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**HOTREC**  
Hotels, Restaurants & Cafés in Europe

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Brussels, 10 April 2002

Dear Sirs,

**Re: Copyright Conference in Santiago**

We thank you for having invited HOTREC to attend the conference “*European Copyright Revisited*” in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 16-18 June 2002.

We have reviewed the programme carefully and are surprised to see that no discussion is planned on the follow-up to the November 2000 hearing on collective management of rights. In a letter dated June 2001, Mr Reinbothe indicated to us that the internal analysis was continuing on the issue on the basis of the hearing and the numerous written and oral comments received and that his Unit hoped to be in a position to finalise its analysis and internal and external discussions before the end of the year 2001. We were therefore expecting with great interest some reporting by the Commission on its views on the subject at the Conference. If the topic is not dealt with there, can we still hope that the discussions will be resumed at some stage or should we understand that the topic is definitively buried?

We are also disappointed to see that once again the users will be very few on the panels. They are the ones who pay: shouldn't they be given more consideration?

For years, most of the member associations of HOTREC have been complaining, both on behalf of their many thousands of very small enterprise members and of their national and international chain members, about the abuses by the collecting bodies of their dominant positions. We continue to hope that the Commission will take a thorough look at their practices and intervene to restore a better balance between their interests and those of the users.

Yours sincerely,

Marguerite Sequaris  
Secretary General