

Abstract

The recent development witnessed in scientific and technological innovations since the beginning of the 20th century have changed the face of modern society, an era termed as “the jet age.” Areas affected by this technological advancement include the world’s legal system, transforming the nature of the intellectual property from its traditional mode and the economic policies of many nations by getting its legal frame work attracted to protect the emerging aspects of intellectual property. This paper which focuses on the Nigeria journey so far as to the legal regime on e-intellectual property has its objectives as examining the level of protections accorded to individual rights on e-intellectual property in Nigeria, the challenges faced and the prospects for the legal regime of e-intellectual property in Nigeria. The paper employed doctrinal research method in its analysis. It was found out that the absence of political will on the enactment of the needed legislations in the protection of intellectual property works in the digital environment adequately contribute some quota to the depreciation of the country’s economy. One of the major recommendations is the need for a holistic review and amendment of the legislations regulating the intellectual property in Nigeria including the implementation of the already amended statutes to tackle the contemporary issues affecting inventors or creators’ rights majorly in the digital environment where the third party reaps from without investing in the work of the true inventor. Thus, the issue of internet piracy and cybersquatting will be resolved and dealt with easily.

Keywords: E-Intellectual property, Legal Regime, Nigeria, Journey So Far

1. Introduction

This paper focuses on the nature of intellectual property within the purview of copyright and trademarks in the virtual world and its legal support in protecting same in Nigeria. The development of the World Wide Web (WWW) in the early 90s has led to the evolution of the internet from a mere technological infrastructure to a network linking people and ultimately to the forerunner of information and the digital age, which now plays a major role in the global economy.¹ What initially started as a scientific and academic network has unleashed an era of electronic commerce with its easy access and multifunctional character. Thus, the increase in .com enterprises has led to the inception of new commercial models and business dynamics, whereby organisations are developing ways to exploit the internet as a marketing and commercial tool. Therefore, e-commerce has opened up avenues to increase revenues by engaging new clientele and by minimising staff expenses.² The Nigeria Cybercrime Act of 2024 enhances intellectual property protection by explicitly safeguarding computer systems, networks and data and computer programs, including digital intellectual property from cyber threats. It creates a more unified legal framework for prosecuting cybercrimes and provides better tools for detecting and punishing offenses like data interference and hacking that can harm Intellectual property. Additionally, it empowers the Nigerian Copyright Commission to demand information about database used in Artificial Intelligence (AI) aiding in the identification of copyright infringement and aligns with international efforts to protect IP in the digital age. This profound use of the internet has also affected the legal world in so far as the protection of intellectual property asset is concerned³. Therefore, intellectual property has assumed similar importance in electronic commerce as it has in the offline commercial sphere, albeit with different aspects to be addressed. In this regard, this paper shall in examining the legal regime of e-intellectual property in Nigeria look into the Nigerian e-copyright regime and the issue of trademarks in the digital environment. Also, the challenges and prospects of the intellectual property rights in the digital environment shall be examined.

2. The Nigeria E-Copyright Regime

Copyright as the exclusive right to perform or authorize the other party to perform some certain acts in relation to works protectable under copyright has elevated from its traditional mode to the virtual world (known as digital environment or internet environment). Thus, the means at which these works are made available in the virtual world are through digital technology. Digital technology as the name implies refers to the use of equipment, principally computers, which can accept and interpret digital data, and encompasses computer hardware and software, and the internet.⁴ Thus, the impacts brought with advancement in technology could be classified into two positions. First, is the impact on the creation and production of copyright works, and secondly, aspect relating to online dissemination and exploitation of works.⁵ Therefore, it is apt to notice that works made available in digital form can be downloaded from website which poses a serious concern such as to the identity of the copyright owner and what acts are authorized in respect of the work may be removed and the work then

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¹ Rishu, S., and Pooja, T.: ‘Internet, Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property’, p. 1. Available at <<http://www.ipera.in/articles/item/410-internet-electronic-commerce-and-intellectual-property.html>> Accessed on 17/10/2025 at 5:32pm.

² *Ibid*, p. 2.

³ Hart, T., Fazzani, L. and Clark, S.; *Intellectual Property Law*, London: Palgrave Macmillian Publishers Ltd, 1997, p. 1.

⁴ Bogsh, A.; ‘Preface to WIPO Worldwide Symposium on the Impact of Digital Technology on Copyright and Neighbouring Rights’, WIPO Publication, No 723(E), 1993, p. i.

⁵ Oyewumi, A.; ‘Towards Sustainable Development of Nigeria’s Entertainment Industry in the Digital Age: Role of Copyright Law and Administration’, *NAILS Journal of Intellectual Property (NJIP)*, Maiden Edition, 2011, p. 82.

circulated to the public in that new form.⁶ With this, copy technology had indeed become pervasive but the poor quality of pirated products offered at least some deterrence to members of the public, and likely encouraged some to invest in genuine copies of legitimate works. However, this deterrence factor is no longer that potent, as the advancement of work in the virtual world has introduced a new dimension to the problem of piracy.⁷ In this regard, a lot of websites contain text, music, and artistic works such as photograph and drawings normally referred to as internet materials will be protected as literary, musical, or artistic works as long as they meet the normal copyright requirements.⁸ Thus, copyright in the works that are specifically created by the creator of the website for that purpose will be owned by that creator, subject to the employer - employee rule; while collaborative efforts may give rise to joint authorship and joint ownership. Also sound recordings, films, and broadcasts also maintain their copyright status when they are put on the internet.⁹ Therefore, the Nigerian Copyright Act¹⁰ stipulates that ownership of computer software is vested in the author first since the Act has defined computer software as an aspect of literary works.¹¹ More so, this is subject to cases of computer software created as part of an employment duty in cases of contract of employment, as held in *Joseph Ikudiora v. Campaign Service Ltd & Anor*¹² where the plaintiff's claim to entitlement to copyright in a work he created in the course of working for the defendant was dismissed by the court and the defendant was held to be entitled to the copyright in the work.

The Nigerian Copyright Act¹³ confers, to some extent the under listed scope of right in relation to digital works on copyright owners, viz:

- i. The right of production and related rights.
- ii. The right to control the distribution of copyrighted work and issuing of copies to the public.
- iii. The right to control the making of adaptation, which has been defined as the modification of pre-existing works from one genre to another and consist in altering works within the same genre to make it suitable for different conditions of exploitation.¹⁴

With the above position, relating to the limited scope of the existing legal framework in Nigeria to the digital age today, it will still be right to say that Nigeria has a long way to go with respect to the protection of copyright works in the virtual world such as the protection of literary works, digital broadcast by cable including other areas protected within its traditional mode. Therefore, lack of adequate legislative responses in this area has led to a dearth of judicial jurisprudence on the field, resulting in Nigeria having the highest incidence of piracy of computer programs and other digital innovations in the whole of Africa.¹⁵ Though, it is trite fact that one of the responses of the Nigerian Copyright regime to digital technology is the Copyright (Optical Discs Plants) Regulations.¹⁶ Still, the greatest concern is the impact produced by the skeletal nature of our Copyright Act with regards to copyright regulation in this subject. An illustration of the digitalized form of piracy (internet piracy inclusive) deals with the distribution on the internet copyrighted materials illegally, both for commercial gains and for free distribution,¹⁷ thus, piracy of digital broadcast in Nigeria is the subscriber under decoration which is a situation where cable companies who legally subscribe to major satellite stations do not pay for all the channels they rebroadcast to the public.¹⁸ There is also unauthorised cable access where individuals that have high receptive television set tap into lines of legitimate television companies through signal bleedings, without paying for subscription.¹⁹

Another worrisome challenge is that, before a computer program becomes eligible for protection, it must be subjected to the test of originality and expression in a definite form.²⁰ In consideration of this, some new innovations may not fit into the requirement, for instance, most computer programs in their technical nature may involve computer language made by different authors which differs from the interface that might be created by another author.²¹ Thus, it is worthy of note that, as far as our jurisdiction is concerned, the creator of a computer language is not entitled to a distinct copyright on the creation of language only under the Copyright Act; whereas this is not obtainable in other jurisdictions.²² In the light of the above, the implication of the whole consideration is that new technological advancement has really exposed the lacunas of copyright protection in Nigeria. Therefore, the implication of new technology on copyright is numerous and the idea that copyright subsists in a computer is a welcomed

⁶ Marett, P.; *Intellectual Property Law*, London: Sweet & Maxwell, 1996, p. 45.

⁷ Oyewumi, A., (n. 5), p. 83.

⁸ Torremans, P.; *Holyoak and Torremans Intellectual Property Law*, 4th Ed., New York: Oxford University Press, 2005, p. 543.

⁹ *Ibid*.

¹⁰ Copyright Act 2022.

¹¹ Okou, F.T, Okou, S. and Modey, B. O.; 'The Implication of New Technology on Nigerian Copyright Protection Practices in Today's Computer Age', *Journal of Law, Policy and Globalization*, Vol. 37, 2015, p. 139. See also section 51 of the Act defining computer programs and artistic works that is to say it belongs to the same category with books, maps, short story et cetera.

¹² (1986) FHC, 308.

¹³ See section 6(1) of the Act.

¹⁴ Okou, F.T, Okou, S. and Modey, B. O.; (n. 11), p. 139.

¹⁵ *Ibid*.

¹⁶ See the Copyright (Optical Discs Plants) Regulation (No. 66) 2006.

¹⁷ Adam, D.: 'Intellectual Property Rights in Today's Economy'; GSR 2011 Discussion Paper, *International Telecommunication Union*, 7 October, 2011, p. 15. Available at <<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/Events/Seminars/GSR/GSR11/documents/05-intellectual-property-E.pdf>> Accessed on 02/10/2016 at 01:21pm.

¹⁸ *Ibid*, p. 16

¹⁹ Okou, F.T, Okou, S. and Modey, B. O.; (n. 11), p. 139.

²⁰ Bainbridge, D.I.; *Intellectual Property*, 5th Ed., New Delhi: Pearson Education Ltd, 2002, p. 191.

²¹ *Ibid*, p. 192.

²² *Ibid*, p. 193.

development. But more is still needed to be done as regards our legal framework to arouse flexibility, protection and avoid complacency in our copyright market.

3. Electronic Trademarks Regime in Nigeria

Trademarks feature prominently in the course of daily activities involving the buying and selling of goods and services, both for consumption and for commercial purposes. With this, a trademark may be described as a mark which is used in the course of trade or business, to identify goods and services emanating from a particular provider and to distinguish them from those of others.²³ Trademarks are of considerable importance in e-commerce and are of similar significance in the virtual world as in the physical world. Thus, it is clear that trademarks carry at least as much significance on the internet as in the off-line world.²⁴ Particularly following the downturn of the .com economy, online enterprises are focusing on building recognition and goodwill, so as to inspire confidence in them and in their brands, and to remain competitive.²⁵ Therefore, trademark owners face new challenges with respect to their marks in the digital environment.

With the development in the access and use of digital technology which continue to gain ground in Nigeria, there is need to ensure its successful harmonization with traditional trade mark laws to facilitate the continued attachment of the objectives of trade mark protection most especially with regard to the link between trademarks and domain names.²⁶ Domain names as the name implies are the unique names that identifies a website. Thus, each website has a domain name that serves as an address, which is used to access the address whereby the technical management of the domain name system is in the hands of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). Therefore, when a website is accessed, the domain name is actually translated to an Internet Protocol (IP) address which defines the server where the website is located. Then, this translation is performed dynamically by a service called Domain Name System (DNS).²⁷ In this regard, trademarks are ideally suited for this purpose and thus most businesses use their trade or service marks, or the business name of the individual, company or firm as their Second Level Domain (SLDs).²⁸ The use of such trademarks or names as SLDs for entities other than the trademark owner or at least an entity with a justifiable link or legitimate claim to the mark may result in free riding, especially where the user is also engaged in similar pursuits. It becomes obvious that if trade mark rights are not protected in the digital environment, it will likely lead to deception and confusion, with negative consequences for legitimate proprietors of trademarks and the public.²⁹ Such public deception and fraud may be seen in the case of *Easy Jet Airline v. Dainty*,³⁰ where the plaintiff instituted action against the defendant for passing off in respect of the defendant's site called easyrealestate.co.uk. The combination of the site's domain name and its design, including the dominant use of the colour orange bore striking resemblance to the plaintiff's site and was held to pass off the plaintiff's business. Therefore, this issue and other related ones on trademarks protection in the virtual world are alleviated by the territorial nature of trade mark law and the global nature of the internet.³¹

In Nigeria, the Trademarks Act of 1965 remains the current substantive law regulating trademarks matters in the country without any amendment let alone a review.³² Though the expression had been that trademarks law, because of its nature, is not a very dynamic subject,³³ but its validity on some issues relating to the various innovations and developments in trademarks regime remains at stake. This is because part of these developments is the issue of the protection of the trademarks rights in the digital environment which is one of the areas of focus of this paper. Therefore, the gap between the Nigerian Trademarks Act and the protection of the owner's right in the digital environment (i.e virtual world) is wide open which is yet to be covered save if the said Act is amended to suit these circumstances.

Furthermore, a related issue on the protection of trademarks in the virtual world is the problem of cyber-squatting, whereby domain name speculators, in bad faith, intentionally register domain names corresponding to well known personalities, trademarks or other identifiers, with a view to selling them off at a profit to the person or company with a legitimate claim to the name at a later date.³⁴ In this environment therefore, trade mark owners may employ services of online brand management and 'cyber-surveillance' companies that assist in the protection and enforcement of their trademark rights in a digital environment.³⁵ In this regard, with the development of our laws in Nigeria, the issue of cyber-squatting has been dealt with not through the amendment of the Trademarks Act of 1965 but in a separate Act enacted to deal with computer related crime tagged as Cybercrime (Prohibition, Prevention, etc) Act, 2024.³⁶

4. Challenges and Prospects

Internet and digital technologies have seriously jeopardized the efficacy of intellectual property law, which has now been reformed to face the challenges of the digital environment. Thus, the above assertion also exist on the issue of the position of the Nigerian

²³ Oyewumi, A.O.; *Nigerian Law of Intellectual Property*, Lagos: University of Lagos Press and Bookshop Ltd, 2015, p. 231.

²⁴ Rishu, S., and Pooja, T., (n.1), p. 3.

²⁵ Zussman, T.: 'Intellectual Property on the Internet: A Survey of Issues', *World Intellectual Property Organisation*, 2002, p. 61. Available at <http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/856/wipo_pub_856.pdf> accessed 12/10/2016 at 7:25pm.

²⁶ Oyewumi, A.O.; (n. 23), p. 346.

²⁷ Carolina, R., and Stoke, S.: *Encyclopedia of E-commerce Law*, London: Sweet & Maxwell, 2006 at par. 8.41.

²⁸ Oyewumi, A.O.; (n. 23), p. 347.

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ (2002) F.S.R, 6.

³¹ Rishu, S., and Pooja, T., (n. 1), p. 3.

³² Umaru, M.J.: *Intellectual Property Law in Nigeria: Its Evolution and Challenges*, Zaria: Ahmadu Bello University Press Limited, 2013, p. 132.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Oyewumi, A.O., (n. 23), p. 348, n. 27.

³⁵ Rishu, S., and Pooja, T., (n. 1), p. 3,

³⁶ See section 25 of the Act.

intellectual property rights being exposed to the virtual world. Therefore, the challenges to the protection of the intellectual property rights in the digital environment are technological challenges, inadequate provisions in the intellectual property legislations and absence of political will.

Technological Challenges: Technological advancement has remained a constant source of challenges, which the intellectual property rights have to contend with.³⁷ As stated previously, all forms of work can be stored and transmitted or made available electronically. Thus, the use of the internet and the modern age of digitalization pose serious threats to the intellectual property protection because of fast changes in technological innovations³⁸ and since Nigeria is one of the developing countries in technology, there is a serious negative effect on the owners or creators rights including the country's economy. Therefore, the ever-increasing advantages of immense commercial returns deriving from the protection of intellectual property rights have been accompanied by advancement in technology³⁹ even in the virtual world where creators of intellectual property works prefer to commercialize their products. In this regard, one of the technological challenges as to the Nigerian intellectual property rights in the digital environment is the issue of piracy. Piracy in its traditional mode had been written upon by several researchers on intellectual property as one of the challenges affecting the rights of owners or creators of intellectual property works for so many years but has now elevated to what is meant by internet piracy (i.e piracy in the virtual world) whereby varieties of different approaches exist and are widely used, on the internet to distribute copyrighted materials illegally, both for commercial and none commercial distributions.⁴⁰ Thus, advance in technology has made it very easy to reproduce any product of intellectual property, irrespective of its original source in the world, in the twinkling of an eye - no thanks to the global internet and digital technology which has made it easier than ever before for consumers to get access to some content of intellectual property on-line without even paying for it, thereby uncovering the protection of the owners or creators rights on the internet (i.e virtual world).

Another instance is the advent of biotechnology under the patent law, which is outside the scope of our patent law protection to those areas of new inventions.⁴¹ Biotechnology has been defined as "the 'engineering' of genetic material towards practical ends such as medical and veterinary advances, modified crops and improved animal breeds."⁴² Thus, extending the invention of biotechnology to the internet will then form the biotechnology resources on the internet which is a comprehensive listing of biotechnology resources and sites on the internet which keep update of biotechnologists⁴³ thereby compounding the challenges of intellectual property rights in the digital environment. The issue of domain name forms part of the technological challenges to the protection of intellectual property rights in the digital environment in Nigeria in the sense that though there is existence of registration of trademarks electronically in Nigeria through local IP Agents⁴⁴ but there is no provision for the registration of domain names in Nigeria as applicable in other jurisdictions. In this regard, there will be rampant offence of passing off through the domain name of registered trademarks in Nigeria. Finally, the present technological advances especially in computing, telecommunications, biotechnology, etc were achieved through huge capital investments but they are often taken over by others quickly, efficiently and cheaply, and thereby reaping without sowing. This therefore, makes the case for intellectual property protection very hard to resist⁴⁵ including its presence in the digital environment.

Inadequate Provisions in Legislation: The inadequate provisions of the intellectual property legislations emanated from the paucity of their development having been static for decades, which makes them to be limited in scope in or even totally incapable of tackling contemporary issues.⁴⁶ Meanwhile, science and technology have expanded the concept of an aspect of intellectual property which is trademarks to include among others, symbols, pseudonyms, shapes and presentation of goods as well as packaging, service marks and collective marks.⁴⁷ Thus, it has been a well settled fact that the Nigeria intellectual property legislations are still archaic even its traditional mode which review and amendments has been called for but without response up till date, except the Copyright Act of 2022, which was amended recently, no further amendment, to take care of the emerging issues thrown up by advancement in technology within the other statutes guiding the conduct and management of Intellectual property in Nigeria. Therefore, since the legislation are still battling with the traditional mode of protection without much success yet, then the issue of internet piracy, internet domain names, biotechnology on internet, etc in our modern day world will add up to the challenges already on ground. This is because, there is no law yet to take adequate care of piracy even the recent Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc) Act, 2024 has not adequately provided for it.⁴⁸

Absence of Political Will: Having examined the technological challenges and the inadequacy of provisions in intellectual property legislations for the protection of the intellectual property rights in the digital environment, this aspect of challenge link to the challenges of inadequate provisions in the intellectual property rights in the digital environment in the sense that an absence of political will in a state confers no progress in that state as to the laws and other related matters which will help in the well being

³⁷ Umaru, M.J., (n. 32), p. 167.

³⁸ Adejo-Ogiri, O.: 'The Internet Use and Contractual Liabilities', *Crest Hill Business Law Journal*, Crest Hill Law Office, Garki Abuja, vol. 1 (1), 2010, p. 14.

³⁹ Umaru, M.J., (n. 32), p. 98, n. 33.

⁴⁰ Zussman, T., (n. 25), p. 65.

⁴¹ Oyewumi, A.O.; (n. 23), p. 352.

⁴² Cornish, W, and Llewelyn, D.; *Intellectual Property: Patents, Copyright, Trademarks and Allied Rights*, London: Sweet & Maxwell, 2003, p. 823 cited in Umaru, M.J., op cit, p. 100.

⁴³ Zillman, M. P.: 'Biotechnology Resources on the Internet,' 2010, p. 5. Available at <<http://whitepapers.virtualprivatelibrary.net/Biotechnology%20Resources.pdf>> Accessed on 03/10/2025 at 4:51pm.

⁴⁴ Ifiokobong, R.: 'How to Register Trademark in Nigeria', 2015, p. 4. Available at <<http://infoguidenigeria.com/register-trademark/>> accessed on 10/10/2025 at 10:37am

⁴⁵ Umaru, M. J., (n. 32), p. 99

⁴⁶ *Ibid*, p. 134.

⁴⁷ *Ibid*.

⁴⁸ Oyewumi, A.O., (n. 23), p. 346, n. 27.

of the people in that state. Thus, it was observed that the aspect of intellectual property that has been suffering from the absence of political will in Nigeria is in the area of industrial property.⁴⁹ Industrial Property Draft Law was submitted by the Law Reform Commission since 1991 to the then military government, which is yet to be passed into law, thereby depriving the industrial property community from reaping the benefit of this initiative.⁵⁰ In the light of the above, it will be safe to conclude that it is more of lack of political will and prioritization of our needs in the area of law and human rights, than the ignorance of the importance of intellectual property on the part of the successive regimes that is responsible for the stunted growth of intellectual property, particularly in the advent of this technological regime in Nigeria.⁵¹

Prospects

In proffering solutions to tackle these challenges, majorly, the Federal Government should summon up the political will and wake up to its responsibility to see that intellectual property rights in the digital environment are adequately protected in Nigeria so as to meet up with the international best practices in the protection of intellectual property rights in the virtual world. Consequently, necessary Bills needed to be passed into law to build up this area should be dealt with dispatch and not to be dumped on the shelves to continue to gather dust, as done by the previous regimes. Also, some extra-legal measures such as judicial and administrative mechanisms, among others, should be put in place to tame the tide of an otherwise socio-legal problem because it is the words of Lord Denning MR. in the case of *Packer v. Packer*,⁵² that "...if we never do anything which has not been done before we shall never get anywhere, the law will stand still whilst the rest of the world goes on and that will be bad for both."

5. Observations/Findings

It is pertinent to show clearly that Information Communication Technology (ICT) plays an important role in the reformation of intellectual property from its traditional mode to be available in the virtual world. In Nigeria, it has been observed by this research that, registration of industrial works has now been provided for to be made electronically subject to the fulfillment of the requirements slated down by the Registrar. Still the viability of the intellectual property regime has been considerably challenged by the advent of internet and digital technologies since the establishment of a new framework is meant for the production and the dissemination of digital works, whose characteristics are substantially different from that of physical works. Also, it is observed that some provisions of the intellectual property legislations in Nigeria have been construed and interpreted by researchers and authors of intellectual property texts as what could fit its availability in the digital world. For instance, section 51 of the Nigeria Copyright Act provides for the transmission of cable programmes by means of a telecommunication system and also that 'computer program' as a set of statements or instructions in a computer is protected as literary works. Therefore, attaching same to World Wide Web by placing it on the internet could attract same protection as it is available in its traditional mode. With this, it is the humble view of the researchers that the extension of the power of court in ordering for compensation or restitution of property under section 49 of the Cybercrime (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act of 2024 in addition to any other penalty prescribed under the Act is said to be in accordance with other statutes providing for same. For instance, sections 78 of the Penal Code and section 19 and 20 of the Criminal Code respectively which provide that a convicted person will be adjudged to compensate any person injured by his offence either in addition or to substitute any other punishment

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

The basic purpose of the protection of electronic intellectual property rights in Nigeria is to make sure that true and real inventors are able to reap what they sow and not to be reaped by another person who don't even know the stress and skills undergone by the creator. Therefore, enacting legislations, domesticating international treaties and agreements including amendment of the existing legislations to tackle these situations will adequately put the mind of inventors at rest whenever his invention is made available in the digital world. This will also contribute to the growth of the country's economy. However, it will be safe to conclude that it is more of lack of political will and prioritization of our needs in the area of law and human rights, than the ignorance of the importance of intellectual property on the part of the successive regimes that is responsible for the stunted growth of intellectual property, particularly in the advent of this technological age. Therefore, the Federal Government should summon up the political will and wake up to its responsibility to see that intellectual property legislations are properly and adequately amended, proper domestication of WIPO Treaties and TRIPS Agreement should be made. Finally, it is expected that if the above areas are given the requisite attention by Government of the day, it would go a long way towards adequately protecting electronic intellectual property rights in Nigeria. It is therefore recommended as follows:

1. A holistic review and amendment should be made to the legislations regulating the intellectual property in Nigeria to tackle the contemporary issues affecting inventors or creators' rights majorly in the digital environment where the third party reaps from without investing in the work of the true inventor. Thus, the issue of internet piracy and cybersquatting will be resolved and dealt with easily.
2. A tracking device that could make one to easily detect any form of intrusion on a registered intellectual property work via the internet in the digital environment, should be put in place for apprehending such intruder and prosecuting same before the court of competent jurisdiction as would be provided by the law.
3. There should be a holistic e-intellectual property educational enlightenment as to how it exists in the digital world to the local inventors and dearest consumers. Likewise, the protection attached to same not only to the inventors' rights but also those of the consumers indeed.
4. There is need for the government to have the political will to respond to the issues affecting e-intellectual property in Nigeria by enacting laws or legislations to suit this position and be able to tackle current situations and future contingencies on the protection of e-intellectual property rights in Nigeria.

⁴⁹ Umaru, M. J., (n. 32), p. 163.

⁵⁰ *Ibid*, p. 164.

⁵¹ Umaru, M. J., (n. 32), p. 166.

⁵² (1984) 2 All E.R. 15 p.32.