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## BY POST AND EMAIL

**To:** SABIP Secretariat  
UK Intellectual Property Office  
Concept House  
Cardiff Road  
Newport  
South Wales, NP10 8QQ

Dear SABIP Secretariat

### **MEMBERSHIP OF STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY**

Open Rights Group is a grassroots technology organisation providing evidence-based advice on the implementation and regulation of digital technology. Our operation is funded by committed activists and informed by a panel of recognised experts from a range of fields. Our high profile and successful public campaigns to date include opposition to copyright term extension and consumer advocacy around digital rights management technologies.

We share the Government's ambition to improve the quality of policy advice generated by UK IPO so are delighted to see implementation of Recommendations 46 and 47 of the Gowers Review. Unfortunately, and despite being subscribed to several UK IPO policy message services, we were not made aware of the 21 September 2007 closing date for applications for membership of SABIP but hope our application will still be considered. Please inform us of any necessary formalities to continue the application process.

Historically intellectual property policy was the domain of narrow, special interests. It produced regulation unable to adequately serve consumers or creatives. As these policy issues have

reached greater public profile this trend is slowly being redressed at both the UK and European level. If SABIP is to fulfill its remit as a strong, independent body capable of making a real contribution to policy it must not only comprise a broad spectrum of stakeholders but, just as importantly, be seen to represent diverse interest groups concerned with balance in the intellectual property framework.

I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,

Becky Hogge

Executive Director, Open Rights Group