

CONFLICT RULES

of January 6, 2003
as amended on February 10, 2004, March 30, 2004, November 16, 2005, February 14, 2008, September 30, 2008, November 19, 2013, March 19, 2015, May 18, 2015 and June 23/30, 2015, May 23, 2017, May 15, 2018, June 23, 2021, and September 17, 2024.

I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

ARTICLE 1

SCOPE OF APPLICATION

1. For the purposes of the present Rules a conflict arises in the event of a double declaration (or more) in respect of the same work and with an overlapping cumulative percentage of declared rights of more than one hundred percent (100%).

2. AGICOA shall initiate a conflict resolution procedure only with respect to conflicts that involve royalties and shall retain such royalties until a conflict is resolved in accordance with the present Rules. Only parties in conflict having royalties at stake will be part to the procedure. In administering conflicts, AGICOA shall give priority to conflicts of high monetary value.

For conflicts of two hundred Euros (€ 200) or less, an expedited procedure will apply as per Article 9 below.

3. The conflicting parties will manage the conflict resolution procedures through the AGICOA web declaration portal (IRRIS web).

4. AGICOA encourages the parties to resolve a conflict through direct negotiations at any Phase of a conflict resolution procedure. If the parties reach an agreement, Article 7(4)(b) will apply.

5. The present Rules do not apply:

(a) To declarations in relation to periods and territories for which the deadline to declare has expired at the time of declaration according to the AGICOA distribution rules;

(b) To declarations made by the same declarant pertaining to the rights that were in conflict and deleted from the AGICOA database after the conflict was resolved, unless such declarant provides new legal substantiation in support of the new declaration;

(c) To conflicts that occur following the registration of a declaration by the same declarant on behalf of different rightsholders. AGICOA shall ask such declarant to resolve such conflicts directly and shall retain royalties until the terms of a resolution, as agreed by the rightsholders in the conflict, is communicated to AGICOA; as a result, in the context of an ongoing conflict resolution procedure, if pursuant to an update of rights the remaining conflict is linked to declarations registered by the same declarant on behalf of different rightsholders, AGICOA shall automatically inactivate the conflict resolution procedure and require such declarant to resolve said conflict directly.

(d) To conflict resolution procedures launched by AGICOA at a time when other conflict rules were in force, unless the conflicting party(ies) taking part in such conflict resolution procedures elect to be subject to the newly amended Rules, in which case these Rules will apply to such party(ies).

ARTICLE 2

COMMUNICATIONS, DEADLINES AND EXTENSIONS

1. All communications from AGICOA, including notifications, under the present Rules shall be in writing, in English and sent in electronic form and/or announced in the notifications' area of IRRIS web.
2. In case all the conflicting parties have correctly communicated their positions within the deadline, AGICOA will, as applicable in each case, end the conflict resolution procedure or move it forward to the following Phase before the expiration of the deadline.
3. The deadlines set out in the present Rules start on the day after AGICOA sends an electronic communication, with the date of expiry to be stated on the communication. Calendar days shall be used in computing time limits.
4. As a rule, where applicable, AGICOA shall send relevant communications to the parties within thirty (30) days.
5. Any deadline may be extended by AGICOA upon request by any of the conflicting parties via IRRIS web. An extension can only be granted once per party for a maximum of thirty (30) days during a conflict resolution procedure.
6. Failure to react at any Phase of a conflict resolution procedure or provide documents as required under Article 6(1), 7(3), 7(4)(b), 8 and 9(3) and 9(4)(b) below within the established deadlines shall be deemed as a withdrawal of the rights in conflict and AGICOA shall amend the declaration(s) accordingly.
7. In order to ensure timely and efficient procedures, AGICOA will send to the parties within a given deadline up to a maximum of three (3) reminders per each Phase.
8. AGICOA shall notify the conflicting parties about the start and the end of each Phase of a conflict resolution procedure and of an expedited procedure as set out in Article 9 below.

ARTICLE 3

NEW DECLARANTS JOINING AN EXISTING CONFLICT

1. Should a new declarant register a declaration in relation to a work in conflict and provided that it is not a late declaration in the sense of Article 1(5)(a) above, AGICOA shall inform the new declarant of the existing conflict resolution procedure and the initially conflicting parties of the existence of the new declarant.
2. The new declarant shall then have a maximum of thirty (30) days, if it joins the conflict at Phase 1, and a maximum of sixty (60) days, if it joins the conflict at Phase 2, to verify and/or amend its declaration and to comply with other requirements set forth in

Articles 5 to 6 of these Rules. For the initially conflicting parties the deadlines at the respective Phases shall remain the same.

If the initially conflicting parties and the new declarant comply with all the requirements set forth in the present Rules and the conflict persists, AGICOA shall proceed to the next Phase of the conflict resolution procedure and inform all the conflicting parties accordingly.

3. Should the new declarant join the conflict at Phase 3, AGICOA shall suspend the conflict resolution procedure until it reviews the legal substantiation, if any, provided by the new declarant within a maximum sixty (60) days. If the provided documents comply with Article 6(1) below and the conflict persists with the new declarant, AGICOA shall restart Phase 3 of the conflict resolution procedure from the very beginning and notify all the conflicting parties accordingly.

4. Should the new declarant join an expedited procedure, the new declarant shall then have a maximum of thirty (30) days to verify and/or amend its declaration. If the conflict persists with this new declarant, AGICOA shall restart the expedited conflict resolution from the very beginning and notify all the conflicting parties accordingly.

ARTICLE 4

WARRANTY IN CASE OF PAYMENT

1. Any party receiving royalties pursuant to the present Rules shall hold AGICOA harmless and indemnify it with respect to all actions, proceedings, costs, damages, expenses, claims and demands which are brought, threatened or made by another conflicting party or any third party upon or against AGICOA in relation to said royalties.

2. Should none of the conflicting parties be entitled to receive royalties from AGICOA after a conflict has been resolved, the amounts unduly received by a party prior to that conflict being announced shall be returned to AGICOA.

II. CONFLICT PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 5

PHASE 1

1. AGICOA shall notify the relevant declarants of the existence of a conflict pertaining to a declared work, indicating the territories, language versions, TV channels/broadcasts, percentage of rights in conflict and/or periods being in conflict, whichever is relevant, as well as the percentage of rights declared by each of the parties and the amounts retained by AGICOA at the time in relation to each of the parties.

2. The parties shall have a maximum of thirty (30) days to amend their declarations by confirming, withdrawing or modifying their rights. The parties shall notify AGICOA of their final position by using IRRIS web.

3. If the conflict is solved after the parties amend their declarations within the deadline, AGICOA shall close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties to the entitled party(ies) within the next relevant distribution.

4. If all parties withdraw their claims, AGICOA shall close the conflict resolution

procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

5. Failure to react within the established deadline shall be deemed as a withdrawal of the rights in conflict and AGICOA shall amend the declaration(s) accordingly.

ARTICLE 6

PHASE 2

1. Should more than one party maintain or modify their claims in Phase 1 in a manner that a conflict persists, AGICOA shall ask such parties to upload in IRRIS web within a maximum of sixty (60) days (i) legal substantiation, such as contracts and/or other supporting documents, relevant to demonstrate a party's entitlement to claim the rights in conflict, and (ii) a written summary in English highlighting the relevant provisions of the documents supplied and substantiating the reasons for the documents supplied to be sufficient and adequate to prove a party's entitlement, provided that:

(a) The documents submitted shall be considered as legal substantiation if they refer to the work and parties in conflict, an express grant or reservation of rights, territories, language versions, TV channels/broadcasts, percentage of rights and/or periods, for which the conflict exists, whichever is relevant, and include a full chain of title, if applicable. The parties may also provide other information relevant to the conflict;

(b) General statements and objectively inadequate substantiations are not sufficient;

(c) Copies of documentation submitted must be complete and signed; copies of agreements from which confidential or sensitive information has been removed or redacted are acceptable provided that such removed or redacted information does not relate to assignment or ownership of the rights.

2. AGICOA shall then review the submitted documents and notify the parties if they do not comply with Article 6(1) above.

For the avoidance of doubt, AGICOA shall review the submitted documents only to ensure their pertinence to the conflict and compliance with the requirements of Article 6(1) above and shall not make any decision on the entitlement of claims for works in conflict. These documents are considered as confidential and AGICOA will not in any case share them with the opposing party(ies).

3. If one or more party(ies) submit(s) all documents as required under Article 6(1) above and another party does not react or provides documents that do not comply with that Article, in a way that solves the conflict, AGICOA shall delete the rights in conflict of the non-responding or non-complying party(ies) from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties within the next relevant distribution to the party(ies) that provided all documents as required.

4. If none of the parties reacts within the deadline nor sends documents that comply with Article 6(1) above, AGICOA shall delete their rights in conflict from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

ARTICLE 7

PHASE 3

1. Should the conflict persist after more than one party has submitted the documents as required pursuant to Article 6(1) above, AGICOA shall notify the parties and request them to resolve the conflict through direct negotiations within one hundred and eighty (180) days.

2. In the event that the parties start negotiations, they must actively engage in such negotiations, including without limitation by regularly arranging and participating in conference calls, meetings, electronic communications and sharing the substantiation of their claims. In the event that one (or more) party(ies) do(es) not respond or do(es) not actively engage(s) in negotiations within the deadline of one hundred and eighty (180) days, AGICOA shall delete the rights in conflict of such party(ies) from the AGICOA database. For a valid engagement in a negotiation, the responses to the negotiation attempts should be given reasonably in advance of the deadline expiration.

3. If only one party actively engages in the process of negotiations outlined above, and substantiates this engagement by uploading the relevant evidence in IRRIS web, AGICOA shall close the conflict resolution procedure after the expiry of the deadline of one hundred and eighty (180) days and distribute the retained royalties within the next relevant distribution to such party.

4. If two or more parties actively engage in negotiations, the following shall apply:

(a) If none of the parties informs AGICOA about the terms of their settlement within one hundred and eighty (180) days, AGICOA shall delete their rights in conflict from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

(b) If the parties reach an agreement, they must each upload the terms of the agreement in IRRIS web and do the corresponding update of rights. The retained royalties will be distributed according to such terms. In case of inconsistency after the update of rights in the form of a remaining conflict, AGICOA will make the appropriate amendments according to the agreement provided by all parties.

(c) If after failing to reach an agreement, at least one party informs AGICOA by using IRRIS Web within one hundred and eighty (180) days of their intention to initiate legal proceedings, arbitration or mediation, AGICOA shall proceed to Phase 4 as per Article 8 below and inform the parties accordingly.

ARTICLE 8

PHASE 4

1. If a party has informed AGICOA by using IRRIS Web of its intention to initiate legal proceedings, that party shall upload documentary evidence in IRRIS Web within a maximum of thirty (30) days, confirming that legal proceedings have been initiated.

If the initiating party fails to provide this evidence within the established deadline, AGICOA

shall delete the rights in conflict of all conflicting parties from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

If the initiating party uploads the documentary evidence within the established deadline, AGICOA shall notify the other party(ies), and the conflict resolution procedure shall be suspended until at least one party uploads the outcome of the legal proceedings in IRRIS Web. AGICOA will make the appropriate amendments based on the outcome provided.

2. If a party has informed AGICOA by using IRRIS Web of its intention to initiate arbitration or mediation, the following shall apply:

(a) At least one of the conflicting parties shall upload documentary evidence in IRRIS Web within a maximum of thirty (30) days, confirming that arbitration or mediation has been initiated.

(b) If none of the parties provides this evidence within the established deadline, AGICOA shall delete the rights in conflict of all conflicting parties from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

(c) If at least one party uploads the documentary evidence within the established deadline, AGICOA shall notify all parties, and request them to confirm they agree to proceed with arbitration or mediation within a maximum of thirty (30) days.

If the opposing party(ies) fails to react within the established deadline, AGICOA shall delete their rights in conflict from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties to the entitled party(ies) at the next relevant distribution.

If all conflicting parties confirm their agreement to proceed with arbitration or mediation within the established deadline the conflict resolution procedure shall be suspended until at least one party uploads the outcome of the arbitration or mediation in IRRIS Web procedure. AGICOA will make the appropriate amendments based on the outcome provided.

If the opposing party(ies) refuses to proceed with arbitration or mediation within the established deadline, the other party(ies) may inform AGICOA of their intention to initiate legal proceedings within thirty (30) days, and Article 8(1) above will then apply. If the other party(ies) fails to inform AGICOA of their intention to initiate legal proceedings within the established deadline, AGICOA shall delete the rights of all conflicting parties from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next relevant distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

ARTICLE 9

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

1. For conflicts of two hundred Euros (€ 200) or less, an expedited procedure will apply. AGICOA shall notify the parties and ask them to resolve the conflict through direct negotiations and to amend their declarations accordingly within a maximum of one hundred and eighty (180) days. The date of the deadline expiry shall be specified in the notification.

2. In the event that the parties start negotiations, they must actively engage in such negotiations, including without limitation by regularly arranging and participating in conference calls, meetings, electronic communications and sharing the substantiation of their claims. In the event that one (or more) party(ies) do(es) not respond or do(es) not actively engage(s) in negotiations within the deadline of one hundred and eighty (180) days, AGICOA shall delete the rights in conflict of such party(ies) from the AGICOA database. For a valid engagement in a negotiation, the responses to the negotiation attempts should be given reasonably in advance of the deadline expiration.

3. If only one party actively engages in the process of negotiations outlined above, and substantiates this engagement by uploading the relevant evidence in IRRIS web, AGICOA shall close the conflict resolution procedure after the expiry of the deadline of one hundred and eighty (180) days and distribute the retained royalties within the next relevant distribution to such party.

4. If two or more parties actively engage in negotiations, the following shall apply:

(a) If none of the parties informs AGICOA about a positive resolution and the terms of their settlement within one hundred and eighty (180) days, AGICOA shall delete their rights in conflict from the AGICOA database, close the conflict resolution procedure and distribute the retained royalties at a next country distribution among relevant AGICOA declarants.

(b) If the parties reach an agreement, they must each upload the terms of the agreement in IRRIS web and do the corresponding update of rights. The retained royalties will be distributed according to such terms. In case of inconsistency after the update of rights in the form of a remaining conflict, AGICOA will make the pertinent amendments according to the agreement provided by all parties.

(c) If after failing to reach an agreement, at least one party informs AGICOA within one hundred and eighty (180) days of their intention to initiate legal proceedings, arbitration or mediation, AGICOA shall proceed to Phase 4 as per Article 8 above and inform the parties accordingly.