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

ABU NEWS

CREATIVITY MEETS COURAGE







Next stop: GA 2026 Sri Lanka

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From The Editor's Desk

Cassandra Elizabeth Praba
Manager, Publications & Communications
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This quarter did not stand still. Neither did the ABU.

Across the region, ideas were challenged, boundaries were pushed and important conversations gathered momentum. From the creative energy of CON FEST to the courageous journalism championed at the Global News Forum, Q3 showed a community ready to confront change and shape what comes next.

This is **Creativity Meets Courage**.

As I brought this issue together, I was struck by the sheer momentum across the Union. From Kuala Lumpur to Sydney and Jakarta, our members gathered to question, create, learn and collaborate. Each event had its own focus, yet all were connected by one shared ambition: to build a media future that remains innovative, responsible and deeply human.

ABU CON FEST 2026 filled Kuala Lumpur with fresh ideas about storytelling, creativity and audience engagement. It encouraged media professionals to look beyond technology and think more deeply about the people they serve, the talent they nurture and the cultural identities they carry forward.

In Sydney, the Global News Forum turned the spotlight on resilient journalism. At a time when truth is increasingly contested and pressure on newsrooms continues to grow, the discussions explored what it takes to protect credibility, support journalists and continue serving audiences with courage and integrity.

Legal questions surrounding the future of media also took centre stage in Jakarta. The 32nd ABU Intellectual Property and Legal Committee Conference examined artificial intelligence, copyright, royalties, broadcasting rights and digital piracy. As technology moves faster than regulation, the discussions reinforced the need for strong governance, international cooperation and effective protection for creative work.

The Technology Department kept pace with this rapidly evolving landscape. Its workshops and webinars explored content provenance through C2PA, the future of DAB+ digital radio, streaming infrastructure and digital content delivery. These were more than technical conversations. They addressed one of the defining questions facing our industry: how can broadcasters embrace innovation while protecting authenticity and public trust?

The ABU Media Academy brought that question directly into the newsroom. Its webinars explored artificial intelligence in media and business, intellectual property and ethics, mobile journalism, language preservation and the changing role of public media. From the possibilities of AI to the power of a smartphone in the hands of a journalist, the sessions reminded us that technology is only as meaningful as the people, judgement and purpose behind it.

The quarter was equally active on the sporting front. ABU Sports advanced preparations for the 20th Asian Games Aichi Nagoya 2026, coordinating production arrangements for the ABU English Commentary Project and supporting members with broadcasting rights, accreditation and access to production feeds. As the Games opened, a team of experienced commentators and producers moved into full operation, helping audiences across the region experience the action through accessible English language coverage.

ABU Robocon 2026 brought another kind of energy, celebrating the ingenuity, determination and teamwork of young engineers from across the Asia Pacific. At the same time, initiatives in diversity and inclusion, disaster preparedness, climate action and media education reflected the wider responsibilities carried by today's media organisations.

This quarter also brought a milestone especially close to my heart: the launch of the newly redesigned ABU website.

The project involved months of planning, writing, collaboration and careful consideration of how the ABU presents itself and its members to the world. Watching it finally come to life was an immensely proud moment. More than a redesign, it represents a more accessible, engaging and connected digital home for the ABU community. Like every living platform, it will continue to grow, evolve and improve.

We now look ahead to the conclusion of the ABU Prizes 2026, when outstanding achievements in Audio, Screen and Digital Media will be recognised. The winners will be announced during the 63rd ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

From 30 October to 3 November, GA2026 will unite our community under the theme "**Media for Peace and Humanity: Truth, Trust and Transformation**." It is a powerful theme for a defining moment. Our industry is changing quickly, audiences are demanding more and trust can no longer be taken for granted.

The General Assembly gives us the opportunity to confront these challenges together. It is where diverse voices find common ground, partnerships grow stronger and ideas begin their journey towards collective action.

This issue celebrates a quarter filled with imagination, collaboration and determination. It reminds us that courage in media is not always loud.

Sometimes it is the decision to ask a difficult question, try something new, defend the truth or tell a story that might otherwise remain unheard.

Creativity gives us the vision. Courage moves us forward.

Next stop: GA2026, Colombo.

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ABU CON-FEST 2026: Where Content, Culture and the Next Generation Converged



From changing audience behaviours and emerging digital platforms to artificial intelligence, creator-led content and the enduring importance of trust, ABU CON-FEST 2026 placed the future of media firmly at the centre of the conversation.

Held from 7–9 July 2026 at Royale Chulan Damansara, Malaysia, the three-day festival brought together broadcasters, content creators, media leaders and emerging talent from across the Asia-Pacific and beyond. This year's edition was held in conjunction with the ABU Media & Culture Days under the theme "Next-Gen Content & Culture", reflecting a media landscape in which technology, creativity and cultural expression are increasingly intertwined.

More than 450 participants joined the festival onsite and online for a programme designed to move beyond simply discussing change. Through keynote conversations, panel discussions, practical workshops, showcases and performances, participants examined how media organisations can respond meaningfully to new audience expectations while remaining relevant, trusted and culturally grounded.

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An Industry at a Crossroads

The festival began with welcoming remarks from ABU Director of Programming Aoki Kazunori, followed by “Media at a Crossroads”, a discussion examining the strategic choices facing broadcasters and content organisations.

Moderated by ABU Head of Radio Andrew Davies, the session brought together Jean Philip De Tender, Deputy Director General of the European Broadcasting Union; Claire M. Gorman, Head of ABC International; Tshilidzi Davhana, General Manager of Factual Content at the South African Broadcasting Corporation; Ashwad Ismail, Director General of Radio Televisyen Malaysia; and Kora Nou, Managing Director of NBC Papua New Guinea.

Their discussion reflected the scale of the transformation taking place across the industry. Audiences are consuming content differently, younger generations are increasingly discovering stories through social and digital platforms, and established media organisations are under growing pressure to innovate while protecting the values that distinguish public service media.

The session reinforced an important message that continued throughout the festival: media organisations cannot rely solely on their existing platforms and reputations. Relevance must be continually earned by understanding how audiences live, what they value and where they choose to engage.

Starting with the Audience

One of the central figures at CON-FEST 2026 was internationally recognised podcasting pioneer Eric Nuzum, co-founder of Magnificent Noise. Nuzum helped launch US National Public Radio’s (NPR) podcasting efforts before leading podcast development at Audible and has played an influential role in shaping the growth of on-demand audio.

During his interactive workshop, “Speaking to an Audience”, Nuzum encouraged broadcasters to begin the creative process with a clearly defined audience rather than a platform or format. Participants worked through practical exercises to identify whom their content was intended to serve, what value it offered and why an audience would choose to listen, watch or share it.

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His conversation with Andrew Davies on the second day expanded on this audience-first approach. At a time when broadcasters are competing not only with other media organisations but with an endless stream of digital content, the discussion highlighted the importance of clarity, purpose and genuine connection.

The message was straightforward but significant: successful content is not created for everyone. It is created with a particular audience in mind and with a clear understanding of what that audience needs.

Reaching the Next Generation

The challenge of engaging younger audiences was explored further in “Scroll, Stream, Engage: Capturing the Next-Gen”. Speakers from the EBU, ABC International, SABC, Deutsche Welle and NHK shared how media organisations across Europe, Africa and the Asia-Pacific are adapting their content and distribution strategies.

The conversation examined the need for broadcasters to meet younger audiences in the digital spaces they already occupy while maintaining editorial quality and credibility. Short-form video, mobile-first storytelling, platform-specific content and more conversational styles are no longer optional additions to traditional broadcasting. They are becoming central to how younger audiences discover and interact with media.

The rapid rise of micro-dramas offered another example of this shift. In “Short, Sharp, and Scalable: The Rise of Micro-dramas”, speakers explored how short, serialised and mobile-first productions are creating new possibilities for storytellers and commissioners. The discussion considered the speed and scalability of the format, the growing influence of artificial intelligence in production and the creative opportunities emerging from changing viewing habits.







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From Broadcasters to Communities

CON-FEST also explored the growing influence of independent creators and the lessons established media organisations can learn from them.

During “Building Digital Communities”, podcasters, digital entrepreneurs and content creators discussed how they had developed loyal communities around their work. Rather than treating audiences as passive consumers, the speakers highlighted the importance of consistency, authenticity and two-way engagement.

This theme continued in the fireside chat “Beyond Broadcast: What Creators Know That Networks Don’t”. Independent creators shared candid insights into building content without the budgets, structures or institutional support available to large organisations. Their experiences demonstrated how agility, a distinctive voice and a close understanding of audiences can sometimes achieve what resources alone cannot.

The discussions did not suggest that creators and broadcasters occupy opposing sides of the media landscape. Instead, they pointed towards opportunities for both to learn from one another and collaborate.

Innovation with Purpose

Technology featured prominently throughout the festival, but always in relation to the stories it enables and the people it serves.

“From Experiment to Impact” showcased innovative projects involving artificial intelligence, virtual and extended reality, digital archives and new production workflows. Presentations from organisations including NHK, KBS, RRI and other media innovators demonstrated how emerging tools are being used to reimagine archives, strengthen production and offer audiences more immersive experiences.

The evolving distribution landscape was examined during “A FAST Future”, which explored the opportunities and challenges presented by Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television. Speakers considered how FAST channels differ from conventional broadcasting, the commercial models supporting them and the increasingly difficult contest for audience attention and discoverability.

Animation was also recognised as an important force in global storytelling. “Animating Growth” brought together perspectives from Türkiye, Malaysia and Japan to examine how animation can cross linguistic and cultural boundaries while giving creators new ways to connect with audiences.

Trust When It Matters Most

While innovation shaped much of the conversation, CON-FEST 2026 also returned repeatedly to the responsibilities carried by broadcasters.

“Trusted Media in Times of Crisis” brought together representatives from Deutsche Welle, the ABU, NHK, Radio and Television of Montenegro and IRIB. The session examined the role of media during emergencies, natural disasters and public crises, focusing on editorial credibility, media and information literacy, technological preparedness and international collaboration.

Speakers warned that inaccurate information can spread quickly during a crisis, intensifying fear and undermining public confidence. In such circumstances, trusted media can become a lifeline, giving communities reliable information when they need it most.

These responsibilities also extended into the legal and ethical challenges surrounding content. “The Rules of Content: Copyright, AI and Platform Influence” addressed rights ownership, artificial intelligence and the changing influence of digital platforms. The session underlined the need for creators and broadcasters to understand how content is protected, distributed and governed as technology continues to outpace established regulatory frameworks.

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Culture as a Foundation for the Future

The future of media cannot be separated from the cultures and communities from which stories emerge. “Crossing Borders, Keeping Roots: Culture in Motion” explored how traditions are being reinterpreted through contemporary media, music, design and technology.

Rather than presenting culture as something fixed, the discussion showed how it continues to evolve as stories move across borders and platforms. Cultural identity can provide a foundation for innovation, enabling creators to produce work that is both locally meaningful and internationally relevant.

This celebration of culture extended beyond the conference sessions. Performances by KLP48 and Malaysian traditional dancers Tiung Mas brought music, movement and regional identity to the CON-FEST stage, adding a vibrant creative dimension to the programme.

Creating Space for New Voices

The final day placed a strong emphasis on the next generation of media professionals.

Science communicator and presenter Maddie Massy explored how complex scientific and health information can be transformed into engaging short-form content for younger audiences. Her session, “Science That Sticks: Reaching Gen Z in the Scroll Era”, demonstrated that making information accessible does not require sacrificing accuracy. Instead, it requires a better understanding of how digital audiences communicate and learn.

“New Voices, New Futures: From Vision to Leadership” provided a platform for emerging filmmakers alongside organisations supporting creative and cultural development. The session examined how mentorship, funding and institutional support can help young storytellers build sustainable careers and bring new perspectives into the media industry.

The festival concluded by looking towards a future shaped by collaboration between experienced industry leaders and emerging talent. It was a fitting conclusion to three days that brought together broadcasters, creators, cultural practitioners and innovators with different experiences but a shared interest in the future of storytelling.

ABU CON-FEST 2026 demonstrated that the next generation of content will not be defined by technology alone. It will be shaped by how well media organisations understand their audiences, nurture and encourage younger staff and creative talent, preserve cultural identity and maintain trust.

Platforms will continue to change and formats will continue to evolve. However, the principles at the heart of meaningful media remain constant: knowing whom we serve, telling stories with purpose and creating connections that matter.



Resilient Journalism: Safeguarding Truth and the People Who Report It

At a time when journalism is confronting misinformation, technological disruption, financial pressure and growing risks to media professionals, the 2026 ABU Global News Forum brought the industry together around a critical question: how can journalism remain resilient without losing sight of the people who make it possible?

Held from 2–4 September 2026 at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Ultimo headquarters in Sydney, the Global News Forum returned to Australia for the first time in ten years. Hosted by the ABC, the three-day gathering brought together news leaders, editors, journalists and media professionals from across the Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Under the theme "Resilient Journalism: Safeguarding Truth and Wellbeing", the Forum explored the two foundations upon which journalism depends: the integrity of the information reaching the public and the safety and wellbeing of those responsible for reporting it.

Through high-level panel discussions, leadership roundtables, workshops and smaller breakout sessions, participants examined some of the most pressing challenges facing contemporary newsrooms, from artificial intelligence and digital verification to online harassment, journalist safety and mental health.

Keeping Journalism at the Centre

The Forum began with a Welcome to Country delivered by an Elder from the Sydney Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which the gathering took place.

ABC Head of International Claire M. Gorman and ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem welcomed delegates to Sydney, setting the tone for three days of open discussion, shared learning and regional collaboration.

During his address, the ABU Secretary-General launched the Building Resilient Media People report, which brought together the experiences and perspectives of media professionals from across the region and around the world. The report

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placed the human realities of journalism at the heart of the Forum, recognising that resilient media cannot exist without resilient media professionals.

ABC Managing Director Hugh Marks reinforced this message in his keynote address, emphasising the need for impactful journalism to remain at the centre of media organisations.

His remarks reflected one of the Forum's most consistent themes. Although technology, platforms and audience habits continue to transform the way news is produced and consumed, journalism's fundamental purpose remains unchanged: to provide audiences with accurate, relevant and trustworthy information.

The State of Journalism in the Asia-Pacific

The opening Super Panel, "News Leader Forum: The State of Journalism in the Asia-Pacific", examined the strategic challenges reshaping the regional media landscape.

Moderated by respected ABC journalist Laura Tingle, the discussion brought together Donna Field, Acting Director of ABC News; Md Shahri Saripan, Director of News and Current Affairs at Radio Televisyen Malaysia; Chevaan Daniel, Group Director of MTV Channels Sri Lanka; and Ahmet Görmez, Deputy Director General of TRT Türkiye and Chair of the ABU News Group.

The panel considered the impact of artificial intelligence, changing audience expectations, financial pressures and the growing importance of credible journalism. Speakers also discussed how established broadcasters are adapting their newsroom strategies while remaining committed to accuracy and the public interest.

With audiences increasingly encountering news through social media, digital platforms and artificial intelligence tools, media organisations must now compete in an information environment where speed and visibility can sometimes be valued more highly than verification.

The discussion made clear that resilience cannot mean resisting change. It requires media organisations to adapt intelligently, strengthen their editorial standards and ensure that innovation supports journalism rather than weakening its foundations.

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Supporting the People Behind the News

While the first Super Panel examined the institutions shaping journalism, the second turned its attention to the individuals working within them.

“The People Behind the Journalism: Safety, Wellbeing and Resilience”, moderated by ABC presenter Jeremy Fernandez, featured Dorji Tashi, Chief Executive Officer of Bhutan Broadcasting Service; Mary Anne Francis Toral-Torres, Head of Integrated News at ABS-CBN Philippines; Taro Mitamura, Head of NHK’s General Bureau for Asia; and Suzanne Dredge, ABC Head of International and Indigenous News.

The panel explored the pressures faced by journalists and newsroom teams working in increasingly demanding environments. These include exposure to traumatic events, physical danger, relentless deadlines, digital abuse and the emotional strain of covering crises over extended periods.

The conversation challenged news organisations to look beyond operational performance and recognise their responsibility to build supportive workplace cultures. Protecting journalists requires more than physical security protocols. It also means creating environments in which employees can discuss mental health, access meaningful support and seek assistance without fear of professional consequences.

This focus on the people behind the reporting gave the Forum’s theme greater depth. Safeguarding truth and safeguarding journalists are not separate goals. When media workers are unsupported, threatened or exhausted, the quality and sustainability of journalism are also placed at risk.

A More Collaborative Forum

GNF 2026 introduced a new format shaped by feedback from ABU members and previous Forum participants. Rather than relying entirely on conventional, single-track presentations, the programme incorporated simultaneous breakout sessions, specialised workshops and targeted discussions for different professional groups.

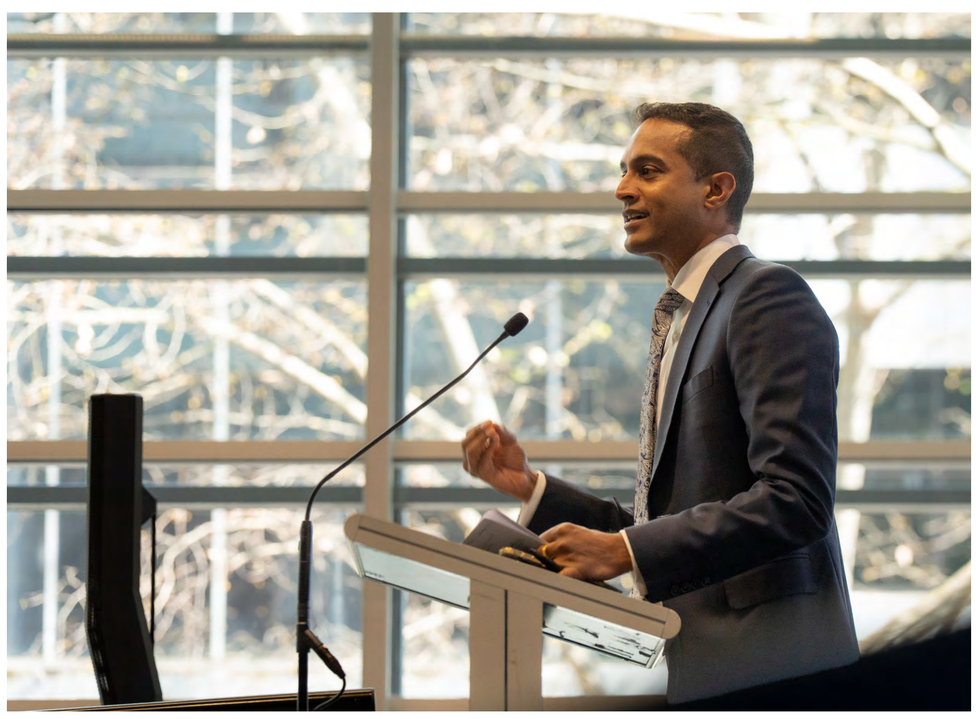
A dedicated Leadership Roundtable, facilitated by Deena Amorelli and Caitlyn McLoughlin, gave senior media professionals an opportunity to discuss the role of leadership in protecting and mentoring employees. Participants considered how sustainable wellbeing programmes and peer-support structures could be embedded within newsroom operations.

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Running alongside the leadership discussion was a journalist-focused workshop examining safety, wellbeing, accessibility, inclusion and the pressures associated with maintaining ethical standards in demanding newsroom environments.

The workshop also addressed the growing problem of online harassment. Participants examined the different forms digital abuse can take, from attacks by individuals to organised campaigns involving multiple users. Particular attention was given to doxxing, in which personal information such as a home address, telephone number or private email account is deliberately exposed online.

By creating smaller spaces for discussion, the Forum allowed delegates to share experiences more openly and explore practical solutions that could be adapted within their own organisations. The format encouraged participants to move beyond identifying problems and begin developing stronger systems of support.



Protecting Truth in a Changing Digital Landscape

The integrity of information remained central throughout the Forum.

Sessions explored the growing influence of artificial intelligence, the challenge of verifying digital content and the speed at which misinformation can move across platforms and national borders. While new technologies offer significant opportunities for news gathering, production and distribution, they also make it easier to create and circulate misleading or manipulated material.

For journalists, this environment has increased the importance of verification, transparency and media and information literacy. It has also strengthened the need for cooperation between news organisations.

No newsroom can address the scale of digital misinformation entirely on its own. Regional networks can support the sharing



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of knowledge, verification techniques and technological resources, allowing broadcasters to respond more effectively while avoiding unnecessary duplication.

The discussions demonstrated that trust is not preserved through reputation alone. It must be continually earned through accuracy, accountability and an unwavering commitment to the audience.

Celebrating Excellence in Regional Journalism

The 2026 Asiavision Awards provided an opportunity to recognise journalism that demonstrated impact, innovation and public value across the region. More than 300 entries were submitted and assessed by an independent panel of judges.

TVB Hong Kong received two major honours, winning Breaking News and News Story of the Year for its coverage of the Tai Po fire at Wang Fuk Court.

Other recipients included CMG China, NHK Japan, VTV Vietnam, TRT Türkiye, ABC Australia, CNA Singapore, Thai PBS Thailand and DD India. The stories recognised by the awards covered subjects ranging from conflict and environmental sustainability to technological innovation, cultural preservation and community-led solutions.

The ABU News Director Award was presented to Monica Enriquez Lachica of ABS-CBN Philippines, while Asiavision Jury Awards recognised the continuing contributions of TVRI Indonesia, MTRK Uzbekistan, MTV Sri Lanka, KBS South Korea and FBC Fiji.

Together, the winning entries demonstrated the breadth of journalism being produced across the Asia-Pacific and the importance of stories that inform audiences while reflecting the realities of their communities.

Strength Through Unity

As the Forum drew to a close, one message emerged clearly: media resilience depends upon community.

Participants identified opportunities for joint investigations, resource sharing and closer cooperation across borders. They also discussed the development of peer-support frameworks for journalists working in high-pressure or high-risk environments.

The final day combined practical workshops on media and information literacy and digital





production skills with a closed group meeting addressing the future of Asiavision. Members endorsed reduced subscription rates and discussed a proposal to expand the News Group Committee to five representatives. Plans were also announced to introduce more in-country training programmes from 2027.

These outcomes reflected the practical purpose of the Global News Forum. The gathering was not only a space to discuss the challenges confronting journalism but also an opportunity to strengthen the systems and relationships needed to respond to them.

GNF 2026 showed that resilience is not created by individual newsrooms working in isolation. It is built through cooperation, knowledge sharing and a willingness to support fellow media professionals across organisations and borders.

Technology will continue to evolve. New threats to the integrity of information will emerge, and the pressures faced by journalists will not disappear. Yet the Forum offered a clear path forward: uphold the truth, protect the people behind the reporting and draw strength from the collective experience of the region.

In an increasingly complex media environment, journalism's greatest source of resilience may ultimately be the community standing behind it.



ABU and Hong Kong ISD Explore Long Term Media Cooperation

The Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union welcomed Hong Kong's Director of Information Services, Mr John Tse Chun Chung, to the ABU Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur for discussions on strengthening cooperation between the two organisations.

During his meeting with ABU Secretary General Ahmed Nadeem, Mr Tse expressed the Information Services Department's interest in providing ABU members with timely information and media resources on Hong Kong. He also invited the Union to consider holding future media workshops and major industry events in the city.

The discussions took place ahead of ABU Robocon 2026, hosted in Hong Kong from 21 to 25 August. The flagship competition brought together university engineering teams, broadcasters and industry partners from 15 countries and regions, creating another important platform for regional exchange and collaboration.

Mr Tse also encouraged media professionals from across the ABU network to visit Hong Kong and experience its latest developments firsthand. The visit reflected a shared commitment to building lasting connections, creating new opportunities for media exchange and strengthening Hong Kong's engagement with the wider Asia Pacific broadcasting community.







ABU and UOW Malaysia Sign MoU to Strengthen Media Education

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the University of Wollongong Malaysia (UOWM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 8 July 2026 to strengthen collaboration in media education, professional development and industry engagement.

The partnership will support the development of joint academy courses, alongside collaborative initiatives in training, capacity building, research and knowledge exchange. It also aims to bridge the longstanding gap between academic learning and the practical needs of the broadcasting industry, helping equip media professionals with relevant knowledge and industry-ready skills.

The MoU was formalised during ABU CON-FEST 2026 in Kuala Lumpur by ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem and UOWM Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Professor Dr Hiew Pang Leang.

The agreement marks an important step towards closer cooperation between academia and the media industry, creating new opportunities for professional learning, applied research and the development of future broadcasting talent.



ABU and Hong Kong's Information Services Department Sign Historic MoU

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the Information Services Department (ISD) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding on 22 August 2026.

Formalised by Hong Kong's Director of Information Services, John Tse, and ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem, the agreement marks the first partnership between the ISD and a regional broadcasting union. It establishes a direct connection between Hong Kong and the ABU's extensive network of broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific and beyond.

The MoU creates a dedicated framework to strengthen media cooperation, support joint events in Hong Kong and provide international journalists with greater access to information about the territory's latest developments.

As part of the partnership, the ISD and ABU will coordinate visits to Hong Kong by delegations of senior and mid-level editorial representatives from ABU member organisations. These visits will give participating media professionals first-hand insight into the city's development while creating opportunities for dialogue, professional exchange and closer collaboration.

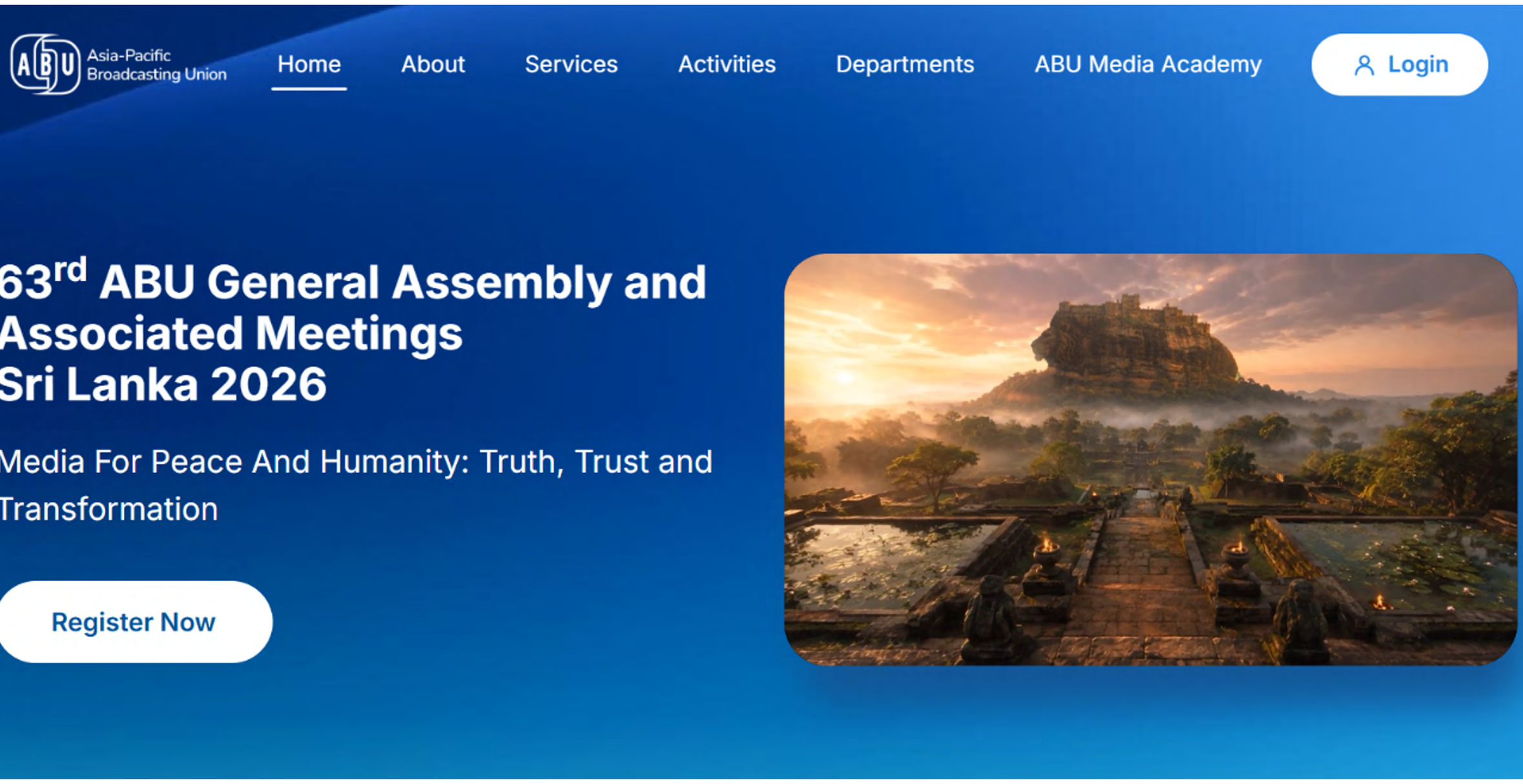
The ISD will also support the ABU in organising major media events in Hong Kong through 2027.

John Tse noted that the ABU's international reach complements the ISD's efforts to engage more closely with media organisations around the world. By providing ABU members with verified and timely news coverage and media resources, the partnership aims to develop a sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship.

The collaboration will become especially significant as Hong Kong prepares to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in 2027.

Through the ABU network, the ISD plans to share milestone events with international audiences while highlighting emerging opportunities in commerce, investment, arts, culture and education.

The agreement represents an important step towards stronger communication and cooperation between Hong Kong and the international broadcasting community, creating new opportunities for media engagement, knowledge exchange and regional connection.



A NEW DIGITAL HOME FOR THE ABU

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union marked an important milestone on 25 August 2026 with the launch of its newly redesigned website—an ambitious project created to present a stronger, more modern and more connected digital face for the Union.

More than a visual refresh, the new website reflects the ABU's evolving identity and its commitment to serving members in an increasingly digital media landscape. Developed through months of careful planning, content redevelopment and close collaboration, the platform brings together the breadth of the Union's work within a clearer, more engaging and user-friendly online experience.

Improved navigation and a refreshed structure make it easier for members, partners and visitors to explore the ABU's activities across news, technology and innovation, programming, sports, media development, climate action, disaster preparedness, diversity and inclusion, and other priority areas. News, events, publications and professional resources are now more accessible, helping members remain informed about opportunities to participate, collaborate and connect across the region.

The website also places greater emphasis on the ABU's diverse membership, providing a stronger platform to showcase members' achievements, expertise and contributions to the broadcasting and media community. Its contemporary design and streamlined content reflect both the scale of the Union's work and the many voices, cultures and perspectives that define the Asia-Pacific.

Created with accessibility, clarity and engagement at its heart, the new website represents a significant step forward in strengthening the ABU's communications and digital presence. It is a platform designed not only to share information, but also to bring the ABU community closer together.

The launch is a proud achievement for everyone involved and marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the Union—one that celebrates its legacy while looking confidently towards the future.

Explore the new ABU website at www.abu.org.my.



ABU Secretary-General Addresses ASEAN Workshop on Digital Transformation

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem delivered a recorded keynote address at the "ASEAN Workshop on Minimising the Negative Impacts of Digital Transformation on Traditional Media" on 27 August 2026.

The address was coordinated by the ABU Programme Department and the Secretary-General's Office following a request from TVK for ABU leadership and support in securing a keynote speaker for the workshop.

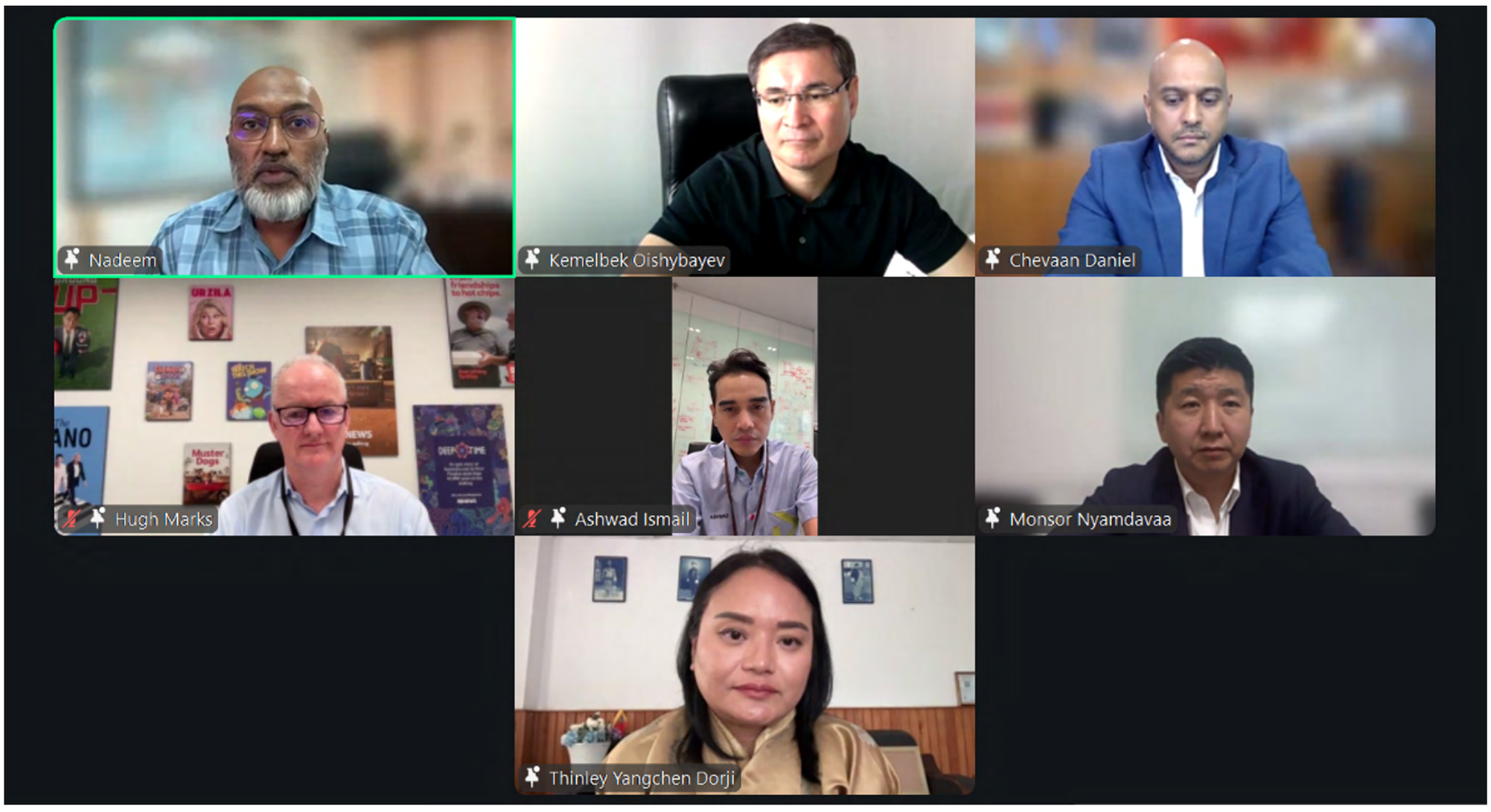
Speaking to 45 delegates from eight ASEAN Member States, Mr Nadeem examined the impact of digital disruption on traditional media and outlined a forward-looking approach centred on audience trust, responsible innovation and effective artificial intelligence governance.

He emphasised that digital transformation should not be viewed solely as a technological challenge. Media organisations must also consider how new tools and platforms affect editorial standards, organisational culture, workforce capabilities and the relationship between broadcasters and their audiences.

Regional cooperation was highlighted as an important part of building a more sustainable media sector. Mr Nadeem encouraged broadcasters to pool knowledge and resources in areas such as digital-skills training, content verification, accessibility, emergency broadcasting and technology sharing.

By working together across borders, traditional broadcasters can strengthen their ability to respond to rapid technological change while maintaining the trust and public-service values that remain central to their role.

The keynote reinforced the ABU's commitment to supporting regional knowledge exchange and helping its members navigate digital transformation responsibly and sustainably.



ABU Launches Media Futures Dialogue on the Changing Role of Public Media

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union launched its Media Futures Dialogue Series on 20 August 2026 with a high-level online discussion examining "The Role of Public Broadcasters and Public Media in a Changing Media Landscape".

The inaugural dialogue brought together media leaders from ABC Australia, MTV Channels Sri Lanka, RTM Malaysia, MNB Mongolia and Khabar Agency Kazakhstan to share their experiences, strategic priorities and responses to the rapid transformation of the global media environment.

The discussion focused on how public broadcasters and public media organisations can remain trusted, relevant and resilient amid increasing competition, fragmented audiences and changing patterns of media consumption.

Participants examined the challenge of protecting editorial integrity and public trust in an information environment increasingly affected by misinformation and disinformation. They also considered how public media can ensure its content remains accessible and relevant to younger, digitally connected audiences.

Another important area of discussion was how public broadcasters can demonstrate their value beyond conventional audience ratings. Media leaders explored the wider contribution of public media to society, including its role in providing trusted journalism, reflecting diverse communities, supporting culture and ensuring access to reliable information.

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Strengthening digital presence was also identified as a priority. As audiences increasingly consume news and entertainment across social media, streaming services and mobile platforms, public broadcasters must expand their reach without compromising the editorial standards and public-service values that distinguish them.

Sustainable funding, editorial independence and organisational transformation were among the key challenges highlighted. Participants discussed the need to innovate while remaining accountable to audiences and preserving the institutional responsibilities associated with public-service broadcasting.

Drawing on experiences from different national and organisational contexts, the speakers acknowledged that there is no single model for the future of public media. Each organisation operates within its own regulatory, political, financial and cultural environment.

Nevertheless, participants agreed on several shared priorities: protecting trusted journalism, engaging audiences meaningfully, maintaining strong public-service values and increasing collaboration among broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific.

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem opened the session by emphasising the importance of strategic dialogue and cooperation among ABU members as the industry navigates technological, financial and editorial change.

The discussion was moderated by Thinley Yangchen Dorji, Director of the News and Current Affairs Department at Bhutan Broadcasting Service. Drawing on her experience as a journalist and media professional, she guided the conversation and encouraged participants to share practical insights from their organisations.

The ABU Media Futures Dialogue Series has been designed as a strategic, practical and forward-looking platform where senior media leaders can examine common challenges, exchange perspectives and identify opportunities for cooperation.

The inaugural session was recorded for future reference, and its key insights will contribute to an outcome paper capturing the priorities and recommendations emerging from the discussion.

Through the series, the ABU aims to support deeper regional dialogue and help its members navigate the changing media landscape while remaining connected to the audiences and communities they serve.



ABU Strengthens Media Preparedness for Disasters and Climate Emergencies

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union conducted an online Training of Trainers programme on Media Disaster Preparedness, Risk Reduction and Climate Action on 12 August 2026.

Held as part of an ABU–UNESCO initiative, the training aimed to strengthen the capacity of media organisations across South and Southeast Asia to respond effectively to disasters and climate-related emergencies.

The two-hour session provided participants with practical knowledge, tools and approaches to improve disaster preparedness, responsible reporting and public communication before, during and after an emergency.

A key focus was the growing threat of misinformation during disasters. In fast-moving crisis situations, inaccurate or misleading information can spread quickly, create confusion and place communities at greater risk. Trusted media therefore have a vital responsibility to provide timely, verified and actionable information that helps people understand the situation and make informed decisions.

Participants explored how media organisations can strengthen their internal preparedness, improve coordination with government authorities and emergency services, and ensure journalists are equipped to report safely and responsibly in high-risk environments.

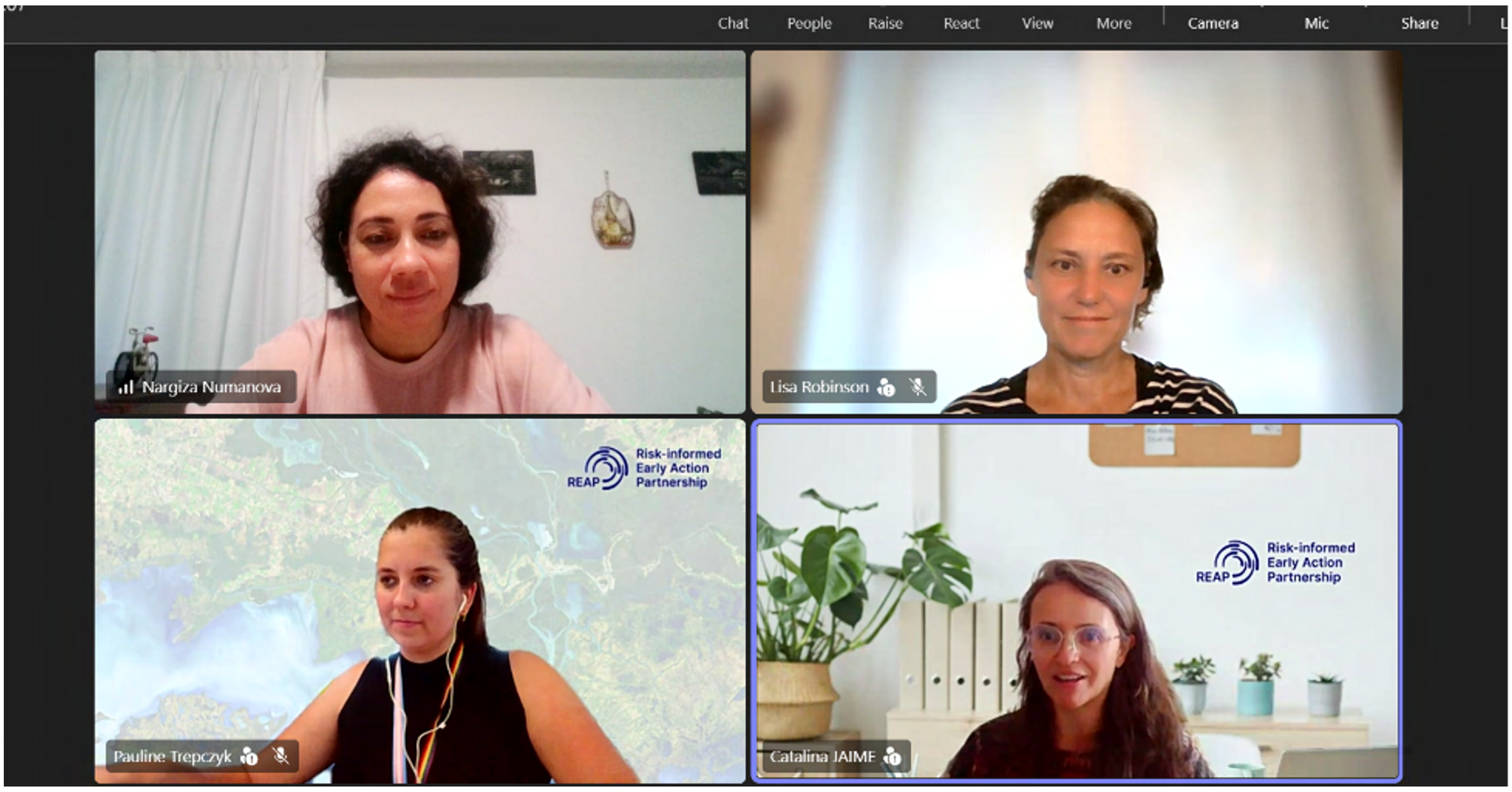
The training also featured experiences and good practices from broadcasters across the region, demonstrating how clear and effective communication can help communities understand potential risks, respond to early warnings and take appropriate action.

As a Training of Trainers initiative, the programme was designed to extend its impact beyond those who attended the session. Participants were encouraged to share the knowledge, tools and resources gained with colleagues in their respective organisations and to support the development of stronger institutional practices.

This approach will help broadcasters build internal capacity and strengthen their ability to prepare for and respond to future emergencies.

The training reaffirmed the essential role of broadcasters in disaster risk reduction and climate communication. As communities across the region face increasingly frequent and severe climate-related emergencies, accurate reporting, institutional preparedness and effective public communication are becoming more important than ever.

By strengthening media capacity and encouraging knowledge-sharing, the ABU–UNESCO initiative aims to help broadcasters serve as reliable sources of information when their audiences need them most.



ABU EXPLORES PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN EARLY-ACTION COMMUNICATION

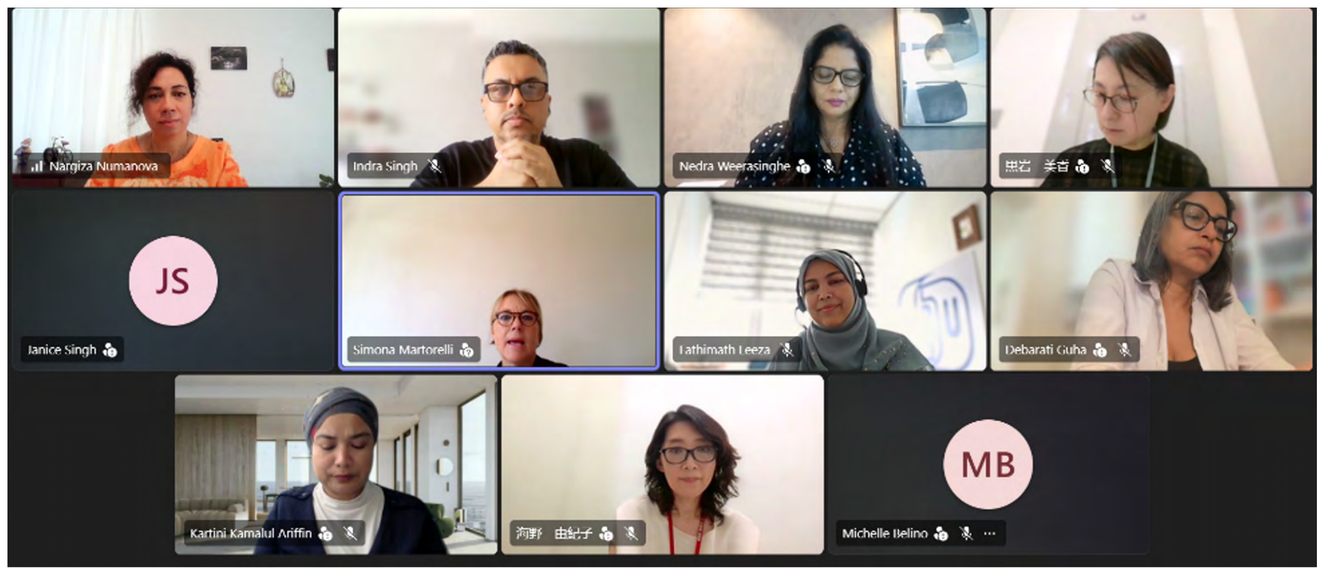
The ABU Secretariat met online with representatives of the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) to explore potential cooperation in disaster preparedness, early-warning communication and risk-informed early action.

REAP brings together governments and organisations working across the climate, development, humanitarian and hydrometeorological sectors. The partnership aims to strengthen coordination and expand systems that enable communities to act before disasters occur.

The discussion complemented the ABU's ongoing collaboration with UNESCO to implement the Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP) model among selected media organisations in South and Southeast Asia. The initiative is designed to improve broadcasters' institutional preparedness and strengthen their ability to deliver timely, accurate and actionable information before, during and after emergencies.

During the meeting, the ABU and REAP exchanged information on their respective priorities and considered opportunities for knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and greater engagement with media organisations. They also highlighted the vital role of trusted broadcasters in communicating early warnings, helping communities understand potential risks and supporting audiences in taking appropriate action.

The meeting marked a valuable first step towards closer engagement and the identification of practical areas in which the ABU's extensive regional media network and REAP's expertise in risk-informed early action could complement one another.



ABU Diversity and Inclusion Task Group Advances Regional Action

The ABU Diversity and Inclusion Task Group met online on 5 August 2026 to review its priorities and advance efforts to build more inclusive, representative and accessible media across the Asia-Pacific.

The meeting welcomed new members and reviewed the Task Group's revised Terms of Reference, which provide a clearer framework for supporting ABU members in developing diversity and inclusion policies, workplace practices, content and services that better reflect the communities they serve.

The revised framework will also strengthen the Task Group's engagement with ABU committees, external experts, regional and international organisations, and potential funding partners. Its recommendations will be presented to the ABU Planning and Strategy Group for further consideration.

Members also discussed the proposed ABU Diversity and Inclusion Three-Year Action Plan for 2026–2028. The conversation focused on priority activities, opportunities for collaboration and practical ways to support implementation across ABU member organisations.

Preparing for the Broadcasting for All Forum

Preparations for the Broadcasting for All Forum, which will take place during the 63rd ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings in Colombo, formed another important part of the meeting.

Members exchanged ideas on the Forum's programme, themes, speakers and contributions, with an emphasis on creating practical and relevant discussions for broadcasters.

The Forum will provide an opportunity for media professionals from across the region to share experiences, examine continuing barriers to inclusion and explore how broadcasters can better represent diverse audiences both within their organisations and through their content.

Supporting Women Through Mentorship

The Task Group also reviewed the inaugural ABU Media Mentoring Programme 2026 – Career Connections.

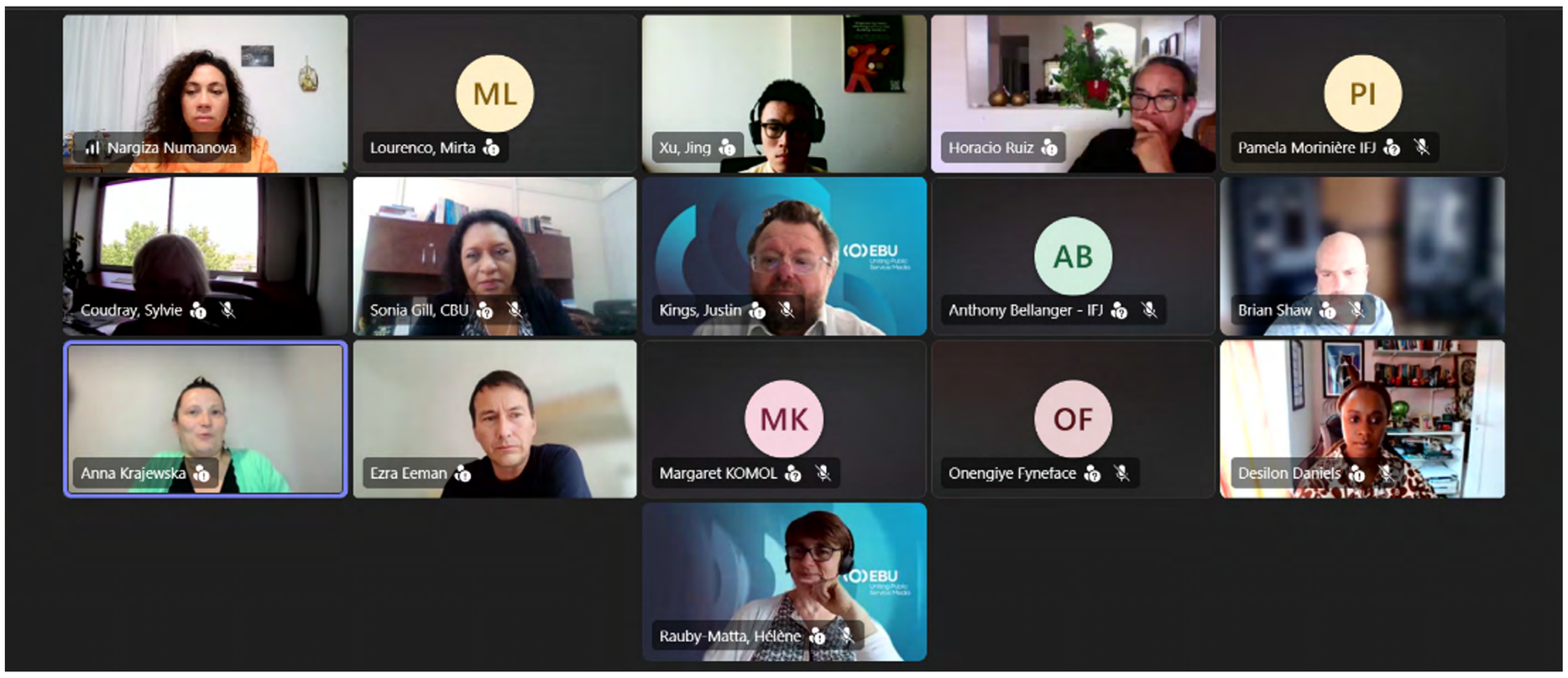
The initiative supports the career development of non-managerial women working in journalism, content production, digital media and technology by connecting selected participants with experienced senior media professionals.

The programme responds particularly to the under-representation of women in non-traditional media roles and in content and news management positions. Through mentoring, participants can gain professional guidance, strengthen their networks and build the confidence and skills needed to progress within the industry.

The experiences and outcomes of the inaugural programme will be presented at the Broadcasting for All Forum in Colombo. Depending on its results, the initiative may be expanded in future years to support a wider range of under-represented groups.

The meeting reaffirmed the Task Group's role as a regional platform through which ABU members can exchange experiences, share good practices and develop collaborative initiatives.

By connecting policy with practical action, the Task Group aims to help embed diversity and inclusion across media workplaces, content and services throughout the Asia-Pacific.



ABU Contributes to UNESCO's Global AI Course for the Media

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union has joined an international advisory group supporting UNESCO and the University of Oxford in developing a Global Massive Open Online Course on Artificial Intelligence for the Media.

The initiative aims to help journalists, broadcasters and media organisations understand and adopt AI responsibly while maintaining editorial standards, accountability and public trust.

The advisory group's first online consultation brought together representatives of regional broadcasting unions, journalists' organisations, public media networks and news publishers. Participants discussed the course's intended outcomes, priority areas and the different needs of media organisations across regions.

Representing the ABU, Nargiza Numanova, Head of the Secretary-General's Office, called for practical and technology-neutral guidance that focuses on the responsible use of AI rather than on individual tools, which may quickly change or become outdated.

The ABU identified several areas it believes should be central to the course, including editorial accountability, verification, human oversight, AI governance, organisational policies and risk management. Copyright, licensing and the use of media content to train AI models were also highlighted as significant concerns for broadcasters.

The ABU further emphasised the importance of providing practical guidance for smaller and resource-constrained broadcasters, ensuring that the course remains relevant to organisations with different levels of infrastructure, expertise and readiness to adopt AI.

The environmental impact of artificial intelligence was also identified as an issue requiring greater attention as the media industry increasingly incorporates AI into its operations.

To ensure the course reflects the realities of a diverse global media sector, the ABU recommended including practical case studies from different regions. These examples could help participants understand how media organisations are using AI, the challenges they have encountered and the policies introduced to manage associated risks.

Human editorial responsibility, ethics, accountability and critical thinking are expected to remain at the heart of the programme. The course will also examine practical newsroom applications, including transcription, translation, archiving, accessibility and content repurposing.

UNESCO and the University of Oxford will continue consulting members of the advisory group, gathering regional case studies and sharing draft materials for review. Subject to the development schedule, the Global MOOC is expected to launch in the first quarter of 2027.

The ABU will continue contributing the perspectives and needs of its members throughout the development process, helping ensure that the course is practical, inclusive and relevant to media organisations across the Asia-Pacific.

Verify Before You Broadcast: Strengthening Media and Information Literacy in Newsrooms



Facilitator: **Nargiza Numanova**
Head of Secretary-General's Office
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

False information can travel across platforms and reach millions of people within minutes. For broadcasters, the challenge is no longer limited to identifying inaccurate claims. Newsrooms must also respond to manipulated images, recycled photographs, fabricated announcements, synthetic voices, deepfake videos and misleading content presented without its original context.

To support broadcasters in navigating this increasingly complex information environment, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union and UNESCO have developed a practical Media and Information Literacy training session for media professionals. The initiative aims to strengthen editorial decision-making and help newsrooms identify misleading content before it reaches audiences.

The training places Media and Information Literacy, or MIL, firmly within the professional responsibilities of broadcasters. Editorial choices shape which issues enter public discussion, how they are framed and whether audiences understand and trust the information they receive. Verification, fairness, accountability and transparency are therefore not separate newsroom tasks. They are central to responsible broadcasting.

Participants examine the differences between misinformation, which may be shared without an intention to deceive, and disinformation, which is deliberately created or distributed to mislead. The session also addresses malinformation, where genuine information is taken out of context or used to cause harm.

Synthetic media introduces further risks. Artificial intelligence can fabricate convincing images, videos, voices and documents, making it easier to impersonate trusted institutions and public figures. While detection tools may assist journalists, they cannot replace editorial judgement. Broadcasters must confirm the origin of content, seek independent corroboration and maintain human responsibility for every decision to publish or broadcast.

The training introduced a practical verification process that newsrooms can apply under pressure. Journalists were encouraged to trace content to its original source, inspect it for manipulation, confirm when and where it was created, cross-check the claim with reliable independent sources and then decide whether to broadcast, withhold or publish it with additional context.

These principles are tested through the "Verify Before You Broadcast" workshop ABU hold for the Global News Forum's participants in Sydney. Participants assessed realistic breaking-news

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scenarios, including a false tsunami warning from an unofficial social media account, an old flood photograph recirculated as a current event, an exaggerated casualty claim following an incident at a railway station and a fabricated video appearing to show a minister announcing school closures.

Each example required more than simply deciding whether the content is true or false. Participants must consider what can safely be reported, which details require attribution, when uncertainty should be clearly labelled and whether showing false content could amplify the very misinformation the newsroom is trying to correct.

The exercises also reinforced an essential principle: popularity is not proof. A post may receive thousands of shares, appear across multiple accounts or include emotionally powerful images and still be inaccurate. Social media posts should be treated as leads requiring verification rather than evidence ready for publication.

When errors do occur, correction must form part of editorial accountability. Broadcasters should explain what was wrong, state what has been verified, correct the information across every platform where it appeared and retain a visible record of the correction. Newsrooms should then review how the error passed through their editorial process and strengthen the relevant safeguards.

The broader objective is to make Media and Information Literacy part of newsroom culture rather than an occasional response to a crisis. This requires regular training, clear verification policies, defined escalation procedures and cooperation with trusted fact-checkers and media-literacy organisations.

Participants conclude the session by identifying one practical measure they can introduce or strengthen within their own organisations. This may include adding verification checkpoints to editorial workflows, improving the labelling of AI-generated content, creating a transparent correction policy or providing regular training for journalists and editors.

In an information environment shaped by speed, algorithms and increasingly convincing manipulation, broadcasters retain a powerful advantage: their professional standards and direct responsibility to the public. By making verification visible and explaining how editorial conclusions are reached, broadcasters can help audiences navigate uncertainty and strengthen trust in reliable journalism."



Asiavision Endorses New Subscription Rates and Expanded Training

By **Indra Singh**
Director of News
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

The 2026 Global News Forum concluded with a closed meeting of Asiavision members, where several important decisions were made to strengthen the network and support its future development.

One of the key outcomes was the endorsement of reduced subscription rates, aimed at making participation in the Asiavision network more accessible and sustainable for members.

Members also discussed a proposal to expand the ABU News Group Committee to five representatives. Under the proposed structure, Asiavision would be represented by a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, while the wider ABU membership would hold two additional seats. The expansion is intended to broaden representation and strengthen participation in the Group's decision-making processes.

Looking ahead, plans were announced to expand in-country training programmes from 2027. These initiatives will provide members with more targeted professional development opportunities while strengthening newsroom capabilities across the region.

The meeting was held alongside practical workshops on Media and Information Literacy and Digital Production Skills, giving participants an opportunity to develop skills that can be applied within their own newsrooms.

Members also received the annual financial report, providing an overview of Asiavision's financial position and supporting continued transparency in the network's operations.

Together, the outcomes reflected Asiavision's commitment to remaining accessible, collaborative and responsive to the evolving needs of its members.



ABU Robocon 2026 Celebrates Engineering, Innovation and Youth Collaboration

Under the electrifying theme “Kung Fu Quest”, ABU Robocon 2026 took centre stage at Queen Elizabeth Stadium in Hong Kong, China, on 23 August 2026.

Organised by Radio Television Hong Kong under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, the flagship competition brought together 16 university teams from 15 countries and regions for an exciting display of engineering, creativity, strategy and teamwork.

Participants represented Cambodia, China, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Macao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam, alongside two host teams from Hong Kong.

Inspired by Hong Kong’s rich martial arts heritage, the competition challenged each team to operate two robots collaboratively. The robots were required to assemble traditional weapons, retrieve Kung Fu scrolls and strategically outmanoeuvre their opponents.

Following an intense series of preliminary matches and knockout rounds, the tournament concluded with an all-Hong Kong final. Team Sapientia from the University of Hong Kong claimed the championship title, while Team Power Builder from the Chinese University of Hong Kong finished as runner-up.

The closing ceremony recognised outstanding achievements in engineering innovation, robot design and team spirit, celebrating the dedication and technical ability demonstrated throughout the competition.

Beyond the excitement of the tournament, ABU Robocon continues to encourage young people to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It also provides students from across the region with an opportunity to collaborate, exchange ideas and apply their knowledge in a competitive international environment.

Looking Ahead to ABU Robocon 2027

The momentum continued the following day with the ABU Robocon Meeting 2026 at Queen Elizabeth Stadium.

Chaired by Aoki Kazunori, Director of ABU Programming and Chief of the ABU Robocon Secretariat, the meeting brought together representatives from TVK Cambodia, SDRT China, RTHK Hong Kong, DD India, UMS Indonesia, NHK Japan, Thai PBS Thailand and VTV Vietnam. Representatives of the ABU and Tokyo Secretariats also participated.

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem commended RTHK, participating broadcasters, judges and volunteers for delivering a successful competition. He also highlighted Robocon’s contribution to STEM education and youth collaboration across the region.

Tom W.T. Chan of RTHK expressed his appreciation to the international delegations, while NHK Permanent Committee Member Inoue Tomohiro praised RTHK for developing a creative and action-packed competition concept.

The meeting concluded with a preview of ABU Robocon 2027, presented by Vice Rector Professor Ihwan Susila and Professor Djoko of Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta.

The next edition will be held in Solo, Indonesia, continuing ABU Robocon’s mission to inspire the next generation of engineers, innovators and problem-solvers across the Asia-Pacific.



CARE13 Series Moves Forward with Second Project Meeting

Producers from across the region gathered online on 13 August 2026 for the second project meeting of the ABU CARE13 Series, “Voices of Resilience: Stories of Community Renewal”.

The meeting provided an important opportunity for participating broadcasters to review their production progress, address emerging challenges and strengthen the documentary projects currently under development.

Representatives from RTM Malaysia, KBS Korea, LNTV Lao PDR, VTV Vietnam, CGTN China, TVRI Indonesia, DD/PB India and TRT Türkiye presented updates on their respective productions. Each team outlined its current stage of development and shared the creative, editorial or logistical challenges encountered along the way.

Following the presentations, Executive Producer Xiao Xiaowai of CGTN provided tailored editorial feedback to each participating team. The collaborative discussion allowed producers to explore potential solutions, exchange experiences and ensure that every documentary remained aligned with the series’ central theme.

Through “Voices of Resilience: Stories of Community Renewal”, participating broadcasters are documenting how communities respond to challenges, rebuild and create new possibilities for the future.

The meeting also served as an important monitoring and coordination point for the ABU Programme Department, enabling it to track progress across the participating member organisations and provide targeted support where needed.

By bringing producers together throughout the development process, the CARE13 Series encourages regional collaboration and helps ensure that each story remains authentic, compelling and connected to the wider vision of community resilience.



ABU PRIZES 2026: CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN STORYTELLING

Final judging for the Audio and Screen categories of the ABU Prizes 2026 is currently underway, bringing together experienced media professionals from across the ABU membership to recognise some of the region's most outstanding productions.

Established to promote excellence in content production, the annual ABU Prizes celebrate programmes that raise educational and cultural standards while strengthening understanding among audiences across the Asia-Pacific. Open exclusively to ABU members, the competition provides an important platform for broadcasters and content creators to showcase stories that inform, inspire and connect communities.

This year's Audio categories comprise Drama, Podcast, Documentary, News Reporting, Public Service Announcement, Audio Personality and the ABU Perspective Award. The Screen categories include Drama, Documentary, Entertainment, Children, News Reporting, Sports and the ABU Perspective Award. Entries are assessed by jury panels comprising at least five experts drawn from the ABU membership, with consideration given to professional expertise and balanced representation.

For 2026, the theme of the ABU Perspective Award is "Healing". Entries explore well-being and inner strength amid life's challenges, reflecting emotional, mental and physical recovery through personal stories, cultural practices, nature, community and self-reflection.

The judging process offers media professionals an opportunity to encounter diverse storytelling traditions and evaluate productions created across different cultural and linguistic contexts. Beyond selecting the winners, it encourages professional exchange and a deeper appreciation of the creativity, technical skill and public-service values represented throughout the ABU community.

The competition also recognises innovation in digital media through awards for Digital Storytelling and Digital Interactivity and Engagement, celebrating content that uses digital tools to connect with audiences in new and meaningful ways.

The winners of the ABU Prizes 2026 will be announced during the 63rd ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings, taking place from 30 October to 3 November in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

As the judging continues, the ABU Prizes once again affirm the enduring power of exceptional storytelling—and the talent, imagination and commitment of the broadcasters who bring the Asia-Pacific's stories to audiences around the world.



The Future of Media Provenance

In an era of AI-generated images, manipulated videos and rapidly spreading misinformation, one of the greatest challenges facing the media industry is helping audiences determine whether the content they encounter can be trusted.

This challenge was at the heart of the ABU Technology webinar, “Building Trust in Media: C2PA, Identity Assertions and the Future of Media Provenance”, held on 14 July 2026.

The webinar brought together broadcasters, technology specialists, standards organisations and media professionals to examine how media provenance can help establish the origins and history of digital content.

A total of 59 participants from 14 countries joined the session, representing organisations including NHK, NTT DOCOMO, Fuji Television Network, J-Stream, WDR/ARD, the BBC and the ABU. Speakers from the European Broadcasting Union, International Press Telecommunications Council, WDR/ARD and BBC Research & Development shared technical insights and practical experiences relating to the implementation of provenance technologies.

Why Media Provenance Matters

As synthetic and AI-generated content becomes increasingly realistic, audiences may find it difficult to determine whether an image, video or audio recording is authentic, altered or artificially created.

Media provenance offers a way of addressing this uncertainty by providing verifiable information about the origin and history of digital content. It can record where content came from, who created it and what changes were made before it reached the audience.

At the centre of the discussion was the Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity, commonly known as C2PA. The coalition has developed an open technical standard that uses cryptographically signed metadata to create a verifiable record of a digital asset’s creation and modification.

Rather than attempting to determine whether a piece of content is “true” or “false”, C2PA provides audiences, journalists and platforms with more information about its source and history. This gives users additional context with which to assess its credibility.

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Establishing Trust Across the Content Lifecycle

Mohamed Badr Taddist, C2PA Project Manager at EBU Technology & Innovation and Security4Media, opened the technical programme with an introduction to C2PA and its role in establishing verifiable information about digital content.

He explained the technical foundations of the standard, including its open-source software development kit and the use of cryptographically signed provenance metadata.

His presentation also highlighted the importance of security and privacy when implementing C2PA. Provenance systems must provide meaningful information without unnecessarily exposing personal or commercially sensitive data.

Drawing on C2PA projects coordinated by the EBU and industry demonstrations presented at events such as IBC, he positioned the framework as more than a technical specification. It has the potential to support trust throughout the media lifecycle—from production and editing to distribution and consumption.

For broadcasters, this means provenance cannot be applied only at the final point of publication. It must be considered from the moment content is captured and maintained as that material moves through editing systems, archives, distribution networks and digital platforms.

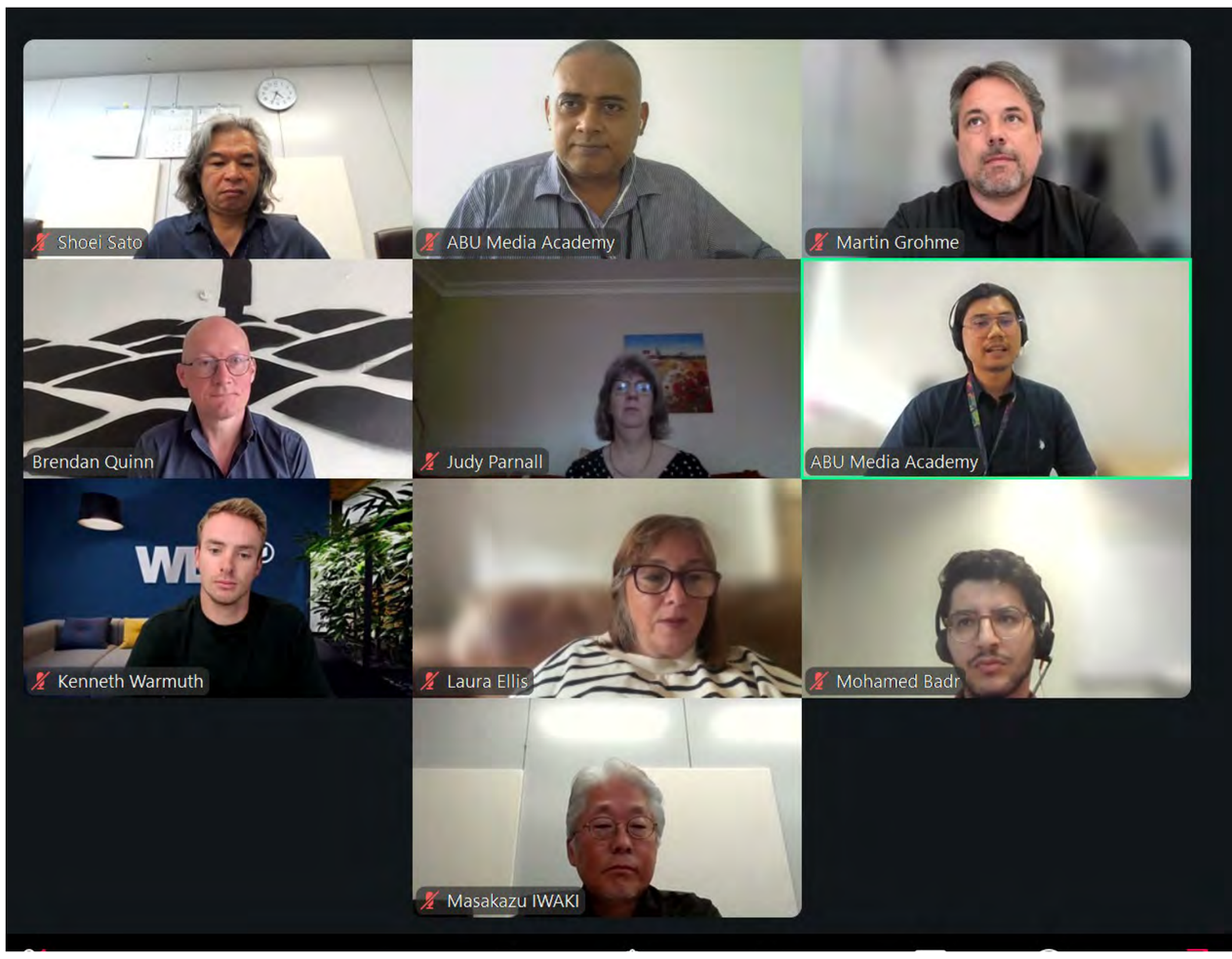
The Need for Common Standards

Brendan Quinn, Managing Director of the International Press Telecommunications Council, explored the importance of industry standards and collaboration.

Through its Media Provenance Working Group, the IPTC is helping the media industry develop common approaches that allow provenance information to work across different organisations, technologies and platforms.

Interoperability is essential. A provenance system introduced by one broadcaster will have limited value if its information cannot be recognised by the production tools, content-management systems, streaming services and social platforms used elsewhere in the distribution chain.

Widespread adoption therefore cannot be achieved by individual organisations acting independently. It requires collaboration among broadcasters, publishers, technology developers, standards bodies and digital platforms.



Common standards can create the consistency needed for provenance information to remain intact and useful as content passes from one system to another.

From Standards to Real-World Workflows

While common standards provide the foundation, broadcasters must still determine how provenance tools can be incorporated into existing production environments.

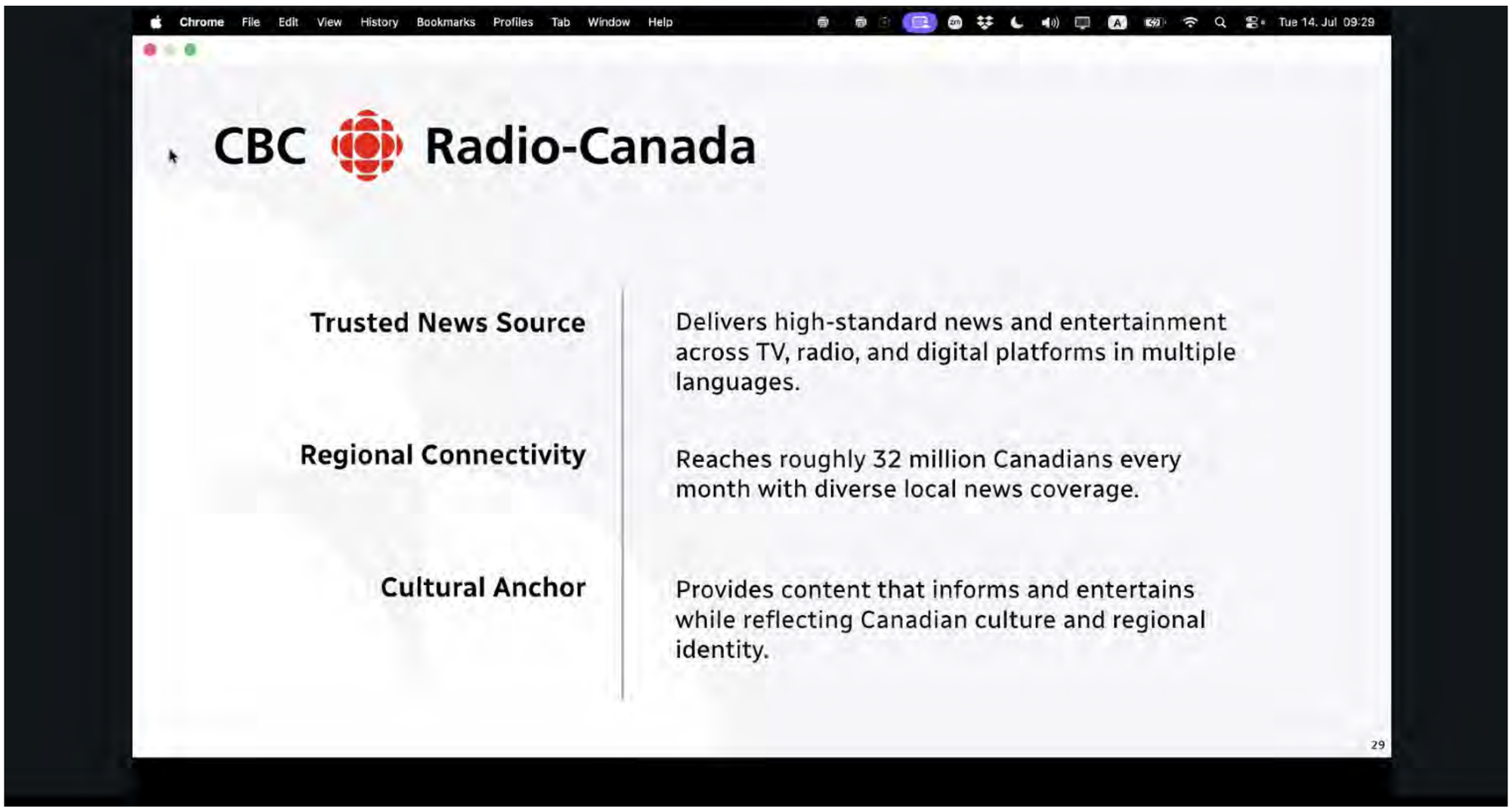
Kenneth Warmuth, Media Engineer and Technical Project Manager at WDR/ARD, shared insights from the organisation's evaluation and pilot implementation of C2PA.

His presentation examined the technical and operational challenges of integrating provenance capabilities into established broadcasting workflows. Production and content-management systems are often complex, involving numerous tools, formats and stages of processing. Introducing new technology without disrupting efficient operations therefore requires careful planning and testing.

The WDR/ARD experience demonstrated the importance of moving beyond theoretical discussions and testing provenance technology under real production conditions.

Broadcasters must consider where provenance data is created, how it is preserved during editing and whether existing systems can carry that information without affecting performance or usability.

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Protecting Provenance Through Streaming and VOD

The use of media provenance in streaming and video-on-demand environments was explored by Martin Grohme, Streaming Architect and Project Engineer at WDR/ARD.

As broadcasters increasingly depend on cloud infrastructure, digital platforms and online content delivery, provenance information must remain attached to content throughout a more complicated distribution chain.

Drawing on WDR's central live and VOD origin platform and its evaluation of C2PA for on-demand content, Grohme examined the requirements for maintaining provenance through streaming workflows.

A provenance record created during production will offer little value if it is removed or lost when content is encoded, transferred to the cloud or delivered through a streaming platform. Every stage of the chain must therefore be considered.

The discussion showed that media provenance is not simply a tool used to label content at the point of creation. It is an end-to-end process that must be supported across production, storage, processing and delivery.

Responding to Generative AI and Disinformation

Laura Ellis, Technologist and Journalist at BBC Research & Development, examined the relationship between media provenance, disinformation and generative AI.

The rapid growth of synthetic content has made it easier to produce convincing material that may mislead audiences or be presented without adequate disclosure. This creates risks not only for news

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organisations but also for public trust in legitimate journalism.

As manipulated and AI-generated media become more difficult to identify visually, transparent and verifiable information about content origins will become increasingly valuable.

Ellis also explored the broader editorial and ethical implications of emerging technologies, including automated journalism, personalised media and the use of artificial intelligence in news production.

Media provenance can provide an important layer of transparency, but it cannot resolve every challenge associated with misinformation. Editorial judgement, verification and responsible newsroom practices remain essential.

Technology can help audiences understand where content came from. The responsibility to report accurately and provide meaningful context, however, continues to rest with media organisations and journalists.

A Strategic Priority for Broadcasters

Judy Parnall, Principal Research and Development at BBC Research & Development and a member of the C2PA Steering Board, concluded the webinar with a broader strategic perspective.

She discussed the implications of media provenance for broadcasters and stressed the importance of continued engagement with standards organisations, technology providers, industry bodies and policymakers.

Successful adoption will depend not only on technical implementation but also on education and advocacy. Media professionals must understand what provenance can achieve, how it should be communicated to audiences and where its limitations lie.

Broadcasters also have an important role in ensuring that future standards reflect the realities of professional media production. Their participation can help shape systems that are technically practical, editorially responsible and capable of operating at scale.

Collaboration Is the Key to Adoption

Several consistent themes emerged throughout the webinar.

Media provenance is becoming increasingly important as broadcasters respond to misinformation, manipulated material and the rapid growth of AI-generated content. C2PA offers a technical foundation for recording verifiable information about the origins and modification history of digital media.

However, technology alone will not rebuild public trust.

Provenance systems must be secure, privacy-conscious and interoperable. They must work across different production environments, content-management systems, cloud services, streaming platforms and digital distribution channels.

Implementation also requires industry-wide coordination. If provenance information is to remain meaningful throughout the content lifecycle, broadcasters, standards organisations, technology companies and platforms must work towards common approaches.

The webinar demonstrated that media provenance should be viewed as both a technical and strategic priority. It has the potential to strengthen transparency, support verification and give audiences more information when assessing the media they encounter.

ABU Technology expressed its appreciation to the speakers for sharing their expertise and to participants for their engagement throughout the session.

As artificial intelligence continues to transform the media landscape, the need for trusted and verifiable content will only grow. Standards such as C2PA represent an important step towards a more transparent and resilient media ecosystem—one in which audiences are better equipped to understand not only what they are seeing, but where it came from.



Building the Future of OTT and Streaming

As audiences increasingly turn to digital platforms for news, entertainment and live events, broadcasters are being challenged to deliver content that is faster, more flexible and available across multiple devices.

The technologies behind this transition were explored during the ABU–IPPTAR Workshop on “OTT Engineering: Content Delivery and Streaming Infrastructure”, held from 11–13 August 2026 at the Institut Penyiaran dan Penerangan Tun Abdul Razak in Kuala Lumpur.

Organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union in collaboration with IPPTAR, the three-day workshop brought together 37 participants from 18 organisations. Among them were 25 representatives from seven ABU member organisations, including RTM Malaysia, Mediacorp Singapore, TVRI Indonesia, NBT Thailand, Media Niugini Limited Papua New Guinea and Walesi Fiji.

Ten speakers from across the broadcasting and technology sectors shared their expertise in OTT engineering, cloud infrastructure, streaming delivery, content security, monetisation and digital media operations.

Through technical presentations, industry case studies and a visit to MYTV Broadcasting, participants gained a comprehensive understanding of what it takes to build, scale and operate reliable OTT services.

Streaming Major Events at Scale

The first day focused on the infrastructure and planning required to build and expand OTT platforms.

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One of the key sessions, “Inside RTMKlik: Streaming FIFA at Scale”, examined the technology ecosystem being developed to support the delivery of the FIFA World Cup 2026 to Malaysian digital audiences.

Mardhiah Nasir of IPSB Technology, Aswin Chanthraksuwan of Amazon Web Services, Saravanan Silvarajoo of Bitmovin and Jayson Hor of Ateme presented the different components required to support large-scale live streaming.

The session illustrated how successful delivery depends on close coordination among broadcasters, system integrators, cloud providers, media-processing specialists and streaming platforms.

Within the RTMKlik ecosystem, RTM serves as the broadcaster, IPSB Technology as the solution provider and system integrator, AWS as the cloud infrastructure layer, Ateme as the provider of live encoding and media processing, and Bitmovin as the provider of playback, analytics and observability capabilities.

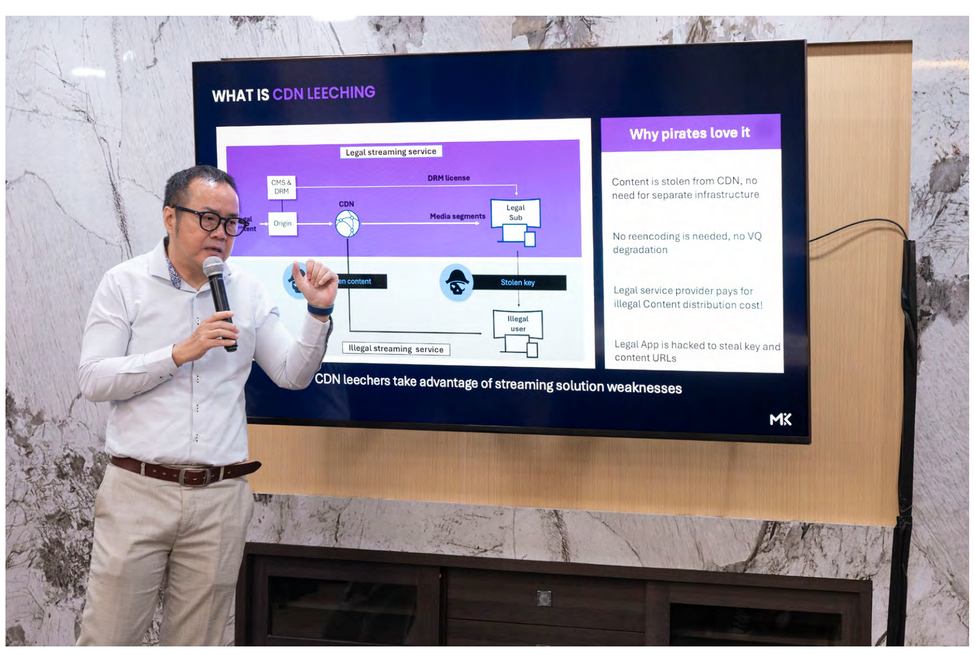
When millions of viewers attempt to access the same content simultaneously, streaming infrastructure must be capable of responding to unpredictable increases in demand. Elastic cloud capacity, edge caching, high-availability architecture, efficient encoding and real-time monitoring are therefore essential.

Early load testing and rapid troubleshooting can help identify weaknesses before a major event begins. Continuous monitoring of both Quality of Service and Quality of Experience also allows technical teams to detect problems and respond before they significantly affect viewers.

The speakers also explored the growing use of artificial intelligence within streaming operations. Emerging applications include AI-assisted monitoring, intelligent search and recommendations, automatically generated live captions and improved personalisation.

Other developments—including AV1 encoding, High Dynamic Range video, spatial audio, dynamic subtitling and server-side advertising—are helping broadcasters deliver richer viewing experiences while improving efficiency and supporting new commercial opportunities.

The central message was clear: reliable national-scale streaming cannot depend on a single system. It requires coordinated planning across infrastructure, media processing, security, content delivery, monitoring and operations.



Building Sustainable OTT Platforms

Aale Raza of Whiteways System examined how broadcasters can develop OTT services that are both technically reliable and commercially sustainable.

His presentation, “Building and Monetising OTT Platforms for Broadcasters”, explored the transition from traditional television operations to audience-focused digital platforms.

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A successful OTT service requires an integrated technical workflow covering encoding, adaptive bitrate streaming, content packaging, Digital Rights Management, origin infrastructure, Content Delivery Network distribution and playback across multiple devices.

However, technical capability represents only one part of a successful OTT strategy.

Digital platforms give broadcasters opportunities to build more direct and measurable relationships with audiences. Unlike traditional broadcasting, OTT services can provide detailed information about how viewers discover, watch and interact with content.

These insights can help organisations improve programming decisions, personalise services and develop new revenue streams. Potential models include advertising, subscriptions, pay-per-view access, sponsorship and content licensing.

The discussion reinforced that OTT development should not be viewed solely as a technology project. Infrastructure, content strategy, audience behaviour, analytics, monetisation and long-term operational sustainability must be treated as interconnected parts of the same platform strategy.

A New Playbook for Live Sports

The second day focused on the delivery and protection of high-value live content, particularly sports.

Pathman Palaniveloo of MediaKind presented “The New Playbook for Live Sports Streaming”, examining how broadcasters can meet rising audience expectations while controlling technical and operational costs.

Digital audiences increasingly expect more than a conventional television feed. Features such as multiple viewing angles, low-latency streaming, High Dynamic Range video and immersive audio can create more interactive and engaging experiences for sports fans.

Event-based workflows allow broadcasters to configure their infrastructure according to the requirements of each competition. Video quality, latency, watermarking, regional availability and recording windows can be adjusted for individual events, improving operational efficiency and helping organisations manage cloud expenditure.

Reliability remains one of the greatest challenges. Demand during a major sporting event can rise suddenly, creating congestion, buffering or service interruptions.

Multi-CDN, multi-region and multi-cloud architectures can reduce this risk by distributing content across several delivery systems and locations. If one provider or region encounters difficulties, traffic can be redirected through another, strengthening the overall resilience of the service.

For audiences, these complex technical arrangements should remain invisible. What matters to the viewer is that the stream begins quickly, maintains its quality and remains available throughout the event.

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Protecting Premium Content from Piracy

The commercial value of live sports makes it one of the most attractive targets for digital piracy.

Dennis Wong of MediaKind examined the threat during his presentation, “Fighting Piracy on Sports Streaming”.

Piracy can take several forms, including illegal restreaming, unauthorised use of Content Delivery Network resources, stolen Digital Rights Management keys and the re-encoding of content through HDMI connections.

Because pirated streams can appear within minutes of an event beginning, broadcasters require protection measures capable of operating in real time.

A layered security strategy can combine DRM, CDN access controls, geographical restrictions, access tokens and systems that detect the use of virtual private networks or proxy services.

Watermarking provides another important layer of protection. By embedding identifying information into individual viewer streams, broadcasters can trace the source of leaked content. Once a compromised stream has been identified, real-time CDN revocation can be used to block or terminate its distribution.

No single measure can eliminate piracy entirely. Effective protection depends on combining multiple technologies across the content-delivery chain before, during and after an event.

Safeguarding premium content is essential not only to protecting broadcast rights but also to preserving the advertising, sponsorship and subscription revenues that support future production.

Moving Towards Software-Defined Broadcasting

Nagarajan Subramonia Pillai of Grass Valley explored how broadcasters can modernise their infrastructure through more flexible and scalable technology.

Traditional broadcast facilities have depended heavily on dedicated hardware. Next-generation platforms are increasingly software-defined, allowing production, content management, playout and live media operations to operate across on-premises, cloud-based or hybrid environments.

These systems can help broadcasters respond more quickly to changing production requirements.

Resources can be expanded during major events and reduced when demand falls, allowing organisations to operate more efficiently.

Cloud and software-based platforms can also simplify the introduction of new services and workflows. However, broadcasters must carefully assess their operational requirements, connectivity, security and long-term costs before deciding which functions should move to the cloud.

The session highlighted that modernisation is not simply about replacing equipment. It is about building an adaptable media environment capable of responding to future changes in technology, production and audience demand.

Radio’s Digital Transformation

The final day shifted the focus from television and video towards the changing world of internet radio.

Brian Ong and Cheong Yen Nam of Broadcast Communications International presented “Cutting-Edge Internet Radio Streaming: From Encoding and Metadata to Distribution”.

The session examined the technologies involved in delivering modern radio services over internet protocol networks. These included audio encoding, streaming formats, metadata insertion, audio processing and multi-platform distribution.

Internet radio has evolved far beyond placing a traditional broadcast signal online. Modern services use more efficient audio codecs, richer metadata, automation and adaptable delivery systems to reach audiences across phones, computers, smart speakers, connected cars and other devices.

Metadata is particularly important in digital radio. Information such as programme titles, artist names, station identities and album artwork can strengthen the listener experience and help radio services remain visible within increasingly competitive digital interfaces.

The session also examined the optimisation of OTT radio workflows through aixtream.

Integrated and modular workflows allow broadcasters to manage a common content source while producing multiple outputs for different platforms, devices and network conditions. Automation can reduce repetitive work while maintaining consistent audio quality and metadata across every service.

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As radio expands across digital environments, efficient processing, accurate metadata and scalable distribution are becoming as important as the audio content itself.

Seeing OTT in Practice

The workshop concluded with a technical visit to MYTV Broadcasting, giving participants an opportunity to connect the concepts discussed during the sessions with a functioning OTT environment.

The MYTV team introduced participants to MYTV Mana Mana and provided an overview of the platform's operational and technical workflows.

Participants learned how content is prepared, processed and delivered to audiences, as well as how the different components of an OTT platform work together. A tour of MYTV's facilities offered further insight into the infrastructure and daily operations supporting the service.

The visit also created an opportunity for participants to speak directly with the MYTV team, exchange experiences and discuss the practical considerations involved in operating an OTT platform.

By combining technical presentations with a real-world site visit, the workshop gave participants both strategic and operational perspectives on digital content delivery.

More Than Putting Television Online

The ABU–IPPTAR workshop demonstrated that OTT is not simply traditional broadcast content delivered through the internet.

Successful OTT services require scalable infrastructure, efficient media processing, adaptive delivery, resilient CDN architecture, continuous monitoring, strong content protection and a clear understanding of audience behaviour.

They also require sustainable business models.

As broadcasting and digital media continue to converge, technologies such as cloud infrastructure, artificial intelligence, advanced codecs, immersive media and software-defined workflows are becoming part of mainstream broadcast operations.

Yet technology alone cannot guarantee success. Broadcasters must connect technical investment with content strategy, user experience, security, monetisation and long-term organisational objectives.

Through expert presentations, industry case studies and practical exposure to MYTV's operations, the workshop helped participants assess their digital capabilities and consider how their organisations can develop services that are scalable, reliable and audience-focused.

In a rapidly changing media environment, the broadcasters best positioned for the future will be those that treat OTT not as an additional distribution channel but as an integrated part of their relationship with audiences.



DAB+ Digital Radio: Building Smarter, Safer and More Resilient Networks

As audiences move between traditional broadcasting, connected vehicles and digital platforms, radio continues to evolve. Yet the future of radio will depend on more than adopting new technology. It will require sound public policy, efficient infrastructure, stronger cybersecurity and services designed around the needs of listeners.

These priorities were explored during a three-day technical workshop on DAB+ digital radio, jointly organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, the Arab States Broadcasting Union and WorldDAB from 20–22 July 2026.

The online workshop brought together 147 participants from 47 countries, including broadcasters, engineers, regulators and network operators from the Asia-Pacific, Arab States, Europe and Africa.

Featuring 15 expert speakers, the programme was structured around three key areas: Progress and Policy, DAB+ Systems and Network Design. Across the three days, participants examined DAB+ deployment, policy development, system architecture, automotive integration, cybersecurity, transmission efficiency, emergency alerting and network resilience.

Collaboration Across Regions

Opening remarks were delivered by Bernie O'Neill, Project Director at WorldDAB; Bassil Zoubi, Director of Technology and Innovation at ASBU; and Putera Afiq Zulfaqar, Manager of Production and Delivery Technology at ABU.

They highlighted the importance of cross-regional cooperation as audience listening habits change and broadcasters consider the future of terrestrial radio. The partnership between the three organisations has developed into an important platform for sharing technical expertise and practical deployment experience across different markets.

The workshop demonstrated that while countries are progressing at different speeds, they face many of the same questions. These include how to establish a viable business case, encourage receiver adoption, plan spectrum, build resilient networks and ensure that digital radio delivers clear value to audiences.

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DAB+ Progress Around the World

A global update showed that more than 166 million DAB receivers have been sold worldwide. DAB+ is now standard in more than 97 per cent of new cars in Europe, while Türkiye has recently launched DAB+ services.

Progress is also being made across the Arab States. DAB+ services are operating in 14 cities and along five highway corridors in Saudi Arabia, where receivers are now required in new vehicles.

An ASBU survey covering 11 countries found that commercial services are operating in Tunisia, Kuwait, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Algeria is conducting pilot and experimental deployments, while Libya, Oman, Mauritania, Jordan, Egypt and Palestine remain at various pre-launch or planning stages.

Coverage varies considerably across the region. Kuwait and Bahrain have exceeded 80 per cent population coverage, while countries in the earlier stages of deployment remain below 20 per cent.

These developments demonstrate growing international momentum behind DAB+, although successful national adoption continues to depend on local market conditions, policy support and long-term strategic planning.

Making the Business Case

The workshop examined the economic and environmental case for transitioning to digital radio.

DAB+ can carry multiple radio services through a single transmitter and frequency, offering the potential for considerable savings compared with operating numerous FM services. Depending on the network configuration, operational cost reductions of up to 80 per cent may be possible.

Jacqueline Bierhorst, President of WorldDAB, highlighted the wider sustainability benefits of DAB+, including reduced energy consumption, a lower carbon footprint and greater resilience during power outages and emergencies.

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Examples from established markets demonstrated its potential impact on audience reach. In Germany, Radio BOB reportedly tripled its audience following its move to DAB+. In the United Kingdom, LBC increased its audience from 1.1 million to 3.6 million listeners after launching nationally on DAB+.

Germany has also experienced significant growth in digital listening inside vehicles, with 89.8 per cent of in-car radio listening taking place through DAB+. One of the country's most popular radio stations now broadcasts exclusively on DAB+, without an FM audience.

Switzerland, meanwhile, continues preparations for the eventual shutdown of FM services.

These examples showed that DAB+ is not simply a technical replacement for analogue radio. It can provide broadcasters with opportunities to expand their reach, introduce new services and develop additional advertising and commercial models.

DAB+ and the Future of 5G Broadcasting

The workshop also considered how DAB+ compares with 5G Multimedia Broadcast Services.

While work on 5G broadcast technology is progressing and prototype devices are being developed, commercially available products are not expected until 2028. Mobile network operators have yet to commit to smartphones enabled for 5G broadcast, and a sustainable business model has not been firmly established.

Dr Les Sabel, Chair of the WorldDAB Asia-Pacific Technical Group, explained that 5G broadcast infrastructure would operate alongside existing DAB+ and digital terrestrial television systems. It would also require considerably more transmission sites than DAB+ to provide comparable coverage, leading to higher capital and operating costs.

DAB+, by comparison, already benefits from established infrastructure, compatible receivers and emergency-warning capabilities. Its resilience during major emergencies provides an additional advantage, particularly when mobile and internet networks become congested or unavailable.

Policy as an Enabler

Technology alone cannot deliver a successful digital radio transition. Clear and consistent public policy is equally important.

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The WorldDAB Public Policy Toolbox was presented as a resource to help regulators and broadcasters develop effective national frameworks.

Dr David Fernández Quijada, Co-Founder and Research Director at South 180, explained that well-designed policy can bring stakeholders together, reduce uncertainty, encourage investment and accelerate deployment.

The European Electronic Communications Code, which requires radio receivers in new cars to support digital terrestrial radio, was cited as an example of effective policy intervention. The measure contributed to the installation of DAB+ in approximately 30 million vehicles that might otherwise have continued using traditional receivers.

Policy recommendations discussed during the workshop included establishing clear public-interest objectives, making resilience part of national planning, placing audiences at the centre of decisions and considering the business model alongside the technology. Policies should also be reviewed regularly as market conditions and audience behaviour evolve.

Deployment Across the Asia-Pacific and Arab States

Thailand's progress provided an important Asia-Pacific perspective.

DAB+ trials began in Bangkok in 2019, followed by a technical upgrade in 2022 and expansion into four provinces between 2022 and 2023. The country's frequency plan was published in 2024, covering 25 frequency blocks across one national, ten regional and 34 local networks.

Anupon Tajawanno, Asia Regional Sales Manager at Paneda, outlined an architecture comprising one national multiplex, one regional multiplex and four local multiplexes for each listening area. A centralised approach to multiplexing and encoding was highlighted as a way of improving maintenance, scalability and cost efficiency.

Algeria is also pursuing a phased transition. The country currently operates 400 FM sites with 850 transmitters, together with 20 AM transmitters. Following the analogue television switch-off in 2022, spectrum within VHF Band III became available for digital radio.

Ammar Ziat, Telecommunications Engineer and Director of Studies and Development at TDA Algeria, explained that deployment would proceed gradually, beginning with trials before expanding into Greater Algiers, major northern cities, strategic transport corridors and, eventually, nationwide coverage.

Algeria's strategy does not seek to replace FM immediately. Instead, it supports a hybrid broadcasting environment in which FM continues serving local audiences, DAB+ expands digital services and improves spectrum efficiency, and AM or Digital Radio Mondiale supports remote areas.

The Connected Car

The second day turned to the technical foundations of DAB+ and its role within connected vehicles.

Research presented by Rosemary Smith, WorldDAB Project Manager for Automotive, showed that 83 per cent of car buyers listen to radio while driving, while 62 per cent consider radio an essential in-car feature.

However, radio now competes for dashboard visibility with streaming services, podcasts and personal music libraries. Maintaining a strong presence in the vehicle therefore requires an attractive and intuitive user experience.

WorldDAB's User Experience Committee brings together broadcasters, manufacturers, chipset companies and suppliers to develop a shared vision for the future of in-car radio. Rich metadata—including station logos, slideshows, electronic programme guides and traffic information—can help broadcasters present their services more effectively.

The development of software-defined vehicles and hybrid radio, combining DAB+, FM and internet streaming, is expected to create more seamless listening experiences as audiences travel between different coverage areas.

New technical developments include Public Prominence signalling and Push-to-Local, which allows broadcasters to prioritise local versions of a programme over national alternatives. This can support more relevant local news, weather, traffic information and advertising for people listening while travelling.

Securing Digital Radio Infrastructure

As DAB+ networks become more connected, cybersecurity must be treated as an essential part of system design.

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Lars-Peder Lundgren, Chief Executive Officer of Paneda Sweden, outlined recommended security measures such as encrypted connections, two-factor authentication, role-based access rights, audit logs and intrusion detection.

He also stressed the importance of eliminating default accounts and passwords, encrypting stored credentials and avoiding insecure open-port configurations. Secure virtual private networks should be used in place of more vulnerable port-forwarding arrangements.

Standards and regulations such as ISO 27001 and the European Union Cyber Resilience Act are introducing further expectations, including vulnerability assessments, security reporting, software updates and Software Bills of Materials.

The discussion reinforced that cybersecurity cannot be added after a network has been built. It must be embedded throughout the design, operation and maintenance of digital broadcasting systems.

Greater Transmission Efficiency

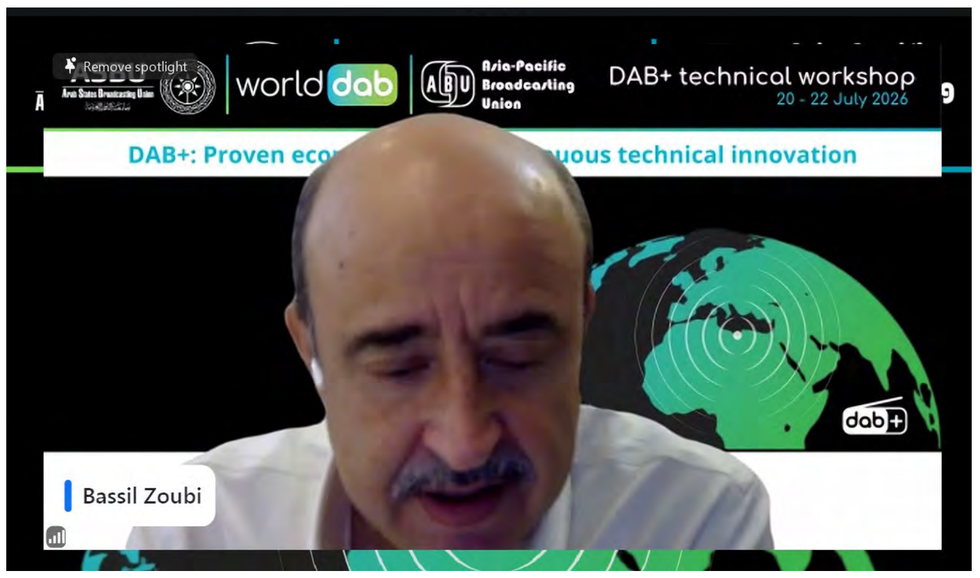
DAB+ also offers broadcasters substantial opportunities to reduce energy use.

Alexander Kurz, Sales Director for Europe, the Middle East and Africa at GatesAir, presented a comparison involving 18 radio services with equivalent coverage.

An FM configuration required 18 transmitters and 18 frequencies, consuming a total of 238 kilowatts. The equivalent DAB+ configuration required a single transmitter and one frequency, with total consumption of approximately five kilowatts.

Estimated annual energy costs were approximately USD312,700 for FM, compared with USD6,400 for DAB+.

Recent advances in transistor and power-amplifier technology are creating further improvements in transmitter efficiency. These developments can reduce energy consumption and operating costs while supporting the media industry's wider environmental commitments.



Saudi Arabia's deployment was presented as an example of implementation on a significant scale, with transmitters operating across nine major cities and highway routes under Saudi Vision 2030.

Designing Resilient Networks

The final day focused on network design, emergency alerting and reliable content distribution.

Dr Les Sabel explained the technical differences between Multi-Frequency Networks and Single-Frequency Networks. An MFN uses different frequency blocks across coverage areas, while an SFN enables several transmitters to carry the same content on the same frequency across a wider area.

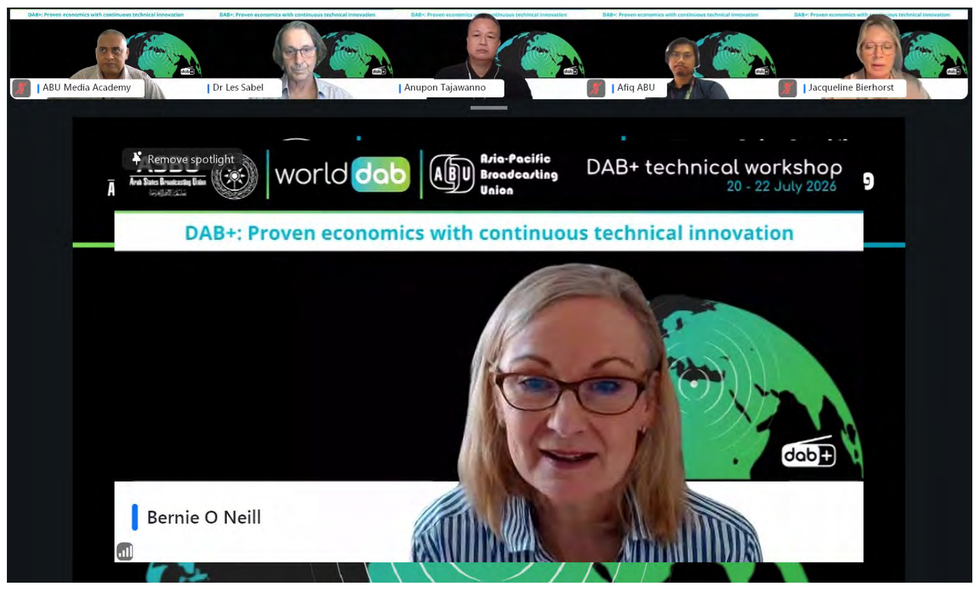
SFNs make efficient use of spectrum but require careful planning and precise timing between transmitters. Terrain, buildings, signal strength, interference and differences in signal arrival times must all be considered.

Hanns Wolter, Technical Director of DAB Italia and Chair of the WorldDAB Spectrum and Network Implementation Committee, explored the distinction between redundancy and resilience.

Using the Italian network as an example, he showed how overlapping coverage from multiple transmission sites can provide inherent resilience. A carefully designed, resilient three-site network may cost less to build and operate than a configuration in which every component is fully duplicated.

The presentation demonstrated that resilience is not simply a matter of adding backup equipment. It begins with intelligent network architecture.

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Radio as a Lifeline

One of the workshop's most significant themes was the role digital radio can play during emergencies.

Carsten Zorger, Director of Digitalradio Büro Deutschland, presented Germany's Automatic Safety Alert system, developed following the devastating Ahr Valley flood in 2021, when conventional communication networks failed.

The system uses DAB+ to deliver spoken emergency announcements and recommended actions. Its features include geographic targeting, synchronisation, automatic switching and a wake function that can activate compatible receivers when an alert is issued.

Approximately 35 certified receivers are already available in Germany, with automotive integration also in development. Software updates can introduce the alert functionality without requiring consumers to replace existing compatible hardware.

Unlike mobile networks, terrestrial broadcasting does not depend on an individual connection for every user. A single transmission can reach large populations simultaneously, making DAB+ a valuable component of national public-warning infrastructure.

Reliability Across the Distribution Chain

Reliable distribution is essential to ensuring that programmes and emergency information reach transmitters without interruption.

Christian Werner, Senior Product Manager at Media Broadcast, described a resilient approach combining proven technology, backup systems, environmental safeguards, continuous monitoring and field-service capabilities.

The DAB+ production chain covers content contribution, provisioning, distribution, transmitter services and antenna access. Delivery options may include dedicated network lines, mobile connectivity and satellite transmission.

Service-level commitments can range from 99 per cent to 99.999 per cent availability. Even short periods of downtime can cause considerable disruption and financial loss, demonstrating the importance of resilience at every point in the distribution chain.

More Than a Technology Transition

Across the three days, the workshop demonstrated that DAB+ has matured into an established digital radio platform with growing international adoption, efficient transmission technology and expanding applications in vehicles and emergency-warning systems.

However, a successful national deployment requires more than installing transmitters. It depends on coordinated public policy, spectrum planning, sustainable business models, secure systems, compelling content and services designed around audiences.

In their closing remarks, representatives of the ABU, ASBU and WorldDAB welcomed the strong participation and engagement throughout the workshop. They reaffirmed the value of continued collaboration in supporting national DAB+ rollouts that are scalable, resilient and environmentally responsible.

As listening habits continue to evolve, radio must remain easy to find, simple to use and dependable when audiences need it most.

The future of digital radio will therefore be shaped not by technology alone, but by how effectively broadcasters, regulators and industry partners work together to turn that technology into a trusted and valuable public service.

ABU Delivers Commonwealth Games 2026 Coverage Across SEA

The 2026 **Commonwealth Games**, held in Glasgow from **23 July to 2 August**, saw the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) deliver dedicated broadcast services to audiences across Southeast Asia, supporting **Mediacorp Singapore, RTM Malaysia and RTB Brunei Darussalam** throughout one of the world's major multi-sport events.

Following ABU's acquisition of the Southeast Asian media rights, the Union provided a range of **tailor-made broadcast feeds and production services**, with particular emphasis on athletes, performances and stories relevant to audiences in the region. Coverage included live events, highlights and key moments from across the Games.

The project also marked a **first-time collaboration between ABU and Malaysian member Space Labs Technology**, a specialist in sports and major events management. The partnership reflects ABU's continued efforts to work with trusted industry partners and embrace innovative technologies to strengthen the delivery of major international sporting events.

Leading the production effort in Glasgow were members of the **ABU Secretariat**, supported by **David Turner** and **John West** from New Zealand, both ABU alumni and highly respected broadcast professionals with decades of experience delivering international sports productions for ABU members. Their expertise played an important role in supporting smooth operations and maintaining high production standards throughout the Games.

A **six-person reporting team from Mediacorp Singapore** was also on the ground, producing additional coverage for its audiences with support from ABU's on-site production team.

Through this collaborative effort, audiences in **Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam** were able to follow the Games through comprehensive and regionally relevant coverage, bringing Southeast Asian perspectives and stories closer to viewers at home.

The project further demonstrated the value of **regional cooperation, experienced production teams and technology partnerships** in delivering major international sporting events. It also reinforced ABU's role in connecting members with international sports content and providing the production and media services needed to bring these events to audiences across the region.

Members outside Commonwealth territories interested in sports content and rights opportunities are encouraged to contact **ABU Sports** for further information.



ABU Successfully Delivers English Commentary Services at 20th Asian Games

20th Asian Games
Aichi-Nagoya 2026

The 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026 have concluded following two weeks of sporting action in Japan, with the ABU successfully delivering English-language commentary services for the Games' World Feed.

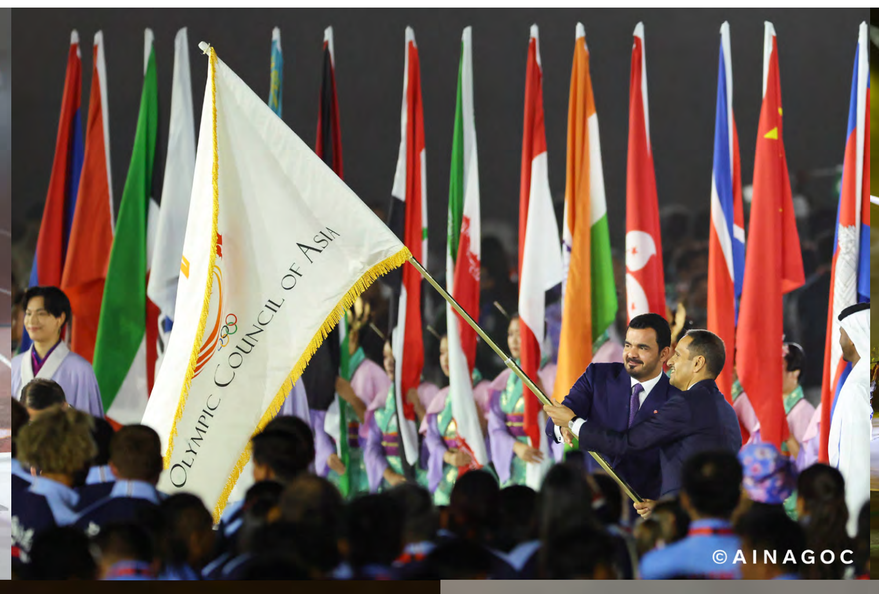
Under an agreement with the Games Host Broadcaster, with the consent and cooperation of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), the ABU Sports Department coordinated and delivered English commentary services across 12 sports and 20 venues, including the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

A team of 24 experienced commentators and producers, with backgrounds spanning the Olympic Games, World Championships and previous Asian Games, worked alongside the ABU on-site team throughout the Games. The ABU team coordinated technical setup, programme scheduling, commentary monitoring, logistics and daily operational adjustments to ensure smooth and consistent delivery throughout the competition.

The English commentary operation received positive recognition from the Host Broadcaster, while partner commentators also expressed their appreciation for the organisational and operational support provided by the ABU throughout the Games.

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Beyond the commentary operation, the ABU continued to support its members on the media rights side. The ABU's expertise, cooperation with the Olympic Council of Asia, regional network and engagement with rights stakeholders were instrumental in helping selected ABU members secure last-minute broadcasting rights for the Asian Games. Through these efforts, ABU members were able to provide coverage of the Games to their audiences, contributing to a combined reach of more than 300 million viewers.

The successful completion of the project demonstrates the ABU's ability to support its members across both media rights and broadcast services, while coordinating effectively with international rights holders, organisers, broadcasters and production personnel.

The Aichi-Nagoya experience also lays important groundwork for the ABU's future involvement in major multi-sport events. The operational experience gained through coordinating commentators, production teams, technical requirements, member services and stakeholder relations provides a strong foundation for future Games and further strengthens the ABU's role as a trusted media services partner for its members.

BUILDING MEDIA FOR THE FUTURE

By **Nimmala Shanmuganathan**
Head, ABU Media Academy,
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

During the third quarter of 2026, the ABU brought media professionals and industry leaders together through a series of webinars and strategic discussions addressing artificial intelligence, mobile journalism, language preservation and the changing role of public broadcasters.

Navigating Artificial Intelligence

The ABU Media Academy continued its collaboration with the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) through two webinars led by Nicola Dorling, Lecturer and AI Strategy Consultant, and Peter Herbert, Program Convenor for Screen Business.

AI for Business Part 1: IP & Ethics, held on 16 July, attracted 50 participants from across the Asia-Pacific. The session examined how Generative AI, Agentic AI and Predictive Analytics can support production planning, budgeting, audience analysis and decision-making.

The speakers also addressed concerns surrounding copyright, ownership and data protection. Participants were encouraged to establish clear organisational policies, safeguard commercially sensitive material and understand how public AI platforms handle uploaded content.

The four-part AFTRS series concluded on 30 July with AI for Business – Challenges and Opportunities, attended by 49 participants from 13 ABU member organisations. The webinar explored how AI is transforming script development, production planning, editing, visual effects, marketing and content distribution.

While AI can improve efficiency and automate repetitive tasks, the speakers emphasised that human judgement, creativity and ethical responsibility must remain central. Broadcasters were encouraged to remain “AI curious” while considering issues such as workforce transformation, investment costs, environmental impact and intellectual property protection.





Mobile Journalism as a Catalyst for Change

On 6 August, 48 participants from 15 ABU member organisations joined a webinar led by media and crisis communications consultant Augustine Anthuvan.

Drawing on his reporting of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, Augustine demonstrated how smartphones enable journalists to report directly from affected communities. He stressed, however, that effective mobile journalism depends on more than technology. Curiosity, empathy, verification and purposeful storytelling remain essential.

The session also highlighted the importance of obtaining consent, protecting sources and avoiding the sensationalisation of suffering. Participants were encouraged to look beyond immediate breaking news and document community recovery, resilience and practical solutions.

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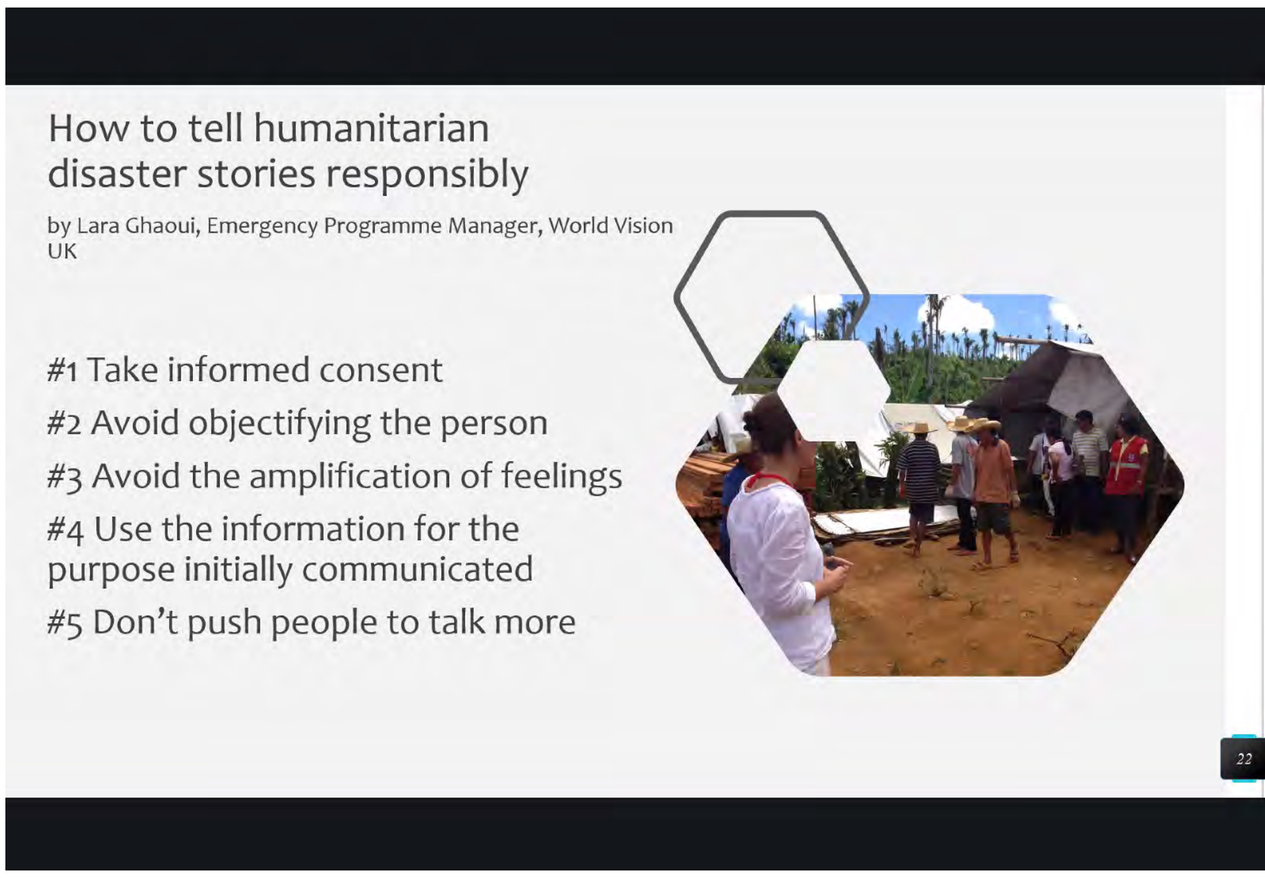
Public Media in a Changing Landscape

The inaugural ABU Media Futures Dialogue Series was held on 20 August, bringing together senior media leaders from Australia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia and Sri Lanka.

Moderated by Thinley Yangchen Dorji of Bhutan Broadcasting Service, the discussion examined how public broadcasters can remain trusted, relevant and sustainable amid changing audience behaviour and technological disruption.

Participants highlighted the importance of meeting audiences across digital platforms without compromising editorial values or the direct relationship between broadcasters and the public. Transparency around AI-generated content, stronger engagement with communities and greater regional cooperation were also identified as priorities.

Closing the session, ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem reaffirmed that public trust must remain central to the future of broadcasting. The dialogue's findings will contribute to a paper for discussion at the 63rd ABU General Assembly in Sri Lanka.

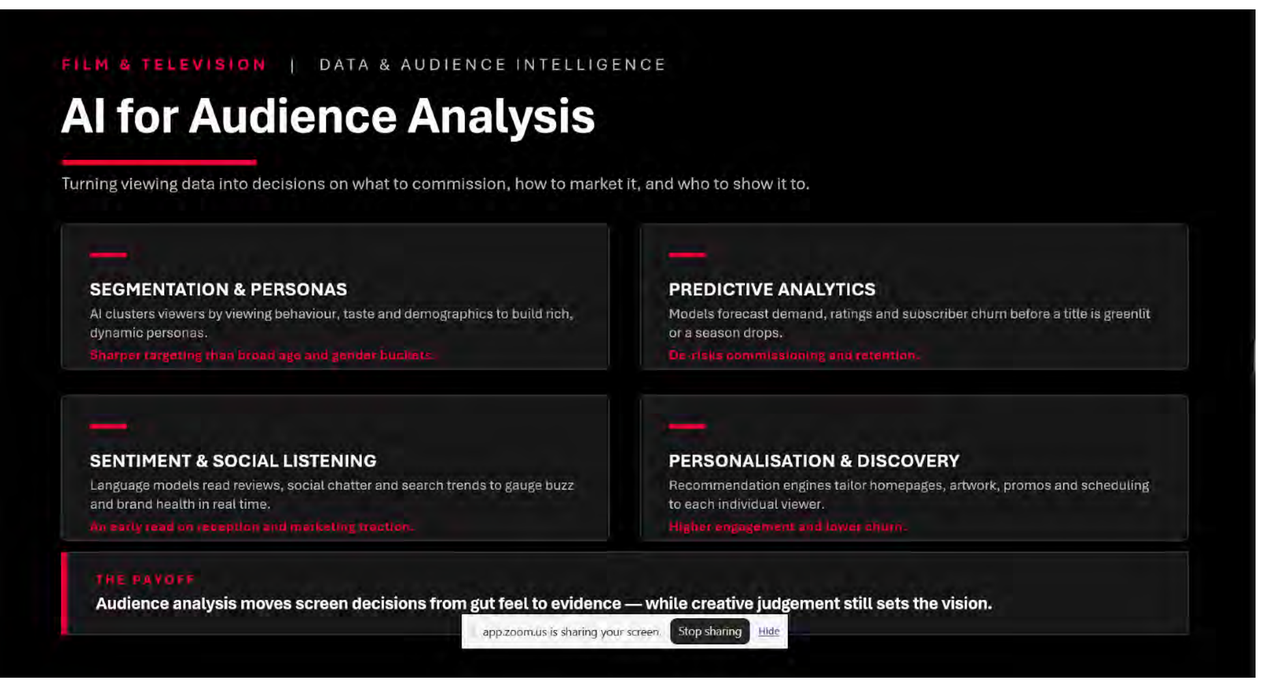


Media as a Lifeline for Languages

On 27 August, Nimmala Shanmuganathan, Head of the ABU Media Academy, led a webinar examining how media can support vulnerable and Indigenous languages. The session attracted 47 participants from across the Asia-Pacific.

Examples from South Korea, India, Fiji and New Zealand illustrated how broadcasting, subtitling, dubbing and digital platforms can help languages reach new audiences while preserving cultural identity.

Nimmala encouraged broadcasters and content creators to document native speakers, produce culturally authentic stories and create content that makes languages relevant to younger generations. She also highlighted AI's potential to support documentation and translation, while emphasising that native speakers remain essential to preserving authenticity and meaning.



Together, these sessions demonstrated that the future of media will not be shaped by technology alone. It will depend on how responsibly broadcasters innovate, how effectively journalists serve their communities and how successfully the industry protects public trust, creativity and cultural identity.



IPLC 2026: Navigating AI, Copyright and the Digital Content Economy

By **Dr Seemantani Sharma**
Manager Regulatory - Legal & IP Services,
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

As artificial intelligence reshapes the creation, distribution and consumption of media, broadcasters are confronting increasingly complex questions surrounding copyright, ownership, transparency and accountability.

These challenges formed the focus of the 32nd ABU Intellectual Property & Legal Committee Conference, held from 22–23 July 2026 at the headquarters of Radio Republik Indonesia in Jakarta.

Hosted by RRI and organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, the two-day conference brought together representatives of ABU members, international organisations, government agencies, collective management organisations, legal practitioners and academia.

Under the theme “AI, Copyright & Royalties in the Digital Content Economy”, participants examined how legal and governance frameworks must evolve in response to technological disruption while continuing to protect creators, broadcasters and the public interest.

Throughout the conference, one message emerged clearly: innovation and legal protection should not be treated as competing priorities. With the right governance, both can develop together to support a fair, trusted and sustainable digital media ecosystem.

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A Changing Legal Landscape

The conference opened with welcoming remarks from representatives of the ABU and RRI, who highlighted the longstanding cooperation between the two organisations and the importance of regional legal knowledge-sharing.

Speakers reflected on the extent to which artificial intelligence is changing media production, distribution and audience engagement. AI offers broadcasters considerable opportunities to improve efficiency, accessibility and creativity, but its growing use also raises difficult questions about authorship, ownership, licensing, privacy and editorial accountability.

In an increasingly interconnected media environment, copyright, data governance, platform regulation and emerging technologies can no longer be addressed separately. They require coordinated legal, policy and operational responses at both national and international levels.

The conference provided an important platform for ABU members to compare legal approaches, exchange experiences and identify common challenges affecting broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific.

AI, Copyright and the Future Work of WIPO

Michele Woods and Yash Arya of the World Intellectual Property Organization provided an overview of international developments relating to artificial intelligence and copyright.

Their presentation highlighted ongoing discussions within WIPO's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, including a newly adopted mandate to undertake a scoping study on AI training and copyright.

The study will examine national policy and regulatory approaches to the use of copyrighted works in training AI systems. It will consider issues such as authorisation, licensing, enforcement and possible compensation mechanisms for rights holders.

Rather than seeking to harmonise national copyright laws, the study is intended to give WIPO member states a clearer understanding of the different legal approaches being developed around the world.

As AI technologies continue to advance, sustained international dialogue will be essential to finding balanced solutions that encourage innovation while respecting the legitimate interests of authors, performers, broadcasters and other rights holders.

Who Owns AI-Generated Content?

The legal implications of generative AI were explored further by Desmond Chan through a comparison of developments in Hong Kong and the United States.

His presentation considered some of the most significant questions currently confronting copyright law: can copyrighted material be used to train AI systems, who owns AI-generated outputs and can a work produced by artificial intelligence qualify for copyright protection?

Although AI systems can generate increasingly sophisticated content, copyright frameworks continue to depend heavily on the existence of a legally recognisable human creator. Questions of originality, ownership and protection therefore remain closely connected to the level of human intellectual contribution involved.

Courts and policymakers are approaching these issues in different ways, reflecting the ongoing debate over how to encourage technological innovation without weakening creators' rights.

Greater legal certainty will be important not only for content creators and broadcasters but also for technology developers and investors seeking to operate responsibly within the evolving digital economy.

Copyright Creates Rights; Governance Creates Value

One of the defining messages of IPLC 2026 came from Azwan Aziz, who examined the relationship between copyright protection and governance.

Copyright gives creators and rights holders legal ownership over their work. However, those rights do not automatically translate into economic or cultural value.

Value is realised through effective licensing, reliable rights administration, accurate metadata, collective management and transparent royalty distribution. As content moves across multiple platforms and jurisdictions, these systems are becoming increasingly important in ensuring that creators and rights holders are properly identified and remunerated.

His central message — "Copyright creates rights; governance creates value" — resonated throughout the conference.

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It encouraged participants to view copyright as part of a much broader ecosystem involving institutions, technology, rights-management organisations, platforms and market participants. Without effective governance, even strong legal rights can be difficult to exercise or enforce.

Protecting the Value of Sports Broadcasting

The commercial importance of strong copyright protection was demonstrated through China Media Group's experience in protecting media rights for the World Games Chengdu 2025.

Yu Yan explained that copyright protection extends beyond legal compliance. It safeguards the commercial value of broadcasting rights, supports legitimate licensing and distribution, protects investment in high-quality production and creates incentives for continued innovation.

Sports broadcasting remains particularly vulnerable to digital piracy. Live content can be copied and retransmitted almost instantly, often through services operating across multiple jurisdictions. This can significantly undermine the value of rights acquired by official broadcasters.

Effective protection is therefore essential to the long-term sustainability of the sports media industry and to preserving the integrity of official broadcasting arrangements.

Responsible AI in Public Service Media

The responsibilities of public service broadcasters when adopting artificial intelligence were another major focus of the conference.

Galina Gobrescu examined how AI can improve editorial workflows, increase operational efficiency and enable innovative forms of storytelling. However, she emphasised that these benefits must be accompanied by transparency and accountability.

Informing audiences when AI has been used in producing content can strengthen credibility and demonstrate editorial responsibility. Public service media organisations should therefore establish clear internal policies governing disclosure, ethical decision-making and editorial oversight.

Jacqueline Foord expanded on this issue by positioning AI adoption as an organisational governance challenge rather than simply a technological initiative.

Different applications of AI carry different levels of risk and require different forms of human supervision. Governance frameworks must therefore remain adaptable and be reviewed continuously as technologies and regulations evolve.

For public broadcasters, responsible implementation means ensuring that efficiency never comes at the expense of editorial independence, transparency or public trust. Human judgement remains indispensable, particularly when decisions affect the accuracy and integrity of content.

Protecting Children in an AI-Driven Environment

The conference also examined the responsibility of broadcasters, technology companies and digital platforms to protect children in media environments increasingly shaped by AI.

Alex Reza argued that safeguards should be built directly into the design of AI systems rather than relying only on regulation after a technology has been deployed. Safety, reliability, accountability, privacy and data minimisation should form part of an AI system's architecture from its earliest stages.

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Responsibility for children's online safety cannot rest solely with parents. Broadcasters, platforms, developers and AI providers must also ensure that the technologies they create and use place children's best interests at the centre.

Data Governance as the Foundation of Responsible AI

Ashwini Natesan examined the relationship between data governance and responsible artificial intelligence, highlighting that effective AI governance begins with the responsible management of data.

Broadcasters increasingly rely on large datasets to develop and operate AI applications. This makes coherent policies governing data access, copyright, privacy, security and responsible use especially important.

The presentation also encouraged participants to consider how national data-governance frameworks either enable or restrict the responsible use of broadcast content for AI. Copyright exceptions, privacy requirements and open-data policies must evolve together if innovation is to proceed without compromising individual rights or the public interest.

The session considered the potential for the ABU to develop regional baseline principles for data and AI governance, giving members a common foundation upon which to build responsible organisational policies.

Strengthening Broadcasters' Rights

The second day turned towards international copyright developments and the protection of broadcasting organisations.

Participants received an update on the work of WIPO's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, including continuing negotiations surrounding the proposed Treaty on the Protection of Broadcasting Organisations.

The latest draft takes a technology-neutral approach, recognising that broadcasting services are no longer delivered solely through traditional terrestrial channels. Broadcasters now distribute content through numerous digital services and platforms, and any international legal framework must remain relevant as those technologies continue to change.

Members were encouraged to engage with their national delegations and support further progress towards a diplomatic conference for the adoption of the Treaty.

A modern international framework is particularly important as broadcasters face increasingly sophisticated forms of signal piracy, illegal online retransmission and cross-border exploitation.

Related Rights in the Digital Environment

Esra Kayandan of Türkiye Radio and Television Corporation illustrated these challenges through Türkiye's experience of protecting broadcasters' related rights.

Live sports programming was identified as one of the most commercially valuable and vulnerable forms of broadcast content. Unauthorised online retransmission can take place across several countries almost instantaneously, complicating the identification of offenders, the establishment of jurisdiction and the enforcement of legal remedies.

The discussion demonstrated why legal frameworks must evolve alongside technology. Broadcasters make substantial investments in acquiring, producing and distributing premium content, and they require meaningful protection against new forms of digital exploitation.

Stronger international cooperation will be essential if broadcasters are to safeguard those investments effectively.

Discussions on digital platform operations in Türkiye also demonstrated that clear regulation need not be an obstacle to innovation. Effective regulatory architecture can create certainty, encourage investment, protect intellectual property and support fair competition while enabling platforms to continue developing.

Recognising Excellence in Intellectual Property Management

The conference celebrated outstanding initiatives by ABU members through the presentation of the 2026 IPLC Awards.

Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting was named the winner, while Sarawak Media Group of Malaysia received the runner-up award.

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The awards recognised projects demonstrating excellence in the protection, management and promotion of intellectual property. They also reflected the important contribution that effective rights management makes to organisational resilience, creative innovation and the continued production of high-quality media content.

The recognition showed that intellectual property management extends beyond legal compliance. It supports sustainable growth by protecting investments, encouraging creativity and helping media organisations realise the full value of their content.

Regional Legal Updates and Knowledge Sharing

During the Regional Legal Updates and Member Exchange, representatives shared developments from their respective jurisdictions in areas including copyright reform, AI governance, neighbouring rights, collective rights management, licensing, public service broadcasting, platform regulation and digital content policy.

Although national laws and regulatory systems vary across the Asia-Pacific, broadcasters are increasingly encountering the same fundamental challenges.

AI-generated content moves across borders. Digital platforms operate across multiple jurisdictions. Pirated broadcasts can be retransmitted instantly, while the data used to develop AI systems may be governed by overlapping copyright, privacy and security requirements.

These challenges cannot be resolved through domestic legislation alone. They require continuing dialogue, shared expertise and coordinated engagement at both regional and international levels.

The exchange reaffirmed the IPLC's role as an important regional forum for strengthening legal knowledge and ensuring that the practical experiences of broadcasters contribute to the development of future policies.

A Common Direction for ABU Members

Following the discussions, the Committee encouraged ABU members to strengthen their organisational AI and data-governance frameworks while ensuring transparency, accountability and appropriate human oversight.

Members were also encouraged to continue monitoring legal developments relating to AI and copyright, particularly in areas such as AI training, authorship, licensing, enforcement and compensation.

The Committee reaffirmed the need for stronger protection of broadcasting organisations against digital piracy, unauthorised online retransmission and other forms of cross-border infringement.

Active participation in WIPO SCCR discussions and other international copyright initiatives was also encouraged so that the experiences and requirements of broadcasters remain represented in the development of future legal frameworks.

The recommendations further emphasised the importance of continuing to share legal developments, experiences and best practices through the IPLC.

Law, Technology and Governance Must Evolve Together

The 32nd ABU Intellectual Property & Legal Committee Conference demonstrated that AI, copyright, data governance, related rights and digital regulation are becoming increasingly interconnected.

Existing copyright principles remain an essential foundation, but stronger governance, clearer regulatory guidance and effective international cooperation will be needed to address emerging technologies and new forms of digital exploitation.

For broadcasters, the challenge is not simply to adopt new technologies. It is to ensure that those technologies are used transparently, responsibly and in ways that preserve creativity, editorial integrity and public confidence.

As the digital content economy continues to expand, the conference offered a clear direction for the future: legal protection must evolve alongside innovation, governance must turn rights into meaningful value, and cooperation must remain at the heart of the regional response.

The ABU expressed its sincere appreciation to Radio Republik Indonesia for hosting the conference and to all speakers, moderators, delegates and participating organisations whose expertise and contributions made the event a success.

ABU Contributes Legal Expertise to Sarawak Sports Integrity Conference 2026



The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) participated in the Sarawak Sports Integrity Conference 2026, organised in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as part of the Sports Law Association of Malaysia (SLAM) delegation.

The conference brought together representatives from the sports, legal, public sector and governance communities to discuss issues relating to integrity, transparency, accountability and good governance in sport. ABU's participation reflects its continuing engagement with developments at the intersection of sport, law, governance and media.

ABU Legal participated in the programme pursuant to the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ABU and SLAM, which provides a framework for cooperation and knowledge exchange in areas of mutual interest.

As part of the conference programme, Dr Seemantani Sharma, ABU Legal Manager (Regulatory & Intellectual Property), contributed as a speaker in two sessions addressing legal and governance considerations relevant to the hosting and organisation of the SEA Games 2027.

The first session, "Procurement and Public Contracting Risks Relevant to the Hosting and Organization of SEA 2027," examined legal and governance considerations arising from procurement and contracting processes associated with the preparation and delivery of a major sporting event. The discussion covered the importance of clear procurement frameworks, appropriate contractual allocation of responsibilities and risks, transparent decision-making, and safeguards that support accountability throughout the contracting lifecycle.

The second session, "Detecting & Reporting Corruption – Relevant to the Hosting & Organization of SEA 2027: A Legal & Governance Perspective," focused on the legal and governance dimensions of identifying, addressing and reporting potential corruption risks in the context of a major sporting event. The session considered the importance of appropriate institutional processes, reporting mechanisms and governance safeguards in supporting integrity and accountability.

Together, the sessions highlighted the importance of addressing integrity risks not only when issues arise, but also through effective governance, procurement and contractual frameworks established at the planning and implementation stages of major sporting events.

The SEA Games 2027, to be hosted by Malaysia, provide an important regional context for these discussions. With major sporting events involving multiple public authorities, sporting bodies, commercial partners and other stakeholders, robust legal and governance frameworks play an important role in supporting transparent and accountable decision-making.

ABU's contribution brought a broadcasting and institutional legal perspective to the wider multidisciplinary discussion on sports integrity. It also demonstrated the value of cross-sector collaboration between legal practitioners, sports organisations, public institutions and international organisations in addressing emerging integrity and governance challenges.

The conference further strengthened cooperation between ABU and SLAM under their existing MOU and provided an opportunity for ABU Legal to contribute to regional professional dialogue on sports integrity, legal risk and governance.

ABU looks forward to continuing its engagement with regional partners and contributing its expertise to discussions on legal, regulatory and governance issues affecting sport, media and broadcasting across the Asia-Pacific region.



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63RD ABU GENERAL ASSEMBLY & ASSOCIATED MEETINGS

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