the editorial staff and I had to prove my contention! In order to do so I leafed through my IARU documents and recommendations as far back as to 1978. I found NOTHING to substantiate my claim!

Then I turned to several members of the EC and AC. They all knew about the agreement but none have so far been able to come up with a reference to a particular document/recommendation.

There seems to be no such document after all?

But we need it! We must work towards a recommendation like that "missing one".

The original problem we had in "OZ" is now solved.

To avoid any such problems in the future we have produced a document for the authors of articles send to the editors of "OZ" to sign. (See attachment.)

In order to (re)establish a recommendation that despite the normal copyright law allows us to bring the articles mentioned we propose to make an agreement between the IARU Region 1 amateur radio societies/magazines along the following lines:

- a) When planning to print a copy or translation of an article as mentioned - ask for permission from the magazine of origin.
- b) Make a general recommendation stating that authors renounce their rights when their article has been published in one of the IARU Region 1 magazines. Other member society magazines can then copy/translate the article having achieved permission (a).

- c) Establish a form for all authors to sign after handing in material for the (national) editors. (See attachment.)
- d) Make these rules clear in the leaf imprint of the (national) magazine.

ATTACHMENT.

To the editors of "XXX".

Statement about the material sent for publication in "XXX"

I hereby declare that the material sent for publication in "XXX",

_____ is not subject to third party copyright!

_____ that I have permission to publish it in "OZ" including download of software, etc., on the "YYY" web site.

_____ I accept that my article/material can be placed in any other IARU Region 1 member magazine.

Name:

Address:

Call (if any):

Date and signature:

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The above form is sent to the author or the translator of the abovementioned material when received by the editors and need to be returned within two weeks including a copy of any possible permission from the original author.

If more than one author is involved, all authors must fill out a copy of the above form.

When publishing an article from any other IARU Region 1 magazine, the editors will have to obtain permission from the original publishing magazine.