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1 October 2026

Did you miss us? We skipped September's newsletter as we were heavy on preparing for the most anticipated event of the year: the Global News Forum (GNF)! This three-day event was held from 2–4 September at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) headquarters in Ultimo, Sydney.

This edition is jam packed with highlights that we are proud and delighted to share with you, all centred around this year's GNF theme, "Resilient Journalism: Safeguarding Truth and Wellbeing."

It was an absolute pleasure co-hosting the GNF with ABC, and our utmost heartfelt gratitude goes out to the entire ABC team. We also owe a million thanks to the delegates who joined us from all over the globe and actively engaged in this forum. Without all of you, it would not have been possible.

Over 210 participants engaged in this year's GNF, including those who joined online via Zoom. Our attendees came from over 34 countries, representing 52 media organisations, including 33 ABU member organisations.

This year, we refreshed the forum's format with new additions, including simultaneous Leadership Roundtable breakout sessions, workshops, and a masterclass. We received generous feedback from participants and, as always, welcome your suggestions for future events.

Meanwhile, over the past month, our thoughts have remained with our members and international correspondents in Nepal, who worked tirelessly to cover the catastrophic late August floods that affected over 84,000 people, including their own nationals living and working there. We also extend our respect to all the media personnel reporting under difficult conditions across the region, including those covering the severe haze in Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines.

Equally, our hearts go out to the people in Thailand and the news teams reporting on the devastating flooding affecting their country.

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS



TVB double winner at Asiavision Awards

TVB Hong Kong was the big winner at the Asiavision Awards, securing both the **Breaking News & News Story of the Year** honours for its coverage of the Wang Fuk Court fire in Tai Po. Managing Editor Trevor Lee dedicated the recognition to reporting on crisis, rebuilding, and regional resilience. Selected from over 300 entries across 10 categories, the awards celebrate journalistic excellence across the Asia-Pacific. Full winners list at abu.org.my/avn-awards.

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AVN modernises services with 30% fee cut

Members approved a transformative overhaul of Asiavision's services, replacing the legacy satellite fee structure with a 30% across-the-board rate reduction across five membership tiers. Delegates also agreed to expand the News Group Committee to five seats, launch new in-country training initiatives for local newsrooms starting next year, and review the network's annual financial report.

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First-ever Leadership Roundtable sessions

Global media leaders gathered for the first-ever Leadership Roundtable sessions to address staff wellbeing, a topic historically considered taboo in the region. Facilitated by representatives from ABC's People & Culture team, the closed-door session featured candid discussions on shielding journalists from online harassment and political pressure, resolving internal departmental friction, and establishing structured protocols to support newsroom employees.

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In this panel session, RTM Malaysia's Shahri Saripan highlighted shifting media habits through his 79-year-old father, who ditched TV for news on his smartphone. This means, audience changes span all generations. Moderated by Laura Tingle, *The State of Journalism in the Asia-Pacific* panel also featured Donna Field, Chevaan Daniel and Ahmet Görmez discussing shorter attention spans, AI disinformation, newsroom survival, and journalist safety.

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Lessons from KBS, TRT on journalist wellbeing

KBS Korea's Hyungchul Chi and TRT Türkiye's Ahmet Görmez shared strategies for protecting reporters from severe cyberbullying and battlefield trauma. Chi detailed how KBS actively managed hundreds of abusive online attacks to protect a reporter following a high-profile investigation, asserting that journalists should never face abuse alone. Addressing frontline trauma, Görmez highlighted the invisible psychological toll on war correspondents, stressing that newsrooms must dismantle mental health stigmas and encourage open communication to help journalists process high-stress environments.

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Exploring changing attitudes to journalist wellbeing

This panel discussion on *The People Behind the Journalism: Safety, Wellbeing, and Resilience* highlighted a shift away from traditional "tough it out" media culture. Moderated by ABC presenter Jeremy Fernandez, regional news leaders, including Francis Toral, Suzanne Dredge, and Dorji Tashi discussed evolving duty-of-care practices, tackling online hostility, and navigating mental health and AI challenges in an increasingly complex media landscape.

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AVN members were given the floor to share their latest initiatives during the Members Showcase at GNF, highlighting AI adoption, crisis response, and newsroom resilience. Key presentations included NHK advocating for C2PA provenance standards following the Kumamoto Earthquake, Thai PBS suspending regular programming for continuous Southern Thailand flood coverage, with CNA, CCTV+ & MTRK Uzbekistan demonstrating AI integration in translation and production.

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Diversity & inclusion in media

This panel discussion examined how inclusive content and diverse newsroom culture are deeply interconnected. Featuring insights from Mosiqi Acharya, Nargiza Numanova, and Sitiveni Halofaki, speakers stressed that diversity must extend beyond HR policy into everyday leadership, creating safe working environments while using targeted coverage to educate audiences and preserve indigenous culture. Moderated by Kristian Porter of Public Media Alliance.

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Student leader shares insights at GNF

Liew Ti Tian (Elly), President of student-led newsroom VoiceLah! at University of Wollongong Malaysia, reflected on her experience as the sole student delegate at the GNF in Sydney. Writing that the event was "worth more than 10 classes on campus," she detailed collaborating with regional media leaders on crisis fact-checking and presenting VoiceLah!'s mission to nurture future journalists.

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Constructive journalism can survive in Malaysia...

Reflecting on his panel session alongside news leaders from Thai PBS World, DD News India, and TRT World, Dr Naim Muhamad Ali, Senior

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argument still in his pocket. Expanding on his thoughts, he examines whether constructive journalism can truly take root in Malaysia, arguing that genuine solutions-based reporting requires more than highlighting hopeful initiatives, it demands the freedom, data, and editorial independence to report honestly when a policy fails to deliver.

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Building Resilient Media People report launched

We have published the third edition of the ABU News report. The report features essays from global media professionals and an in-depth research on newsroom mental health across 27 countries. [Click to read the latest ABU News Report online](#), or email asiavision@abu.org.my to contribute to the next edition.

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Our Impact Report

The ABU News Impact Report 2025–2026 highlights the achievements of Asiavision's newsrooms over the past year, featuring the top performers for each month from May 2025 to July 2026. It also takes us back to how Asiavision first started back in 1984, the journey of one of Asia-Pacific's longest-running news exchanges.

[READ THE IMPACT REPORT HERE](#)

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