

News of ABU activities and the broadcasting industry in the Asia-Pacific

ABU news

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59th ABU GA 2022

Serving the People:
Media's Role in
Times of Crisis



Asia-Pacific
Broadcasting Union



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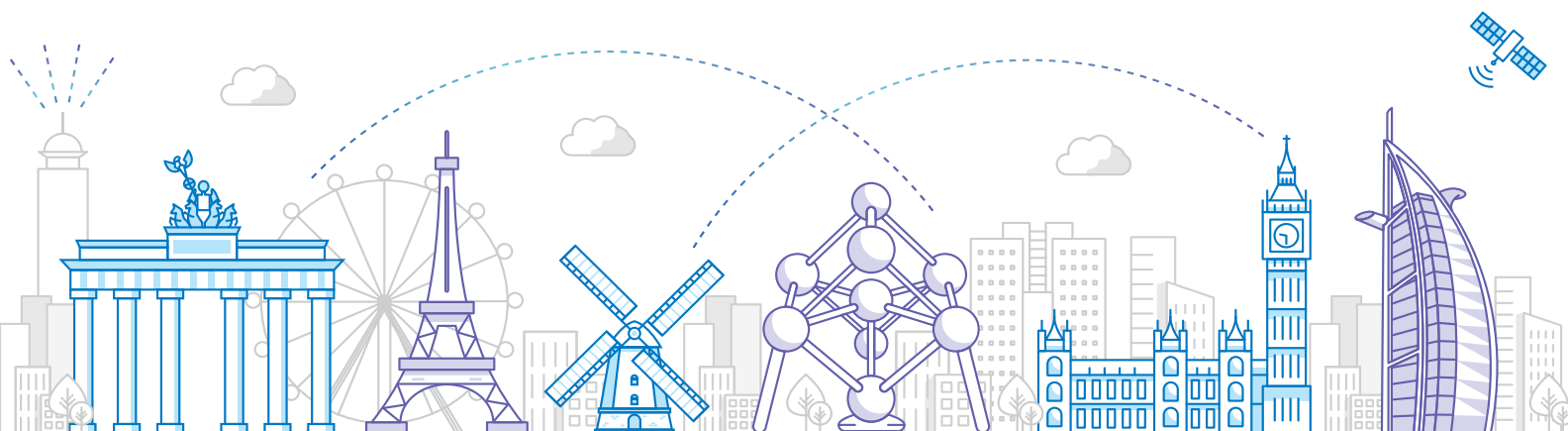
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Publisher

Dr Javad Mottaghi
javad@abu.org.my

Editor

Alan Williams
alan@abu.org.my

Media Communications Designer

Nadzim Zainal

Contributors

Cai Yanjiang
Ahmed Nadeem
Yasu Nagahata
Deborah Steele
Steve Ahern
Shree Bhadra Wagle
Dr Veysel Binbay
Natalia Ilieva
Hanizah Hamzah
Olya Booyar
Nargiza Numanova
Kesang
Hamdhoon Rashad
Ahmed Afruh Rasheed
Ruchi Malhotra

Address

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union
2nd Floor, IPPTAR Building,
Angkasapuri,
50614 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tel: +60 3 2282 3592

Fax: +60 3 2282 5292

Website: www.abu.org.my

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Welcome to the 3rd quarter edition of ABU News. As the ABU continues its return to face-to-face activities, we report on recent events and look ahead to the first in-person General Assembly in three years.

The last time ABU members got together in person for their annual meetings was in Tokyo in November 2019, with NHK as host. Then the pandemic got in the way and for the past two years the GA has been held online.

Times are changing as the pandemic eases. We are now just a few weeks away from the 59th General Assembly and Associated Meetings in New Delhi on 25-30 November, hosted by India's public broadcaster Prasar Bharati.

It will be an opportunity to see old friends, meet new ones and learn first-hand about the latest developments in broadcasting in our region and beyond.

The theme for the meetings is Serving the People: Media's Role in Time of Crisis. The General Assembly itself is on 29-30 November and, as usual, it will be preceded by a range of other meetings - technical, programming and sports among them.

Two highlights are sure to be the TV Song Festival on 27 November and the Presentation of ABU Prizes on the 29th.

And on 28 November, the day before the General Assembly opens, our hosts have kindly arranged a full-day excursion to the city of Agra, south of the capital, to visit the sublime Taj Mahal.

In this issue we also look at recent ABU activities. Among them was the 113th Administrative Council Meeting in Kazakhstan, hosted by JSC "Khabar Agency" in the city of Astana – the first face-to-face AC meeting since 2019.

Other important events featured include the Global News Forum in New Delhi, the RadioAsia conference and mid-year Technical Bureau Meeting, both held in Kuala Lumpur, ABU-RAI Days in Rome and the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, in which the ABU played a key role.

We also have a round-up of the latest activities of ABU members – their new programmes and events, use of social media, new digital platforms, changes at the top, important anniversaries and more.

We hope you will find lots to interest you in this issue. Happy reading.

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59th ABU General Assembly & Associated Meetings

25-30 November 2022 | Pullman Aerocity Hotel | New Delhi, India

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER		VENUE
09:00-10:30	SPORTS BROADCAST RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING	Co-meeting 2
09:00-12:30	PROGRAMME BUREAU MEETING (<i>PB members only</i>)	Peacock 2
11:00-12:30	SPORTS FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING	Co-meeting 2
14:00-17:30	70 TH ABU SPORTS GROUP CONFERENCE	Peacock 1
	RADIO WORKING PARTY MEETING	Peacock 2
14:00-18:00	TECHNICAL BUREAU MEETING (<i>TB members only</i>)	Co-meeting 2
15:00-19:00	PLANNING & STRATEGY GROUP MEETING (<i>PSG members only</i>)	Co-meeting 1
SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER		
09:00-17:00	70 TH ABU SPORTS GROUP CONFERENCE	Peacock 1
	PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEETING	Peacock 2
	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING	Peacock 3
17:00-18:00	PRESIDENT'S NEWS CONFERENCE	Co-meeting 1
19:00-20:00	MEETING OF THE PRESIDENCY	SG's Office
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER		
09:00-16:30	QUALITY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP	Co-meeting 1
	WOMEN WITH THE WAVE FORUM	Peacock 2
	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING	Peacock 3
	ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING (<i>Council members only</i>)	Peacock 1
18:00-21:00	WELCOME COCKTAIL – 18:00-19:00	SIRI FORT AUDITORIUM
	TV SONG FESTIVAL – 19:00-21:00	
MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER		
07:00-17:00	EXCURSION: VISIT TO AGRA CITY – TAJ MAHAL (Breakfast at the hotels will be served at 6am)	
TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER		
09:00-17:00	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL OPENING & PLENARY SESSIONS	Peacock Ballroom
19:00-21:00	PRESENTATION OF ABU PRIZES	Peacock Ballroom
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER		
09:00-11:15	GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUPER PANEL SESSION	Peacock Ballroom
11:45-13:00	GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 2ND PLENARY SESSION PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION	Peacock Ballroom
14:30-16:30	GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 3RD PLENARY SESSION RESTRICTED WORKING SESSION (<i>Full and Additional Full members only</i>)	Peacock Ballroom
19:00-21:00	NHK RECEPTION	THE GRAND NEW DELHI

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the 59th ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings in New Delhi. I would like to express my sincere thanks to India's public broadcaster, Prasar Bharati, for generously agreeing to host the meetings.

The theme of the 2022 General Assembly is 'Serving the People: Media's Role in Times of Crisis'. The annual meetings will enable us to reflect together on recent challenges the ABU is facing, and to discuss how to steer a course that will provide most benefit to over 250 ABU members and their 3 billion audiences.

Since 2020 the ABU has successfully been able to deliver many of its activities online and continue its valuable contributions to members. Though being unsure at first how well our activities could be complemented online, we have gradually learned that both physical and virtual meetings have their advantages. Online activities enabled not only member executives but also production and technical staff working in the field to participate with more ease.

One of the great strengths of the ABU is the readiness of its diverse members to work together on important projects, to share expertise and to practice solidarity. With this spirit of 'Unity in Diversity' and connections either physical and/or virtual, I'm certain that the ABU continues to evolve, enabling more members to access its quality activities easily and effectively.

Two years of the COVID-19 pandemic also provided the ABU with the opportunity to select activities that are really necessary and focus on what are the most important for members. It was a time to re-evaluate the activities we had been implementing for long and to consider what to keep, what to end, and what to start anew. In doing so, I believe that the Union can be continuously counted on by fellow members.

I look forward to your active participation and contribution so that the ABU can tackle the new challenges in the post-COVID era.

Masagaki Satoru
President, ABU
Executive Vice-President, NHK

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM PRASAR BHARATI

Dear ABU members and distinguished colleagues,

It is with immense pleasure that Prasar Bharati, India's largest Public Service Broadcasters, shall be hosting the 59th ABU General Assembly & Associated meetings face-to-face from 25 to 30 November 2022 at Hotel Pullman, Aero-City, New Delhi in partnership with the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union.

The theme for the event is Serving the People: Media's Role in Times of Crisis. The event will take place face-to-face and in hybrid mode as well. It is a proud moment for Prasar Bharati and with great pleasure I am pleased to invite all ABU members and their delegations to attend the 59th ABU General Assembly & Associated meetings.

The General Assembly itself will be held on 29 and 30 November. Prior to the General Assembly there will be meetings of the Administrative Council, the Radio Working Party, the Programme Committee, the Sports Group and the Technical Committee, besides the ABU Prizes and TV Song Festival and the Women with the Wave Forum.

Prasar Bharati acknowledges the great partnership and fruitful cooperation with the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and appreciates the significant activities being carried out by the ABU for the benefit of ABU member broadcasters in the Asia-Pacific region. Prasar Bharati would also like to appreciate your endeavours and valuable contribution to ABU and members during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Earlier, Prasar Bharati, India's Public Service Broadcaster, had had the honour to host the ABU General Assembly & Associated Meetings in the years 1968, 1978 and 1990 and then in 2011 in India besides many other ABU events as well.

It would be a momentous occasion for Prasar Bharati to welcome ABU Members in India as in 2022 India is celebrating its 75th year of Independence. The festival is dedicated to the freedom fighters who made great sacrifices to win freedom for India and also to those who have not only been instrumental in bringing India this far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat i.e. a self-reliant India. The mega event will serve as an opportunity to India to share the joy and happiness of the 75th year of Independence with the esteemed ABU members.

Hotel Pullman, venue of ABU GA 2022

The venue for the GA 2022 is Hotel Pullman, Aero-City, New Delhi. Pullman New Delhi Aerocity, offering several benefits and conveniences, is an excellent business and leisure hotel with 270 well-spaced elegant rooms, 3 restaurants and a bar, a full-service spa and salon, a well-equipped fitness gymnasium, and an outdoor temperature controlled swimming pool. Pullman New Delhi Aerocity is in close proximity to numerous locations such as Worldmark, which has multiple luxury offices, stores, and eateries; Cyber city which offers a place to hang out and relax, with several areas for recreational activities; and shopping malls such as DLF Emporio, Promenade, and Ambience. Several tourist sites, including Rastrapathi Bhavan, Jantar Mantar and India Gate, are all within a 10-15 kilometre radius.

Prasar Bharati has planned a full day excursion and all the delegates will be taken to Agra by Volvo buses for visiting UNESCO's World Heritage Site, the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal is an ivory-white marble mausoleum on the right bank of the river Yamuna in the Indian city of Agra. It was commissioned in 1632 by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan (r. 1628–1658) to house the tomb of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal; it also houses the tomb of Shah Jahan himself. The tomb is the centrepiece of a 17-hectare (42-acre) complex, which includes a mosque and a guest house, and is set in formal gardens bounded on three sides by wall.

Looking forward to meeting you all in New Delhi, India. I believe that the 59th ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings will be a highly fruitful and successful event.

***Mayank Kumar Agrawal
Interim Chief Executive Officer
Prasar Bharati, India***



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S WELCOME



As we look forward to our first face-to-face General Assembly in three years, I am pleased to welcome all delegates to what will surely be a productive and memorable set of meetings.

I would like to thank our hosts Doordarshan, All India Radio and Prasar Bharati for hosting the 59th ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings in New Delhi. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our members to reconnect in person and to experience one of the world's great capital cities.

The ABU has continued to find opportunities to excel in these demanding times. It has been led with distinction by the Presidency, the Administrative Council and other leadership groups. I thank our members for their invaluable partnership with their union during the long pandemic. Full credit goes to them. They have remained strongly committed to the ABU despite the challenges their own organisations have faced.

With their firm and unstinting support, we were able to take almost all our activities online. We now look with confidence to the future as we return to person-to-person events and the valuable opportunities they offer.

One striking indicator of the success of our activities is the number of online activities the ABU has organised. From July 2021 to June 2022, we held more than 150 webinars, courses and other virtual events. In all, more than 6,000 people took part in these activities.

In addition to these were the major ABU events held virtually during the period, including the General Assembly and Associated Meetings, Administrative Council, Planning and Strategy Group, Digital Broadcasting Symposium, ABU TV-CON, #ABUdigital, Global News Forum, Pacific Media Partnership Conference, Academy Forum, ABU TV Song Festival, East West Media Dialogue and all other governing bodies of the ABU.

I would like to thank my dedicated Secretariat colleagues for meeting every challenge enthusiastically and continuing to provide the best possible service to our members in an ever-changing broadcasting world.

The bond among ABU members remains unshakable and I know it will continue to strengthen as we work together to meet the opportunities that lie ahead.

Dr Javad Mottaghi
Secretary-General
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

ABU Prizes 2022 final juries meet in Kuala Lumpur

VENUE:
PEACOCK
BALLROOM
29
November
2022
(19:00-21:00)
PRESENTATION
OF ABU PRIZES



Following pre-selection, the final judging session of the ABU Prizes 2022 was held at the Royale Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 12 to 14 October.

Six final jurors for radio categories and five jurors for TV categories screened the 59 shortlisted programmes: 29 programmes for radio and 30 programmes for TV. Four short-listed Digital Media programmes were considered and judged online on 17 October.

The winners will be announced at the ABU Prizes 2022 Award Ceremony to be held on 29 November in conjunction with the 59th ABU General Assembly in New Delhi, India. All the winners will be published on the ABU website shortly after the announcement and the ceremony.

A total of 313 programmes were submitted this year for ABU Prizes – 174 Television entries, 106 Radio and 33 in Digital Media.

See [here](#) for the full list of finalists.



VENUE:
PEACOCK 2

25

**November
2022**

(9:00-12:30)
PROGRAMME
BUREAU
MEETING

(14:00-17:00)
RADIO
WORKING
PARTY
MEETING

26

**November
2022**

(9:00-16:30)
PROGRAMME
COMMITTEE
MEETING

VENUE:
SIRI FORT
AUDITORIUM

27

**November
2022**

(18:00-21:00)
TV SONG
FESTIVAL

Busy schedule for Programme Department meetings

Three meetings and two major events of the ABU Programme Department will be held in New Delhi, India as part of the 59th ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings hosted by Prasar Bharati.

The Programme Bureau Meeting and Radio Working Party Meeting will take place on 25 November.

The Programme Committee's annual gathering will be on the 26th. It is the first face-to-face gathering since the 2019 meeting in Tokyo because of the pandemic. The 2020 and 2021 meetings were held online.

The PC meeting will feature several showcases on programmes/programme productions by PC members. These will focus on new ideas and new content techniques.

On 27 November, the ABU TV Song Festival 2022, an exciting annual gala showcase of songs from the Asia-Pacific, will be held in Siri Fort Auditorium and will be broadcast live in India.

One of the most anticipated events of the ABU General Assembly, the Presentation of ABU Prizes 2022, is on 29 November.

THE 54TH ABU PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER	
09:00-09:20	1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARK 1-1. Welcome Remark - Prasar Bharati -- Dr Javad Mottaghi, ABU Secretary-General 1-2. Opening Remarks - Ms Claire Gorman, Chairperson, ABU Programme Committee - Mr Keizo Izuta, Vice-Chairperson, ABU Programme Committee - Ms Yeşim Eren, Vice-Chairperson, ABU Programme Committee
09:20-09:45	2. REPORT OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES (DEC. 2021 - OCT. 2021) 2-1. Programme Activities Mr Yasu Nagahata, Director of Programming, ABU 2-2. Legal & Copyright Activities (TBC)
09:45-10:00	3. REPORT OF THE OTHER MEETINGS 3-1. Programme Bureau Meeting Ms Claire Gorman, Chairperson, ABU Programme Committee 3-2. Radio Working Party Meeting Ms Olya Booyar, Head of ABU Radio 3-3. Digital Media Working Group Mr Hamdhoon Rashad, Project Manager of ABU Digital Media
10:00-10:30	Tea, coffee & networking
10:30-11:30	4. MEMBER'S FORUM: SUCCESSFUL ABU PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES In this session, the host or EP of the project share the successful ABU programme activities between December, 2021 and October, 2022. 4-1. ABU Media & Culture Days (7 December, 2021) 4-2. 12th Pacific Media Partnership Conference (8 June, 2022) 4-3. ABU-Rai Days (4-5 July, 2022) 4-4. Thai PBS-ABU ASEAN Documentary Co-production (11-12 July, 2022) 4-5. 17th Series Children Drama Co-Production 4-6. ABU Robocon Festival (12 December, 2021 & 21 August, 2022) 4-7. ABU Doc (22-24 August, 2022)
11:30-12:30	5. SPECIAL SESSION 1: NEW IDEA & NEW TECHNIQUE ON PROGRAMMES PART1 The session features members' flagship programmes or projects with new idea and technique. (TBC)
12:30-14:00	Networking lunch
14:00-14:30	6. 60 SECONDS PITCH! In this session, members promote their programme, project, event, etc. within 60 seconds! (TBC)
14:30-15:30	7. SPECIAL SESSION 1: NEW IDEA & NEW TECHNIQUE ON PROGRAMMES PART2 The session features members' flagship programmes or projects with new idea and technique. (TBC)
15:30-16:00	Tea, coffee & networking
16:00-17:00	8. INVITATION TO ABU FUTURE EVENTS / ACTIVITIES In this session, members and ABU secretariat invites you to future events of ABU. 8-1. Media and Culture Days 2022 (6-8 December, 2022) 8-2. ABU-Rai Days / CARE Series (March, 2023) 8-3. 13th Pacific Media Partnership Conference (26-27 April, 2023) 8-4. Global Media Summit for Children (4-6 July, 2023) 8-5. ABU Programme Department's Premier Events (2023) (ABU TV-CON, #ABUdigital, RadioAsia) Ms Hanizah Hamzah, Ms Olya Booyar, Mr Hamdhoon Rashad Mr Yasu Nagahata, Director of Programming, ABU
17:00-17:30	9. ANY OTHER MATTERS 10. CLOSING

VENUE:
PEACOCK 3

26

**November
2022**

(9:00-17:00)

**TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

27

**November
2022**

(9:00-16:30)

**TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Technical Committee to focus on new technologies and strategies

The ABU Technical Committee annual gathering will take place in New Delhi on 26-27 November, hosted by Prasar Bharati. Along with other meetings, the Technical Committee is gearing up for its first face-to-face gathering since 2019 in Tokyo.

The highlights of TC2022 will include the announcement of the winners of the Annual Engineering Awards and Technical Review Prizes. The morning session will also include the keynote address which will be delivered by an industry expert.

Among administrative matters the TC is expected to consider key recommendations coming from the Technical Bureau on matters related to cybersecurity and the outcomes from the Task Group setup to review the Engineering Awards and their selection guidelines.

The invited presentations at TC2022 will focus around two key themes: "Media Technologies and Solutions" and "Future Strategies". These invited presentations will focus on advanced technologies and innovative approaches that have been taken by broadcasters to help them address the challenges and difficulties during the pandemic.

The sessions will also look at future strategic initiatives by broadcasters including discussions about cybersecurity, the use of Artificial Intelligence in media applications, IP implementation and remote production and cloud technologies, among others.

Another highlight of the meeting will be the customary "Host Presents" session organised by the host where they will present on key technological projects and developments within Prasar Bharati's two broadcast entities Doordarshan and All India Radio.

The two-day meeting will also hear from the Chairmen of the Study Topics reporting on the latest updates within ongoing projects under Production, Transmission, Spectrum, and Training & Services.

As usual the meeting is expected to be joined by CTOs, technical heads and senior engineers from ABU member broadcasters, including industry experts from solution providers and industry partners from around the region and beyond.

The annual TC meeting is a platform for engineers, technology enthusiasts and industry experts to come together to share experiences, exchange knowledge and discuss issues of concern among like-minded colleagues.

ABU TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER	
09:00–09:30	TC PROCEEDINGS • Welcome address by the Chairman, Technical Committee • Welcome address from the Host • Opening Address by ABU Secretary-General
09:30–10:30	ABU ENGINEERING AWARDS 2022 Announcement of Winners of the Annual ABU Engineering Award and Technical Review Prizes 2022
10:30–11:00	BREAK: Tea, coffee & networking
17:00–18:00	TC PROCEEDINGS • Confirm Agenda and TC-2021 Proceedings and appointment of Rapporteurs • ABU Technology Activity Report • Bureau Proposals (Introduction)
11:45–12:30	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
12:30–14:00	Networking lunch
14:00–15:30	FUTURE STRATEGIES Themes/Topics include: • IP Implementation and Remote Production • Media Applications in AI, Machine Learning and Data Analytics • Use of Cloud Technologies in Broadcast Environment • Cybersecurity and Media
15:30–15:45	Tea, coffee & networking
15:45–17:00	MEDIA TECHNOLOGIES AND SOLUTIONS Themes/Topics include • Effective Online Delivery Systems • Importance of Digitising Archives and Managing Media Assets • Safeguarding the Broadcast Spectrum and approach to WRC23 • Asia-Pacific View (APV) Cloud Application for Members
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER	
09:00–09:40	TOPIC AREA REPORTS Production Mr Kazim Pektaş, Chief Engineer, TRT-Türkiye Transmission Mr Kenichi Murayama, Senior Manager, Engineering Administration Department, NHK-Japan Spectrum Dr Li Leilei, Professor, Academy of Broadcasting Planning, NRTA-China
09:40–10:15	TOPIC AREA REPORTS Training & Services Mr Shri P. Das, Deputy Director General (Engg), NABM, Prasar Bharati-India Information Exchange and Status Reports
10:15–10:30	BUREAU PROPOSALS (FINAL READING)
10:30–11:00	Tea, coffee & networking
11:00–12:30	TECHNOLOGY PANEL
12:30–14:00	Networking lunch
14:00–15:15	THE HOST PRESENTS PRASAR BHARATI-INDIA
15:15–16:30	MEMBERS' UPDATES New members and Updates from Sister Unions & Intl Organisations
	CLOSING • Future Meetings - ABU DBS 2023, Kuala Lumpur, 6-9 March 2023 • Appointment of Honorary Vice-Chairman from the host of the 2023 ABU General Assembly • Closing remarks by TC Chairman

VENUE:
PEACOCK 2
27
November
2022
(9:00-16:30)

ABU 11th WOMEN WITH THE WAVE BROADCASTING FOR ALL: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE MEDIA FORUM

SERVING THE PEOPLE: MEDIA'S ROLE IN TIMES OF CRISIS – THROUGH A GENDER EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION LENS

As part of the ABU's 2022 General Assembly and Associated Meetings in New Delhi, India, with the host broadcaster, Prasar Bharati and leading sponsor organisations, the 11th Women With the Wave: Broadcasting for All, Diversity and Inclusion in the Media Forum will take place on 27 November 2022 – showcasing gender and diversity leadership, content and participation across the media.

The ABU in conjunction with ABU members and international and regional partners is committed to leading with diversity and inclusion principles and practices across the Asia-Pacific region through broadcast and online media. Overall responsibility of the ABU's diversity and inclusion activity is with the Secretary-General, supported by the ABU Diversity and Inclusion Task Group, through the objectives and actions of the ABU Diversity and Inclusion Media Action Plan.

The ABU aims to:

- promote and facilitate a culture of diversity and inclusion in media organisations;
- build on the representation, development and retention of employees from diversity groups in the media; and
- enhance the participation, connection and engagement in media content and services, that reflects the broad range of diversity in communities and audiences.

In 2022, the 11th Forum in the Series is in line with the General Assembly's overall theme – "Serving the People: Media's Role in Times of Crisis" through the lens of gender equality, diversity and inclusion, with international and regional presenters, and case studies of the media supporting communities and employees through health events, conflict, trauma and climate-related disasters.

This year the forum also highlights all areas of the Asia-Pacific region, with diversity and inclusion policies and content in action – showcased by a broad range of broadcasters.

SESSIONS INCLUDE:

ABU'S ENGAGEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION TO GENDER EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE MEDIA

Global and Inter-Regional Connections

Conversation with leading international and regional organisations about their gender and diversity work, with reference to issues in times of crisis arising through pandemic, conflict and climate change/disaster and observations of how the media can help under these circumstances.

ABU Projects and Outreach

Outline of the ABU's outreach campaign to promote and advance gender equality, diversity and inclusion through its Media Action Plan, international and regional commitments and projects. Speakers include ABU broadcasters involved with projects that are making a difference in their organisations.

SERVING THE PEOPLE THROUGH HEALTH CRISIS: Practical measures for media organisations through pandemic situations - supporting employees and communities based on gender and diversity needs – case study.

FOCUS ON SOUTH, CENTRAL AND WESTERN ASIA MEDIA LEADING WITH DIVERSITY

Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policies and Content in Action across South Asia, Central Asia and Western Asia.

SERVING THE PEOPLE THROUGH CONFLICT AND TRAUMA:

Practical measures for media organisations through war and conflict situations - supporting employees and communities based on gender and diversity needs – case study.

FOCUS ON THE PACIFIC REGION MEDIA LEADING WITH DIVERSITY

Gender Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policies and Content in Action across the Pacific.

MENTAL HEALTH MINI WORKSHOP: Specialist mental health expert.

SERVING THE PEOPLE THROUGH CLIMATE AND DISASTER EVENTS:

Practical measures for media organisations through climate change issues and related events - supporting employees and communities based on gender and diversity needs – case study.

IN-DEPTH NEWS COVERAGE OF DISABILITY ISSUES: Video message from specialist disability content journalist.

DISABILITY THEMES AND STORIES IN CONTENT: Award-winning Attitude Pictures highlights disability content from around the world.

FOCUS ON EAST AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA MEDIA LEADING WITH DIVERSITY

Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policies and Content in Action across East Asia and Southeast Asia.

Quality Management Workshop

VENUE: CO-MEETING 1
27
November
2022
(9:00-16:30)

As part of the associated meetings of the upcoming 59th ABU General Assembly in New Delhi, the ABU's annual Quality Management Workshop will be held on 27 November 2022.

Under the main theme of this year's ABU General Assembly, this workshop will explore how media quality management can be focused on better serving the people in times of crisis.

This workshop is meant for mid-level to senior-level media managers from ABU members seeking new tools to develop the quality, credibility and efficiency of their organisations.

It will also cover the ISAS MEDIA 9001 international standard which provides key management tools for media managers.

The workshop will be led by David Balme, CEO at Challenge Optimum, S.A., the Switzerland-based French-speaking leader in management systems consulting, training and software. It will also feature a presentation on how crises represent defining moments for the news media, delivered by Michel Lemay, who is an expert in strategic communication from Canada.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Crises have always hit humankind. Long before the plagues of Egypt, every living body on the Earth had to adapt him/her or itself to its constantly changing environment. Our ancestors had to cope with extremely cold temperatures only 20,000 years ago while sea levels used to be 120 metres lower than the one we know today. Over the last years, large countries have withstood a sequence of severe crises: how many of them bordering the Indian ocean have been struck by the 2005 tsunami? Everyone remembers how strongly the 2011 tsunami submerged Japan with the destruction of the Fukushima nuclear plant. On a global scale, humankind as a whole has undergone massive crises: no country could escape the COVID since 2019 and the war has been raging in Ukraine for more than six months. In these crises, how can the media maximize their service to the people? Probably, public service broadcasters must, as a first step, strive to hierarchize and target the challenges the community must take up and, as a second step, raise the level of awareness of the people across them. As a former car manufacturing executive used to say: "A Problem Well Stated is Half Solved". Transposed to the media industry, this means that media organizations play a key role in the problem identification and statement. A well informed audience usually helps make better decisions for the good of everyone and prevents or reduces adverse impacts. But a well informed audience also requires from the media the systematic collection of accurate facts and a clear explanation of potentially complex situations. The status on climate change set by the international scientific community has not led yet to significant actions to effectively reduce our greenhouse effect gas emissions. Since their 2007 report, when it was shown for the first time that the greenhouse effect gas emissions are caused by human activities, global emissions have increased by nearly 30 percent. Meanwhile, every climatologist asserts it is necessary to reduce them without delay. How do media organizations process this subject? In the meantime, media organizations must also maintain their appeal and position on the market through innovating and entertaining programmes. Quality management can contribute to continuously optimizing the content design and production through streamlined processes implemented by skilled employees. Targeting media executives, the 2022 ABU Quality Management Workshop will provide them with a sound insight into key management requirements on how to achieve this goal.

09:00–16:30	Media Quality Management Workshop
09:00-10:15	Crises represent defining moments for the news media. What are the challenges, what are the pitfalls, and what precautions can a newsroom management team take to better serve the public interest? <i>Michel Lemay, Expert in strategic communication, remote participation from Canada</i>
10:15-10:45	Morning Break
10:45-12:00	Media content design and production optimization through ISAS MEDIA 9001: how media quality management can be focused on better serving the people in times of crisis? <i>David Balme, CEO, Challenge Optimum SA.</i>
12:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-16:30	Practical workshop on a theme related to the ABU GA main theme, selected by the participants. The participants will be requested to work actively and share their experience and views on the selected subject.

VENUE:
**PEACOCK
BALLROOM**

**29
November
2022**
(9:00-17:00)
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
DAY 1**

59TH ABU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022 AGENDA - DAY 1

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER

07:45-08:45	REGISTRATION AT CONFERENCE VENUE	
08:45-8:55	DELEGATES ARE REQUESTED TO BE SEATED	
09:00-9:40	OPENING CEREMONY	
09:45-10:15	COFFEE BREAK	
10:15-12:15	PLENARY SESSION 1 1. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS 2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA 3. COMMUNICATIONS AND WELCOME TO OBSERVERS 4. WORKING PROCEDURES FOR THE 59th GENERAL ASSEMBLY 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PLENARY SESSIONS OF THE 58th GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD ONLINE FROM 24-26 NOVEMBER 2021 6. SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT 6.1 SG'S ANNUAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION 6.2 HIGHLIGHTS OF MAJOR ABU ACTIVITIES 7. FINANCIAL MATTERS 7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021/2022 7.2 AUDITORS' REPORT FOR 2021/2022 7.3 2022/2023 BUDGET 7.4 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2022/2023 7.5 OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS 8. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - PLANNING & STRATEGY GROUP	GA 59/2
12:15-13:45	LUNCH BREAK	
13:45-15:00	9. MEMBERS' FORUM 9.1 PROGRAMME COMMITTEE 9.2 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 9.3 SPORTS GROUP MEETING 9.4 NEWS GROUP MEETING 9.5 MEDIA ACADEMY FORUM 9.6 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND LEGAL COMMITTEE (COPYRIGHT COMMITTEE) 10. MEMBERS' STORIES Serving the People: Media's Role in Times of Crisis	GA 59/9 GA 59/9.1 GA 59/9.2 GA 59/9.3 GA 59/9.4 GA 59/9.5 GA59/9.6 GA 59/10
15:00-15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:30-17:00	11. MOVING FORWARD Successful Digital Strategies to Engage Audiences 12. FUTURE ABU MEETINGS 13. OTHER BUSINESS	GA 59/11 GA 59/12 GA 59/13

59TH ABU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022 AGENDA - DAY 2

WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER		
09:00-11:15	14. SUPER PANEL 1&2 Super Panel Forum 1: Understanding Audience Behavior in Times of Crisis Session 1: Reaching and Engaging Audiences on Multi-platforms Session 2: Broadcasting For All: Deep Dive into Diversity Super Panel Forum 2: Together for Peace: Media Building Culture of Tolerance	GA 59/14
11:15-11:45	COFFEE BREAK	
11:45-13:00	15. PLENARY SESSION 2: PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION Discussion 1: Climate is Changing and so Should We: Media Leading Climate Action Discussion 2, presentation on: Multi – Platforms for Crisis Coverage Discussion 3, presentation on: Leaving No one Behind: Reaching the Last Mile	GA 59/15
13:00-14:30	LUNCH BREAK	
14:30-16:30	PLENARY SESSION 3 RESTRICTED SESSION <i>(Open to Full and Additional Full Members only)</i> 16. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL 17. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 18. ELECTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL 19. ELECTION OF THE ABU VICE PRESIDENTS 20. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE HOST	GA 59/16 GA 59/17 GA 59/18 GA 59/19

VENUE:
 PEACOCK
 BALLROOM
30
November
2022
 (9:00-18:30)
 GENERAL
 ASSEMBLY
 DAY 2



113th ABU Administrative Council Meeting

Mr Berik Uali, Chairman of JSC "Khabar Agency", successfully hosted the 113th ABU Administrative Council Meeting at KAZMEDIA ORTALAGY on 26 August 2022 in the city of Nur-Sultan (since renamed Astana).

This was the first face-to-face meeting of the Administrative Council since November 2019. The ABU President, Mr Masagaki Satoru, chaired the meeting.

In addition to Mr Berik Uali, the Honourable Minister of Information and Social Development of Kazakhstan, Mr Askar Umarov, welcomed the ABU Councillors and addressed the opening ceremony of the Council.

On behalf of the ABU President Mr Masagaki and all the Councillors, the Secretary-General expressed his deep gratitude to Mr Berik Uali and his hard-working colleagues for making the 113th Administrative Council Meeting such an unforgettable experience. He thanked ABU members who attended in person and online.



The meeting dealt with issues of critical importance for the future of the Union. Facilitating the meeting to such a high standard contributed immensely to its efficiency and fruitfulness. The hosting was perfect and the hospitality impressive.

Dr Mottaghi commended and thanked the Head of International Partnership, Distribution and Development, Mr Tussupbekov Daniyar, for organising everything so well – from meeting and greeting the Councillors to the perfect

arrangements for the meeting.

He also expressed his appreciation to Mr Kabiden Yesenai, Manager International Relations; Ms Bekenova Erkejan, Senior Manager Department of International Partnership, Distribution and Development; Ms Appazova Gulbagu, Manager Development; and Ms Aida, Manager Distribution.

Khabar Agency also organised a wonderful excursion in the beautiful city of Astana on 27 August.



Government minister highlights the importance of Prasar Bharati in times of crisis



India's Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Dr L. Murugan, has emphasised the role of public broadcasters in providing true and trusted news.

Speaking at the opening of the Global News Forum in New Delhi, Dr Murugan said journalism was the fourth pillar of democracy.

He said Prasar Bharati played a crucial role at times of crisis, because of its services across the country and people's trust in its news.

More than 170 people attended the Global News Forum, which was organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union in association with Prasar Bharati. The theme was Truth and Trust at Times of Crisis.

It was the first time the event has been held in India.



In his welcoming address the CEO of Prasar Bharati, Shri Mayank Kumar Agrawal, highlighted Prasar Bharati's response to COVID-19: protecting staff, providing information and overcoming vaccine hesitancy and disinformation.

"We in Prasar Bharati – its two arms Doordarshan and All India Radio – we have lived up to the highest standards of public broadcasting. We have been valued by the people of India and the world around for our objectivity, our impartiality and being true while presenting news," he said.

He added: "When fake news was spreading faster than the pandemic, there was another pandemic which was the information pandemic. It was Doordarshan and All India Radio that came and busted fake news in real time."

The Global News Forum was attended by public broadcasters and journalists from across the Asia Pacific region.





The ABU News Group adopts member recommendations

Asiavision members have agreed to adopt a range of measures to increase the appeal of the video news exchange.

They include ending the 30-day restriction on usage, unless otherwise specified, and the inclusion of ready-to-broadcast reporter packages. Asiavision will also promote stories on climate change and sustainable development, and provide briefings and training on climate change issues.

The Director of ABU News, Deborah Steele, told members the changes had been requested by members and would increase usage, including by digital platform producers.

The chair of the ABU News Group Indra Singh said ready to broadcast packages

would help ease the workload at newsrooms hard hit by COVID budget and staff cuts.

The ABU News Group adopted the recommendations at its first face-to-face meeting since 2019, which was held on 3 October at the Taj Palace hotel in New Delhi. The meeting was co-hosted by Prasara Bharati.

Asiavision Senior Editor Afruh Rasheed also gained members support to implement a mechanism for live crosses and to increase the number of stories with a 'shelf life', including high quality vision on cultural events, human interest stories and issues-based journalism on health, environment, science, innovation and tourism.



The Managing Director of Al Jazeera English, Giles Trendle, says attacks on journalists and media organisation are one of the greatest challenges facing international crisis journalism.

In a video address to the Global News Forum in New Delhi, Mr Trendle said the frequency of attacks on journalists was increasing.

At least 51 journalists and media workers have been killed this year, including Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, according to the International Committee to Protect Journalists.

"Attacks on the freedom, the profession and the practitioners of the media are increasing around the world," said Mr Trendle. "This is happening at the very moment when the need for professional journalism is greater than ever.

"That need is because journalists have a critical role to play in reporting and informing us all about what is happening in the world. Yet journalism cannot play this crucial civic role if our reporters are being killed, our offices bombed and our freedom to publish and broadcast trampled."

He added: "It is critical for all of us that journalism is not silenced, suppressed or sidelined anywhere in the world. An attack on a journalist anywhere, is an attack on journalism everywhere."

Al Jazeera MD highlights threats to crisis journalism



All winners: Winners and presenters pose for photo at the Asiavision Awards Gala, held in New Delhi, India.

NHK's coverage of Tokyo Olympics wins top prize at Asiavision Awards

NHK's coverage of the Tokyo Summer Olympics won the top prize at the 2022 Asiavision Awards Gala, for their dedication to upholding the values of excellence in journalism, even in the face of difficult conditions.

Produced while battling a pandemic, and under strict pandemic prevention measures, NHK's coverage of the Tokyo Olympics won the Coverage of the Year award. NHK also won the award for "Outstanding Coverage – International" for its coverage of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and nabbed four more nominations in various categories.

The gala event produced by Prasar Bharati was hosted by DD-India's Senior Anchor Munmun Battacharya and featured traditional performances and Bollywood renditions.

TVB-Hong Kong won Outstanding Reporting – News Story for a third consecutive year. Their report on the removal of a protest monument at Hong Kong University was the joint winner with Thai PBS-Thailand's

story on exposing a scam call centre operation in Cambodia.

CNA-Singapore tied with KBS-Korea to win Outstanding Reporting – Climate Change. CNA won the category for the second consecutive year.

Other winners include BTV-Bangladesh for Outstanding Reporting – Small Newsroom, CCTV-China for Outstanding Reporting – Sports, VTV-Vietnam for Outstanding Visuals, TRT-Türkiye for Outstanding Coverage – News Event, and DD-India and TVRI-Indonesia for Outstanding Coverage – Breaking News.

A new category was introduced in 2022 in recognition of the individuals who support the news exchange with extraordinary commitment. The Director's Award for Outstanding Commitment to Asiavision went to Prasad Kaushalya Dodangodage, Head of English Desk at SLRC-Sri Lanka, for his years of service to Asiavision and his contributions to the video news exchange, even at the height of the protests in Colombo.

Here is the full list of winners and nominees.

OUTSTANDING REPORTING - NEWS STORY

Protest monument removed – TVB-Hong Kong (WINNER)

Scam call centres revealed – Thai PBS-Thailand (WINNER)

Miraculous premature twins – KBS-Korea

Nuclear research facility damaged – NHK-Japan

Help for infant Covid-19 patients – VTV-Vietnam

Elephant migration tracked – CCTV-China

OUTSTANDING COVERAGE – INTERNATIONAL

Russian invasion of Ukraine – NHK-Japan (WINNER)

Underwater volcano erupts – CCTV-China

Al Jazeera journalist killed – IRIB-Iran
Myanmar coup anniversary – NHK-Japan



BTV Small Newsroom: BTV-Bangladesh won Outstanding Reporting – Small Newsroom



VTV Visuals: VTV-Vietnam won Outstanding Visuals



CNA Climate: CNA-Singapore was joint winner for Outstanding Reporting – Climate Change



KBS Climate: KBS-Korea was joint winner for Outstanding Reporting – Climate Change



TVRI Breaking: TVRI-Indonesia was joint-winner for Outstanding Coverage – Breaking News



DDI Breaking: DD-India was joint winner for Outstanding Coverage – Breaking News



TPBS Story: Thai PBS-Thailand was joint winner for Outstanding Reporting – News Story



NHK International: NHK-Japan won for Outstanding Reporting – International



TRT News Event: TRT-Türkiye was winner for Outstanding Coverage – News Event



NHK Coverage of the Year: NHK-Japan won Coverage of the Year



SLRC's Prasad Dodangodage receives the Director's Award for Outstanding Commitment to Asiavision

OUTSTANDING COVERAGE - NEWS EVENT

Türkiye tries to mediate Ukraine talks – TRT-Türkiye (WINNER)
 Shenzhou-12 space mission – CCTV-China
 Quad Leaders' Summit – NHK-Japan
 ASEAN Summit meetings – RTB-Brunei
 G20 Finance Ministers' Meeting – TVRI-Indonesia

OUTSTANDING COVERAGE - BREAKING NEWS

General dies in helicopter crash – DD-India (WINNER)
Refugees stranded in leaky boat – TVRI-Indonesia (WINNER)
 Guangxi plane crash – CCTV-China
 Quake hits Japan's Pacific coast – NHK-Japan
 Economic crisis grips Sri Lanka – SLRC-Sri Lanka
 IRGC Officer assassinated – IRIB-Iran

OUTSTANDING REPORTING - CLIMATE CHANGE

Rising temperatures attract sharks – KBS-Korea (WINNER)
Sustainable fashion cuts emissions – CNA-Singapore (WINNER)
 Private forest nurtures biodiversity – SLRC-Sri Lanka
 Wooden building cuts carbon footprint – NHK-Japan
 Sirens warn of flood risk – RTM-Malaysia
 Migratory bird haven – TVB-Hong Kong

OUTSTANDING REPORTING - SMALL NEWSROOM

Monsoon flooding – BTV-Bangladesh (WINNER)
 COVID-19 resurgence in Fiji – FBC-Fiji
 Presidential elections – TV5-Mongolia
 Mudon flooding – MRTV-Myanmar
 Opposition MP protest – SBC-Samoa

OUTSTANDING REPORTING - SPORT

Beijing Winter Olympics – CCTV-China (WINNER)
 Tokyo Summer Olympics – NHK-Japan
 Ancient equestrian sport – MTRK-Uzbekistan
 Mallakhamb – DD-India
 Elderly runners break records – NHK-Japan

OUTSTANDING VISUALS

Teacher shows commitment – VTV-Vietnam (WINNER)
 Search for missing divers – RTM-Malaysia
 Migratory bird haven – TVB-Hong Kong
 Flood rescue – Thai PBS-Thailand
 Vaccine milestone celebrated – DD-India
 The Taliban returns to Kabul – IRIB-Iran
 Migratory birds enjoy wetlands – CCTV-China



The ABU Secretary-General, Dr Javad Mottaghi, has spoken of the importance of radio in helping people survive the COVID crisis.

Dr Mottaghi was opening RadioAsia 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, the first face-to-face ABU radio conference in three years.

Welcoming delegates, he said radio had been a trusted source of information during the pandemic and a way of connecting people when they had to be apart.

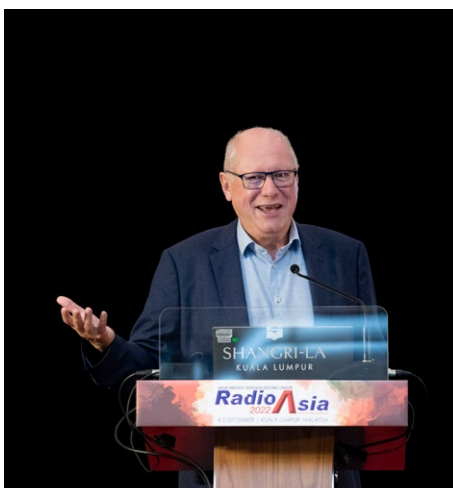
"Broadcasters have been able to cope with COVID and continue serving the audience during this challenging time...we have all been affected but we have been able to cope with the disaster," he said.

"The ABU also adapted very quickly to deliver our services online during these challenging times."

The conference began on 4 September with two training workshops presented by the ABU Media Academy. The opening session took place on 5 September, followed by a full day of discussions, presentations and displays.

Other speakers at the opening session were Anders Held, Project Director and Founder of Radiodays Asia, a separate two-day conference being held on 6-7 September in partnership with RadioAsia, and Olya Booyar, Head of ABU Radio.

ABU SG praises radio's key role during pandemic



Radio can survive by delivering its content in new ways and cultivating audience interaction, the President Director of Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI), Dr I Hendrasmo, has said.

Speaking at the ABU's 2022 RadioAsia conference in Kuala Lumpur on 5 September, he said he had confidence in the future of radio because it could enhance culture.

Traditional radio listening in Indonesia had decreased by 37 percentage points, from 50 percent to 13 percent, while internet usage had dramatically increased, he said. So RRI had increased its services on new platforms to continue to deliver its mission.

David Hua, the Director of Language and Audience Services at SBS Australia, said there were similar sobering statistics in most countries, but it came down to how one defined the word radio.

"People are connected to radio in different ways. Linear broadcast radio is still important to many, especially those who cannot connect via internet and data, while other types of new radio content connect in different ways."

Sanjiv Dosajh, Assistant Director General of Programmes at All India Radio, talked about the huge diversity of languages, geographies and cultures in India.

A challenge for radio was to keep reaching the younger population, he said. "They are shifting to web radio and social media platforms so we are developing new programmes on new platforms for them."

Dan Santa, the Director of International Relations at Radio Romania, said radio had an important public mission and as long as it continued to fulfil this mission there would be a well-defined future for radio.

Keith Williams, Vice President of RCS Asia Pacific, said radio had succeeded to this point because of the content and nothing had changed about that despite different means of delivery.



Radio must deliver content in new ways, RadioAsia told





Audience response key to choosing online platforms for radio

Broadcasters should involve their audiences when deciding how to move services to digital and online platforms, radio industry experts have warned.

The advice came from a special panel on social media and platforms at this year's RadioAsia Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Under the conference's umbrella theme of "Smart, Social and Everywhere", members of the panel were asked to advise on what's hot and what's not in social media tools.

They included Alan Soon of Splice Media Singapore, Sanne Breimer of Inclusive Journalism and Harry Lock of the Public Media Alliance, formerly the Commonwealth Broadcasting



trying to cover too many social media platforms.

"Most [broadcasters] want to be present on all social media platforms," she said. "But before you decide, you should look at which you really need and can resource. It's smarter to pick one or two platforms and do them well."

She said younger staff were more clear-eyed about what was working for audiences and she advised inviting young people to take part in focus groups to discuss who they are and what they use.

Harry Lock said it was important to analyse what content worked well on specific platforms, whether there were audiences and which were the best platforms for the organisation.

He said public service broadcasters shared common values such as reliability and trustworthiness, which also had to be taken into account when selecting new platforms.

He also felt different platforms worked better for different cultures, countries and regions. WhatsApp was proving popular in Africa where video and audio streaming could be prohibitively expensive on data plans.

Asked about which platforms they recommended or avoided, there was general agreement that Facebook had lost its edge and that apps such as TikTok were increasingly popular, especially amongst younger people who didn't care so much about the family aspects of Facebook. Youngsters were looking for what Mr Soon called "random stuff" on TikTok, though for broadcasters this might increase the chances of young people stumbling across radio online content.

"The challenge today is to make your digital content more discoverable," he said.

Asked for one more piece of advice, Ms Breimer suggested established broadcasters should utilise their vast archives of material for posting online, while Mr Lock pressed the case for collaboration between content producers, whoever they were.

Association. ABU Head of Radio Olya Booyar moderated the session.

Mr Soon, a pioneer of audio-over-the-Internet from the 1990s, noted how the fragmentation of the mass media was accelerating and felt that broadcasters would thrive and survive if they turned this to their advantage by concentrating on niche services for their online presence, partly because they required less marketing effort.

"Niche means people know what they are looking for," he said. Niche services were not necessarily small; they could appeal to large numbers of people and even time slots could be niche.

He said mass media found it hard to accept that listeners themselves knew what they wanted, but broadcasters needed to listen to their listeners more.

"The best way of choosing new platforms is to put content out there and see how they respond," he said.

He warned that this approach required the broadcasters to understand what audiences were looking for might not be expressed in words the industry traditionally uses.

"Terms such as 'news' or 'journalism' don't mean the same for some young social media users as they do for producers."

Sanne Breimer, whose career has included youth stations, agreed that broadcasters needed to connect to their younger audiences and get over the fear of losing their status as experts, so stop building walls to their listeners.

She cautioned against broadcasters



Working smarter is key to survival, conference hears

Working smarter will ensure radio continues to thrive in the digital world, delegates at the ABU's RadioAsia conference in Kuala Lumpur heard.

A common theme throughout a full day of discussions under this year's headline theme "Smart, Social and Everywhere", panellists at a session on "Working better, harder but mostly smarter" stressed the need for broadcasters to be agile, innovative and aware if they were to meet the growing challenges of online and social media.

The session was moderated by Natalie Pozdeev, Program Convenor, Graduate Diploma in Radio & Podcasting, AFTRS.

The session opened with RRI-Indonesia's Program Director Mistam describing how his network had undergone some major re-strategising under the banner of Three Gs – great content, great design and great delivery. Under their Digital Transformation and Innovation strategy, many of their 67 channels were being combined into super channels for a service due to be launched in a few days' time.

ABC-Australia's emergency broadcast lead Pat Hession spoke about how the national broadcaster had been confronted with major crises in the past three years – including bushfires and the COVID pandemic – so had to manage an increasing workload on reduced finances.

He quoted US racing cyclist Greg LeMond who said: "It never gets easier – you just get faster".

The ABC's answer had been sustainable innovation, implementing improvements they knew they could maintain.

"For example, we kept some Internet accounts open while others we closed down," he said.

When they found their emergency information service suffered from peaks and troughs in usefulness and usage,

they devolved some of the content to their local stations' web pages, so it became part of the relevant communities.

Richard Palmer, Director of Market Development at Triton Digital, began by acknowledging that radio production and distribution had become far more complex than in older times.

"We're not just broadcasters but media content providers," he said.

Simple streaming was evolving into advanced streaming, with accompanying metadata able to provide a unique environment for each listener, depending on who they are or where they are listening.

He said podcasting had become more important and some radio stations had a policy of getting their on-air programming to podcasts within two minutes of broadcast.

He urged public broadcasters to add value to their programming with videos, accompanying information or – as in the case of the US network iHeartRadio – a whole virtual world where listeners could find their programmes together with performing avatars, games and much more.





Interactivity 'vital for public radio broadcasters'

Interaction with listeners and the human touch are ways public service radio broadcasters can stay ahead of their commercial rivals, the ABU RadioAsia conference 2022 has heard.

A session on 5 September featuring speakers from Malaysia, Vietnam, Romania and India looked at how public service broadcasters can reach their audiences more deeply and thrive in the new, interconnected world.

Do Minh Hong of VOV-Vietnam described how the VOV Traffic Channel not only reported on traffic conditions in the usual way but interactively connected with listeners as they travelled and even ran a radio dating programme.



Udaya Sankar of All India Radio Hyderabad also spoke of the importance of interactive programming, especially for young people.

Flavia Voinea of Romania's BucurestiFM described how the station had reached out to young listeners by inviting students to host radio shows for an entire season. The students had taken to the work enthusiastically and with passion.

Rosli Nordin of RTM-Malaysia said for a public broadcaster like RTM, it was not about popularity but about social obligation.

Yogendra Pal of the Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) Consortium said digital services such as those provided by DRM offered interactivity of a kind not available on analogue radio.

The session moderator was Steve Ahern, Head of the ABU Media Academy.



RadioAsia's Great Debate confirms radio is alive and well

The traditional Great Debate at this year's RadioAsia Conference has yet again confirmed that radio is very much alive.

Despite spirited arguments from the proposers of the resolution that "Radio is dead; long live audio!", the opposition won by a sea of hands.

True or not, most of the attendees at this year's RAC were not yet ready to write-off radio in preference to audio online or as just a part of multimedia in general.

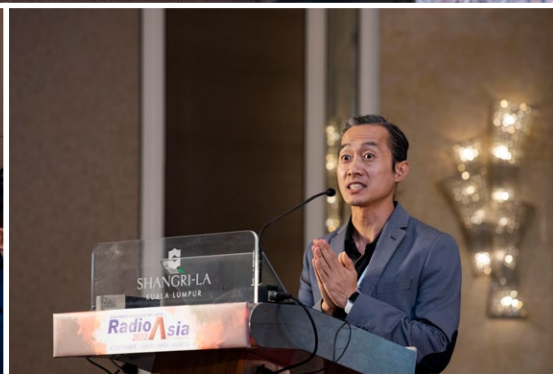
All the contributions were delivered with humour at the end of a long day's discussions over more weighty issues, and some of the speakers for

the affirmative had their tongues firmly in their cheeks in front of an audience that had spent the past two days demonstrating how very much alive radio was and sharing with each other advice on how to make it even livelier.

Akim Mogaji of New Media Networks was the outrageously biased moderator – his own words – and the teams were made up of: David Hua (SBS-Australia); Sanjiv Dosajh (AIR-India); Sopit Wangvivatana (Thai PBS); Kartini Ariffin (Dbilique Media Malaysia); Barry Keohane (ARN-Australia); and Niswani Ahwang (TRAXX FM, RTM-Malaysia)

Honour was satisfied...at least for another year.







ABU-RAI Days connects Asian and European broadcasters

Broadcasters from Asia and Europe got together in Rome on 4-5 July to swap experiences and explore how broadcasters are transforming to serve their audiences in the new digital environment.

ABU-RAI Days, hosted by Italy's public broadcaster RAI in collaboration with the ABU, focused on digital transformation and whether this is leading to a new age of audience-led evolution.

RAI President Marinella Soldi welcomed participants to the RAI Headquarters in Rome, saying that cultural and technological transformation was facing every broadcaster.

"Public service media needs to be on the forefront on digital transformation. There are no longer any boundaries... we are all undergoing cultural change to innovate and enhance our dialogue with our audiences."

ABU Secretary General Javad Mottaghi said: "We are facing an audience led revolution. There is a necessity to work together to share the lessons learned from the pandemic. We must think globally and act locally as we transform our organisations."

Speaking about the massive transformations happening at India's public broadcaster Prasar Bharati, its former CEO Shashi Vempati outlined the changes happening to fulfil the company's public mandate while continuing to connect with new audiences on digital platforms.

"This is an audience led revolution, the audience are way ahead of us with their use of technology... we are playing catch up."

European Broadcasting Union (EBU) Deputy Director General Jean Philip De Tender said this difficult time during COVID had become one of the biggest opportunities in public service media.

"There are common processes and practices needed to make organisational changes. If we had to invent a public service broadcaster today what would it look like... This is a better way to begin the process of change than just trying to make changes to existing structures.

"There is a need to redistribute resources...to redesign our offerings and focus on people...think big!"

ABU-RAI links to be expanded

An intercontinental partnership between the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union and the Italian national public broadcaster Rai is to be expanded, following talks in Rome.

Rai's new President Marinella Soldi and ABU Secretary-General Dr Javad Mottaghi met on the sidelines of their joint initiative, the ABU-RAI Days conference, now in its fourth year.

Titled "Digital Transformation: A new age of audience-led evolution", the global conference attracted more than 100 participants both virtually and in person at Rai's Viale Giuseppe Mazzini headquarters in Rome.

The two leaders discussed progress to-date in promoting links between Rai, one of Europe's major public broadcasters,



and the ABU, which represents more than 250 broadcasting organisations across Asia and the Pacific, making it the world's biggest and geographically largest broadcasting union.

They agreed to further strengthen the partnership between the ABU and Rai, with the Italian broadcaster continuing to host the annual ABU-RAI Days forum in Italy.

"We also agreed to expand our partnership and jointly initiate capacity-building initiatives and look at other possible areas of partnership," said Dr Mottaghi.

"Both parties also expressed their satisfaction on quality and networking opportunities that the ABU-RAI Days have offered to broadcasters in Asia and Europe."

Dr Mottaghi expressed his thanks and appreciation to Rai for hosting this important east-west media dialogue.

8K TV production 'now easier and cheaper'

The ABU-RAI Days forum in Rome watched a demonstration from Japan's public broadcaster NHK on the latest equipment for 8K high-quality video.

NHK's Takeshi Shibasaki said an 8K camera was now small, light and cost only \$5,000.

"The 8K production environment has changed in the past year or two. It is much easier and cheaper," he said "Now it is as easy as 2K and 4K production. Costs can be kept low."

Viewing 8K was now also much cheaper, he said. 8K TVs in Japan cost only \$1,800 and 12 million sets had been sold.

Content could be played on desktop PCs and stored on USB sticks, he said, and there was a YouTube 8K content channel with lots of content available.

Mr Takeshi invited ABU members who wanted to develop their 8K content and production skills to work with NHK in co-productions.



How ABS-CBN fast tracked its digital transformation

The Head of ABS-CBN News in the Philippines, Regina Reyes, speaking at ABU-RAI Days, told the story of how her broadcast company lost its broadcast licences two years ago because the previous president "didn't like our content".

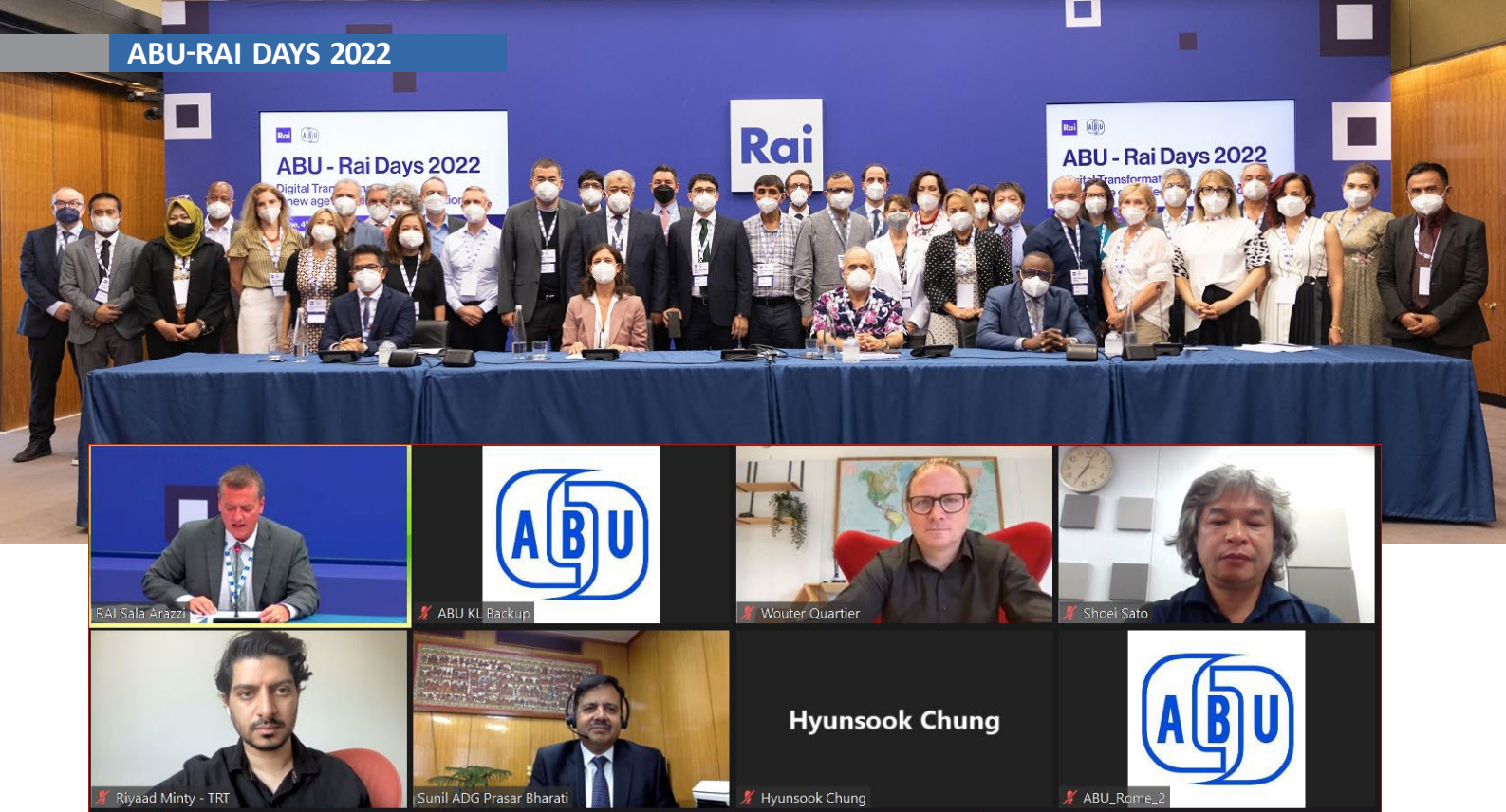
At the point of licence renewal, the regulator did not grant a new licence for the company's continued operation and it was issued with a 'cease and desist order' which forced the

company of 11,000 staff to close its radio and tv transmitters after 34 years of operation.

While it was extremely painful for the company it also "fast tracked the digital transformation to social and digital platforms", Ms Reyes said.

The independent news outlet has grown its digital audiences. For example its news channel has 14 million subscribers on [YouTube](#). Overall it has increased its audience from previously. However, while revenue is "significant" from the online platforms, it is still "well below" the previous broadcast revenue.

As the organisation fast tracked its transformation to digital delivery there were several key challenges, including getting everyone to buy into the digital mind set from the old broadcast mindset, regaining public trust and fighting disinformation.



Transforming content and creating vibrant communities

ABU-RAI Days provided a chance to explore the different pathways of the digital transformation that lead towards a new era of global collaboration.

Speakers and delegates reflected on the fact that in this multifaceted landscape – and in the wake of upheavals caused by COVID – it is important for broadcasters to rethink not only how we work, but also the power of new content and the importance of vibrant digital communities.

The event featured 12 separate and highly focused sessions. They ranged from overviews of the current situation internationally, organisations sharing their plans for the future and practical showcases showing how solutions are already being applied on the ground to the problems coming over the horizon, especially at the intersection of new digital technologies and changing audiences.





ABU at ASBU News meeting

The Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) has held its annual News Committee meeting in Tunis.

The meeting discussed the key ingredients of crisis coverage, the importance of avoiding hyperbole and generalisations, the use of labels to categorise people, and the value of solutions-based journalism.

The meeting was attended by the ABU's Director of News, Deborah Steele.

Deborah updated ASBU members on developments at ABU News and spoke about the importance of planning and preparation in crisis coverage.

She also initiated measures to improve access to ASBU stories by Asiavision members, including coverage of the COP conference in Cairo in November.

Asiavision shared 572 ASBU stories in 2021. The key ASBU members for Asiavision were in Lebanon, Iraq, Syria and Tunisia.



ABU syndicates Disaster Risk Reduction conference coverage

The ABU and 10 journalists from Asiavision members have provided coverage of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Brisbane, Australia on 19-22 September.

The coverage was part of the ABU led WBU Media Saving Lives initiative, and saw reporters from DDI India, TVRI Indonesia, FBC Fiji and ABS-CBN Philippines provide extensive coverage to all ABU members.

The coverage featured exclusive interviews with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction.

It included interviews with stakeholders and delegates from member nations, headline news items and ready-to-air reporter packages.

This is the fourth cycle of syndicated coverage under the WBU Media Saving Lives initiative. The project is now preparing to provide coverage of the 27th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP27) in Egypt on 6-17 November 2022.

Asiavision member TVRI and ABU News have held a two-day training course for TVRI journalists covering the G20 leaders summit.

The course was held in Jakarta and conducted by the ABU's Director of News, Deborah Steele.

Twenty TVRI personnel including journalists, cameramen, producers and editors took part.

TVRI President Director Iman Brotoseno officially opened the training and said it aimed to increase participants' knowledge of G20 and improve their coverage skills.

The course included key information about G20 and how it operates, the impact of G20 issues on everyday lives, the core components of coverage and scenario planning, script writing and maximising audience engagement.

The head of the Islamic Development Bank's regional hub, Salah Jelassi, briefed the journalists on the Bank's perspective of G20, including issues related to sustainable development and took part in a Q&A session.

The G20 Leaders meeting will be held in Bali on November 15-16. TVRI is the host broadcaster and will provide coverage to the broadcasters of G20 members around the world.

Asiavision will provide extensive coverage of G20.



Journalists welcome G20 training



New AVN promo video goes live

The latest [Asiavision promotional video](#) has been launched.

It features some of the best vision from members of the ABU's news exchange service and highlights the news values of its content in key genres.

Produced and edited by Asiavision coordinator Nhisha Parmanadan, the 1:45 video also demonstrates the improved production values of Asiavision stories and their audience impact.

More than 51 percent of stories on Asiavision from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 were same-day stories.

Many members also upload multiple updates of breaking stories, as demonstrated by NHK's recent coverage of the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, when the



NHK coordinators shared eight updates during the course of the day and five more the day after.

All members continue to share stories of national pride and culture, promoting improved understanding across Asia and the Pacific of each country's unique cultural heritage and values.



ABU Technology held the mid-year meeting of the Technical Bureau as a two-day hybrid event in Kuala Lumpur on 28-29 July 2022.

The meeting was chaired by the ABU Technical Committee Chairman, Hamid D Nayeri of IRIB-Iran, joined by the Vice-Chairmen, Sunil of DD-India, Masashi Kamei of NHK-Japan and Kazim Pektaş of TRT-Türkiye.

Also taking part were colleagues from NHK-Japan, KBS-Korea, DD-India, Mediacorp-Singapore, NBT-Thailand, TRT-Türkiye, TVB-Hong Kong, Phoenix TV-Hong Kong, RTM-Malaysia, PTNI-Philippines, Walesi-Fiji, NRTA-China, VTV-Vietnam, RRI-Indonesia, NTV-Nepal and VOV-Vietnam.

The meeting discussed the current situation, measures taken during the pandemic and organisation-wide projects.

The Secretariat presented an activity report since the online 2021 Technical Committee Meeting last November. This included updates on events including the Digital Broadcasting Symposium and other activities managed by the Technology Department. Among these were the recent launch of the ABU Technology Webinars archive web portal.

Among other things, the bureau conducted a thorough review of the tasks and action items assigned since the last meeting. The Secretariat proposed a new title and guidelines for the ABU Broadcast Engineering Award on implementing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, to replace the previous ABU Green Broadcast Engineering Award. The bureau also reviewed the schedule for this year's annual Technical Bureau and Technical Committee meetings which will be held in New Delhi, India in November.

Technical Bureau meets in Kuala Lumpur



Photo: A few of the Technical Bureau Members attending the in-person mid-year meeting in Kuala Lumpur.





Workshop on cloud technologies for media services

After organising virtual events for more than two years, ABU Technology held an in-person event, a Workshop on Cloud Technologies for Media Services, in Kuala Lumpur on 25-27 July 2022.

The workshop was a multi-speaker and multi-topic event. On the first day, the participants got abreast of concepts on cloud computing and the use of the cloud platform.

The second day focused on migration to the cloud platform and media solutions along with cloud service providers' perspectives.

The last day discussed different cloud-based implementations and services. It saw presentations and demonstrations from Benchmark Broadcast Systems, Amazon Web Services (AWS), IPSB Technology, RCS, Skyline Communications, Harmonic Inc, Rohde & Schwarz, Globecast Asia, Haivision, Winmedia, TVU Networks, Vizrt and Alibaba Cloud. Topics included cloud technologies, media workflows, system integration, distribution, media asset management (MAM) and playout.

The workshop was attended by 46 participants representing 19 organisations from 10 countries in Asia and the Pacific.



ABU holds webinar on IP workflows and remote production

ABU Technology held a Webinar Series on IP Workflows and Remote Production for Broadcasters on 20-22 September 2022. The event was attended by more than 550 participants over the three days. They represented almost 60 countries from Asia, Europe and elsewhere.

The themes for the three days were IP Fundamentals and Standards for All-IP Infrastructure, Remote Production Workflows in Broadcasting and IP-based Workflows Facilities and Industry Solutions.

Speakers from IRIB-Iran, TVU Networks, AEQ, Skyline Communications, DVB and Harmonic Inc. detailed the latest technical solutions and gave updates on IP-based systems including remote production.

Highlights of the topics discussed included SMPTE standards and other industry specifications for All-IP Infrastructure, ST2110 & ST2022-6 SDN orchestration, IP-centric solutions, and IP in Production and Playout. The presenters illustrated their talk with real time demonstration of industry solutions and applications on IP-based workflows.

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ABU Media Academy workshops help radio members look towards future audio strategies

More than 60 ABU radio members attended two training workshops held at the beginning of the Super Radio Conference week in Kuala Lumpur in September.

The ABU Media Academy delivered two workshops, an audio story telling session delivered by Akim Mogaji, followed by a two hour session full of new ideas for audio content and delivery via apps and smart speakers.

Akim Mogaji (pictured) spoke passionately about storytelling, explaining the structure that underpins a good story. Act 1 sets up the characters and plot, Act 2 builds to a confrontation and Act 3 usually resolves the action.

The second workshop, titled New Content, New Platforms, was led by the Head of the ABU Media Academy Steve

Ahern. His message was that radio must adapt to where the audience is, including on smart speakers and phone apps.

He was joined by a panel of four experts who gave examples of successful new audio media strategies. Andrew Morris took a deep dive into the value of the data available from digital platforms and how to harvest it. Richard Phelps spoke about clever ways to drive more listening through audio apps. Alex Bilbie Clarke talked about what is trending in apps – live streamed radio wins. Natalie Pozdeev (pictured) explored where the next generation of audio producers will come from and what type of content they will be making.

The sessions included questions from the floor and lively discussions about the future of audio content and delivery.

The Practice of Management

Traditional

Traditional management is not a management practice of the past.

The transition from traditional management to more formalized, more technical management, is always a critical moment.

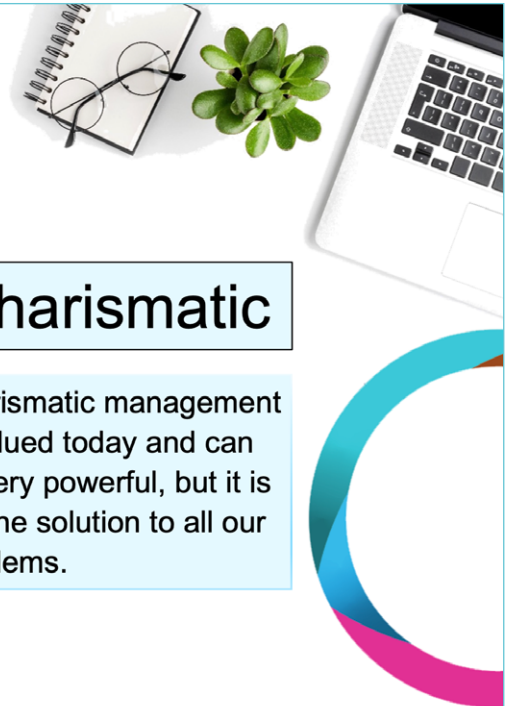
Formal

Formal management is extremely efficient, but it is easily dehumanized.



Charismatic

Charismatic management is valued today and can be very powerful, but it is not the solution to all our problems.

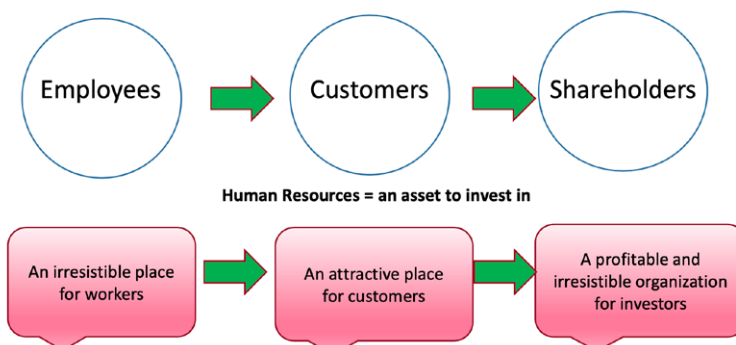


More managers trained in ABU-HEC Leadership Course

This year's ABU Media Academy Leadership course saw 35 more potential broadcast company leaders graduating in September.

The course runs over 15 weeks, with three hours of lectures, discussions and activities each week. The ABU Media Academy commissioned HEC business university in Montreal to deliver the management elements of the course for two hours per week, with specific media management lectures devised by the ABU completing the training for an additional hour each week.

Which option is the best one?



HEC Lecture modules were:

- Be a Leader
- Master the Management Essentials
- Boost your Leadership Skills
- Focus on Human Resources to Succeed

Best practice tips human resources management were taught by Charles Baribeault during the course. They include: a culture that emphasises the value of people; flexibility; innovative hiring; development from within; good quality performance management, information sharing and proper remuneration.

Why should You as Managers care about HRM?

- Your team is only as strong as it's **weakest link**
- **Your success** as a manager is intimately linked the quality of your team
- Frontline managers **directly supervise around 80%** of the total workforce
- Employees join a company but **leave their boss**
- For many employees **you are "Management"**

<https://hbr.org/>

The additional ABU Academy topics included:

- Researching and adapting to changing audience consumption patterns
- Programming philosophies
- Managing mobile journalism and social media
- Innovative platforms and youth formats
- Sales management
- Building inclusive and safe societies
- Countering fake news
- Engaging audiences on mobile and social media
- Video on Demand trends
- Cyber security for broadcasters
- HR Issues for Broadcasters

Head of the Academy Steve Ahern delivered many of the lectures, supplemented by experts from ABU Member broadcasters. Wilfred Rundie from DW discussed misinformation, ABC lecturers Angela Stengel and Dan Ahern lectured on innovation and youth platforms, Corinne Podger explained mobile and social media reporting techniques, Susie Hammill lectured on the latest VOD trends, John Maizels taught the participants about cybersecurity, Moneeza Hashimi talked about safe societies and Stephen Pead delivered sales management training.

The combination of high level management theory and media management-in-practice delighted the participants who commended the course for giving them new skills that will progress their careers. Some comments from participants:

"Thank you ABU and the Academy for the very engaging and an enlightening course... I found it very relevant, timely and educative. The 3-hour session were long, but worth every minute. You got some of best lecturers in the field."

"I found almost all participants actively and willingly participating, and a lot of learning taking place."

"It is like a meeting with my friends... after three hours, I have new information about myself and my work."

"I already started to apply some theoretical knowledge and, yeah, it's working: for example, as Patrick said two weeks ago, "listen first, speak after." I feel that I started to become better as a person."

"I just wanted to say thank you... For me, this programme is my favourite part of the week."

The next leadership course is scheduled to begin in April next year. Interested participants can contact academy@abu.org.my for information about the course fee. Places in the course are limited; to reserve a place in the 2023 leadership programme contact the ABU Academy early so as not to miss out.



(L-R) ABU Head of Radio Olya Booyar; Piano General Manager APAC Tim Rowell; Hon. Assoc. Professor Dr Siobhan McHugh; Media Prima/Omnia Head of Sales Vick Kajindran; and VOV's Director of International Cooperation Department Nguyen Thuy Hoa.

ABU proud to help VOV Radio Festival

The ABU played an important role in supporting some of the record 800 radio professionals who attended this year's Vietnam National Radio Festival in Ho Chi Minh City in August.

Regarded as a highlight of the year for ABU member Voice of Vietnam, this year's 15th festival attracted participants from 86 national and local radio stations in 63 of the country's provinces and cities. Themed "Flexible transformation: Adaptive advancement", the festival looked at several perspectives: how science and technology helped radio transform programme production and transmission; changes in how audiences are engaged; and adaptation to social networks, affirming the role of radio in social life.

As its contribution, the ABU ran a workshop on "Developing revenue streams for broadcasters in the digital space", attended in person by almost 200 radio professionals.

At the workshop opening, VOV Deputy General Director Ngo Minh Hien thanked the ABU Head of Radio Olya Booyar as well experts Dr Siobhan McHugh, Tim Rowell and Vick Kajindran for coming to Vietnam to share their knowledge and experience about the newest trends in broadcasting, monetisation and audience retention.

He said that digital transformation has posed many challenges for broadcasters and will continue to do so but it also brings many opportunities to radio, which VOV is determined to seize for the development of its services to their vast audiences.

Ms Booyar said the ABU was proud of its chance to partner such an active member as Voice of Vietnam, partly to say "Thank you" for the contributions VOV had made to the Union over many years.



Hong Kong team wins ABU Robocon 2022

ABU Robocon, an annual handmade robot competition for university students in the Asia-Pacific region, celebrated its 21st anniversary on 21 August in New Delhi, India.

The contest was co-hosted by Doordarshan (DDI) and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD). Due to the pandemic situation, it was held in an online format, as was the case last year.

Though held virtually, 13 university teams from 12 countries/regions got together through Zoom. As for the game rules, the Indian organisers took an idea from their traditional game of 'Lagori'.

After heated matches, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (pictured) won the Grand-Prix. This is their second time after 2019. Last year's champion team, Institute Teknologi Sepuluh

Nopember of Indonesia, came second. The most prestigious award of all, the ABU Robocon Award, went to University of Electronic Science & Technology of China.

DDI broadcasted the contest live on their local channel and YouTube. China, Cambodia, Japan and Thailand live streamed the contest on digital platforms such as Facebook and Nico-Nico Video to reach out to millions of Robocon fans across the world.

At the end of the contest, next year's host, the National Television of Cambodia (TVK), announced the new competition theme. The contest will be held in the city of Phnom Penh on 27 August 2023.

Contest outline and game rules: [ABU Robocon 2023 Phnom Penh, Cambodia](#)

ABU Digital Media Working Group Meeting 19 July 2022



ABU Digital Media Working Group evaluates digital transformation readiness of members

In its mid-year meeting on 19 July 2022, the ABU Digital Media Working Group (DMWG) discussed digital transformation at the ABU to evaluate DMWG members' readiness to embark on a journey to implement digital transformation at their organisations and to map their collective long-term digital growth.

Discussions focused on identifying key challenges, goals, and priority areas to pave the way for digital transformation within their organisations and what tools, resources and insights ABU could offer members to add value to their current digital transformation strategies.

The discussion comes as part of the ongoing digital survey among the

DMWG members to better understand their digital ambitions and offerings.

Two-thirds of the survey responders (66.7 percent) acknowledged the importance of digital transformation for their organisations, emphasising that online is as important as TV and radio for them.

41.7 percent of responders already have a formal digital transformation strategy in place while half of the survey responders (50 percent) said they will soon have one or it is in the plans.

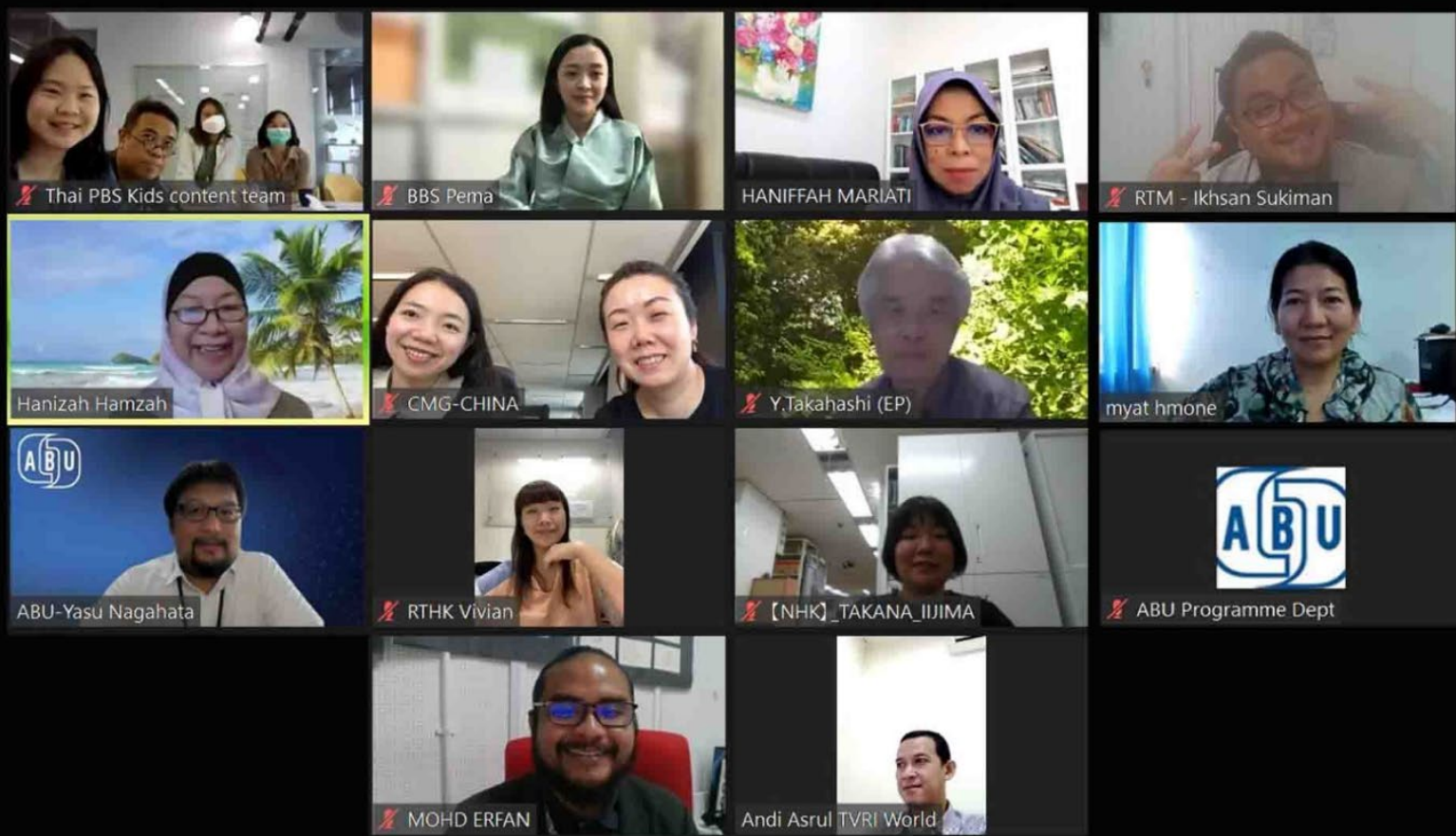
"As audiences are seeking out more content across digital screens these days, it's very encouraging to hear from fellow ABU members that they are all working on transformation strategies to make more of their content available online, either through third parties, partnerships or with their own platforms," ABU Digital Media Working Group Chairperson and Director of Digital at TRT Riyaad Minty said.

"We're also at an important period with Web3 emerging and it's great to see how some of the ABU members are experimenting with creative storytelling in AR/VR to keep up with the ever-evolving digital landscape."

In addition to collecting inputs on digital transformation, the survey is also designed to gain insights on online video offerings, partnerships with third-party content providers, pay-on demand services, and social media usage to get a broader digital outlook of members. The ABU plans to extend the survey to collect inputs from the wider membership in the coming weeks.

In follow-up to the digital survey, one-on-one meetings will be scheduled with all DMWG members to get more detailed inputs from each member organisation.

12 members who attended the meeting represented the following organisations: NHK-Japan, VOV-Vietnam, FBC-Fiji, TRT-Turkey, TDM-Macau-China, MRTV-Myanmar, MBC/MTV-Sri Lanka, REV Media Group-Malaysia, ABS-CBN-Philippines, MBC-Mauritius, RAI-Italy and VUTV-Pakistan.



The 17th series final screening of the ABU Children's Drama Co-production was held on 20 July 2022 under the series leadership of Yoichiro Takahashi of NHK-Japan as the Executive Producer.

Mr Takahashi has distinguished himself most prominently for his film work. His first feature film, "Fishes in August" (1998), has won numerous awards including the New Directors Award at the San Sebastian International Film Festival and the Golden Alexander Prize and FIPRESCI Prize at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival.

His second feature film, "Sunday's Dream" (2000), was an official selection in the Un Certain Regard section at the Cannes Film Festival and won the FIPRESCI Prize at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Mr Takahashi's most notable television work includes "Yoko" (1992) and "Violent Teacher" (1996), which won Japan's Broadcasting Culture Fund Award.

He has been the Executive Producer for the 12th to 17th series of the ABU Children's Drama Co-production.

ABU Children's Drama Co-production 17th Series

This time around, participating organisations were NHK-Japan, TVRI-Indonesia, SLRC-Sri Lanka, THAIPBS-Thailand, MRTV-Myanmar, RTM-Malaysia, CCTV-China, RTB-Brunei, RTHK-Hong Kong, BBS-Bhutan, and BTV-Bangladesh. All completed episodes were screened and exchanged.

The Producers' Choice Award of the 17th Series went to Anek Swasdiyodom of THAIPBS-Thailand for 'Path of Punch'. Second place was awarded to RTHK-Hong Kong from the work of Ms Vivien Kwok for her episode 'Football Fantasia'. Third place went to Mika Takahashi of NHK-Japan for 'Gramps Bowl'.

As part of the annual ABU collaboration with the EBU Children's Drama team, six episodes from Germany, Scotland, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Finland were also screened at the meeting.

The ABU Children's Drama Co-production is an annual co-production initiative developed in co-operation with members.

Now in its 18th year, this co-production allows the participating organisations, through its producers/directors who take part, to produce children's stories that are attractive even to those who live in different countries, as well as being exposed to the standards of international production.



Thai PBS-ABU ASEAN Documentary Co-production creative workshop

By Ruthai Kritsanapraphan,
International Relations, Thai PBS.
Photos courtesy of Thai PBS

A creative workshop for Thai PBS-ABU ASEAN Documentary Co-production was held on 11-12 July at the Thai PBS head office in Bangkok. The workshop was moderated by Executive Producer Ken-ichi Imamura, from NHK Enterprise-Japan.

Mr Imamura entered NHK in 1983 as a TV director. His main focus of interest has been in international affairs. Between 2005-2009, he worked for NHK Enterprises and distributed NHK programs abroad.

He was transferred to NHK headquarters and was the producer and the commissioning editor of the slot "World Documentary". In 2012, he moved to NHK Enterprises and is the executive producer in charge of co-production.

Mr Imamura's skills and leadership qualities are invaluable in the production of documentary content.

He's always committed to quality, growth, and progress of documentary content, and he inspires his team members to strive for the same.



- the documentary are
- Lao National Television (Episode: Inheritor)
 - Cambodia National Television (Episode: TBC)
 - Vietnam Television: (Episode: Towards the Sun)
 - Media Prima Malaysia (Episode: Kicking of the Lemoi Dream)
 - Rekam Indonesia: (Episode: Light from the beach)
 - Thai PBS: (Episode: Growth)

At the workshop, he covered breaking the ice, fundamental aspects of documentary producing, case studies and brainstorming sessions.

Thai PBS-ABU ASEAN Documentary Co-production Project, initiated by Thai PBS and ABU, aims to promote mutual learning and capacity building among participating media organisations. It is also designed to help create ASEAN media networking and working relationships for future cooperation and to heighten mutual understanding of ASEAN cultures, values, and

perspectives among audiences in the participating countries.

Project themes are aspirations and inspirations of the ASEAN new generation (Millennials and Gen Z) covering areas of lifestyles, social point of view, start-ups, and the role of young ASEAN citizens on social contribution.

The six-episode documentary features six stories of people from the young generation in Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. Media organisations participating in

The Creative Workshop was successful and engaging as participants took turns giving feedback on each other's stories while the overall picture of the co-production as a six-episode documentary has been conjugated.

Toward the end of the workshop, after learning thoroughly about the storyline of all six episodes, the members mutually agreed to name the documentary 'We Are the Zs' to reflect the theme within all six episodes' contents. 'We Are the Zs' is scheduled to air in all six countries in 2023.



ABU DOC Screening & Exchange Meeting

The ABU Doc Screening and Exchange Meeting took place on 22-24 August 24th in Langkawi, Malaysia. The event was moderated by Akim Mogaji of New Media Networks, UK.

It coincided with the inaugural Langkawi Walk the Doc, an international documentary film festival forum, which brought together filmmakers and documentary enthusiasts under one roof hosted by Walkabout Asia of Happy Campers Productions.

It was supported by the Langkawi Development Authority (LADA) and was sponsored by MYTV Broadcasting.

Participating organisations were NHK-Japan, TVRI-Indonesia, THAI PBS-Thailand, RT-Russia, Media Prima-Malaysia, DD-India, VTV-Vietnam,



Happy Campers Productions-Malaysia, TVTM-Turkmenistan, TRT-Türkiye & REKAM- INDONESIA.

11 programmes were screened and exchanged.

The winner of the 2021 ABU PRIZES Documentary Category, *Breathless* (covering COVID issues) from RAI-Italy, was screened as a showcase programme to inspire participants. Ms Catia Barone appeared online to introduce her programme and answered questions from participants.

The Producers' Choice Award went to Tu Ta of VTV-Vietnam. His 50-minute documentary "*Boundary*" shows the fragile boundary between life and death and the extraordinary efforts of the medical staff in the fight against the coronavirus to save the lives of pregnant women with COVID-19.

The documentary was filmed at Hung Vuong Hospital, a first-line treatment hospital (for severe cases), in Ho Chi Minh City, the pandemic centre of the second outbreak in August 2020.

With the consent of the characters, the film crew decided to choose an approach for the documentary in a way that respected the truth and put the interests of society above individual freedom.

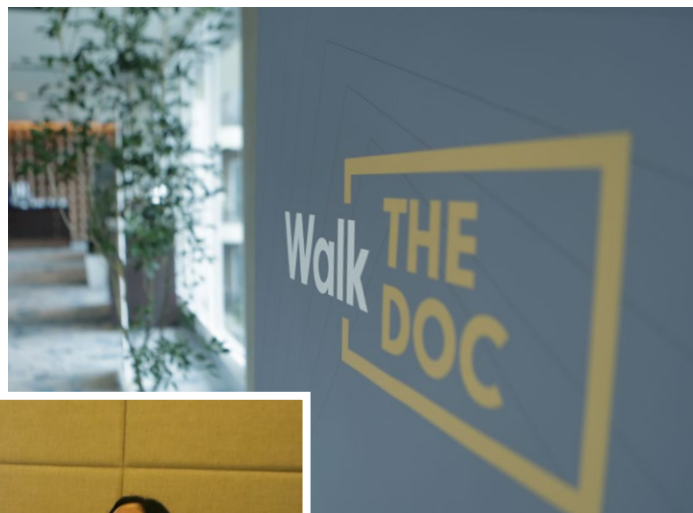
The event was successful and engaging after being postponed for the past two years due to the pandemic.

At the end of the three-day event, an announcement of the next CARE SERIES collaboration between ABU and Happy Campers Productions was made. The series will be led by Executive Producer Fabio Mancini of RAI-Italy.



Langkawi Walk The Doc – International Documentary Festival Forum

By Nurashikin Zaharuddin
Managing Director/Executive Producer,
Happy Campers Productions



On 22 to 24 August 2022, Kuala Lumpur based digital channel Walkabout Asia held their first Documentary Festival Forum.

Known as Walk The Doc 2022 International Documentary Film Festival Forum, this three-day event at Mercure Langkawi Pantai Cenang in Malaysia gathered documentary filmmakers and enthusiasts alike to learn and share all things documentary.

Walk The Doc is a documentary film festival focusing on nature, environment and travel. This event seeks out films that document interesting events, amazing people and intriguing things that address the beauty and how we care or should care about our planet.

Langkawi Island, a designated UNESCO Global Geopark, was chosen as the first location, a perfect place to gather filmmakers who recognise the importance and impact of our environment on our future world development.

What is a film festival without films?

Beginning with a Documentary Film Competition in January 2022, Langkawi

Walk The Doc with the theme Nature, Environment & Travel opened for film submissions offering three Awards, Best Feature Documentary, Best Short Documentary and Special Langkawi Award.

This maiden competition received an encouraging 77 entries from 15 countries around the world. These stories were then judged by an international panel of experienced documentary filmmakers and producers: Hakim Amir of Harimau Entertainment (Malaysia), ABU Director of Programming Yasu Nagahata, Founder of AJ+ as well as Director of Digital for TRT-Türkiye, Riyaad Minty, and Eduard Chiznikov is Head of RT360 at Russia Television (RT).

The festival opened with a keynote presentation entitled Documentaries in The Digital Era by Mr Minty. And for three days, the festival was filled with a number of fun and educational programmes.

There were masterclasses, workshops and talks on how you can produce, market and pitch your works with platforms and broadcasters in Asia and The Pacific. They also organised

an experiential crash course on 360 camera filming with fellow expert Eduard Chizhikov as well as a How to Build and Use your own Box Camera with Jeffrey Lim from Malaysia. Attendees also attended talks by Yupa Petcharit Rattanajan from Thailand on Pitching Documentaries for the International Market, Masterclass by Jeffrey Lim of Kanta Portraits from Malaysia on Box Camera Making and his initiative on documenting rural & indigenous communities around Malaysia and Taiwan.

Alexandre Pletser from URTI gave a special presentation on Exchange and Co-Production of Travel Documentaries. A renowned post-production expert, Isazaly Isa from Malaysia, gave a masterclass on an in-depth breakdown on Post-Producing for Documentaries and Colour Management for Digital Media and Hakim Amir of Harimau Entertainment in Malaysia gave a special presentation on Documentary Pitching.

Langkawi Walk The Doc 2022 was also the location for the highly anticipated ABU Documentary Exchange Screening & Meeting. Moderated by Akim Mogaji, this year's ABU Doc was their first

physical meeting since the pandemic and gave ABU members an opportunity to come together and network. Eleven programmes were screened and exchanged.

As part of the festival, an Educational Excursion of Langkawi Geopark was arranged for the ABU delegates, visiting Caves, Mangrove Forest Reserves and local Fishing Communities. They were able to witness first-hand on how the locals maintained the UNESCO Geopark and were fed with interesting facts on the geological and ecological significance of the island archipelago.

A special fireside chat with Nurashikin Zaharuddin, co-founder of Walkabout Asia, opened Day 3. She shared her experience on managing a digital channel for audiences who engage with factual entertainment.

This was followed by a special presentation, Documentary on a Budget by Co-Founder of New Media Networks, Akim Mogaji from the UK. Ece Soydam of TRT, who is also the winner in the Best Featured Documentary Category, gave a special presentation on Nature Documentary Filmmaking.

The festival closed with an award ceremony dinner located at Paradise 101. Attendees and delegates were transported by boat and treated to a relaxing atmosphere of the private island resort followed by a colourful performance of cultural dances, and a delicious assortment of local cuisine for dinner. The highlight of the night was of course the Award Ceremony for the Documentary Filmmaking Competition.

The award winners received their trophies, known as The Walkies, crafted by a local artisan, Mazlan Ahmad. Each trophy was made from kayu jati or teak wood harvested from a fallen tree collected by the city council and distributed to local craftsmen to repurpose.

The winner for Best Feature Documentary was Ece Soydam from Türkiye for her Documentary, 67 49 32 North, which tells the story of Mathieu, a wildlife biologist and filmmaker who lives in the arctic region of Canada.

Born and raised in France, he now feels at home in this cold environment, together with his Inuit wife and lovely son. His quest to film wildlife is even more crucial than ever, as the world he loves dearly has already started to change because of climate change.

The winners for Best Short Documentary were Mahenaz Chowdhury and Emad Hassan from Bangladesh for their documentary entitled Once There Were Rivers that tells how Bangladesh has thrived for centuries harnessing their roots in the textile industry from producing natural dyes to cotton to jute and turning them into one-of-a-kind garments that had stunned the world in awe. However, with growing industrialisation and urbanisation to accommodate the rapidly growing population, Bangladesh faces incredible numbers of issues around environmental equity and loss of craftsmanship.

The winner of the Langkawi Award was SCM Asia from Malaysia for their documentary, Discovering Langkawi with Irshad Mobarak: The Fabulous Flying 5. The crew joined fellow Malaysian naturalist, Irshad Mobarak, on an intimate journey through this enchanting archipelago of Langkawi whilst discovering the fabulous flying five animals in Langkawi, namely the flying lemur, flying fox, flying lizard, flying squirrel and flying snake.

The night closed with an announcement of collaboration between Walkabout Asia, the ABU and RAI Italy for Langkawi Walk The Doc 2023, which will take place in conjunction with the 10th CARE (Changing Asia Rescue Earth) Series Programme.

Summary

The festival succeeded in gathering close to 80 attendees consisting of documentary filmmakers and enthusiasts alike to learn about the various ways, both old and new, of compelling storytelling. With guidance and knowledge from the experienced speakers, many were able to educate themselves on ways to better their craft in documenting and producing content.

In conjunction with the ABU DOC returning after a global pandemic, we believe that the festival participants had a good exposure to the region's broadcasting circuit and can continue to build a lasting relationship among professionals in the field to benefit their own network and skills exchange.

The Film Competition Participants were fortunate to have their stories judged and screened before an international audience which furthered their credentials and hard work, in hopes for them to continue producing more stories that have a lasting impact on their audience. We look forward to seeing what is in store for us for the next Walk The Doc.

This festival was supported by MyTV Broadcasting and the Langkawi Development Authority.

Who is Walkabout Asia?

Founded by Raja Badri and Nurashikin Zaharuddin of Happy Campers Productions, Walkabout Asia is a content brand dedicated to inspire and help the curious to see Asia more broadly.

Since 2017, they aim to serve their audience stories from a fresh perspective, one that embraces Asia in all its diversity, potential and opportunities, using micro-documentaries to tell simple stories that inspire and engage millions of people.

They have won a number of awards in the broadcasting and tourism film circuits such as the Golden Ribbon Award in 2018 & 2019 in China, Asia Tourism and Film-Induced Art Week 2018 in China as well as an Honorable Mention for Natourale 2020 in Germany.

Having produced more than 140 stories from across 10 countries, Walkabout Asia is now looking to grow the platform for documentary filmmakers to showcase and share their stories to a wider audience as well as encouraging a strong network amongst industry players with fellow storytellers who submit their work. Happy Campers Productions is an active member of the ABU, having joined in 2018.



ABU produces live feeds at Birmingham 2022

The ABU was one of the official rights-holding broadcasters of Birmingham 2022, the XXII Commonwealth Games, which took place from 28 July to 8 August.

The ABU Sports team produced the live television broadcast signal for three Commonwealth members in Southeast Asia – Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore – from the International Broadcast Centre in Birmingham.

The tailor-made feeds focused on athletes and sports catering to the need of these three countries. Sports selection was based on the specific requirement of these members.

In the two-week period, the ABU production team produced and delivered around 700 hours of high quality broadcast feeds in six channels.

The production at the IBC was managed by a team of experienced broadcast professionals from ABU Sports, partners and members. The team has been involved in all major ABU productions including the Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games in the past.

The ABU put up a similar on-site production during the last Commonwealth Games on Australia's Gold Coast in 2018. The 2022 Games drew more than 5,000 athletes from across 72 nations and territories.



ABU partners with AsiaSat, Telstra for Commonwealth Games

The ABU, in collaboration with Telstra Broadcast Services (TBS), selected AsiaSat 5, AsiaSat's prime occasional use (OU) platform, for live coverage of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games in the Asia-Pacific.

The ABU Sports team the production of live broadcast signals at the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) in Birmingham.

TBS's expert broadcast solutions team handled the turnaround, uplinking of live transmission for four international HD feeds at Telstra's teleport in Hong Kong to AsiaSat 5 and distribution to rights-holding broadcasters in the region.

Already established as a renowned broadcast platform for live sports in Asia, AsiaSat 5 has a proven record in the delivery of international sports tournaments and events including the last Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in 2018.

With AsiaSat 5's extensive C-band coverage and exceptional penetration, Asian broadcasters can connect their

audiences on multiple platforms with event and athlete highlights for each of the participating nations and territories.

The Commonwealth Games from 28 July to 8 August gathered more than 4,500 athletes from across 72 nations and territories in Birmingham.

Cai Yanjiang, Director ABU Sports, said: "This edition of the Commonwealth Games production and broadcast is a continued success after the Gold Coast and Glasgow, in terms of the quality service to ABU broadcast members through the combined efforts of the ABU team and our long-term partners AsiaSat and TBS.

"The ABU team have again enjoyed consistent support from them, which is the key to another safe and smooth delivery of these inspiring Games to the ABU broadcasters and audiences in various countries. We look forward to future events working with them again."

Steven Dargham, Business Development Executive, Major Events at TBS, said: "Telstra has been delivering

major events solutions and networks for the ABU and its members for many major sporting events including several iterations of the Commonwealth Games.

"Each major event varies in complexity and with our collaboration with AsiaSat we are able to provide seamless integrated solutions to address the unique and diverse requirements of the ABU members. The spirit of the Games is captured in our partnership, and we hope to enable more successful production coverage in years to come."

Ina Lui, Senior Vice President, Commercial, Business Development and Strategy of AsiaSat, said: "It is our privilege to support live telecast of the Commonwealth Games again this year, making a world of difference by celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship and bringing people of different cultures together through world-class sports.

"We look forward to more collaboration with our partners ABU and TBS in other international events to come."



Photo: Konya 2021

ABU distributes 2022 Islamic Solidarity Games to 7 countries

The 5th Islamic Solidarity Games ended in the Turkish city of Konya on 18 August. The event, held under the aegis of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, was organised by the Turkish Olympic Federation.

The Games saw fierce competition among more than 4,200 athletes from 56 Islamic countries over more than a week. The ABU collaborated with TRT, its member, and distributed the Games to seven members for free.

These were Bangladesh, Maldives, Pakistan, Iran, Jordan, Malaysia and Uzbekistan. Some members aired the Games live, while others covered them on a delayed basis or in the news. The ABU Sports Director said this had helped to achieve wider coverage and exposure of the Games.

Türkiye dominated the competition, bagging the highest number of gold, silver and bronze medals. Uzbekistan clinched second spot.

The Games, which were supposed to take place in 2021, were rescheduled because of the pandemic. The 6th Islamic Solidarity Games will be staged in Cameroon in 2025.

ABU and ASEAN Para Sports Federation explore partnership



The ASEAN Para Sports Federation (APSF) has met with the ABU to explore future partnership in para sports and events. The Secretary General of APSF, Senior Col. Dr Wandee Tosuwan, met her counterpart, Dr Javad Mottaghi, and the ABU Sports team.

The APSF delegation briefed the ABU

team on its strategic plan and the para sports movement in the region. The APSF Secretary General said the ABU with its large network could help promote para sports in the region.

Dr Mottaghi said the ABU had worked with Asian Para and Paralympic committees before and looked forward to a fruitful partnership.

The two sides discussed ways to work together in terms of television production and distribution of APSF events, such as the APSF Games in Cambodia in 2023.

APSF is the governing body of the Paralympic movement in Southeast Asia.



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RTM Malaysia to show 41 FIFA 2022 World Cup matches

Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) will air live broadcasts of 27 matches from the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, with 14 other matches shown in delayed broadcasts.

Communications and Multimedia Minister Annuar Musa said the live matches would be of "high-ranking countries with many fans in Malaysia", Bernama news agency reports. They will include the final.

RTM is an official Malaysian broadcaster for the tournament along with pay-TV operator Astro. Mr Annuar said the RTM matches would be broadcast on TV2, TV Okey and Sukan RTM and live streamed via RTM Klik.

The broadcasts will cost RM32.5 million (US\$7.3 million) for a total of 130 hours of airtime. Mr Annuar hoped private companies and government-linked companies would help to share the cost.



Qatar's QMC pledges 'exceptional' World Cup coverage

Qatar Media Corporation (QMC) says it aims to provide exceptional coverage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, which takes place in Qatar from 20 November to 18 December.

QMC's CEO, Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Thani al-Thani, said the coverage would include not only telecasts but radio coverage in several foreign languages, including English, French and Urdu, the Gulf Times reports.

In an interview on Kuwait Radio, he said QMC intended to meet the expectations of viewers and listeners through a large network of correspondents inside and outside the stadiums.

With a population of fewer than 3 million people, Qatar will host an expected influx of 1.2 million fans – a huge challenge for the country.

Cambodia 'to sell TV rights' to 2023 SEA Games



Cambodia says it will sell the television rights to the 2023 SEA Games instead of broadcasting the event for free as at previous SEA Games, The Phnom Penh Post reports.

The Secretary-General of the Cambodian SEA Games Organising Committee, Vath Chamroeun, made the announcement on 13 July after an Executive Committee Meeting of the Southeast Asian Games Federation Council in Phnom Penh attended by all 10 ASEAN countries.

"All participating countries have supported the sale of the full television rights across all of our media markets, which is different than before when the event was broadcast for free," he said.

"Cambodia is not a rich country, but we have a plan to earn income from the sale of television rights and we must find these additional sources of income to reduce the burden of hosting the games for the government.

"Thankfully, our pitch was successful and all of the countries are now celebrating this new development and planning to emulate Cambodia by selling the SEA Games television rights when they take their turn hosting the games."

The 2023 SEA Games will take place in Phnom Penh from 5 to 16 May next year, with Cambodia hosting the event for the first time.



China's CMG unveils Qatar World Cup coverage plans

China Media Group (CMG) has announced that it will provide integrated media coverage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar from 20 November to 18 December.

CMG, which includes China Central Television, has the linear and digital rights to the 2022 World Cup. All 64 matches will air on CCTV's new channels, in addition to extensive coverage on CMG's new media mobile platforms and radio.

A 160-strong reporting team will bring sports fans extensive coverage from Qatar. With a variety of advanced technologies, including 5G and artificial intelligence, CCTV will offer 4K/8K broadcasts of the tournament.

A total of 32 nations will take part in the World Cup, competing initially in eight groups of four, with the top two sides from each group advancing to the knockout rounds.



China Media Group to produce feed for 2024 Paris Olympics

China Media Group has signed an agreement with Olympic Broadcasting Services (OBS) to produce an international feed for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

CMG will produce the international broadcast feed for four sports: gymnastics, table tennis, badminton and sports climbing.

The agreement was signed in an online ceremony on 5 September attended by CMG President Shen Haixiong and OBS CEO Yiannis Exarchos.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Shen said the agreement reflected the IOC and OBS fully recognising CMG's technological and broadcasting capacity.

CMG pioneered the production of 8K feeds for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics. It applied the self-developed ultra-high-speed orbit camera system and AIK technology in production.

The Beijing Winter Olympics attracted billions of viewers with CMG's cross-media coverage.

Australia's SBS unveils World Cup coverage plans

Australian public broadcaster SBS has unveiled its plans for covering the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar. It promises to give all Australians a front row seat to the live action.

As the official broadcaster, SBS will show all 64 matches live and free on television and live streaming via SBS On Demand.

SBS Radio will also broadcast all 64 matches live and free via DAB digital radio, mobile and online. Matches will be broadcast in up to four languages simultaneously: English, Arabic and in languages of competing teams.

Well-known football commentator Martin Tyler will join Richard Bayliss and Niall Owens as part of SBS's broadcast team. Bayliss and Owens will host every live match from SBS's Sydney studios and will be joined by guests who will share their perspectives. Analysts will include Mark Bosnich, Craig Foster and Sarah Walsh.

Australian footy TV rights reach new record



The Australian Football League has sold its TV rights for a record Australian broadcast deal of A\$4.5 billion (US\$3.05 billion) over seven years to Foxtel and the Seven Network.

The previous deal, signed during the COVID-19 pandemic, was worth A\$473

million for each of the 2023 and 2024 seasons, ABC News reports.

The new deal is worth A\$643 million per year.

"This partnership is an incredible result, unprecedented and the biggest in Australian sport," AFL chief executive Gillon McLachlan said.

From 2025, Seven will show at least three games per week on free-to-air channels, while pay-TV operator Foxtel

and its streaming arm Kayo Sports will broadcast all nine matches a round under the new agreement.

All AFL finals will be on free-to-air TV, while Seven will also show all 15 Thursday night games.

The AFL sought bids from other consortiums including Nine and its streaming arm Stan, and the Ten Network and Paramount +.

Foxtel has been broadcasting the AFL since 2002, while Seven has been broadcasting the game continuously since 2007.

IBC makes successful return as in-person show

The broadcasting trade show IBC welcomed 37,000 visitors from 170 countries as it returned to an in-person show in Amsterdam on 9-12 September for the first time since 2019, RadioWorld reports.

That compares to a pre-pandemic attendance of about 56,400 in 2019.

Organisers said approximately 1,000 exhibitors showcased their latest technology and innovations at the show.

"The quality of visitors has been outstanding and there was a real sense of positivity," said Michael Crimp, IBC's chief executive officer.

As well as many long-standing supporters of the show returning to Amsterdam, IBC welcomed a number of debutantes this year.

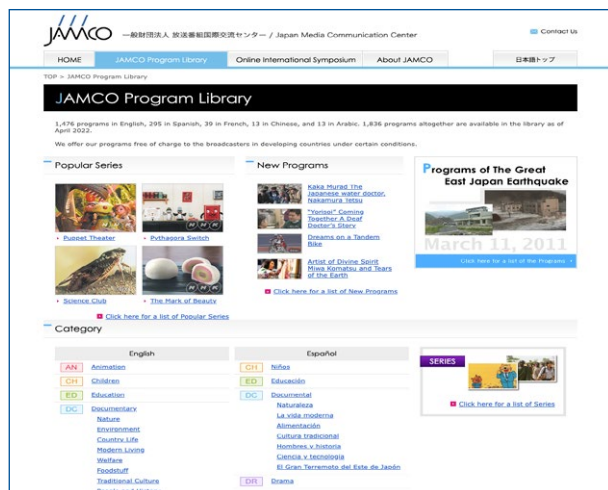


Unfortunately, some attendees were caught up in the chaos at Schiphol Airport, which has seen problems throughout the summer. Around 80 flights were cancelled and 650 delayed on 12 September due to poor levels of staffing at the security checks.

Meanwhile, organisers have revealed

next year's event will take place on 15-18 September 2023.

IBC Director Steve Connolly said: "On the second day, stand rebooking for next year's show was already in such heavy demand that we've expanded the show footprint for IBC 2023 to include an additional hall not used this year."



JAMCO to supply Japanese programmes free in 2022

JAMCO Japan is pleased to announce that it has registered free new programmes for 2022.

The content consists of excellent documentaries and educational content from Japan.

JAMCO is a non-profit organisation established in 1991 and has stored more than 1800 superb Japanese TV programmes.

Please visit its website for details of the organisation and its library of programmes: <https://www.jamco.or.jp/en/library/> or contact info@jamco.or.jp

Fiji's Northern Division set to switch to digital TV

The switch from analogue to digital television in Fiji's Northern Division started in September 2022 and is expected to take up to two months to complete.

Sanjay Maharaj, Chief Executive of Walesi, the government's digital television infrastructure company, said teams were continuing with roadshows across the division to create awareness of the change, FBC News reports.

The Northern Division covers three of Fiji's 14 provinces including Vanua Levu, the country's second-largest island. Labasa is the division's largest town.





सत्यम् शिवम् सुन्दरम्

India's Doordarshan turns 63

Indian's Information and Broadcasting Minister, Anurag Singh Thakur, conveyed his best wishes to the public television broadcaster, Doordarshan, on its 63rd anniversary on 15 September.

In a tweet, Mr Thakur described it as a momentous occasion. He said that through the decades, Doordarshan had captured the timeless journey of India in transition.

He added that its archives were a treasure trove of the country's rich history.



Doordarshan launches serial on India's freedom fighters

India's public television broadcaster, Doordarshan, is airing a 75-episode serial celebrating the country's freedom fighters over hundreds of years.

The mega serial, Swaraj – Bharat Ke Swatantrata Sangram ki Samagra Gatha, went to air on 12 August, with an hour-long episode every Sunday night.

It highlights the saga of those who fought for India's independence, starting with the landing in 1498 of the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama, the first European to reach India by sea.



FBC documentary wins Vision Pasifika Media Award 2022

Fabian Randerath of Fijian Broadcasting Corporation has won the top prize in the TV Category and the Overall Prize in the 2022 Vision Pasifika Media Awards.

His winning documentary, 'Rising Tides – Precious Lives', tells the harsh reality of a vulnerable island population strongly affected by the rise in sea levels.

Villages have tried for a long time to battle the rising tides and even the graves of their ancestors are now 50m away from the shore, buried by the currents of the Pacific Ocean.

The documentary focuses on the human side and what villagers, especially women, go through daily, with many aspects of their lives affected, even fearing for the safety of their children on the way to school.

The documentary is a part of the DRR co-production between 20 members of the ABU and the African Union of Broadcasting. It was conducted under Phase 2 of the WBU/UNDRR Media Saving Lives Initiative, which was launched in 2020.

The Head of the Secretary-General's Office at the ABU, Natalia Ilieva, who is also the Project Manager of the WBU/UNDRR Media Saving Lives Initiative, said: "It is wonderful to see that the efforts of the members of the WBU are bearing fruits.

"The DRR co-production was in Phase 2 but the capacity of the documentary makers was enhanced during Phase 1 when we offered online courses and mentoring. Fabian's story is really moving and very well told and a great example of media promoting solutions."

Mr Randerath, Team Leader Innovation and Creative Content at FBC, said: "I am elated that my story, which was part of a project by the ABU, has resonated with the judges.

"Winning this prize motivates me to continue to push harder to improve my craft, especially covering these topics that are so relevant in a time of increased climate crises around us.

"Thanks again also to my CEO Riyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and TV Manager Vinal Raj who have allowed me to participate in several trainings and supported me all the way. And of course, many thanks to the ABU, UNDRR and UNESCO."

Pakistan and its national radio celebrate 75 years



The Director General of Radio Pakistan, Sohail Ali Khan, extended heartfelt congratulations to all Pakistanis on the country's Independence Day.

In a video message marking 75 years of independence on 14 August, he noted that the country and Radio Pakistan had come into being on the same day. The network was established on 14 August 1947, following Pakistan's independence from Britain.

He said there was no doubt Radio Pakistan remained the largest, fastest, most effective and cheapest of mass media, reaching areas where there was no access to other media.



Singapore's CNA wins major global award

CNA has been named the global winner of the prestigious Best News Website or Mobile Service award at the Digital Media Awards Worldwide 2022, organised by the World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).

The Singapore-based news network beat stiff competition from several prominent news agencies from other geographical regions to win the award, which was announced on 29 September at the World News Media Congress 2022 in Zaragoza, Spain.

CNA is the first news network in Southeast Asia to win this award. Previous winners include The Washington Post (2021) and The Guardian (2020).

The Digital Media Awards Worldwide recognise news publishers who have

delivered unique and original digital media projects. The awards are first held at a regional level in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and South Asia, with entries evaluated by local juries.

The respective regional winners then go on to compete at the international level, with a different set of juries selecting the best in each category for the Digital Media Awards Worldwide.

Judges commended CNA for its app and website which have been "created in a way that is entirely compatible with mobile-first thinking for news consumers, using a fantastically forward-thinking approach that should be a standard for the industry in 2022".

Walter Fernandez, Editor-in-Chief and Chief Sustainability Officer, Mediacorp, said, "It is a tremendous honour for CNA's digital platforms to be recognised on the global stage by the World Association of News Publishers."

Tham Loke Kheng, CEO, Mediacorp, said, "We are immensely proud of CNA's win at this year's Digital Media Awards Worldwide. This underscores our commitment across Mediacorp to engage our consumers with trusted editorial content, strong presentation and a superior customer experience across our digital platforms."



DW Russian service turns 60

The Russian service of Deutsche Welle, Germany's public international broadcaster, celebrated its 60th anniversary while its news output remained blocked in Russia.

The service gave its first radio broadcast in August 1962, at the height of the Cold War. February and March 2022 saw DW's Moscow bureau closed, staff accreditations annulled, its website blocked and DW declared a "foreign agent".

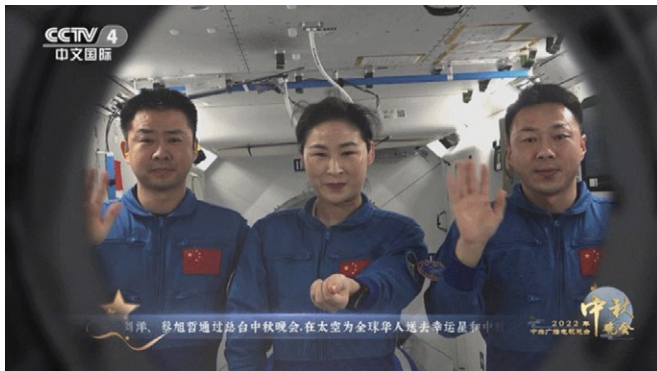
It moved its Moscow-based broadcast operations to Riga in Latvia and launched two new Russian-language podcasts.

Macau and CMG start new round of cooperation

China Media Group and the Macau Special Administrative Region government began a new round of cooperation on 15 August.

Four shows about Macau were released at the launch ceremony, held simultaneously in Beijing and Macau. They featured tourism, aerial photography, delicacies and the historic urban area of Macau, using CMG's latest technologies.

An agreement on the CMG sports channel was signed online, enabling the people of Macau to continue to watch it. The two sides also launched a cooperation list to further improve collaboration on holding sporting events.



China celebrates Mid-Autumn Festival with TV gala

China Media Group brought romance and high-tech excitement to its annual Mid-Autumn Festival Gala, shown throughout the country and worldwide.

The show on 10 September lasted two hours. It presented a cultural feast and featured nearly 30 programmes.

This year, for the first time, the show was broadcast live on ultra-high definition public screens in more than 70 cities nationwide.

Queen Elizabeth II's funeral is predicted to have been watched by more people than the funeral of Princess Diana or the Apollo 11 moon landing, according to preliminary figures.

The funeral on 19 September is predicted to have attracted over four billion viewers from around the world, making the event the most watched broadcast in history, the Daily Express reports.

Currently, the most watched event on TV in the UK remains the funeral service of Diana, Princess of Wales, which took place 25 years ago on 6 September 1997 and drew in an average of 32.1 million people.

With an estimated 19.3 million tuning in via BBC One and 11.7 million on ITV at home, global audiences figures are said to have reached 2.5 billion.

To this day the most-watched event in TV history is the Atlanta Olympics opening ceremony of 1996, which drew in 3.6 billion viewers.

Until the Queen's funeral, not a single event has come close to matching those ratings.

Queen's funeral draws huge global TV audience



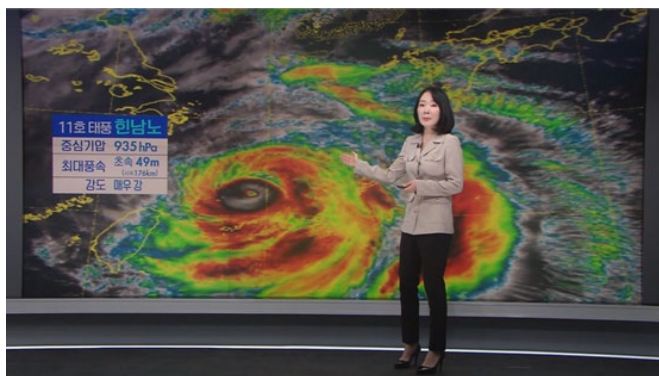
KBS launches staff mental health service



Korean public broadcaster KBS has launched a new counseling and psychological service for its employees.

Introduced on 1 July, the staff counseling programme aims to identify and manage a range of work-related psychological issues, provide stepped-up mental health care with specialist occupational support and boost mental health and wellbeing for those working for KBS.

The new programme will particularly focus on serving those KBS staff who have developed serious mental health problems such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and require professional help.



Korea's KBS provides emergency typhoon coverage

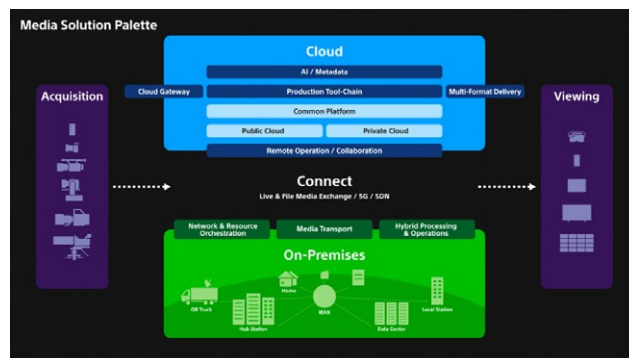
Korean public broadcaster KBS demonstrated its commitment to emergency broadcasting when super typhoon Hinnamnor affected the Korean peninsula from 5 September.

As the nation's primary public service media organisation, KBS delivered high quality emergency broadcasting with the goal of minimising loss of life and property from the strongest tropical storm of the year.

KBS suspended all its regular programmes on KBS TV1 and carried out 24-hour, continuous emergency broadcasting when Hinnamnor hit the country's southern and eastern coasts on 5 September, causing intense rainfall and severe flooding.

Hinnamnor left at least 11 people dead, including seven who died after being trapped in an underground car park in the city of Pohang. It destroyed roads and power lines and damaged houses.

KBS vowed to continue its full commitment to its essential public mission as the country's leading emergency broadcasting service in the event of future disasters.



Sony unveils vision for the future of media

Sony has announced a series of new products and solutions that support its vision of Architecting the Future of Media.

This new direction for Sony rests on propositions that it says will shape the future of the content industry and continue to fill the world with excitement.

For more details see [here](#).



Australia's SBS holds Pakistan floods radiothon

SBS Urdu, part of Australian public broadcaster SBS, hosted a radiothon on 18 September to raise money to support UNICEF Australia's Pakistan Flood Emergency Appeal.

It shared the message: "Pakistan, we stand with you and support affected communities."

Broadcasters and producers from SBS Radio's Urdu programme led two hours of special live coverage via radio, Facebook and SBS online.



MEASAT-3d satellite enters commercial service

Malaysia's newest satellite, MEASAT-3d, has entered commercial service, one month after being launched into orbit from French Guiana.

MEASAT said the satellite, the most advanced in its fleet, had successfully completed in-orbit testing ahead of schedule and had entered commercial service after its handover by Airbus Defence and Space.

MEASAT-3d is a multi-mission satellite with a planned lifespan of more than 18 years. It carries C-band and Ku-band payloads for video and DTH services and a high-throughput multiple spot beam Ka-band payload optimised to deliver high-speed broadband internet communications for Malaysia.

The satellite also hosts a Q/V band payload, the first of its kind in the Asia Pacific region, allowing MEASAT to study radio frequency propagation effects in high rainfall regions like Malaysia, to enable the design of its next generation satellites.

"We are pleased with the successful in-orbit testing of MEASAT-3d and its commercial deployment, following the launch last month," said Yau Chyong Lim, MEASAT's Chief Operating Officer.

"With this, MEASAT-3d is ready to support the Malaysian Government's National Digital Network ("JENDELA") target to achieve 100 percent internet coverage by 2025, as well as our clients' plans to expand service offerings and improve customer experience."

MEASAT-3d is co-located with MEASAT-3a and MEASAT-3b at the 91.5°E orbital slot, MEASAT's key video neighbourhood, to form one of the region's most powerful and robust orbital locations with unrivalled in-orbit redundancy and expansion capacity.



BBC World Service proposes 382 post closures

The BBC is proposing to close about 382 posts at the World Service as it tries to make £28.5 million (US\$32.4 million) in annual savings for its international services.

Radio broadcasts in 10 languages including Arabic, Persian, Chinese and Bengali will cease, the BBC said.

Although no language services will close, many will move online, to "increase impact with audiences".

The BBC is also making wider annual savings of £500m, with CBBC and BBC Four also scheduled to move online.

In January former Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries announced the licence fee would be frozen at £159 for two years.

That, combined with high inflation and soaring costs "have led to tough choices", the corporation said.

It added that the plans for the World Service support its strategy to create a "modern, digital-led and streamlined organisation".

The other radio services that will stop broadcasting are Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Hindi, Indonesian, Tamil and Urdu.

The languages that will become online-only are Chinese, Gujarati, Igbo, Indonesian, Pidgin, Urdu and Yoruba.

Another proposal is to move some production out of London and closer to audiences – for example relocating the Thai service from London to Bangkok, the Korean service to Seoul and the Bangla service to Dhaka.



Tonga Broadcasting Commission
The call of the Friendly Islands...

New early warning system for Tonga's TBC completed

Tonga Broadcasting Commission's infrastructure has been upgraded and a new studio building constructed under a Japanese-funded project to complete Tonga's National Early Warning System.

The new building was commissioned by Crown Prince Tupouto'a 'Ulukalala in the capital, Nuku'alofa, on 1 October, the news website Matangi Tonga reported. The ceremony marked the completion of the new system.

The project, known as NEWS, will strengthen the country's capacity for risk management and its resilience against disasters through the improvement of three systems: an Emergency Radio Communication System, an Early Warning Sound Alert System and a Medium Wave Radio Broadcasting System.

A 14-member team from Japan visited Tonga in June for talks on the project. The team met the head of the Tonga government's implementation agency and representatives of TBC to discuss its completion.

The Japanese government provided a grant for the project worth the equivalent of US\$24 million.



ABC Australia appoints its first Ombudsman

The Board of Australia's ABC announced the appointment of Fiona Cameron to the new role of ABC Ombudsman.

The role is designed to strengthen the existing two-tier model of in-house complaints handling and external review by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA).

ABC Chair Ita Buttrose said the new ABC Ombudsman role was an important one for both the ABC and its audiences. It was created following an independent review of ABC complaints handling procedures.



ABC Australia launches Pacific digital platform

Australia's national broadcaster, the ABC, has launched the ABC Pacific digital platform to meet the needs of growing digital audiences across the Pacific.

ABC Pacific is a home for digital content relevant to Pacific audiences and is available to Australian and international audiences at abc.net.au/pacific and on Facebook and Twitter. The content is produced by teams from across the ABC.

ABC Pacific replaces ABC Radio Australia's homepage and social media accounts. Content previously hosted on the ABC Radio Australia webpages can now be found on ABC Pacific.



Australian PM calls for greater ABC voice in the Pacific

The Australian Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, has said it is a matter of national security that the ABC projects the country's identity and values to the Pacific region.

Mr Albanese delivered an address at the ABC in Sydney on 5 August to celebrate the broadcaster's 90th anniversary.

He stressed the importance of a strong Australian voice in the Pacific

in order to keep other influences out. He said Australia's "identity, values and interests" must be projected to the Pacific.

"On top of every other consideration, it is a prudent investment in our national security as well as our national interest."

Mr Albanese described the national broadcaster as a "beacon of trust" and an "insurance policy" against misinformation and disinformation.

He also commended the ABC for its important work during disasters, saying: "You were absolutely crucial during the bushfires and the floods."

"Commercial broadcasters and community radio have played an important role, but times of disaster have seen our treasured national institution really shine."

"When mobile phone towers have been knocked out, or Telstra exchanges submerged, when the power's gone and people are down to a handful of batteries in a radio...you've been there, ready with critical information in some very fast-moving, often desperate situations."



ABS-CBN of the Philippines reaches new TikTok high

Philippine media company ABS-CBN Entertainment says its TikTok account has earned over one million followers and more than 18 million likes.

In August alone, its TikTok account gained over 488,900 new followers and 8.8 million likes, according to the analytics firm Social Blade.

Follow ABS-CBN on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/abs-cbn), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/abs_cbn), [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/@abs_cbn) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/abs_cbn) or visit www.abs-cbn.com/newsroom.

Sri Lanka's Maharaja group announces 2 top promotions

Sri Lanka's Capital Maharaja Group, which runs MTV/MBC Channels, has announced two top appointments.

Nedra Weerasinghe and S.C. Weerasekera (both pictured standing), who were already Group Directors, have both been appointed Group Director/Chief Operating Officer.

Ms Weerasinghe will helm the group's Industrial and Retail hub and Mr Weerasekera the Strategic Business hub.

The CMG Chairman, Sashi Rajamahendran, said the two had served the group with panache and had handled two of the most important business hubs over the past several years.

"We believe the specific portfolios assigned to them under the new positions will give them the impetus to further grow the business."

The group's media company is also being restructured to ensure better clarity and focus in the news and entertainment business.



Chevaan Daniel, who is currently the Group Director in charge of News First, will also now provide leadership to MTV Channel Ltd.

MTV Channel Ltd is the premier private television network in Sri Lanka. MBC Networks Ltd owns and operates five FM radio channels in three languages.

MTV/MBC Channels also operates the News First organisation, which broadcasts news on the group's TV and radio channels as well as news websites and social media platforms.

Media Prima screens special film on Malaysia Day



Malaysian media company Media Prima Berhad screened a special short film, '3 Sekawan', to mark Malaysia Day on 16 September.

The film, whose title means '3 Friends', was aimed at educating and inspiring Malaysians, especially young people, about the sacrifices made by local heroes who led the country to independence, the New Straits Times reports.

It follows three childhood friends who reunite at their kampong (village) to celebrate Independence Day. They hatch a mischievous plan that causes chaos in the village and must fix everything before the big day rolls around.

Playing the leading roles are three talented young actors, Ummar Shakur, Camans Kong and Rudtra Manivanan.

The film also features well-known actors Datuk Rahim Razali, Kazar Saisi, Redza Rosli, Sherry Ibrahim, Mandy Chong and Sathiya.

It was shot entirely in a real kampong in Perlis, Malaysia's smallest state, near the border with Thailand.

Media Prima showed the film on its free-to-air channels including TV3 and TV9 and its streaming service.



Commercial Radio Australia unveils new direction

Commercial Radio Australia, the body representing the country's commercial radio broadcasters, announced a renewed strategic direction on 10 August.

It puts greater emphasis on the booming digital radio market along

with supporting its members to grow commercial radio advertising revenue.

As part of the strategy, CRA changed its name from Commercial Radio Australia to Commercial Radio & Audio and launched a [new website](#). See [here](#) for more information on the new strategy.

Call for accountability in killing of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh



The Media Freedom Coalition has signed a statement calling for accountability in the killing of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

The veteran Palestinian-American journalist, who worked for Al Jazeera, was killed in the West Bank in May.

Al Jazeera and others have accused Israeli military forces of killing the journalist. Israel for its part said an investigation had found it was possible she had been killed by either Israeli or Palestinian fire.

Four months after her killing, 29 members of the Media Freedom Coalition signed a statement calling for accountability.

"Freedom of expression, press freedom and the safety of journalists and media workers are indispensable for the flourishing of free, pluralistic, inclusive and democratic societies," the coalition said in the statement.

"It is of paramount importance that attacks on members of the media are thoroughly investigated and that those found responsible are held accountable."

The Media Freedom Coalition is a collaboration among 52 countries who work together to promote media freedom and the safety of journalists at home and abroad.

See the coalition's statement [here](#).

Al Jazeera holds vigils to remember top reporter

The broadcaster Al Jazeera has held solidarity vigils to remember its reporter Shireen Abu Akleh, who was assassinated 100 days ago while covering Israeli army raids in the West Bank.

Al Jazeera held vigils at its headquarters in Doha and across its offices around the world. Ms Abu Akleh was shot and killed on 11 May.

It called on international human rights and press freedom organisations, governments, journalists, and influencers to focus efforts on 18 August by demanding justice for Ms Abu Akleh and accountability for her killers.

Al Jazeera and others have accused Israeli military forces of killing the journalist, who was shot while wearing a blue vest with 'PRESS' written on it.

Investigations by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and several news organisations concluded that fire from the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) was the most likely cause of her death.

Israel for its part said an investigation had found it was possible she had been killed by either IDF fire or Palestinian fire.

As part of its global campaign to bring to justice those responsible for the killing, Al Jazeera has mobilised international legal experts to submit a case file to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

WBU statement on the assassination of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh



The World Broadcasting Unions (WBU) has issued this statement:

The WBU is profoundly shocked, saddened and extremely concerned about the assassination of Al Jazeera TV Correspondent Shireen Abu Akleh. Her colleague Ali Al-Samoudi was shot and wounded and is now in stable condition in hospital.

Abu Akleh and Al-Samoudi were clearly identified as PRESS and were standing with other journalists covering Israeli army raids in Jenin, in the northern West Bank, when shooting broke out.

This aggression is an egregious breach of UN Declaration of Press Freedom, Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions and UN Security Council Resolution 2222 on the protection of journalists.

WBU condemns strongly this aggression and emphasizes the need to ensure accountability. Therefore, WBU calls for a thorough, transparent, fair and impartial investigation into the killing of Shireen Abu Akleh and demands that Israel reverses its decision

not to investigate the circumstances of her death.

The protection of journalists covering any conflict anywhere is of paramount importance to the WBU and to every global citizen who values a free press.

Journalists are the storytellers who bring light to events that seriously affect the lives of citizens in their communities and enlighten and inform regional and global communities who are also affected in our connected world. Informing citizens is journalism's prime mission and journalists must be protected in doing their work, no matter the circumstances.

The WBU calls for adherence to international law and guaranteeing the rights of journalists to do their work without fear, especially in conflict and war zones. No journalist should be targeted for doing their job.

Our deepest condolences to Shireen Abu Akleh's family, friends, and colleagues around the world to whom she never failed to take the time to share her warmth and passion for their lives and interests.

Secretary-General meets MTRK President

After the Administrative Council meeting in Kazakhstan in August, the ABU Secretary-General, Dr Javad Mottaghi, met Mr Alisher Khadjaev, Chairman, National TV and Radio Company of Uzbekistan (MTRK), in Tashkent.

Mr Alisher kindly agreed to host the 2023 Central Asia Media Forum (CAMF) in Tashkent towards the end of April or early May. MTRK will host CAMF every year up to 2026 when they will host the General Assembly and Associated Meetings.

The ABU will also conduct a few sub-regional and in-country capacity building events in Tashkent in 2022 and 2023.

Dr Mottaghi expressed his appreciation to Mr Khadjaev for his invaluable partnership with the ABU.



New head for Hong Kong public broadcaster RTHK

The government of Hong Kong-China has appointed Eddie Cheung as the new head for public broadcaster RTHK.

Mr Cheung, who was Special Representative for Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs to the European Union, took up the post of Director of Broadcasting in early October.

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Ingrid Yeung, said "Mr Cheung is a seasoned Administrative Officer with proven leadership and management skills. I have every confidence that he will continue to serve the community with professionalism in his new capacity."

Mr Cheung joined the Administrative Service in October 1993. He was Deputy



Photo: Information Services Department

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Financial Services) from January 2013 to August 2019 and has held his current post since August 2019.

The former broadcast chief, Patrick Li, left in July to become the new Permanent Secretary for Security, with Deputy Director of Broadcasting, Raymond Sy, acting in his stead in the interim.

Secretary-General meets TRT Director General



The Secretary-General, Dr Mottaghi, also had a productive meeting with Dr Mehmet Zahid Sobaci, Director General, Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT) in Ankara following the Administrative Council meeting.

The ABU and TRT agreed to develop a two-year action plan covering topics and activities in news, technology, sports and programming.

Dr Sobaci confirmed hosting the 2024 General Assembly and Associated Meetings in Istanbul. TRT will also host the mid-year Administrative Council in April 2023 in Cappadocia.

TRT has already seconded a senior engineer who is working at the ABU Secretariat for four years. Dr Sobaci kindly agreed to second one or two more experts to assist the Secretariat in other areas.

This and other joint venture activities will be included in the joint ABU/TRT Action Plan that will be delivered from now up to the end of 2024 where both parties can assess and further develop their future partnership.

Dr Mottaghi expressed his gratitude to Dr Sobaci for his close partnership with the ABU.



Syeda Iffat Jabbar appointed head of Radio Pakistan Peshawar

Syeda Iffat Jabbar has been appointed the first woman Station Director of Radio Pakistan Peshawar.

Her appointment took effect on 24 September. She is from Peshawar and joined the station as a programme producer.

During the recent floods in Pakistan, Ms Jabbar introduced mobile units to help flood victims and created public

awareness to help those affected by the floods.

She has represented Pakistan at many national and international forums.

Her father, the late Syed Abdul Jabbar, was also a well-known broadcaster. Radio Pakistan Peshawar was launched in 1935 under a different name and is one of the oldest radio stations in the country.

Member States of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) have elected Doreen Bogdan-Martin of the United States as the organisation's next Secretary-General.

Ms Bogdan-Martin will be the first woman to lead the ITU, which was established in 1865 and became a United Nations specialised agency in 1947.

The election took place during the ITU's Plenipotentiary Conference in Bucharest, Romania, on 29 September. She won the position with 139 votes out of 172 votes cast.

Ms Bogdan-Martin has held leadership positions in international telecommunications policy for over two decades.

Throughout her career, she has brokered innovative and visionary partnerships with the private sector, civil society and other United Nations agencies to accelerate digital inclusion and connectivity.

Ms Bogdan-Martin will begin her four-year term as ITU Secretary-General on 1 January 2023. She succeeds Houlin Zhao of China, who has served two four-year terms.

"Whether it's today's children or our children's children, we need to



Photo: ITU

ITU elects Doreen Bogdan-Martin as next SG

provide them with a strong and stable foundation for growth," Ms Bogdan-Martin said.

"The world is facing significant challenges – escalating conflicts, a climate crisis, food security, gender inequalities, and 2.7 billion people with

no access to the Internet.

"I believe we, the ITU and our members, have an opportunity to make a transformational contribution. Continuous innovation can and will be a key enabler to facilitate resolution of many of these issues."



New Bangladesh Betar DG appointed

Khadiza Begum has been appointed Director General of Bangladesh Betar, the national radio broadcaster.

Ms Khadiza succeeds the former Director General, Ahmed Kamruzzaman, who passed away in July.



WBU calls for investigation into assault on Sri Lankan media

The World Broadcast Unions has urged the Sri Lankan government to investigate an assault on media personnel on 9 July 2022.

The WBU has called on the government to appoint an impartial body to investigate the incident and to ensure that police and security personnel do not intimidate, harass or assault any journalists, or anyone associated with the companies which employ them.

It says it is continuing to closely monitor the government's response to attacks on journalists and attempts to intimidate media organisations.

The media company which employs the journalists assaulted, MTV Channel (Private) Limited, said several staff members in the top-level of senior management were arbitrarily summoned to record statements in respect of a news report on 9 July and the arson attack on the private residence of the then Prime Minister.

The WBU is speaking out on these events in direct support to MTV's parent company Capital Maharaja Group, who is a member of the ABU.

[See the full WBU statement here.](#)

WBU-TC calls for mix of media distribution infrastructures

The World Broadcasting Unions' Technical Committee (WBU-TC) has called on both regulators and public service broadcasters/media to ensure multiple media distribution infrastructures are maintained.

This is to ensure service continuity and maximised reach in times of crisis.

"Robustness and resilience come at some expense, but the likelihood and cost impacts of unexpected events are frequently underestimated," the Technical Committee says.

"It often takes a crisis to highlight how vulnerable individual distribution systems may be. There is an abundance of evidence for this in the past two years alone: a global pandemic; natural disasters (such as floods), hacking attacks on critical infrastructures, mass migrations; and war."

The committee backed a European Broadcasting Union (EBU) recommendation underlining that resilience is a benefit of the co-existence of multiple distribution platforms – including all forms of terrestrial broadcast, wired broadband, mobile and satellite – and that these technologies should be considered for their ability both to work independently from one another and to maximize coverage of a given population.

[Read the full TC statement.](#)

Broadcasters and educators working together with UNESCO on Global Media & Information Literacy



UNESCO held an event on 28 June in Paris that brought a broadcasting perspective to its work on Information Literacy

Media Regulators and Broadcasting Unions gave their viewpoints on developing Media and Information Literacy and Digital Competencies. The ABU was represented by the Head of the ABU Media Academy, Steve Ahern, who joined the Caribbean and African broadcasting unions in giving a broadcasting perspective to the ongoing discussion about media and information literacies (MIL).

In his address to the UN Steve described the characteristics of professional media as:

- those that publish with a purpose that is greater than themselves,
- professionals who are trained to deliver their content to clearly identified audience segments hungry for the news they report or the stories they tell,
- professionals who enrich their own culture and society,
- professionals who stimulate thought and imagination,
- those who are guided by rules, regulations, codes of ethics and principles that have been developed by society to set limits,



Steve Ahern and Gregoire Ndjaka at the UNESCO event

- and those who have a professional editorial checking process that takes place before publication.

Rules and regulations were organically developed over many decades as broadcasters and societies became more literate about media and applied guidelines for social good. "When societies are literate they can read, interpret and use what they see and hear. People communicate, work together, learn, entertain, debate and build culture. They are less likely to be misled if they are informed and inquisitive. Broadcasters, publishers and educators are important in achieving this," he said.

According to Steve, the common threads that make up professional media are:

- A commitment to the greater good of

society,

- Internal editorial checks and balances,
- External rules and regulations,

African Union of Broadcasters CEO Gregoire Ndjaka pointed out the positive and negative impacts of citizen publishers on social media. "Ordinary people are enriching our content with their own experiences... but sometimes their ethics are impaired." The AUB is working with schools to train school children about the importance of fact checking.

CBU Secretary General Sonia Gill said MIL "really matters for the Caribbean", commenting that the infodemic of misinformation about COVID "has had a severe impact and undermined trust and thwarted efforts to battle the health crisis".

Second edition of Together for Peace Media Awards launched



The ABU has launched the second edition of the ABU/UNESCO Together for Peace Media Awards.

The competition is open to broadcasting organisations/production houses and independent producers from across the globe. They are invited to submit radio, TV and digital media programmes that promote positive peace. The call for entries opened on 15 September 2022 and closes on 15 January 2023.

This ground-breaking competition was established in 2021 by the ABU and UNESCO Bangkok Office.

T4P Media Awards highlight and promote the crucial role of independent, ethical journalism and

citizens' media literacy for building positive peace in the minds of men and women. Positive peace is not just the absence of conflicts and war but striving for equitable and fair societies that have a respectful and sustainable approach to nature.

The T4P Media Awards will honour innovative and creative radio, TV and digital media content, which informs and educates audiences on best practices of building positive peace in three critical areas that have increasing urgency in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and "building back better" from the COVID-19 pandemic and numerous disasters exacerbated by the climate crisis:

- Transformative Education
- Humanity's Relationship with Nature,

including coping with climate change and biodiversity loss

- Living Well with Diversity, fostering human flourishing and intercultural understanding

The Awards will be presented during the 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention to be held in early 2023.

Glimpses of last year's virtual Awards Ceremony can be accessed [here](#).

The ABU encourages you to join the movement to use media as a powerful factor in building bridges between nations and bringing people of the world together.

ABU says farewell to Hamidah and Nuratul

The ABU Secretariat has said farewell to Hamidah Rani, one of its longest serving members of staff.

Hamidah joined the ABU in 2000. After starting in the Secretary-General's Office as receptionist, she later moved to the Technology Department as Team Assistant.

A key member of the ABU General Assembly team, she was in charge of registration for the annual meetings, a role that brought her into close contact with members.

Hamidah was well respected by her co-workers for her meticulousness, dedication and devotion to her tasks.

Also saying farewell was Nuratul Fakriah Abdul Thalib, who spent three years as the ABU's Legal and IP Services Officer.

As head of the ABU's Legal Division, Nuratul oversaw the work of its IP & Legal Committee, which works to protect and advance the rights and interests of broadcasters in international negotiations on copyright issues.



She represented the ABU at international meetings such as those of the World Intellectual Property Organisation, WIPO.

Nuratul will be missed by colleagues for her dedication, hard work and wide knowledge of copyright issues.

We wish Hamidah and Nuratul every success in their future endeavours.

Pema Dorji has joined the ABU Secretariat as Finance Officer.

Pema hails from Bhutan and comes with over 15 years of accounting, finance and administration experience in broadcasting. Before joining the ABU he was Finance Head at Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation Limited,

He holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration specialising in Accounting and Finance from Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands as well as a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) Degree from Sherubtse College in Bhutan.

Nur Farisa Nerina Rosli has joined the ABU Technology Department as Team Assistant. She was born in Kuching, Sarawak and raised in Melbourne, Australia.

Nerina holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from the University of Nottingham and a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication (Journalism) from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia.

She previously worked as a lecturer at Manipal International University in Malaysia, where she specialised in writing for mass media and undergraduate human communication.

Irfah Hazirah Hasnol Azam has joined the IT Department as Systems Support Officer.

Irfah has a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology majoring in Graphics and Media.

Before joining the ABU, she worked as a Technical Solution Rep at DXC Technology, providing technical support and information to staff at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The ABU warmly welcomes Pema, Nerina and Irfah to the Secretariat.

ABU welcomes 3 new colleagues



Pema Dorji



Irfah Hazirah Hasnol Azam



Nur Farisa Nerina Rosli

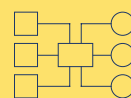


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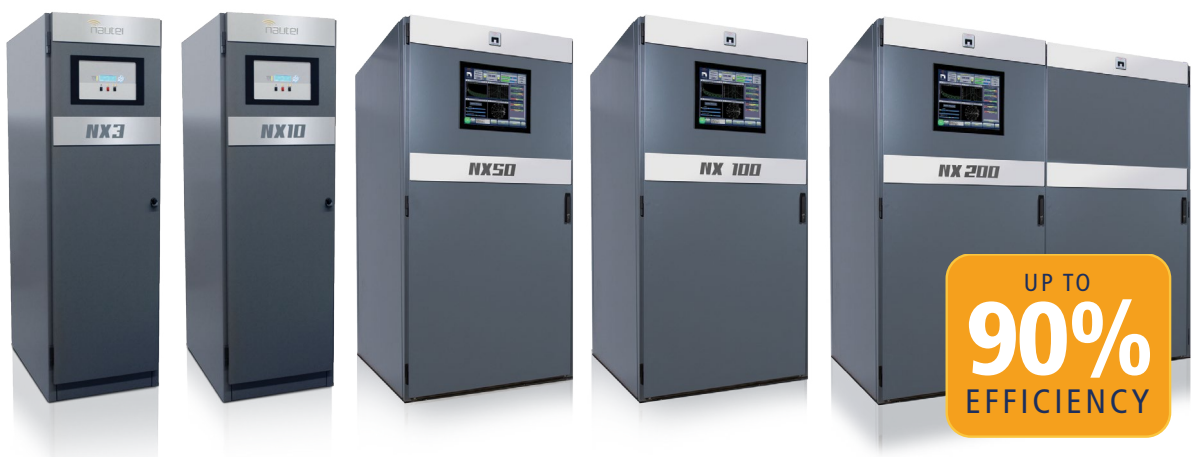
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