

**Regional Seminar**  
**Exceptions and Limitations to Libraries, Archives and Educational Institutions**



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**Copyright Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan**  
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**Topic 6 Libraries and Accessibility**

D. Baljid, Board Member of Mongolia Libraries Consortium  
 EIFL Copyright Coordinator, Mongolia  
[baljid@forum.mn](mailto:baljid@forum.mn)




**LIBRARIES AND THE MARRAKESH TREATY**

**Libraries support ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty**

**Benefits of the Treaty**

- By growing their collections of accessible format materials, libraries throughout the world will be able to better serve persons with print disabilities
- Increases study, education and employment options
- Empowers persons with print disabilities to participate fully in the social, cultural and educational life of the community
- Ensures rights to freedom of access to information in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities




**LIBRARIES AND THE MARRAKESH TREATY**

**Libraries are key to the success of the Treaty for two main reasons:**

- Throughout the world, libraries are one of the primary source of Braille, audio, large print and digital format materials for blind and visually impaired people.
- Only blind people's organizations, libraries and other so-called "authorized entities" can send accessible format copies to other countries.




**MONGOLIA: PERSONS WITH PRINT DISABILITIES**

**In Mongolia, there are approx. 16,500 blind and visually impaired people**

- Access to learning and information is extremely limited
- Most are unemployed and live in poverty
- 2011 survey by the Mongolian National Federation of the Blind (MNFB) found that only 16% of its members had completed primary or secondary education, and just 1% had graduated from university




**MONGOLIA: LIBRARIES SERVING PERSONS WITH PRINT DISABILITIES**

- In 2010, DAISY Talking Books Service launched by Ulaanbaatar Public Library (UPL) and Mongolian National Federation of the Blind (MNFB).
- Since 2012, blind people have the legal right to be issued with a free DAISY talking book player.
- But digitizing textbooks for blind children is a big problem, as publishers do not give their permission.
- So blind children have no modern books in DAISY format, only very old Braille books in Russian.



DAISY Centre, Ulaanbaatar Public Library



**MONGOLIA AND THE MARRAKESH TREATY**

**23 September 2015: Mongolia became 10<sup>th</sup> country to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty**

**Half way mark to entry into force of the Treaty**

- Mongolia Libraries Consortium (MLC) led campaign for ratification in partnership with the Mongolian National Federation of the Blind (MNFB), in a project supported by EIFL
- Consultations took place with policy makers including the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism
- Translated Treaty into Mongolian, approved by Min of Foreign Affairs
- Organized national media campaign, national TV, etc.
- Next steps: implementation into national law



**eifl** KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

I encourage other countries to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty

It's a great thing to help blind and visually impaired people in your country to improve their lives



**Recommended reading**

The Marrakesh Treaty: an EIFL Guide for Libraries

<http://www.eifl.net/resources>



**eifl** KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

**Thank you!**

D. Baljid  
[baljid@forum.mn](mailto:baljid@forum.mn)

