

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

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Onward Together: Charting Member-Centric Pathways



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Welcome to the second quarter 2023 edition of ABU News.

This quarter marks the dawn of a new era of leadership at the ABU secretariat with Ahmed Nadeem officially beginning his tenure as Secretary-General. In this issue, we delve into his visionary outlook for the future of the union, emphasizing member-centric activities and sustainable, environmentally conscious projects.

The 115th ABU Administrative Council meeting was held on 28th April in the beautiful city of Istanbul, Türkiye, where ABU's Acting President Kim Eui-chul expressed great satisfaction with the work of the ABU Secretariat in leading the Union through the multitude of changes in the broadcast media.

In May, the 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention was successfully held in the Maldives, culminating in the completion of phase III of the ABU-led WBU Media Saving Lives initiative. During the summit's conclusion, delegates from the Asia-Pacific, Africa, Caribbean, and European regions united in a joint declaration to enhance communication and cooperation in tackling climate change challenges and disaster prevention.

With in-person activities back on track the second quarter saw a number of key events take place. This included the ABU Sports Group Conference and Associated Meetings in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, the 29th Intellectual Property and Legal Committee (IPLC) in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and the ABU Technical Bureau Mid-Year Meeting in Singapore.

A number of content-exchange and capacity building projects were also carried out during this quarter. A notable highlight includes the reflections of interpreter Haniffah Mariati Mohamed, who shares her enriching 12-year journey with the ABU Children's Drama Co-Production series.

The issue also shines a light on member activities that includes partnerships within the ABU family and milestones achieved by members.

Sending warm wishes from everyone the ABU Secretariat, happy reading!

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115th ABU Administrative Council Meeting

The 115th ABU Administrative Council meeting was held on 28th April in the beautiful city of Istanbul, Türkiye. In his opening remarks the ABU Acting President Kim Eui-chul expressed great satisfaction with the work of the ABU Secretariat in leading the Union through the multitude of changes in the broadcast media, brought on by the proliferation of delivery platforms as well as increased competition.

The newly appointed ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem briefed the councillors about the changes being implemented both in the Secretariat and for improving the engagement with the members.

The meeting supported the direction in which the Union is heading, putting members at the heart of all its activities. Nadeem pointed out that member involvement is the key ingredient

for the success of the Union and that the Secretariat will continue to work tirelessly to make members part of decision making and implementation of projects.

The meeting was being held in hybrid mode. The majority of ABU Councillors attended the meeting in person and some joined online. Therefore, facilitating the meeting to such high standard contributed immensely to its efficiency and fruitfulness as the 115th ACM was dealing with issues of critical importance to the future of the Union.

The Administrative Council is the ABU's 'board of directors.' It comprises 18 Councillors who are elected by the members at the ABU Annual General Assembly, for a three-year term. The council meets twice yearly to decide on policy matters, to review the Union's finances and consider current issues facing the ABU.





Ahmed Nadeem begins tenure as ABU Secretary-General

ABU's new Secretary-General, Ahmed Nadeem, has outlined his vision for the future of the world's biggest broadcasting union at his maiden address to members and partners. In a [video message](#), Nadeem emphasized the need for ABU to embrace change and think outside the box in order to remain relevant in the ever-evolving world of broadcasting.

Nadeem acknowledged the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the broadcasting industry and how it changed the way we work and consume content. However, he also noted that the pandemic accelerated the adoption of new technologies that we are now enjoying today.

The new Secretary-General also stressed the importance of collaboration and sustainability in the post-pandemic era. According to Nadeem, broadcasters need to focus on these areas in their future plans and strategies in order to ensure business continuity and meet the expectations of their audiences who seek to consume content on their choice of device and at their convenience.

He also highlighted the growing concern with regards to the effects of climate change, which is now considered one of the biggest threats to humanity. He emphasized the role of media in educating and informing the public of these realities.

He concluded his speech by expressing his confidence in the diverse team at the ABU Secretariat and their commitment to supporting members. He pledged to work together with members to ensure that ABU remains at the forefront of the broadcasting industry.

Nadeem, who is from the Maldives, served as Director, ABU Technology & Innovation prior to his appointment as Secretary-General. An experienced electronic and ICT engineer, he has over 25 years of experience in the field of broadcasting and telecommunications. He has been working in the ABU Technology Department since 2008 and was appointed Director in May 2018.



Meeting Media Challenges: Building Stronger Broadcasting for the Pacific

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7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention

Fostering Global Collaboration for a Sustainable Future



The 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention took place in Malé, Republic of Maldives (9 – 10 May 2023). The theme of the Summit “From Atolls to the Alps to Arid Lands” underlines the universality of the climate change threat and the urgent need for joint action. It brought together over 200 participants from 51 organisations in 40 countries. Broadcasters, experts, and government officials from Asia – Pacific, Africa, Arab, Europe and Caribbean regions discussed the pressing issues of climate change and disaster risk reduction.

The Summit featured keynote addresses, panel discussions, and sessions aimed at fostering collaboration among media outlets in the Global South and linking

broadcasters with other stakeholders in Climate Change adaptation and Disaster prevention to build resilient communities.

The Summit commenced with a keynote address by Aminath Shauna, the Minister of Climate Change, Environment, and Technology of the Maldives. Minister Shauna emphasized the need for immediate action on a global scale to protect lives, livelihoods, and the environment, highlighting the unique challenges faced by small island developing states like the Maldives.

The participants were also greeted with video message by Mami Mizutori, the Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Mizutori commended the summit's focus on climate action and disaster



Mami Mizutori about the challenges broadcasters face in their efforts to circulate live – saving Early Warning messages to the most vulnerable people.

The ABU Vice – President Yang Chengsheng expressed the commitment of ABU members to the WBU/UNDRR Media Saving Lives initiative, which has been implemented since its start in 2019 by ABU and AUB.

The ABU Board Member I Hendrasmo emphasized the need to further strengthen collaboration between the Broadcasting Unions in the Global South.

Nadeem was joined by Gregoire Ndjaka, CEO of the African Union of Broadcasting who is a Champion of using media for saving lives in Africa. Ndjaka emphasized the importance of localization of capacity – building for journalists so they educate most vulnerable populations in their local dialects. Ndjaka also called for more training and regional and cross – regional forums for journalists to exchange ideas, practices and do more co-productions.

Antonio Arcidiacono, Director of EBU Technology and Innovation, and Sonia Gill, CBU Secretary-General of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union, who participated remotely, reflected on the actions taken in their respective regions and countries and announced a collective commitment to take further action.

The summit also examined the role of media in communicating climate change and risk, working with partners on the ground, and rethinking news reporting on climate change and disaster risk reduction. Sessions specifically dedicated to the crucial role of radio in preparing for disasters and reaching vulnerable populations, as well as the greening of the audiovisual sector, were also held.

The 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention concluded on a high note, with participants adopting a joint call for action acknowledging the broadcasting industry'



prevention, stressing the importance of collaboration and the role of media in disseminating crucial information to vulnerable populations.

The summit featured a series of sessions that covered a wide range of topics related to climate change and disaster prevention. One of the notable sessions was "Climate Existential Threats to Small Island Developing States - The Maldives Case," which delved into the challenges faced by the Maldives and the government's policies to protect lives, livelihoods, and the environment.

Another significant session was "Saving Lives and Livelihoods: UN Campaign Early Warnings for All," which shed light on the UN's campaign and showcased the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warnings and Mitigation System. The role of media in reaching all individuals in danger was also highlighted during this session.

The mid-term review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was discussed in a session that provided insights into the progress of its implementation and showcased the Maldives' achievements.

The expectations for progress in the climate negotiations in COP28 was presented in the session "From Egypt to Dubai: A Roadmap to COP28." The session outlined the achievements of COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh and the goals of COP28 in Abu Dhabi. Additionally, it explored how the media can accelerate commitments for a green transition among non-government stakeholders.

Leaders from various broadcasting unions gathered for the session "Together for Media Action on Climate Change and Disaster Prevention." The session moderated by the ABU Secretary - General Ahmed Nadeem, tori started with live conversation with

7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention issues a Call for Action



The 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention, held from 9th to 10th May 2023, concluded with a Call for Action document. Delegates representing broadcasters from the Asia-Pacific, Africa, Caribbean and European regions committed to enhance communication regarding climate change challenges and disaster prevention.

The declaration adopted by the parties highlighted the vital role of the media, particularly radio and television, in reaching out to citizens and fostering a greater understanding of climate change issues and the necessary actions to address them. It emphasized that climate change affects all nations and disasters recognize no national borders or distinctions between rich and poor countries.

The delegates called for the recognition of the media's role in the communication chain of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the inclusion of media transmission infrastructures in the list of resilient infrastructures to be achieved by 2030. They requested the UN and other committed agencies to deliver the "Early Warnings for All" project, ensuring that life-saving information reaches the entire population through television, radio, and online platforms.

Furthermore, the declaration called on governments participating in the next World Radio Conference of the

Broadcasting industry acknowledges its crucial role in climate change and disaster prevention communication

ITU in Dubai to preserve the portion of radio-electric spectrum dedicated to broadcasting beyond 2030, safeguarding its use for emergency radio and TV communication.

The parties reaffirmed their commitment to conveying life-saving disaster prevention information and increasing awareness of climate change among their respective nations. They urged broadcasters worldwide to join them in taking action and participating in the Media Saving Lives project. The importance of disseminating vital data on climate change and disaster prevention to radio, television, and online audiences was emphasized, along with the promotion of co-productions, material pooling, and the exchange of information and ideas.

Additionally, the delegates recognized the human costs of inaction, particularly in relation to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and stressed the need to address poverty alleviation. They encouraged partnerships between broadcasting

organizations, governments, civil society, research institutions, and international agencies to ensure the availability of professional and accurate messages for public information and education.

The declaration concluded by urging all broadcasters and partners to present this "Call for Action" before the United Nations and its associated agencies, ensuring that the voices of the Asia-Pacific region and other regions are heard in the international arena. The mid-term review of the Sendai Framework and the upcoming UN Summit of the Future in 2024 were highlighted as crucial opportunities to address these pressing issues.

The Call for Action was presented to the members of the WBU at their meeting in Madrid on 27th June 2023. ABU is lobbying for the document to be adopted as WBU statement.

For the full text of the document refer to: [7th ABU Media Summit - CALL FOR ACTION - FINAL.pdf](#).

The pandemic years have made us all very good in working remotely. "Tourism Tomorrow", a 14 10 minutes global documentary series launched and managed by the ABU in the framework of the WBU/ UNDRR initiative "Media saving lives" took advantage of this new human professional capacity. And so, with team members coming from 13 Global South countries, ranging from the South - Pacific to the Caribbean and passing through Africa, several online workshops did a great job to introduce participants to Format, Editorial Guidelines, as well as to the series' topic: Sustainable Tourism.

But you cannot do everything online: we live a real life, in a real world, with real people. Thus, as Participants developed and produced their stories, we were triggered and motivated looking forward to a real meeting in a real place: the rough-cut workshop in Malé, the Maldives.

It's been an amazingly enriching experience to come together for the three – day workshop hosted by PSM, Maldives, and jointly analyse the first edits. Intense collective work, while free time helped further to socialize and becoming friends. Meeting in person meant a high-level professional exchange and learning experience to all producers involved, for example on the question how to most effectively reach out to culturally diverse television- and online - audiences on the subject of Sustainable Tourism and Disaster Risk Reduction. Most of the workshop time was dedicated to screening and discussing the rough cuts. For each project, an average time of 30 minutes had been scheduled. A great amount of feedback was collected, and definitely help to finalize.

Could we have done this crucial pre-final production step again online only? I am happy we didn't. Yes, online meetings created an amazing new dimension for collaboration. But we have to meet for real to bring our collaboration to its full potential.

Markus Nickel is a documentary producer, author and Consultant based in Rome, Italy and the Senior Executive Producer of "Tourism Tomorrow"

"Tourism Tomorrow": why we still have to meet in person to make the world sustainable

by Markus Nickel



WBU/UNDRR MEDIA SAVING LIVES INITIATIVE – PHASE 3



7TH ABU MEDIA SUMMIT
ON CLIMATE ACTION AND DISASTER PREVENTION
FROM ATOLLS TO ALPS AND ARID LANDS:
COMMUNICATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE



World
Broadcasting
Unions



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

WBU / UNDRR Global Media Saving Lives Initiative Phase 3

Global South Co-Production on Sustainable Tourism – Rough Cut Screening & Editing Meeting

6 – 8 May 2023
Male, Maldives

WBU / UNDRR Global Media Saving Lives Initiative

World
Broadcasting
Unions



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



Phase 3 of the WBU/UNDRR Media Saving Lives initiative was successfully completed. Members of Asia – Pacific Broadcasting Union, African Union of Broadcasting, and Caribbean Broadcasting Union, which were introduced to DRR Knowledge for Media in the previous stages of the initiative, were engaged with a follow – up content production and knowledge sharing. Members of the Arab States Broadcasting Union were also engaged for the first time in the project. The four months of implementation were packed with action and innovation. The highlights of Phase 3 were the **7th Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention** and two co-productions.

7th Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention

Several activities were implemented under the umbrella of the Summit – a two-day conference held in person in the Maldives, a three-day screening meeting for the Global South coproduction on sustainable tourism “Tourism Tomorrow” and a Workshop on Safe and Effective Investigative Reporting on Environmental Crimes.

Two – day Summit Conference

The conference brought together over 200 media professionals from 51

organizations representing 40 countries. Public Service Media of Maldives hosted the Summit with great style, receiving support from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Technology. The ABU expresses its gratitude to the host and sponsors for their outstanding hospitality and professional arrangements.

The Summit provided a vital platform for media professionals, environmentalists, and government officials to collaborate and discuss important issues related to climate action and disaster risk reduction. It fostered insightful discussions on leveraging the media's influence to raise awareness, drive behavioral change, and empower communities. Key outcomes of the summit included identifying innovative approaches to effectively communicate climate-related issues, exploring strategies to amplify the voices of those most affected by the climate crisis, and fostering a collective commitment to promoting resilience through media channels. The Summit unanimously adopted a Call for Action as a roadmap for building partnerships and harnessing the full power of media in saving lives and livelihoods. The document was proposed for adoption by the other members of the World Broadcasting Unions (ASBU, AUB, EBU, and CBU).



Co-production on Sustainable Tourism “Tourism Tomorrow”

Prior to the Summit, a three-day co-production screening meeting took place. Led by the Executive Producer of the series Markus Nikel, the fourteen participating producers, representing members of ABU, AUB and CBU, shared and discussed rough copies of their documentaries as part of the co-production process. The meeting concluded by finalizing the title, guidelines for post-production elements, and rules of distribution.

Workshop on Safe and Effective Investigative Reporting on Environmental Crimes

This workshop is a part of the ABU project supported by the UNESCO initiative Global Media Defense Fund, which aims to provide guidance on reducing the legal and physical risks that often hinder journalists from undertaking investigative reporting. The workshop in the Maldives focused on tools to improve journalists’ preparation to investigative assignments, thus mitigating risks. Best practices in reporting on these issues were shared, including identifying under-reported environmental crimes, assessing the associated physical and legal risks, and establishing strategies to mitigate them.

Additionally to the collaboration on the “Tourism Tomorrow” series with ABU and CBU, the AUB developed a six – part coproduction on focusing on drought. The coproduction series “The Spectre of Drying Lands” brings

together 6 producers from African countries. The coproduction has many angles in order to showcase what challenges peoples are facing, the resilience they are developing and what actions governments and other entities are taken to fight effects of drought. They bring to life stories of resilience and unsung local heroes engaging their communities to overcome this climate change challenge.

Phase 3 also brought to life some pilot activities to seek innovative ways of engaging audiences and reaching the “last mile” for communication with people in danger. In the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha, Bangladesh became a testing ground for innovative approaches in setting – up reliable communication channels with communities.





A mission to Bangladesh encompassed several components, including fact-finding about the performance of ABU Members during cyclone Mocha, a workshop on Emergency Broadcasting best practices, and a high-level consultation meeting among members, Meteorological Services, and National Disaster Management. The Consultation Meeting, held at the Bangladesh TV Office, aimed to establish a three-member Working Group between these parties to ensure more efficient and prompt dissemination of Early Warnings. Chaired by the Secretary-General of the Bangladesh Ministry of Information, the meeting involved the CEOs of ABU Members in Bangladesh (Bangladesh Television, Bangladesh Betar, BCRA, and BNNRC), along with high-ranking officials from the Disaster Management Department and Department of Meteorological Services. The discussions focused on integrating media into the chain of communications for Early Warnings. It was decided that the Ministry of Information would initiate the formation of a viable Working Group to facilitate constant exchange of information and coordination for the effective and timely dissemination of

early warnings, as well as educating the population on staying out of harm's way.

With the help of ABU, Bangladesh TV is developing a pilot for a regular programme on environmental issues. Under the working title "Climate Matters", the pilot magazine – format programme aims to open space for monthly discussions on climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation.

Bangladesh Television is also working on developing a comprehensive organizational Action Plan on DRR and mainstreaming in content climate change adaptation and disaster prevention issues.

Workshops in the Arab region

Three workshops were conducted in Jordan, Lebanon and Abu Dhabi to raise awareness about the role of media in Early Warnings and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and also to introduce the Media Saving Lives initiative in the Arab World. The workshops were conducted in Arab language. They were organized with the support and guidance from our sister union ASBU and implemented together with new and old local partners – Jordan Media Institute, ABU Member Radio Leban and THINKPROP.

Nearly 50 media professionals from 10 organisations and representatives of National Disaster Management Authorities and Meteorological Services were introduced to the principles of Early Warnings, DRR and Climate Action, addressing the unique challenges and opportunities within the region. These workshops aimed to equip media professionals with essential skills, tools, and knowledge to deliver timely, accurate and understandable Early Warnings, effectively communicate climate-related issues and drive resilience.



Celebrating peace and unity: The second edition of ABU Together for Peace Media Awards 2023

In a momentous celebration of the power of media to promote peace and harmony, the second edition of the ABU Together for Peace Media Awards was celebrated on May 10th in Maldives. The prestigious awards ceremony, organized by the ABU and PSM, recognized outstanding contributions made by broadcasters across the globe in fostering peace, tolerance, and understanding through their audio and visual content.

The “Together for Peace Media Awards” highlights the collective responsibility of media professionals in building bridges and breaking barriers to create a more peaceful and compassionate world. The event brought together broadcasters, media representatives, and peace advocates from diverse backgrounds, united in their commitment to promoting positive change through media storytelling.

The ABU T4P Media Awards 2023 organized in collaboration with UNESCO Bangkok office featured several categories such as Transformative Education, Living Well with Superdiversity, and Ethical & Sustainable Relationship with Nature, each honoring broadcasters who demonstrated excellence in producing content that championed peace and unity. Entries ranged from powerful documentaries that shed light on social injustices to heartwarming narratives

that showcased the resilience and compassion of communities in the face of adversity.

Inspiring Stories of Peace:

Among the winners was **“The School That Tried to End Racism”** a documentary produced by **ABC, Australia** which delves into the story of a school that embarked on a groundbreaking journey to tackle racism head-on among its students. The documentary intimately portrays the lives of young children as they participate in an ambitious and transformative program aimed at promoting racial harmony and embracing diversity.

Another notable entry was the **“Watch Me! – A Decade of Deaf-defying Dance”** produced by **KBS, Korea**. This music documentary follows the past decade of the lives of 4 individuals – 3 deaf girls and their manager. The documentary chronicles their decade-long pursuit of their passion for dance, overcoming societal challenges and breaking barriers through their mesmerizing performances.

In his keynote address, the Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, Ahmed Nadeem highlighted the vital role of media in promoting peace and inclusivity. He acknowledged the transformative power of storytelling, urging broadcasters to continue using

their platforms to spread messages of peace and understanding.

“Through our collective efforts, we have the capacity to sow the seeds of peace and nurture a world where dialogue, empathy, and respect thrive,” stated SG. “The ABU T4P Media Awards serve as a reminder of the significant impact media can have in building bridges of understanding, transcending borders and boundaries.”

Winners of ABU Together for Peace Media Awards 2023 announced

This year, 105 applications were received from 27 countries across five continents, making it a pioneering competition for programmes that inspire and promote peace. Renowned experts from around the world judged the applications in two rigorous rounds of online and in-person judging.

Here is the full list of finalists and winners:

Transformative Education, Digital:

- Thank you, Miss Deng! Malanhua Children's Choir Sings at Beijing Winter Olympic Games | CMG-CCTV, China
- Downgrading of Giant Pandas and “New Move” of Protection Area | SRTS-China
- **Land of the Extinct: how does the local city collapse? | KBS Korea (WINNER)**





Transformative Education, Radio:

- Zhang Jiaxin: The man who shepherds seniors into the digital universe / CGTN, China
- **Carpenter girls | Gilan Radio, IRIB Radio Department for Provinces, Iran (WINNER)**
- 2 minutes to save the Earth / Traffic Broadcasting Network / Korea

Transformative Education, TV:

- Seeing touch – I saw the world | KBS, Korea
- Afghanistan's loud mute voices | RT, Russia
- **The School That Tried to End Racism | ABC, Australia (WINNER)**

Living Well with Superdiversity, Digital:

- Sea of Sound | CMG-CRI, China
- Multicultural Society in Bangkok | Thai PBS, Thailand
- **How Berlin became a hub for trans people | DW, Germany (WINNER)**
- The Muralist | Voice of America, USA

Living Well with Superdiversity, Radio:

- Enlightened by Music: 44 Visually Impaired Children and Their World Journey / CMG-CRI, China (WINNER)
- **LANGHOLZFELD / Radio Romania, Romania (WINNER)**
- Sistas Let's Talk / ABC, Australia

Living Well with Superdiversity, TV:

- **Watch Me! – A Decade of Deaf-defying Dance | KBS, Korea (WINNER)**
- You jump, I will catch you | MTVA, Hungary

- The Show with the Elephant: Diversity | WDR, Germany

Ethical & Sustainable Relationship with Nature, Digital:

- We and the earth | CMG-CRI, China
- Finding Australia's Favourite | ABC, Australia (special commendation)
- **Planet A – Can Brazil save the Amazon this time? | DW, Germany (WINNER)**

Ethical & Sustainable Relationship with Nature, Radio:

- **Chief Shen and His Zoo / CMG-CNR, China (WINNER)**
- The scariest sound/ Ghasem Lotfie/ Individual Producer/Iran (special commendation)
- Going Home / Sichuan TV and Radio, China

Ethical & Sustainable Relationship with Nature, TV:

- China: Nature's Ancient Kingdom ep02 Central: A Balancing Act | CMG-CCTV, China
- The Recycling Myth | a & o buero filmproduktion, Germany (special commendation)
- **How is climate change affecting young Africans today? | The 77 Percent Show | DW, Germany (WINNER)**

The winners receive the trophy, certificate and cash prize.

LOOKING FORWARD FOR THE 3RD EDITION ABU T4P Media Awards IN 2024!

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) has appointed Dr Veysel Binbay as the new Director of ABU Technology and Innovation. Dr Veysel, who has been working with ABU Technology since 2019 as Senior Engineer – Broadcast Systems, brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr Veysel played a vital role in setting up ABU's virtual training and webinar delivery system, showcasing his innovative approach and technical prowess. With over 20 years of experience as a broadcast engineer at TRT in various capacities, Dr Veysel's remarkable track record in the technical field positions him as an exceptional choice for this leadership position.

"As the successor to a Technology & Innovation Director renowned for his exceptional work, I step into the role with a deep appreciation for the foundation laid before me," said Dr Veysel. "The remarkable achievements of my predecessor have set the stage for an exciting future in the ABU. Building upon this legacy, created by each member of the team, I am committed to continuing the trajectory of excellence and innovation. The ever-evolving media landscape presents us with boundless opportunities for growth and advancement. I envision a future where we capitalize on emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and immersive media to redefine the broadcasting industry. By seamlessly integrating these technologies into our operations, we will enhance content production, delivery, and audience engagement."

Dr Veysel also emphasized the importance of cultivating partnerships with technology providers to ensure access to cutting-edge infrastructure and tools. "This will enable us to stay at the forefront of industry trends and maintain our competitive edge," he added. "As the Director of Technology & Innovation, I will foster an environment of collaboration, where our members can develop their digital skills and adapt to the evolving demands of the digital era. Together, we will embrace the spirit of continuity while



Dr Veysel Binbay appointed as Director of ABU Technology and Innovation

pushing the boundaries of innovation, securing our position as leaders in the broadcasting industry."

ABU Secretary-General, Ahmed Nadeem, expressed his delight at Dr Veysel's appointment, recognizing his exceptional contributions and the valuable role he will play in driving the organization's collective vision.

The ABU and its members join in congratulating Dr Veysel on his well-deserved new role, confident that his appointment will lead to even greater achievements and advancements in the field of technology and innovation.



Mediacorp hosts ABU Technical Bureau mid-year meeting

The ABU Technical Department organized the ABU Technical Bureau Mid-Year Meeting on June 9th and 10th at the Mediacorp Campus in Singapore.

The meeting was hosted by Mediacorp Pte. Ltd., a full member of ABU, and was conducted in a hybrid mode. In-person attendance included members from NHK (Japan), NBT (Thailand), Phoenix (Hong Kong, China), RTM (Malaysia), VTV (Vietnam), Mediacorp (Singapore), and RTPRC (China). Other members from IRIB (Iran), PB (India), TRT (Turkey), KBS (Korea), NTV (Nepal), and VOV (Vietnam) joined remotely.

During his opening remarks, Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem emphasized the importance of collaboration and sustainability. He bid farewell to the technical bureau members as he transitioned from Director of Technology to the Secretary-General, expressing his commitment to maintaining the same level of engagement and relationship with the members.

The meeting covered various important matters, including the future roadmap

of the bureau, a review of the terms of reference (ToR) for study topic areas, and guidelines for the proposed Young Engineers' Broadcasting Award. Bureau members also shared updates on various projects and activities taking place within their organizations.

During the ABU Technical Bureau Mid-Year Meeting, Mediacorp arranged a specially curated facility tour for the bureau members.

The tour, which lasted approximately an hour, was attended by the Secretary-General of ABU as well. The members were guided through Mediacorp's world-class facility, which features both classical and state-of-the-art radio and TV production studios. Additionally, they had the opportunity to observe the operation of Mediacorp's high-tech newsroom studio.

During the visit, Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem had the chance to meet and greet Ng Thian Khoo, the Head of Broadcasting Engineering (Technology) at Mediacorp Pte. Ltd. They exchanged views on the overall progress of broadcast technologies and services within the Asia-Pacific region.



ABU hosts cloud technology session at BroadcastAsia 2023

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, hosted a highly informative and engaging tech-session titled 'Cloud-Based Workflows and Migration Challenges' at the BroadcastAsia festival held in Singapore. The session brought together renowned solutions providers and system integrators, including Elevate Broadcast, Harmonic Inc, Ideal Systems, and Skyline Communications, who shared their expertise and experiences with an audience of over 100 delegates.

Taking place on Thursday, June 8, the 90-minute session covered a wide range of topics related to the adoption of Cloud Technologies in the broadcasting industry. The representatives delved into the numerous benefits of cloud-based workflows and hybrid video solutions, emphasizing the scalability, flexibility, and resiliency that these advancements offer.

Insightful case studies that demonstrated successful implementations of cloud-based workflows by broadcasters and operators showcased how the migration to the cloud has revolutionized their video

infrastructure, allowing them to optimize their operations and stay ahead in an ever-evolving industry.

A Senior Engineer from Mediacorp – Singapore, also shared valuable insights into their preparations for migrating their broadcasting infrastructure to the cloud. Mediacorp's participation added a local perspective, enriching the discussion and highlighting the progress being made in Singapore's media landscape.

The ABU's initiative to curate and organize this tech-session at BroadcastAsia underlines its commitment to fostering knowledge

sharing and technological advancements within the broadcasting community. By bringing together industry leaders and experts, the session provided a platform for meaningful discussions and the exchange of ideas.

In addition to the tech-session, the ABU also had a dedicated booth at the BroadcastAsia Exhibition, which took place from June 7 to June 9. The booth served as a hub for networking and interaction, enabling attendees to engage with ABU representatives and explore the organization's initiatives and services.



ABU Intellectual Property & Legal Committee (IPLC) makes a comeback after COVID-19



The 29th Intellectual Property and Legal Committee (IPLC) took place physically on 29th and 30th May 2023 in Colombo, Sri Lanka after a hiatus of 2.5 years. It was hosted by ABU's additional full member, Capital Maharaja Group (represented by MTV and MBC).

The theme for this year's IPLC was "New Developments in IP & Media Law and Impact on Broadcasters." This theme was chosen keeping in mind the fast-changing regulatory developments pertaining to the media and broadcast sectors post COVID-19.

The two-day event was intended to cater to the various legal needs of ABU members. It was also aimed at creating

awareness of intellectual property rights (especially copyright) among ABU members.

The first day of the IPLC was a closed session meant only for ABU's Full Members, Additional Full Members, and Associate Members. On the first day, important matters of interest to ABU members pertaining to the working and functioning of IPLC were discussed.

Some of the key agenda items discussed during the first day of the IPLC meeting were: (i) status of negotiations of the proposed WIPO Broadcasters' Treaty and next steps; (ii) motion to change IPLC's name; (iii) format of IPLC, i.e., whether physical, remote, or hybrid meetings; (iv), members Forum – a forum for ABU

members to voice their legal concerns or challenges they face in their day-to-day work.

The IPLC meeting also elected the chairperson and vice-chairpersons as the term of the current office bearers ended in 2023. Mr. Suranga B.M. Jayalath from Capital Maharaja Group (the host) and Mr. Zhang Zhao from China Media Group were re-elected as the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of IPLC respectively for another two-year term, i.e., from 2023 till 2025.

An election was called for the vacant position of the second vice-chairperson. Mr. Haruyuki Ichinohashi from NHK Japan was elected as the second Vice-Chairperson of IPLC for the first time and for a period of two years, i.e., from 2023 till 2025.

The IPLC committee also paid tribute to Ms. Carole Croella from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). She passed away in 2020 in a car crash in Greece. She was a good friend of the IPLC (formerly known as ABU Copyright Committee) and of the ABU. She worked tirelessly for the adoption of the proposed Broadcasters' Treaty and for the interests of broadcasters generally. Former ABU Secretary-General Dr. Javad Mottaghi had sent a formal letter of condolence to the then Director-General of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry.

The second day of the IPLC was the forum or the conference where presentations on contemporary legal topics were made by eminent lawyers, legal professionals, and other experts on matters related to the media and broadcasting sectors.

The IPLC forum was divided into four sessions: (i) Protection of Broadcast



The winners for IPLC Awards were announced on 29th May at the formal dinner given by the host for this year's IPLC i.e. Capital Maharaja Group (represented by MBC and MTV). The winner for this year's IPLC Awards was the China Media Group (CMG) while the first runner-up was Korean Broadcasting Systems (KBS).

IPLC Chairperson Suranga B.M. Jayalath announced the winner for this year's IPLC Awards. He explained that the winner was selected by an independent panel of judges comprising of a law firm, private sector, and legal academics.

This year, the ABU Secretariat received five nominations for IPLC Awards. ABU members are encouraged to send their nominations for these awards by the second week of February 2023. The success of IPLC Awards depends upon members contribution and active participation. Hence, the ABU Secretariat hopes to receive at least ten nominations for IPLC Awards 2024.

This year's IPLC was attended by thirty-eight foreign participants and four local participants from approximately twenty ABU members, one international organization, and one independent consultant. European Broadcasting Union (EBU) extended its full support to the event by becoming a presenter.

The next IPLC will take place in the first or second week of March 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It is slated to take place along the side-lines of ABU Digital Broadcasting Symposium. It will be a two-day event. The first-half of Day One will be a closed meeting of ABU members while the second-half of Day One will be a workshop on contract drafting for media professionals. Day Two will be the forum or the conference.

IPLC 2024 will be a physical event and there will be no option for remote participation (except for exceptional cases). For any recommendations related to the theme for next year's IPLC or agenda items to be covered, please send an email to ABU Legal Manager at seemantani@abu.org.my.

Signals: Legal Approaches; (ii) Law and Journalism; (iii) Emerging Technologies & Media Sector; (iv) Media Regulation Post COVID-19.

The first session covered four topics such as the international treaty-making process, discussion on the recent text of the proposed WIPO Broadcasting Treaty, regional efforts to combat broadcast piracy, and new approaches to protect broadcasters' signals.

The following session covered presentations by four eminent speakers from Sri Lanka on topics such as privacy and freedom of speech, defamation law in the Asia-Pacific, the use of personal data for reporting and broadcasting.

The third session covered cutting edge legal issues related to emerging technologies such as copyright protection for generative artificial intelligence, technology and broadcast piracy, and blockchain, intellectual property, and business development. The last session covered two topics related to media regulation post COVID-19 such as perspective on changes to media regulation from Asia-Pacific and changes to media regulation in European Union (EU).

A striking feature of this year's IPLC was the IPLC Awards. The IPLC Awards was introduced at the ABU General Assembly in Tokyo in 2019 in line with the theme for 2019 IPLC i.e. 'Building Respect For IP'. The aim of these awards is to showcase how could IP law's theoretical basis revolutionize ABU members' organization through innovative and practical implementation of methodologies.

The ambit of these awards is quite broad and nominations from wide areas of law are encouraged (till the time it is connected to media and broadcasting). Examples include but are not limited to update of employment law, rules, and regulations, methods or technologies introduced to curb broadcast/signal piracy or copyright piracy, capacity building initiatives, and the like.

In order to participate in the IPLC Awards, ABU members were asked to send nominations in the form of either a seven minutes power point presentation or a written brief of upto 2000 words outlining any legal or advocacy initiative taken by them to improve their internal functioning or productivity.



71st ABU Sports Group Conference in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Sports broadcasters from across Asia gathered in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, June 12 – 14, 2023 for the ABU Sports Group Conference and Associated Meetings. More than forty delegates, including the host TVRI Indonesia, and sports channel representatives from Afghanistan to Singapore, India, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and several partners among others, were present.

Welcoming the delegates, the Chairperson of ABU Sports Group, Lorraine Yuen of TVB Hong Kong, highlighted the crucial role of the conference, and the ABU Sports Group.

The Director TVRI News and Programmes, Pipiet Irianto, while welcoming the delegates, called on ABU sports to play more active role in terms of supporting free-to-air broadcasters to acquire rights.

At the Opening, the Secretary General of ABU, Ahmed Nadeem, emphasized the importance of such interactions to understand the need of members. He spoke of the challenges faced by members in acquiring rights amid commercial agents operating with vast resources.





Calendar 2023: Selected Sporting Events in the 2nd Half



The ABU Sports Director Cai Yanjiang said, beside acquisition and production ABU sports is now diversifying its portfolio and scope of services. This is done to serve, and support the growth of sports channels of members.

The members forum featured presentations by several members. These include TVRI Sports, RTM Malaysia, SLRC Sri Lanka among others.

DD India and All India Radio Akashvani, talked about the Sports Broadcasting Sharing Signal Act of India. This generated lively discussion, and sharing of experiences among delegates. DD India talked about various other sports properties, and commercial opportunities applied while implementing Act.

The conference also featured industry presentations- from Hangzhou Asian Games to e-Sports, International Biathlon, and Asian Para Games to AESF. The ABU Legal also made a presentation on ways and options that free-to-air broadcasters could look at, to help acquire sports content.

The two Committees, Media Contents & the Finance discussed sports content

acquisition and matters related to ABU Sports finance.

The main highlight of the two-day conference is the challenges faced by members in acquiring broadcast rights for premium international sports and sporting events. Against this backdrop, delegates highlighted the need for regulations to protect the interest of free to air broadcasters to broadcast events of national importance. Anti-siphoning law, and listed events among others featured prominently in the discussions.

The Yogyakarta conference agreed that ABU be involved more actively in supporting members to develop such policy and legislative instruments and, interventions. The ABU Legal has been advised to draft a generic model anti-siphoning document and share with members. This will be further discussed at the up-coming Sports Group Conference in Seoul, South Korea during the ABU General Assembly in October.

The Yogyakarta Sports Group Conference ended with an excursion to the Buddhist temple of Borobudur on the final day.



ABU Sports provide support for 32nd SEA Games 2023 coverage

ABU Sports provided support and media consultation for ABU members who covered the 23rd SEA Games 2023. ABU members stationed at the International Broadcast Centre were engaged in unilateral production to transmit live feeds to their respective countries.

Mediacorp Singapore had a team of 38 crew members focused on unilateral production for Singaporean audiences.

TVRI Indonesia had brought a crew of 40 members, dividing them into coverage and production teams. They were responsible for broadcasting matches at the SEA Games and producing programs such as "Journal SEA Games" and "Sport Flash" to capture the golden moments from the arena.

VTV Vietnam had 36 team members, with some stationed at the IBC and

others at the venues. They utilized a mix of time slots on VTV5 and VTV5-Highland for their coverage, while also employing remote ENG production technology and advanced transmission equipment.

RTM Malaysia had 17 crew members, including technical and production teams. They provided live coverage of events, including football matches involving the Malaysian team, as well as news highlights and the show "Selamat Pagi Malaysia."

TVK Cambodia had 15 crew members at the IBC, along with additional production teams at various venues. They collaborated with the Ministry of Information (MOI) to cover several sports venues.

These ABU members at the IBC were essential in delivering comprehensive coverage of the sports event to viewers in their respective countries, ensuring audiences could enjoy the excitement and thrill of the games from their homes.



The Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union and the World Archery Federation has entered into a mutually beneficial partnership. The partnership would facilitate ABU sports members with free access to world archery events, further promoting the sport of archery in Asia.

The partnership agreement was signed by the Secretary General of ABU, Ahmed Nadeem and, the Secretary General of the World Archery Federation, Tom Dielen.

Ahmed Nadeem said, "for ABU, the partnership with World Archery Federation is an opportunity to help promote Sports across Asia & the Pacific. The ABU view sports and sporting events as a harbinger of mutual understanding, cooperation, and peace".

The World Archery Federation organises several international events, including World Championships in various disciplines, and creates content to market the sport to a global audience on television and through digital media platforms.

Beginning July, ABU Sports & Entertainment Network, will distribute a 17-minute Magazine Show featuring World Archery events and other related sports.

The monthly magazine will have both English and international version with transcripts and run-down.

Registered members of ASEN can download and use the content for free- as part of ABU's service to its members.

ABU and the World Archery Federation sign a two-year partnership agreement





The much-awaited Asia's largest multi-sporting spectacle, the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games is fast approaching. The Games will take place from September 23 – October 08, 2023.

Broadcasters from across Asia are in Hangzhou this week, for the 2nd World Broadcasters Meeting. At the WBM2, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the host broadcaster share information, and brief stakeholders on the status of games preparation.

ABU is involved in a significant way at the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games. The Union plans to deploy personnel from several of its members as part of international television feed production team at the venues. This is being done in close collaboration with the games host broadcaster, the CMGBS.

Around sixty broadcast personnel of its members from India, Malaysia and Singapore among others are likely to be involved. ABU undertakes such initiatives during international sporting events to provide first hand, practical on-the-job training experience to its members.

ABU members and the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China

The Union hopes that such collaboration with members will support professional growth and development of its members. The move is also in line with ABU Secretary General's emphasis to engage and serve its members.

ABU initiated similar projects during the past Asian Games, the Commonwealth Games and the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.



Producers gather for regional multiplatform storytelling workshops

25 producers from VOV Vietnam and BBS Bhutan gathered in Hanoi for four days in May, for a multiplatform storytelling workshop – Creative Social Stories: Making innovative Social Drama content for on-air, online, and Social Media platforms.

This bespoke practical workshop explored key milestones in the commissioning and creative journey for making ground-breaking creative multimedia content.

Through an intensive 4-day collaborative process, participants worked on innovative programmes, utilizing a range of factual, structured and fictional formats to create compelling and impactful content with award winning potential.

In June, 28 producers from Radio and Television divisions of Radio Televisyen Brunei (RTB) took part in this bespoke practical workshop which was designed to develop the skills and knowledge to produce creative, original multimedia content.

This was done through the analyses of ABU Prizes winning programs in order to make a baseline in which to consider, through practical application and open discussion, key stages of the creative journey.

Through an intensive 4-day collaborative process, the producers made four innovative, multiplatform programmes by utilizing a range of factual, structured, and fictional formats to create compelling and impactful content with award winning potential.





Unleashing the power of storytelling: a workshop for effective broadcasting

Exploring new approaches to storytelling for audiences in the Asia-Pacific region

In a world filled with “Big Stories,” it becomes essential to delve deeper into their narratives and find fresh approaches to engage audiences while working within limited program budgets. To address this challenge, a workshop was organized by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) in collaboration with Capital Maharajah Group’s News 1st, MBC Radio, MTV TV, and Stein film studios.

Led by storytelling expert Akim Mogaji, the workshop aimed to empower audio, TV, and digital producers, editors, and marketing teams with the necessary tools and techniques to become more effective storytellers across all platforms.

In today’s complex world, conveying layered information behind seemingly straightforward situations can be challenging, especially for time-poor audiences. Facts and figures often fail to capture attention beyond the simplest or most sensational elements.

Skilful storytelling offers a solution by enabling exploration of complex facts in ways that are engaging and compelling. It encourages audiences to develop new understandings, perspectives, and discussions.

The art of storytelling: a catalyst for change

Storytelling plays a vital role in the creation of gripping and entertaining programs that delve into difficult, contentious, and sensitive subjects. It provides a safe space to cover sensitive issues, allows for the use of satire to address difficult topics with humor, and offers a fictional world to shed light on challenging subjects. By employing various storytelling techniques, broadcasters can explore situations and relationships more deeply, helping audiences to connect with the potential impacts on their own lives.

A participative approach to learning

The workshop adopted a participative approach to foster a trusting and supportive environment conducive to creativity. Through the sharing of examples from Sri Lanka and around the world, participants were exposed to different storytelling structures.

They engaged in discussions, employing SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis after each piece to cultivate critical thinking skills. The workshop explored emerging trends, addressing diverse audiences across multiple platforms to facilitate plural access points.



Broadcast mantra: Inform, Educate, and Entertain. By adhering to this philosophy, broadcasters can produce content that captivates audiences while fulfilling their responsibilities to inform, dispel myths, and foster changes in public opinion. This balanced approach ensures that storytelling is not just a form of entertainment but a powerful tool for societal progress.

Continued support for emerging documentaries

The workshop also provided an opportunity for Akim Mogaji to meet with Asoka Diaz and his team to support their documentary project, "Future Holidays." This collaboration is part of the ongoing commitment to assist 15 productions until completion as part of the Global South co-production for the WBU's Disaster Risk Reduction project. This support emphasizes the lasting impact of the workshop beyond its immediate timeframe.

The workshop organized by ABU in partnership with CMG – MBC/ MTV/News 1st marked a significant step forward in fostering effective storytelling in broadcasting. By harnessing the power of storytelling, broadcasters can captivate audiences, encourage discussion, and bring about positive change in societies.

The workshop's participative approach and focus on teamwork have empowered the participants to continue creating compelling content that informs, educates, and entertains in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

Practical application: creating 3-act stories

The participants were divided into five teams, each equipped with a diverse range of skills, for the practical phase of the workshop. Their challenge was to create a 3-Act story and present it to the wider group for feedback.

Throughout the process, the emphasis remained on imaginative spaces that reflected on the past and present, imagined alternative futures, and fostered empathy. The teams also explored the interweaving of facts with fiction, blending reality and creativity to create compelling narratives.

Inform, educate, and entertain: a public service broadcast mantra

The guiding principle throughout the workshop was the Public Service

Impression of The ABU Children's Drama Co-production Story Ideas Meeting



Haniffah Mariati Mohamed with new EP of the Series, Ryohei Nakano

Interpreter Haniffah Mariati Mohamed reflects on her time with the ABU Children's Drama Co-Production series at the Story Ideas Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 16 to 18 May.

I have been involved in this on-going project for more than 12 years now, as an interpreter (Japanese-English-BM) It has taught me so much...about appreciating another country's culture, about withholding judgement, about the importance of having an open mind and bigger heart besides being exposed to how children's dramas are made.

Participants come from several countries - all members of the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union. Each series would take a year to complete. Begins with a story idea from the drama director of each participating country. Then the ideas are further refined before the scriptwriting begins.

Then they plan for production of their dramas after the greenlight is given by the Executive Producer (usually a highly experienced drama producer/director from NHK Japan). Then the shooting, post-production and screening. The objective is to raise the level of children's dramas in each participating country through the guidance of the Executive Producer (EP) from NHK ...but most importantly to learn from each other.

The drama to be produced is 15 minutes long, should have minimal dialogue and to stress on "mental growth" of the protagonist in the drama. It is not an easy feat to accomplish. The guidelines are there for a few reasons. One of which is so that it would be easy to telecast the dramas in other countries including the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) member countries.

The ABU and EBU have an exchange program whereby each year a few children's dramas are exchanged for telecast in each member country. It is such a wonderful project to help children of other countries watch and learn how kids of other countries live and the issues they face and how they overcome them.

At the end of it we realise that there are so many universal values...no matter if the kids come from advanced nations or developing nations.

It is also interesting to learn about the do's and don'ts of countries, the taboos etc. Before a drama is given the greenlight to start production,



Yoichiro Takahashi



Ryohei Nakano

we check with other participating countries to see if it would be allowed to be telecast in those countries.

It was interesting to see how “farting” is seen in other cultures. There were 2 proposed dramas which tried to tackle the issue of farting. Depending on how it is portrayed, in some countries, it is a No, No for telecast!

This last meeting is very special because it marks the end of Takahashi Yoichiro’s tenure as EP after 8 years, and the beginning of a new one by a former participant of this project from 12 years ago!

It is so sad to see Takahashi-san go...he has won so many awards for his dramas in Japan. A brilliant producer/director with a very big heart and a passion for nurturing others in drama production.

We will surely miss you Takahashi Yoichiro-san. You have contributed much to the success of this project. Personally too I have learnt much from Takahashi-san. Of course I learnt about the important elements in creating a drama...over and above that, I have seen how patient he is

with participants of countries who do not speak English well or where the standard of the dramas produced may seem a little below par.

He would never try to push his ideas. He would rather ask questions and delicately draw out from the participants. He shows a great deal of respect and empathy to everyone he deals with. He is such a humble person. A twinkle in his eyes and a sudden smile would indicate he has some new idea. Sometimes I find it difficult to interpret especially when it comes to sophisticated and complex ideas. He would patiently explain to me so that the message is conveyed correctly. He never puts anyone down.

Another key person in the project who has tirelessly worked to ensure everything runs smoothly is Hanizah Hamzah. She is like a “mother” to the participants...encouraging them on and being very strict with them when necessary.

All the best to Ryohei Nakano (Ryo), the next EP taking over from Takahashi-san. Ryo is a highly accomplished director and producer from Japan. He was born

in Rio de Janeiro, is young and full of ideas. He has 13 years of experience in drama production in NHK. Ryo excels in creating dramas across various genres and gained recognition for his work in the award-winning “Joshi teki Seikatsu (Life As a Girl, 2018),” a comedy that depicts the romantic life of a male-to-female transgender woman.

He is also passionate about stage acting and directing, often hosting workshops for young actors to explore effective rehearsal techniques and script interpretation. Gambatte ne Ryo-san!

Radiodays ASIA 2023

Radio | Audio | Podcast

5-6 SEPTEMBER 2023

KUALA LUMPUR
MALAYSIA

PODCAST DAY ASIA to be part of this year's RADIODAYS ASIA

RADIODAYS ASIA, the international radio and podcasting conference, will be back 4-6 September 2023 in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. In collaboration with the ABU and other partners the cross-industry event will gather private and public radio as well as special Podcast Day Asia.

In 2022, coming out of the pandemic, ABU and Radiodays Asia for the first time joined forces for a successful radio industry super-event. This year Radiodays Asia, in its 4th year, will run over 2 days with 50 sessions in two parallel tracks, and will include a new podcasting day, Podcast Day Asia.

Top international speakers and industry leaders as well as successful producers and market experts will share their insights this year. The event will bring 400 attendees from 40 countries together with many networking opportunities to meet and learn from

colleagues in the audio industry from Asia, Australia, Europe and America. Radiodays Asia is a sister event to the world leading Radiodays Europe event.

The programme will cover a lot of important topics. The revolution in media by Artificial Intelligence (AI), audio business cases to find new revenue streams, innovation in radio and podcasting around the world and new trends in marketing, apps and platforms as well as journalism and programme cases from across Asia and the globe.

For the first time, PODCAST DAY ASIA will be part of this year's RADIODAYS ASIA. A full day dedicated to bring podcasters together and discuss how to develop your podcast business - how to format, market and monetize your podcast. A chance to learn from the most successful in podcasting and to network with other creative podcasters.

With your registration for Radiodays Asia, all the podcast sessions are also included.

"It has never been more important to have a global perspective on media trends, consumer behaviour, competition, new technology and business opportunities. Though your radio or podcast might be local or national, the challenges and competition facing your business is global. That opportunity to get ahead of your competition and future-proof your service and business is what RADIODAYS ASIA offers" says Anders Held, Project Director of Radiodays Asia and Founder of Radiodays Europe.

ABU members get discounts on tickets for the event. All details are available via the event page <https://radiodaysasia.com/abumembers/>



Third cycle of leadership and management course begins

The third cycle of the HEC Montréal's Authentic Leadership Course for middle and senior managers of ABU member organizations began on April 26, 2023.

The 16-week course covers 40 hours of seminars on leadership, management, and human resources, and will also include media-related sessions delivered by ABU experts.

The course emphasizes the importance of self-awareness and proactive management in the face of changes and pressure. It provides a comprehensive understanding of skills and best practices required for effective leadership and management

in the current complex and dynamic work environment, focusing on areas such as authentic leadership, mastering management essentials, boosting leadership skills, and focusing on human resources.

Participants will learn to align organizational goals and priorities with their team members and avoid selection errors, identify and develop talent, and recognize contributions in human resource management.

42 participants from 15 countries have been offered places for the third cycle of the Authentic Leadership course.



ABU Academy conducts visual effects course

The ABU Media Academy has conducted a visual effects course with renowned editor and filmmaker Alexander Lopera starting Wednesday, 3 May 2023. The three-part course was designed for experienced editors who are looking to enhance their skills and knowledge in the field of visual effects.

The first session on May 3rd covered the essentials of VFX in Premiere Pro, including rendering and creating audio and video previews, using the effects control panel and the default values, and the efficient use of effects in the timeline. Participants were also

introduced to keyframes and how to use them effectively.

In the second session on May 10th, participants learnt how to work with speed variance in Premiere Pro, how to use the effects control panel and the timeline for speed effects, and the different speed blend options. The session also covered pan and scan techniques for frames with differing aspect ratios, which is important when working with varying deliverables.

The final session on May 17th focused on chroma key and green screen, covering the basics of lighting, keying and ultra-key in Premiere Pro, and the best approach for handling green screen problems. Participants also

learnt about colour correction and masking on the subject, as well as refining the key.

Course leader Alexander Lopera brought a wealth of editing experience to the table, having worked on a variety of video production projects including broadcast news, drama, comedy, film, short film, television, feature documentary and online content. He has worked on direct commissions from companies like Google and Channel 4 for original content. In addition, Alexander occasionally teaches editing and post-production at various institutions, including The Metropolitan Film School, The London Film Academy, and Ravensbourne, and is a Fellow in Professional Academic Practice.

Training videos on [mojo](#) and [climate reporting](#) are now available to all ABU members on the ABU YouTube Channel.

The videos allow journalists and producers to get information quickly and conveniently, and to stop and re-watch as often as they wish.

ABU Director of News Deborah Steele says the videos are based on feedback from members and draw on a range of studies and reports. "We have synthesised the information to a listicle format, to make the videos engaging and practical. They give users a solid foundation on each topic in less than three minutes and are suitable for sharing."

"They are also platform agnostic, so whether you work on digital platforms, television or radio, the videos provide helpful tips and reminders," she said.

The videos were produced and edited by Senior News Producer, Nhishaeni Parmanadan.

ABU News plans to produce more videos in the coming months. Members are invited to nominate topics.

ABU News launches training videos



Reporters in the spotlight for Asiavision

More than 320 news stories with reporter pieces-to-camera (PTC's) or walk-and-talks have been shared by Asiavision members this year.

On-camera reporter stories were added to the Asiavision video news exchange following approval by the ABU News Group in October 2022.

TVRI Indonesia and DD India are leading the initiative, contributing a majority of the items.

During the first half of the year, Asiavision members shared 8356 news stories, of which 44 per cent

were same-day stories. On average members shared more than 1300 items a month.

Most of the stories – 67 per cent - were headline news. The top contributors during the first half of the year were TVRI Indonesia (1466), VTV Vietnam (1223), CCTV China (949), NHK Japan 870) and DD India (691).

The number of stories shared on Asiavision spiked in February and March, due to the earthquakes in Turkiye. All members contributed to the quake coverage.

TVRI World news team embrace training

Journalists, anchors, producers and camera crews from TVRI World have attended a two-day training course provided by ABU News.

The course was opened by TVRI's President Director Iman Brotoseno and included a Q&A session on live crosses and pieces to camera with ABC Australia journalist and newsreader Iskhandar Razak

Other topics discussed during the face-to-face training included story selection, script writing, interviewing, parameters for using AI, program formats, rundowns, promos and audience engagement.



Your World was also reviewed and discussed. The program features 16-18 Asiavision stories each week, drawing on content provided by all AVN members. TVRI World launched the program earlier this year.

The training included numerous exercises and opportunities for skill development. It was provided by Director of News Deborah Steele and Senior News Producer Nhisha Parmandan on April 29-30 in Jakarta.

The importance of collecting evidence, checking sources and mitigating legal and safety risks were discussed at an ABU/ UNESCO workshop on Safe and effective Investigative Journalism on Environmental Crimes.

The one-day workshop at PSM in the Maldives was attended by 27 participants from countries including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Tanzania, Fiji, Thailand, Lebanon, Indonesia, China (Hong Kong) and Jamaica.

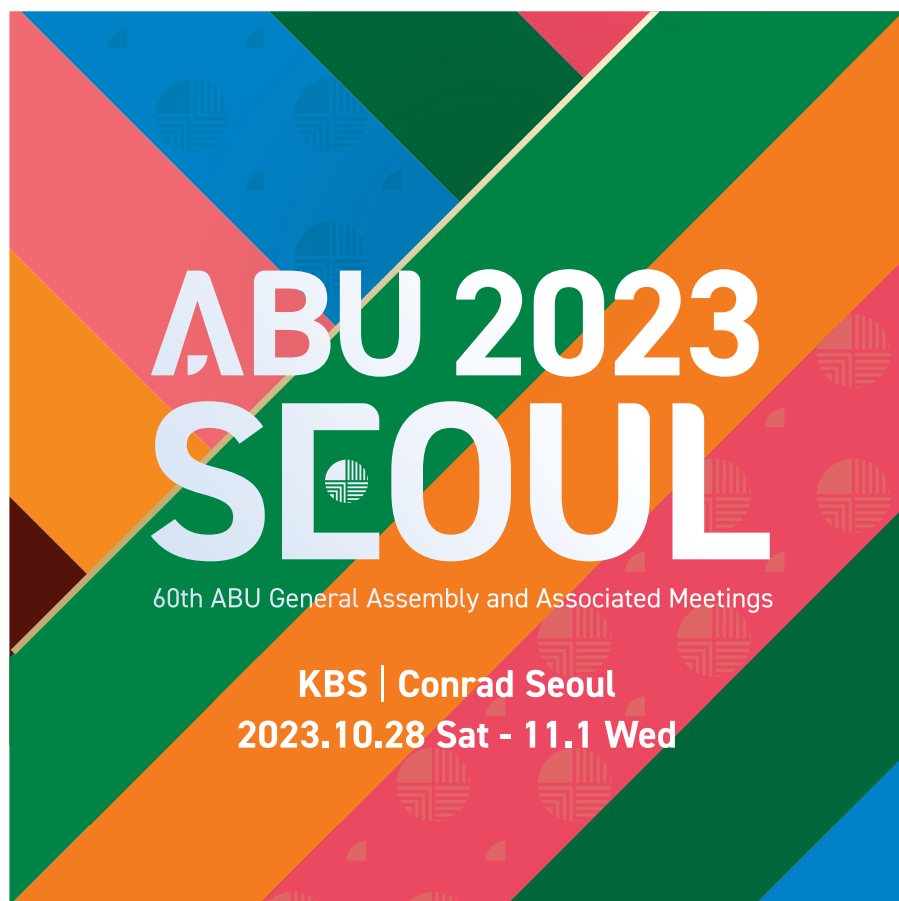
Speakers included Rajneesh Bhandari, founder and CEO of the Nepal Investigative Multimedia Journalism Network; award winning environment journalist Ishan Kukreti from India; Suranga Javalath, Group Director Legal at the Capital Maharaja Group in Sri Lanka; the writer, producer and director of the award winning film 'Delikado', Karl Malakunas; and Biena Magbitang, head of digital strategy at ABS-CBN in the Philippines & Director of Climate Tracker, an international nonprofit organisation that supports and promotes climate journalism.



Environmental crimes in the spotlight

Participants were encouraged to consider using the encryption app Signal, to select and carefully scope stories relevant to local communities,

to be mindful of the relevant legal framework and to always remember: "If you can't prove it, don't say it."



“What Comes Next? Original Question of Sustainability”: ABU GA2023 theme unveiled



The theme and branding for the 2023 ABU General Assembly and associated meetings have been revealed, as Korean Broadcasting Systems (KBS) prepares to host this flagship event. Theme was unveiled during the 115th Administrative Council Meeting held in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Under the theme, “What come next? The original question of sustainability,” the 60th General Assembly aims to explore the critical question of sustainability in the broadcasting industry and shape the future of our

sector in the Asia-Pacific region. As technological advancements reshape our landscape and environmental concerns become increasingly prominent, it is essential that we come together to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Sustainability encompasses not only the environmental aspect but also financial, social, and cultural dimensions. It necessitates finding a balance between economic viability, community engagement, embracing our diversity and the preservation of our rich cultural heritage. Public media service should work collectively to safeguard the interests of our industry and foster meaningful connections with our diverse audiences.

During the Assembly, we will engage in thought-provoking discussions, knowledge sharing, and collaborative efforts to chart a sustainable path for the broadcasting industry. Together, we will explore innovative strategies, examine best practices, and foster partnerships that promote resilience, diversity, and responsibility in our operations.

Adhering to the theme of the assembly, the meetings will be held at two locations this year, KBS will accommodate associated meetings and the TV Song Festival at its premises, while the General Assembly and the ABU Prize Gala will be held at the Conrad Hotel. The venues are located a 15-minute walk away each from other.

Please visit our [official website](#) to access the registration form, detailed program, and additional information about the venue, accommodations, and travel arrangements.

We encourage you to seize this moment to make meaningful contributions, share your expertise, and help shape the future of our industry. By coming together and collectively addressing the original question of sustainability, we can create a resilient, inclusive, and environmentally conscious broadcasting landscape.



ABU Vice-President meets Maldives media representatives

The Vice-President of ABU, Dr. Yan Chengsheng, Director General of International Cooperation Department of NRTA, China, met with representatives of Maldivian media during the sidelines of the 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention.

Accompanied by ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem, Dr. Chengsheng met with Mariyam Waheedha, President of the Maldives Broadcasting Commission; Ahmed Musthafa, President of the Maldives Media Council; and Ali Khalid, Managing Director of Public Service Media (PSM).

The participants discussed ways to further cooperation between the Maldivian media and the ABU, as well as identifying key priority areas of partnership between the parties.

Dr. Chengsheng also discussed restarting training opportunities provided by the Chinese government that were interrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

He also thanked Public Service Media (PSM) for organizing the 7th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Prevention within a very short period of time and commended the broadcaster for the excellent organization of the summit and sideline events.



ABU Secretary General holds key meetings in Türkiye

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem and ABU Acting President, President and CEO of KBS – Korea, Kim Eui-chul held a meeting on the future of the Union, changes within the Secretariat and improving member engagement, on the sidelines of the ABU Administrative Council Meeting in Istanbul, Türkiye.

The discussion included addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by broadcasters in the rapidly changing media landscape, promoting the use of new technologies amongst others. They also discussed on the arrangements and details related to the upcoming 60th ABU General Assembly meeting which will be hosted by KBS in Seoul later this year.

The meeting also emphasized the need to strengthen partnerships with other regional and international organizations to enhance cooperation and collaboration among broadcasters in the Asia-Pacific region.

Both parties agreed that ABU has to strengthen its role in representing the interests of broadcasters in the region, facilitate the exchange of news and programming, and provide technical assistance and training to small members.

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem also met with Dr YAN Chengsheng, Vice President of ABU and the Director-General of the International Cooperation Department of RTPRC-China.

The meeting also included discussions on the future of the Union, addressing current challenges by broadcasters and how RTPRC could support members.

RTPRC is planning to launch and collaborate in projects like the Street Dance Contest for Asia-Pacific region and provide international capacity-building and training opportunities for members through ABU. They proposed two training programs to cooperate with ABU, which include short-term seminars organized by the Research and Training Institute (RTI) of the National Radio and Television Administration and a Master's degree program at the Communication University of China, both these programmes are taught in English. The ABU secretariat is currently working to finalise the details for these programmes and soon members will be able to participate and benefit from them.

Secretary-General meets with ABU members in Sri Lanka



ABU Secretary-General, Ahmed Nadeem, held productive meetings with ABU members in Sri Lanka during the sidelines of the 29th ABU Intellectual Property & Legal Committee (IPLC) held on May 29th and 30th in Colombo.

In separate meetings, Secretary-General Nadeem had the opportunity to engage with key figures in Sri Lanka's broadcasting industry. He met with W.B. Ganegala, Chairman of Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (SLRC), along with senior management from SLRC. Additionally, he held discussions with Madhawa Madawala, Executive Director and COO of Power House Limited (TV Derana), as well as Sudarshana Gunawardana, Chairman, and W.P.A.M. Wijesinghe, General Manager of Independent Television Network Limited (ITN).

The focus of these meetings was to explore ways of enhancing cooperation between the ABU and its Sri Lankan members. Secretary-General Nadeem and the representatives from SLRC, TV Derana, and ITN discussed various avenues for collaboration and how the ABU can provide support in light of the challenging economic situation faced by the country.

The discussions touched upon areas such as content exchange, technical expertise sharing, and capacity-building initiatives. Secretary-General Nadeem emphasized the ABU's commitment to fostering partnerships that benefit all its members, particularly in challenging times.

Sri Lanka's broadcasting industry holds immense potential, and the



ABU aims to facilitate the growth and development of its members in the country. By leveraging the ABU's extensive network, resources, and expertise, these meetings paved the way for future collaborations that will contribute to the advancement of Sri Lanka's media landscape.



ABU SG meets KBS President and KBS ABU GA2023 project team

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem met with KBS President Kim Eui-chul and the KBS ABU GA2023 Project team to discuss the preparations for the ABU GA in Seoul.

SG Nadeem along with the ABU secretariat team held talks with KBS President and ABU Acting President Kim Eui-chul to discuss the progress of the preparations for the 2023 ABU General Assembly and associated meetings. They also met with the KBS project team, which is responsible for organizing ABU's premier event.

During the meeting, the team briefed the Secretary-General on the plans, arrangements, and various logistical and production details for the upcoming event.

The ABU GA2023 and associated meetings, including the ABU Song Festival and ABU Prizes, will be held in Seoul, South Korea, from October 28 to November 1.



New appointments

The ABU has engaged an international consulting agency to review the current organisational structure. Following the review, the Secretary-General has begun implementing these changes progressively.

These include the introduction of new positions to streamline the services of the union to its members, as well as changes in fostering a positive work environment where everyone can thrive and succeed in their roles to achieve the ABU's collective vision.

New appointments and staff newly joining the secretariat is as follows:



Nargiza Numanova
Head of Secretary-General's Office

Nargiza is an experienced professional responsible for strategic development, members engagement, external relations and marketing. She started her career at the National Television and Radio Company of Uzbekistan (MTRK) and has worked for 25 years in the international relations and broadcasting.

Nargiza has a master's degree in philology, as well as a bachelor's degree in financing. Prior to joining ABU as the Personal Assistant to SG, she served as a Head of the International Relations Department of MTRK Uzbekistan.

Nargiza's involvement with ABU has been extensive, including her tenure as the ABU Liaison Officer and membership in the ABU Planning and Strategy Group. Additionally, she represented MTRK Uzbekistan at the Admin Council for three years.



Shabana Jan
Manager, Human Resource and Administration

Shabana is an accomplished manager with a strong background in HR and administration. In her current role, she oversees and coordinates all administrative activities related to personnel at the ABU Secretariat.

Previously, she served as a project officer in the ABU News Department, where she successfully managed over 40 projects across 10 countries. During international events, she played a pivotal role as the primary contact for AVN members.

Prior to joining ABU in 2012, Shabana gained valuable experience as a Public Relations Manager, working with esteemed dignitaries, as well as renowned airlines such as Royal Brunei Airlines and British Airways. Additionally, she held the position of Director of Communication at Lim Kok Wing University and worked as a Human Resource Executive at BRDB, one of Malaysia's most reputable property brands.



Najwa A'liah Fairuz
Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General

As an executive assistant Najwa performs a variety of administrative tasks and supports Secretary-General and their office. A Malaysian, Najwa formerly worked as a Strategic Partnership Executive at Karex Berhad, a private Malaysian company, where her responsibilities included communications, branding, business development and liaising with Southeast Asian countries for product promotion and development.

Najwa holds a Bachelor's Degree (Hons) in Applied Language Studies and a Diploma in Public Administration.



Mohamad Izzuddin Shafiq Ideris
Team Assistant, Sports Department

Mohamad Izzuddin Shafiq Ideris is a Malaysian. He holds a Bachelor of Sport Science with a major in Sport Management from the University of Malaya. Previously worked as the Venue Coordinator for the BWF World Tour Malaysia Open 2018, Asia Blind Football 2017, and the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games 2017.

While working at the United States Sports Academy in Malaysia, Izzuddin also gained experience organising the International Diploma for Physical Education and Sport Coaching (IDPESC) 2018 for selected school teachers.



Nur Aqilah Mohd Izam
Team Assistant

Nur Aqilah recently joined the ABU Technology Department. She is Malaysian and holds a Bachelor's Degree of Communication (Hons.) majoring in Broadcasting. Prior to joining the ABU, she worked as Corporate Admin Executive at Kelab Golf Perkhidmatan Awam Malaysia providing corporate communications, legal administration and high-level secretarial support to the general committee members.



Aiman Hakeem Mohd Arip
Team Assistant

Aiman Hakeem Mohd Arip is a Malaysian. He is majoring in Business Management from a local university. Aiman formerly worked as a fraud analyst at Citibank and has extensive experience working in the hotel and logistics industries before joining ABU.

NEW MEMBERS

Vietnam Parliament Television joins ABU as Additional Full Member

Vietnam Parliament Television joined ABU as an Additional Full Member in June 2023. The Vietnam Parliament TV serves as the legislature's official organ providing comprehensive coverage of the activities of the top legislative body and local People's Councils.

In addition to programs on parliamentary activities, Vietnam Parliament Television fully conveys information on politics, economy, culture and society through a system of news bulletins, featured programs, documentaries and talk shows.

With the core principle of "constructive journalism", in addition to programs relating to the National Assembly, Vietnam Parliament Television focuses on developing programs on culture, green and sustainable development.



With joint efforts of over 300 reporters, editors and technicians, the channel is now broadcast around the clock. The

organisation also operates and produce content for the website of the Vietnam National Assembly at www.quochoi.vn



(Photo: TRTWorld)

TRT Afrika: Türkiye's public broadcaster launches Africa edition

Türkiye's public broadcaster TRT has launched a new digital news platform, TRT Afrika, to highlight stories of and from the continent to a global audience in four languages: Swahili, English, Hausa and French.

The channel went live during the second day of the 'First Broadcasting Summit' organised by TRT and The African Union of Broadcasting in Istanbul. The three-day summit began on March 30.

With staff members from 15 countries in the continent, TRT Afrika's digital aim is to become a trusted news source in the continent, featuring global stories

significant to African audiences and producing high-quality content for globally-connected youth on social media.

TRT Afrika will be active in dozens of African countries from Gambia to Morocco, Nigeria to Cameroon. In this way, it also extends Türkiye's longstanding commitment to Africa, providing a platform for African voices to be heard and celebrated worldwide.

TRT Afrika is the latest member of the TRT family that include TRT World, TRT Arabic, TRT Russian, TRT Deutsch, TRT Français and TRT Balkan.



CMG becomes a main broadcaster for Paris 2024 Olympics

(Photo: CMG-CGTN)

China Media Group (CMG) signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Olympic Broadcasting Services (OBS) in Beijing, officially becoming a main broadcaster for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games at the invitation of the OBS.

The agreement was signed in the presence of International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach and CMG President Shen Haixiong.

Shen, also Vice Minister of the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, said at the signing ceremony that the CMG will dispatch a 2,000-member producing and broadcasting team to cover the Paris 2024 and deliver an audio-visual feast to billions of viewers around the world with its world-class producing and broadcasting capacity and 5G+4K/8K+AI technologies.

According to the agreement, the two sides will establish a long-term cooperation mechanism, carry out in-depth cooperation in technological innovation on the broadcasting and production for major sports events, human resources development and platform building, and actively apply new technologies and scientific research results to jointly promote the Olympic spirit around the world.

Under the IOC umbrella, the OBS serves as the permanent Host Broadcaster for all Olympic Games, Olympic Winter Games and Youth Olympic Games.

The 33rd edition of Olympic Games will run from July 26 to August 11, 2024 in Paris, France. The Paris 2024 Paralympic Games will be held from August 28 to September 8.



RRI Indonesia to assist MSMEs in digital transformation

RRI Indonesia and the Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at accelerating the digital transformation of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) cooperatives. The MoU was signed at the RRI Office in Jakarta.

The collaboration seeks to advance the general public and MSMEs, recognizing that MSMEs are one of the pillars of the economy during crisis situations. Managing Director of LPP RRI I Hendrasmo emphasized that the development of MSMEs is not solely the task of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises. He said RRI must be able to succeed in the ministry's program to advance MSMEs in Indonesia.

The theme of the MoU is "Accelerating the Digital Transformation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Cooperatives," which highlights the significance of digital transformation in the current business landscape. The partnership aims to support the development of MSMEs and promote their digitalization, which is critical to their long-term success.



(Photo: PCBL CEO Natasha Meleisea)

Pacific broadcasters highlight importance of story sovereignty

Pacific broadcasters have highlighted the importance of story sovereignty at the Pasifika TV conference in Auckland.

Citing the saying “nothing for us without us,” numerous speakers called on broadcasters to claim ownership of the stories of their communities and to amplify them to improve awareness and understanding.

The Pacific Broadcasters CEO/General Managers’ conference on 23-25 May was attended by representatives from 24 Pacific island broadcasters including several ABU members. Speakers from partner organisations included the ABU’s Director of News, Deborah Steele.

Pasifika TV is a content exchange service provided by Pacific Cooperation Broadcasting Limited (PCBL), which is a New Zealand government initiative.



National Broadcasting Corporation of PNG and Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation Sign Historic MOU

(Photo: SIBC/NBC/PACNEWS)

The National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) of Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC) have signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate in the areas of staff exchange, news content sharing, and technical cooperation. The signing was conducted by the Managing Director of NBC, Kora Nou, and the CEO of SIBC, Johnson Honimae.

Under the MoU, NBC will provide technical and production training for SIBC staff to prepare them for the upcoming Pacific Games in Honiara in November 2023. This includes training in areas such as camera work, commentary, and post-production.

Both broadcasters will also cooperate in the exchange of staff members to promote mutual understanding and experience-sharing. This will include anchors, journalists, technical staff, and other personnel deemed necessary by both parties.

NBC and SIBC will also exchange news content to enhance the quality and diversity of news coverage. Technical cooperation areas may include the transmission and reception of broadcast signals, digital content production and distribution, and other relevant technical areas.



NHK handles host broadcast of G7 Summit

Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) was entrusted with the role of serving as the Host Broadcaster for the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, Japan. NHK, renowned for its excellence in broadcasting, managed the International Broadcasting Center (IBC) to ensure seamless coverage of the event. The operation of the IBC was overseen by NHK Foundation, formerly known as NHK International, Inc.

The IBC, a vital hub for broadcasting activities during the G7 Summit, was established at the Hiroshima Prefectural Sports Center. This state-of-the-art facility served as the central nerve center for the distribution of live feeds, interviews, and other multimedia content from the summit.

The International Broadcasting Center provided an array of essential services to facilitate comprehensive coverage of the event. These services included Master Control Room (MCR) facilities, host broadcaster’s feeds, working booths, audio/video distribution stations, stand-up positions, international transmission, and digital distribution.

The G7 Summit, which brings together leaders from the world’s most influential economies, is a platform for critical discussions on global issues, including economy, trade, climate change, and international relations.

NHK’s role as the Host Broadcaster ensured that these discussions reached millions of viewers worldwide, contributing to greater understanding and awareness of the challenges and opportunities faced by the international community.



FBC signs three-year deal with FFA

(Photo: FBC Board Chair Ajay Bhai Amrit [left] with Fiji Football President Rajesh Patel – FBC)

The Fijian Broadcasting Corporation has signed a three-year agreement partnership with the Fiji Football Association for the audio broadcast rights.

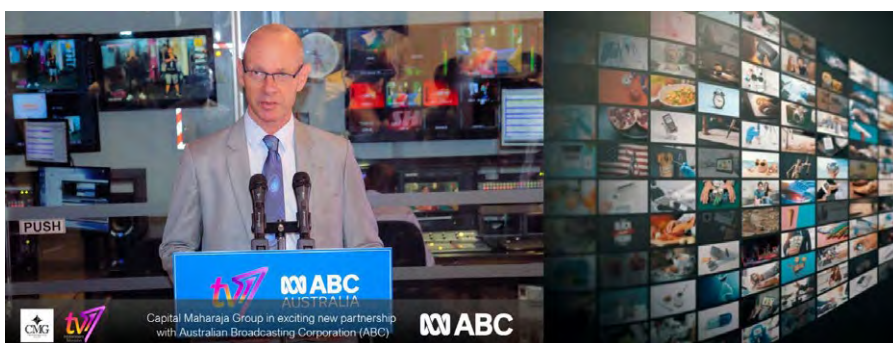
These include the 2023 Digicel Fiji Premier League, the Digicel Fiji Fact, Battle of the Giants and the Courts Inter District Championship competitions.

The FBC Director of Sales and Marketing, Vijendra Kumar says they are pleased to partner with the Fiji FA.

"It's a really great achievement for FBC in terms of going and signing a three year agreement. As you know football is the number one sport in the world and the second sport in Fiji. We have been getting calls as mentioned in the last meeting in terms of the coverage in radio."

This partnership also includes Digicel National Club Championship, and all international men and women friendlies organized by FFA.

Sri Lanka's MTV and ABC Australia announce new partnership



(Photo: Newsfirst, MTV Sri Lanka)

The Capital Maharaja Group (CMG) and its broadcast arm MTV Channel (Pvt) Ltd announced a new partnership with Australia's premier international television service ABC Australia (Australian Broadcasting Corporation), to bring the best of Australian television into the homes of millions of Sri Lankan viewers.

This partnership will see the broadcast of an exciting range of ABC Australia's programmes on TV1 to inform, educate and entertain the Sri Lankan audience.

Each programme would be broadcast within 24 hours of its airing in Australia, ensuring that Sri Lankan viewers receive the very latest shows. TV-1 is also broadcast on Dialog TV's Channel 10 and Channel 12 on PEO TV.

"We are delighted to partner ABC, so that we can leverage the innovative leadership ethos of both broadcasters here in Sri Lanka", noted Chevaan Daniel, Group Director of CMG and head of The MTV Channels Media Network.

Claire Gorman, Head of International Services at ABC Australia, said: "The ABC is delighted to expand our relationship with Sri Lankan audiences through this new partnership with TV-1. ABC Australia showcases outstanding Australian content. This exciting new partnership with TV-1 means that Australian content will find and delight a whole new audience in Sri Lanka."

TV1 will bring quality content from ABC Australia such as the current affairs show 'Four Corners'; insights into global affairs through 'Foreign Correspondent'; interesting architecture with 'Grand Designs Australia'; and the latest science and technology through 'Catalyst'.

Launched in 1992, MTV Channel (Pvt) Ltd has been delighting audiences across Sri Lanka for 30 years, and includes a variety of Sinhala, Tamil and English services including Sirasa TV, Shakthi TV and TV1, and through its international award-winning news service News 1st.

Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network launches toolkit for Pacific journalists reporting on corruption



(Rimon, author of toolkit with his presentation. Photo: PACJN)

The Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network (PACJN) has launched a new toolkit aimed at supporting Pacific journalists in their reporting on corruption.

The toolkit is part of PACJN's broader mission to strengthen investigative journalism and anti-corruption reporting by facilitating engagement with the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the Pacific regional anti-corruption roadmap, the Teieniwa Vision.

PACJN is also supporting three experienced investigative journalists and its Coordinator to participate in the Marshall Islands Summit on Democracy: Public Engagement, Communications and the Media, along with a four-day pre-summit training for North Pacific journalists.

The training will include a session on the Teieniwa Vision and the utilization of the newly developed toolkit. The media strengthening program is implemented by the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA), with support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the New Zealand Aid Programme.

Thai PBS receives award for universal-designed website, promoting inclusive access for all



Anupong Chaiyariti, Thai PBS Deputy Director General overseeing Broadcasting Technology, accepted the award and highlighted the significance of convenient access to information, knowledge, and services through digital platforms. He acknowledged the challenges faced by visually impaired, partially blind, and deaf individuals in accessing digital content, perpetuating inequality and hindering their ability to stay informed.

Thai PBS is dedicated to overcoming barriers and promoting equal access and utilization of technology for people with disabilities. The organization prioritizes the development of a website that adheres to the WCAG standards, ensuring access for the elderly, people with disabilities, and marginalized communities.

Thai PBS has been honoured with the award for "Best Universal-Designed Website" in 2023. The recognition certifies Thai PBS as one of the 50 organizations in Thailand that have successfully created a universally accessible website based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

The Ministry of Digital Economy and

Society (DES) and the Office of National Digital Economy and Society (ONDE) presented the award to motivate and raise awareness among public and private sectors about the importance of accessible websites. The certification process involved compliance with the 13 features of a universally accessible website, including testing and inspection by individuals with disabilities.

Anupong emphasized Thai PBS's commitment to being a trustworthy media outlet that provides impartial and credible information. The organization serves as a platform for societal issue resolution and offers accessible knowledge, information, and edutainment for all. Thai PBS aims to develop an inclusive and universally accessible website while also innovating content and technology to cater to vulnerable audiences.

ABC unveils five-year plan to ensure relevance and trustworthiness in digital era

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) has revealed its Five-Year Plan, aiming to secure its position as the most trusted media organization in the country while adapting to evolving audience behaviour and technological advancements.

ABC Managing Director David Anderson emphasized the importance of meeting changing audience needs while upholding the ABC's commitment to quality, relevance, independence, and trust.

Looking ahead, Anderson stated, "By 2028, the ABC will serve more Australians on the platform of their choice with made-for-digital content and journalism on ABC News, ABC



iview, ABC listen, and on major third-party platforms."

"As Australia changes, so must the ABC," Anderson said. "This means changing to meet the needs of our audiences wherever they live. We will continue to serve all Australians, contribute to

our national identity, and remain an essential part of daily life."

While the core mission of the ABC remains unchanged, the organization recognizes the need to adapt and evolve in response to technology, changing audience behaviour, and demographics.

The Five-Year Plan signifies a significant transition for the ABC as it moves from maintaining traditional broadcast and digital processes toward becoming an integrated digital operation, ready to cater to a digital-majority audience.

During the next five years, the ABC will focus on enhancing its primary digital products, including ABC News, ABC iview, and ABC listen. The aim is to provide a seamless and personalized service that enables audiences to easily discover relevant content.

New categories announced for Australian Commercial Radio and Audio Awards



(Photo: CRA)

The annual Australian Commercial Radio and Audio Awards (ACRAs) have announced new major awards including Station of the Year, Individual Talent of the Year, Australian Music Champion, and Podcast of the Year.

The awards recognize excellence in commercial radio broadcasting and audio across entertainment, news, talk and sport. New awards have been introduced to acknowledge podcasting and diversity and inclusion.

Winners will be announced across four areas: national, metropolitan, provincial and country. Around 900 personalities and executives from around Australia are expected to attend this year's event.

The 2023 Australian Commercial Radio and Audio (ACRA) Awards will be a celebration of 100 Year of Radio in Australia, with Nine Radio's Ray Hadley and Sofie Formica announced as co-hosts of one four award segments on the night.

The 34th annual Australian Commercial Radio and Audio Awards (ACRAs) will be held on October 14 at Sydney's International Convention Centre at Darling Harbour.



Mediacorp partners LASALLE and NAFA to drive talent discovery in the local entertainment industry

In a strategic move to boost talent discovery and development in the local entertainment industry, Mediacorp has signed two separate Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with LASALLE College of the Arts (LASALLE) and the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA).

Inked on 29 and 30 May respectively, these partnerships aim to cultivate theatre and performance arts students into the next generation of multi-hyphenate artistes.

Tham Loke Kheng, CEO, Mediacorp, said: "Talent and creativity are key

pillars for what we do at Mediacorp. Joining hands with LASALLE and NAFA will help us to expand on the work we are already doing to develop and nurture a talent ecosystem across the industry, and to groom the stars of tomorrow."

Professor Steve Dixon, President, LASALLE said: "We are very pleased to enter into this partnership with Mediacorp. As the arts and media landscape continues to grow from strength to strength in Singapore, it is important for education and industry to come together and build a mature,

robust ecosystem for mentorship and talent development. The opportunities that this MOU provides for our students to gain industry experience on live productions will be hugely invaluable, and we look forward to further collaborations in the future."

Tan-Soh Wai Lan, President, NAFA, said: "Our MOU with Mediacorp affords NAFA's undergraduates priceless industry-relevant experience to broaden their horizons and expand their career pathways, as further developing themselves as artists and creatives. This collaboration will uplift the entire art and culture industry, as it promises a clear structure and support architecture that benefits generations to come. It also signals Mediacorp's recognition of NAFA's talents and commitment to their futures. I am confident that the opportunities presented will continue to inspire learning and growth through the arts, and I encourage our talents to cherish this partnership."

Effective immediately for three years, the MOUs will see Mediacorp equipping students with industry exposure and experience, underscoring the company's commitment to nurturing local talent.



(Photo: Presidential Communications Office Secretary Cheloy Gerafil swore in Ana Puod – Photo courtesy of PCO)

Veteran broadcaster Ana Puod has been appointed as the general manager of Philippines' government-owned People's Television Network (PTV).

Presidential Communications Office Secretary Cheloy Gerafil swore in Puod,

Veteran broadcaster Ana Puod appointed General Manager of Philippines' PTV

based on an update by the Presidential Communications Office on June 4.

Puod will also be a member of the Board of Directors of PTV, representing the private sector and broadcast industry.

The veteran journalist started her career at ABS-CBN News where she produced the current affairs program "The Correspondents."

In a social media post, Puod said she accepted the challenge to lead the Network and is looking forward to "enhancing its best in terms of fulfilling its mandate."

"I am greatly honored by the privilege

and opportunity given by President Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos Jr to serve the country as General Manager of the People's Television Network (PTV-4)," she said.

"Priority shall be put into coming up with relevant and engaging programs, efficient operation and administration of resources, and management with integrity. We shall endeavor to reach out and work with everyone who shares our ideals and values," she added.

Her appointment came weeks after President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. picked veteran journalist Jose Torrest Jr. as the new director-general of the Philippine Information Agency.



(Minister of Media, Salman bin Yousef Al-Dosari, inspects media operations, Photo: Ministry of Media, Saudi Arabia)

Massive media operations for Hajj 2023 Coverage

The Saudi Arabian Ministry of Media, in collaboration with 50 government agencies, established an extensive media infrastructure to facilitate the work of local and international journalists covering the annual Hajj pilgrimage.

A Virtual Press Center (VPC), operating 24/7, was established to provide media services such as videos and images to over 1100 reporters from both domestic and international outlets.

The VPC made available more than 1500 press materials for journalists. Additionally, it broadcast Hajj press conferences in five languages for a three-day period during the peak of Hajj.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) was coordinating with the ministry and had set up a press operation room, which served as the hub for supervising and coordinating field reporters at the holy sites of Mina, Arafat, and Al-Awali. This room, along with four other media centers established by the SPA, offered support to international news agencies.

Other facilities included the Audiovisual Media headquarters at the Ministry of Media's Arafat headquarters, the studios of the Saudi Broadcasting Authority at the Jamarat Bridge, and a media center of the Saudi Press Agency at Arafat that was fully equipped to facilitate the work of journalists and international media partners at the site.



(Photo: CMG)

CMG opens bureau in Honduras

China Media Group has established its first bureau in Honduras after the formal establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the Central American country.

The National Bureau of China Media Group was inaugurated in April, marking one of the first formal celebrations between the two countries.

BBC launches Journalism Climate Commitment at News Xchange



(Photo: EBU/ News Xchange)

The BBC launched a Journalism Climate Commitment in a bid to ensure it provides the 'whole story of climate change' to its audiences.

The climate change pledge, which was announced at the EBU's News Xchange conference in Dublin by the BBC's Nisha Kapur, commits BBC journalists to provide impartial information and 'hold power to account'. It is designed to "inspire change through its stories and finally look at the wider impact of environmental issues throughout their news and current affairs coverage."

As part of the commitment, the BBC said it will provide appropriate ongoing science-based training to its journalists and 'agree to share appropriate knowledge and information across its organisations.'

Kapur said it was inviting other public service broadcasters who are members of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) to join in the commitment and that in future it hopes other news organisations around the world will sign up to it.

With the bureau in Honduras, CMG can provide more extensive coverage of Central America to global audiences.

This move follows the formal establishment of diplomatic relations between Tegucigalpa and Beijing.



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