Ratification of the WIPO Treaty on the Protection of Audio-visual Performances (the Beijing Treaty)

Whereas, the Indian government played a very constructive and consensus-building role in the preparation and successful conclusion of the Beijing Treaty at the WIPO 2012 Diplomatic Conference;

Whereas, such treaty is of fundamental importance for performers around the world, as it grants audio-visual performances, and for the first time at international level, a meaningful economic and moral protection;

Whereas such treaty may only enter into force once it is ratified by 30 countries and that many more will be needed to make such international instrument truly meaningful for performers in the global economy;

Whereas the recent amendment of the Copyright Act in India should enable the country to ratify the Beijing Treaty without having to envisage any major new copyright reform;

The International Federation of Actors (FIA),
The International Federation of Musicians (FIM),
UNI Global Union – Media, Entertainment and Arts (UNI MEI),
The Musicians’ Federation of India
The Federation of West Indian Cine Employees – and all its members, including:
   The Film Studios Setting & Allied Mazdoor Union,
   The Association of Film & Video Editors,
   The Association of Cine & Television Art Directors and Costume Designers,
   The Association of Voice Artistes,
   The Cine Costume & Make-Up Artistes & Hair Dressers Association,
   The Cine Musicians Association,
   The Cine Dancers Association,
   The Movie Stunt Artistes Association,
   The Music Composers Association of India,
   The Film Writers Association,
   The Western India Motion Pictures & TV Sound Engineers Association

Meeting in Mumbai, on March 26, 2013, hereby:

Call on the Indian government to further consolidate its leadership on this important matter and make everything in its power to be among the first countries to ratify the WIPO Treaty on the Protection of Audio-visual Performances (the Beijing Treaty).

Mumbai, March 26, 2013