

Creatives laud copyright Bill aloud

When Parliament passed the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights (Amendment) Bill 2025 on March 17, the Speaker, Anita Among, turned to the gallery, which was fully packed with creatives, and told them to go and make noise, now that their longed-for Bill had been passed.

She reminded them that, after all, MPs were not as ignorant as some creatives had intimated elsewhere.

Remember, a couple of days before, the Speaker had wondered why radio stations should pay artistes for playing their music, as proposed in clause 20, when they are promoting the artistes by doing so. She owns Bukedea Radio.

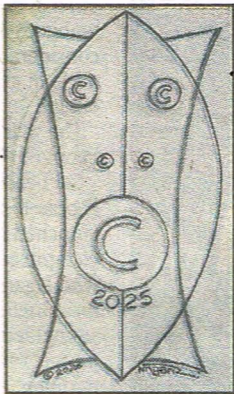
That particular clause, if removed, would render the entire Bill irrelevant to the creatives' prayer for remuneration whenever their works are used for gain by others.

It is a shield that was lacking in our arsenal to defend, protect and benefit from our intellectual property.

As a creative, I immediately made a sketch (see right) in response to her 'directive'. The two shields, one oval and the other four-sided, are derived from the Bantu and Nilotic shields, respectively.



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