

## PRESS RELEASE

### SCAPR announcing the forthcoming 46<sup>th</sup> General Assembly for Thursday 27 May

**Brussels, 4 May 2021** - SCAPR, founded in 1986, and based in Brussels, Belgium is an umbrella organisation for performer collective management organisations (CMOs) across the world, established to support, promote, and maintain a worldwide, cross-border system of collecting and distributing performer royalties that is fair, efficient, accurate, transparent and continually improving.

The catastrophic impact of the Covid pandemic on live performances and the significant reduction of equitable remuneration for the exploitation of performers' rights in public spaces due to the lockdown almost everywhere has had a major impact on the SCAPR community. Although 2020 activity declarations are not fully completed yet, most SCAPR members have faced a significant decrease of their revenues in 2020 that could represent up to 30% less than the previous years. The significant increase of the streaming platform activities currently has no impact on the majority of CMOs and the performers they represent.

While the consolidated revenues of SCAPR members have regularly increased to reach 1 bn EUR for the year 2019, we sadly expect from our CMOs' community to register declining figures for 2020 and expectations are not good for 2021 either. During our coming General Assembly end of May 2021, we will be able to disclose key figures for the past year.

Our annual meeting will also be the occasion to highlight all the measures taken to support members during this difficult period.

We initiated a very robust review and overhaul of our operating expenses linked to the two databases we are operating (IPD and VRDB) and are able to pass on the savings to our member CMOs.

A new format of remote meetings was established due to the travel restrictions. Apart from generating savings in travel and accommodation for all the regular participants, it also gave the opportunity for members to attend more regularly virtual meetings and deliver more results in a limited period of time.

SCAPR continued to provide active support to performers CMOs and international organisations in the field of the neighbouring rights through, expertise, trainings, legal and general support.

SCAPR also decided to launch the International Performer Number (IPN) Dissemination project. While there is a growing need to identify precisely each and every performer in all soundrecordings and audiovisual works, it was decided to disseminate the IPN from our in-house International Performer Database to all interested third parties in the music and AV industries for the benefit of the performers. Our database counts now 1 million performers (musicians, actors, dancers, etc) and benefits from the high standard data quality thanks to the daily work of our members in charge of its maintenance. While such information was reserved to SCAPR members only, we are in the process of developing a specific tool for third parties to retrieve or check an IPN. By doing so, SCAPR wants to ensure that all performers

(featured and non-featured) are properly identified and therefore can be remunerated properly for all their contributions to soundrecordings or audiovisual works. This new functionality should be made available to market players during the second half of 2021.

For the second consecutive year, we will hold our General Assembly remotely and present all the achievements of the previous year as well as our plans for the coming one.

SCAPR is planning to extend its footprint Internationally and is in the process of recruiting resources in the South East Asia region providing additional support to existing members and also reaching out to new ones.

We are always looking to develop relationships with other international organisations that have at their core the protection and promotion of performers' rights worldwide, we are always ready to develop programmes with such like-minded entities.

The pandemic and its devastating global impact on the livelihoods of our members has reinforced the need for member organisation to be technically capable of providing seamless payments to rightsholders, SCAPR is co-ordinating the tools to achieve this goal.

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