



Asia-Pacific
Broadcasting Union

ANNUAL REPORT

2025/2026

ABU 2026 – A Year of Innovation, Collaboration and Growth

2026: DRIVING CHANGE. DELIVERING IMPACT.

A year of bold ideas, stronger connections and meaningful progress. In 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to shape the future of broadcasting through innovation, strategic partnerships, flagship events and capacity-building initiatives. From advancing AI and digital transformation to strengthening regional collaboration, ABU remained committed to empowering its members in an evolving media landscape. The launch of its revamped website and refreshed visual identity marked a new chapter in the Union's journey.

2026 was more than a year of achievements. It was a year of transformation, progress and building a stronger ABU for tomorrow.



3500+
Participants



200+
Speakers



50+
Countries



100+
Organisations



4
Flagship
Events



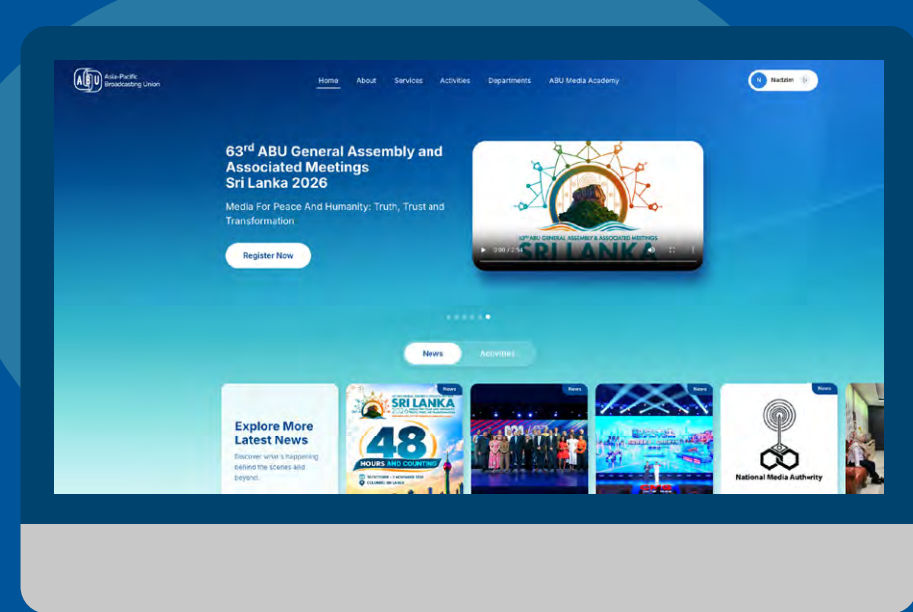
40+
Training
Activities



100+
Topics &
Sessions

What's new at ABU

A refreshed digital home for a more connected, engaging and future-ready ABU community.



New website

Easier access to news, events and resources



Refreshed Visual Identity

A modern look for a modern ABU



Enhanced Member Engagement

More opportunities to connect and collaborate



Stronger Digital Communications

Clearer, faster and more relevant updates

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The true measure of our success is not what we achieve as a Union, but the difference we make in the lives and work of our members.

As I reflect on 2026, I am reminded that the strength of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union has never been measured solely by the events we organise, the programmes we deliver or the milestones we celebrate. It is measured by the people we serve. **Our members are the reason ABU exists, and their trust places upon us a responsibility that I value deeply:** to ensure that everything we do makes a meaningful difference to them.

This year has brought extraordinary change to broadcasting. Artificial intelligence, digital transformation and evolving audience expectations continue to challenge established practices, while the need for credible information and responsible journalism has never been more important. In this environment, our role is not simply to follow change, but to help our members face it with confidence.

Our flagship gatherings, the Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS), Sports Media Conference, ABU CONFEST, Global News Forum (GNF), 10th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action & Disaster Prevention and ABU AI Forum 2026 created spaces for practical learning, honest conversations and new ideas. Yet we do not organise events merely to fill seats. **We want our members and participants to return home with knowledge they can share, skills they can apply, solutions they can explore and relationships they can rely upon.**

That is the measure of success that matters to me.

The same purpose guides our workshops, webinars, capacity-building programmes, content exchanges and partnerships. Whether a member is navigating new technology or seeking fresh approaches to serving audiences, **ABU must remain a source of support, opportunity and connection.**

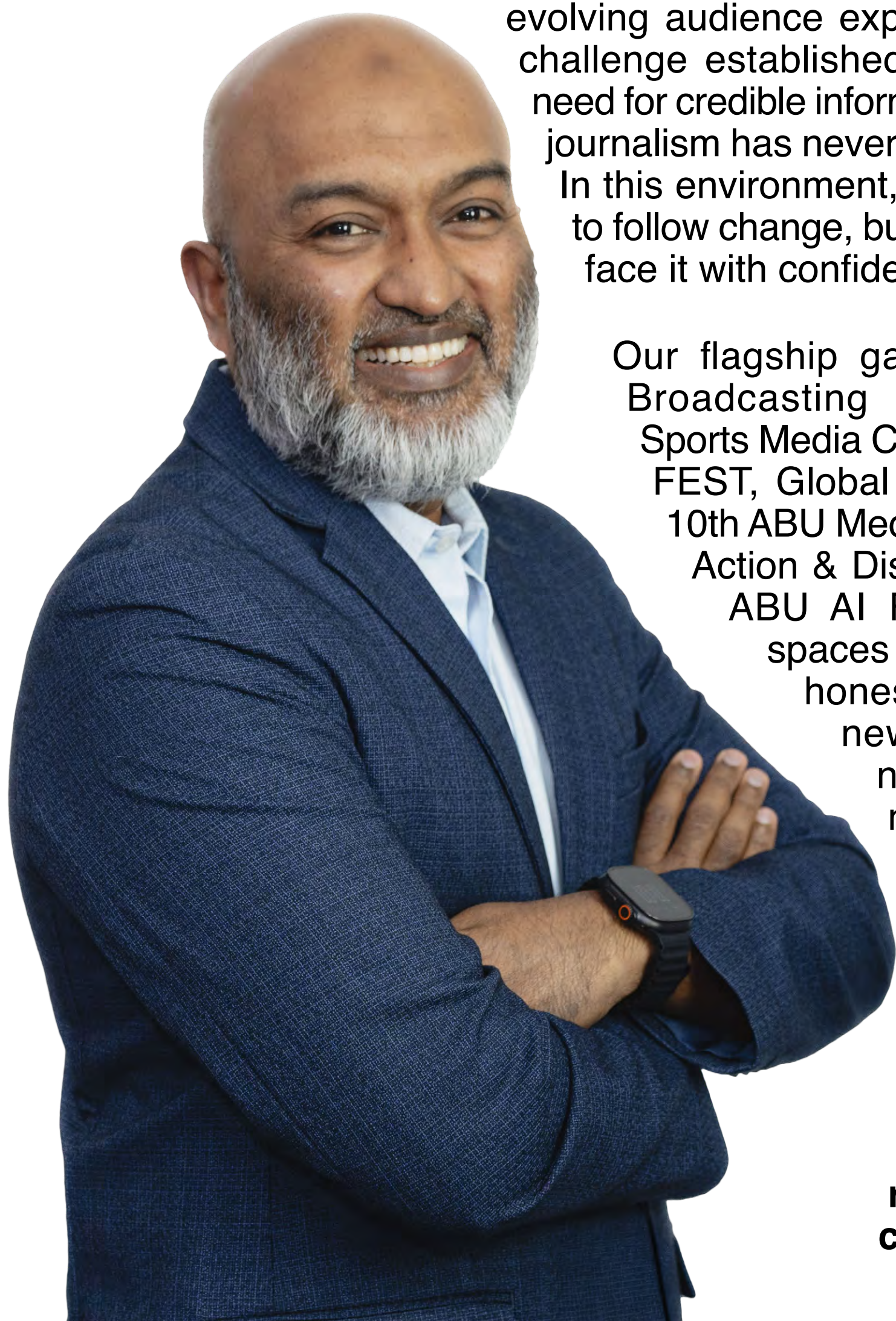
Our 63rd General Assembly in Colombo, under the theme “Media for Peace and Humanity: Truth, Trust, and Transformation,” embodies this spirit. Our aim is to bring experts, leaders and practitioners under one roof, not only to exchange expertise but to spark partnerships that continue long after the meetings conclude. And I hope something even more personal grows from these encounters: friendship. Wherever in the world our members may find themselves, I hope there will always be a familiar face, a colleague to call or a friend first met through ABU.

We also took steps to serve members more effectively through our redesigned website, refreshed visual identity, and strengthened publications and digital communications. These are expressions of a simple commitment: to remain accessible, responsive, and relevant.

To every member, thank you. Thank you for showing up, sharing your knowledge, challenging us to do better and standing with this Union. We never take your time, confidence, or generosity for granted. To our leadership, partners, and Secretariat colleagues, I offer my sincere appreciation for your dedication.

As we look ahead, I make this promise: we will keep listening, learning and working for you. ABU’s achievements belong to its members. **Your support gives our work purpose; your success gives it meaning.**

Together, we will shape broadcasting’s future with courage, trust and humanity. ▀



Ahmed Nadeem
Secretary-General
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union



62nd ABU General Assembly 2025: Bridging Tradition and Transformation

The 62nd Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) General Assembly and Associated Meetings, held in the vibrant Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar, brought together broadcasting leaders, industry experts, policymakers and media professionals from across the Asia-Pacific and beyond. Hosted by the Mongolian National Broadcaster (MNB), the annual gathering served as an important platform for strengthening regional cooperation, exchanging knowledge and exploring the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of broadcasting.

With a strong emphasis on safeguarding cultural heritage amid rapid technological advancement, the General Assembly highlighted the evolving responsibilities of broadcasters in an increasingly digital and interconnected world. Discussions explored artificial intelligence, digital transformation, audience engagement, inclusive leadership and the importance of preserving national identity and cultural traditions through media.

Preserving Heritage in a Changing Media Landscape

The opening ceremony set the tone for the General Assembly, reinforcing the vital role of media in connecting communities, preserving cultural identity and responding to changing audience expectations.

MNB Director General Gerel Gankhuyag emphasised that media remains the voice of the people and plays a fundamental role in protecting language, culture and traditions. Recognising the growing influence of social media among younger generations, she highlighted the importance of reaching audiences through both traditional broadcasting and emerging digital platforms.

ABU Vice President and NHK Executive Vice President Inoue Tatsuhiko echoed these sentiments, noting that the broadcasting industry stands at a crossroads as digital transformation continues to reshape media consumption. With younger audiences increasingly turning to smartphones and online platforms, he stressed the need for broadcasters to adapt their strategies while maintaining the trust and credibility associated with traditional media.

The discussions reinforced a central message: technological progress and cultural preservation must advance together to ensure broadcasting remains relevant, inclusive and connected to the communities it serves.

Advancing Equality and Inclusive Leadership

Gender equality and representation in the media industry emerged as important themes during the General Assembly, with industry leaders sharing perspectives on creating opportunities based on professional merit, capability and leadership.

Ahmet Görmez, Chairman of the ABU News Group and Deputy Director General of TRT-Türkiye, highlighted the contributions of women journalists working in challenging environments, including conflict zones, emphasising that their appointments reflected professional competence and experience.

Francis Herman, Chief Executive of the Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation (VBTC), shared how women occupy four of the organisation’s seven senior management positions, demonstrating progress in leadership representation. He also acknowledged the importance of challenging longstanding attitudes towards gender roles within the media industry.

KBS President and CEO Park Jang Beom expressed his aspiration to see greater female representation in newsroom leadership and reaffirmed his commitment to protecting female employees from online harassment and abuse.

Meanwhile, Monsor Nyamdavaa, Chairman of the National Council of MNB, highlighted women’s leadership within the organisation, noting that women account for 35% of its board, alongside female leaders holding key executive and editorial positions.

Together, these discussions highlighted the importance of building inclusive workplaces, recognising talent and strengthening opportunities for women across the broadcasting sector.

Strengthening ABU Governance and Regional Representation

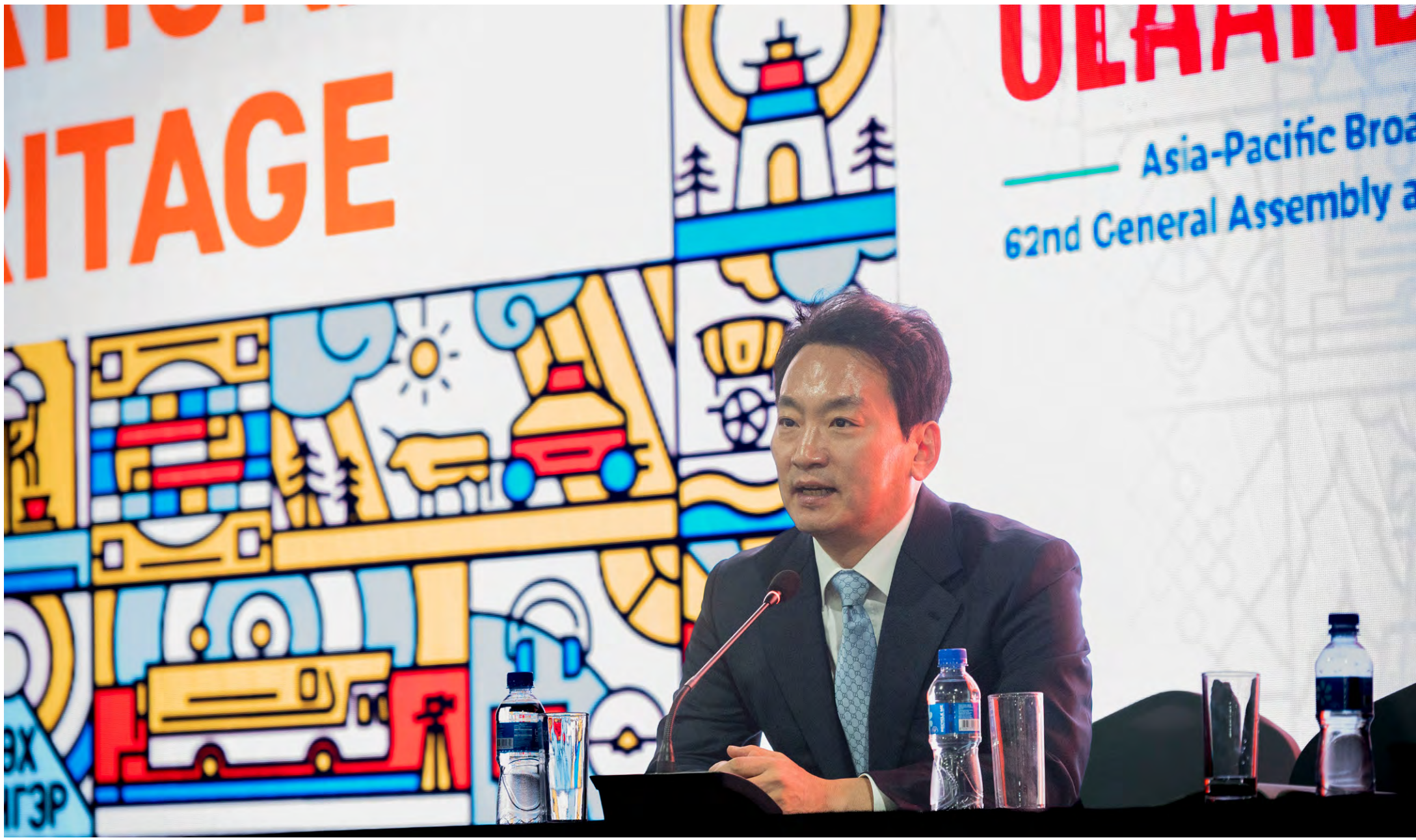
A significant milestone of the 62nd General Assembly was the election of Park Jang Beom, President and CEO of the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS), as ABU Vice President.

Elected unopposed, Park joined the Union’s existing Vice Presidents following the expansion of Vice Presidential positions from three to four. His appointment reflected the continued commitment of ABU members to strengthening regional leadership and cooperation.

The General Assembly also welcomed the Mongolian National Public Radio and Television (MNB) to the ABU Administrative Council, replacing the People’s Television Network, Inc. (PTNI) of the Philippines.

Six member organisations were re-elected to the Administrative Council for a three-year term commencing January 2026: the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), National Television of Cambodia (TVK), Prasar Bharati (India), Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT), Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) and Teledifusão de Macau (TDM).

These developments reinforced ABU’s commitment to effective governance, regional representation and collaborative decision-making.



Members' Showcase: Innovation Meets Cultural Identity

One of the highlights of the General Assembly was the Members' Showcase, held on 14 September 2025, which demonstrated the creativity, resilience and technological ambition of public broadcasters across the region.

Presentations from broadcasters representing China, Türkiye, India, Russia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Iran, Australia, Hungary, Mongolia, Thailand and other countries illustrated how media organisations are embracing new technologies while continuing to preserve their cultural identities.

Artificial intelligence featured prominently, with TV5-Mongolia introducing Fast Five: Mongolia Today, an AI-narrated English-language news segment designed to deliver information efficiently while expanding Mongolia's international reach.

Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation showcased how AI can transform the convergence of culture, tourism and sports through interactive media experiences. TRT-Türkiye shared insights into digital marketing and audience engagement strategies, while Prasar Bharati introduced WAVES, its OTT platform, highlighting the growing importance of digital streaming in reaching diverse audiences.

Other presentations explored digital literacy, international cultural storytelling, content partnerships and the application of emerging technologies in public service broadcasting.

The showcase demonstrated that innovation extends beyond technology itself. It is equally about finding new ways to tell meaningful stories, engage audiences and ensure that local cultures and perspectives remain visible in an increasingly global media environment.

Building Stronger Connections for the Future

Beyond the formal meetings and discussions, the 62nd General Assembly provided valuable opportunities for members to exchange experiences, strengthen professional relationships and explore new avenues for cooperation.

A joint press conference involving ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem and MNB Director General Gerel Gankhuyag further highlighted the significance of the gathering and Mongolia's role as host for the second time.

Both leaders emphasised the importance of international collaboration in addressing shared industry challenges, strengthening broadcasting capabilities and advancing the development of media across the region.

The General Assembly reaffirmed ABU's position as a platform for dialogue, innovation and cooperation, bringing together diverse perspectives around a shared commitment to the future of broadcasting.

As the 62nd ABU General Assembly concluded, one message stood out: the future of broadcasting depends not only on embracing new technologies, but also on preserving the cultural identities, professional values and human connections that give media its purpose. ▀





121st ABU Administrative Council Meeting: Strengthening Leadership and Regional Cooperation

Strong leadership, shared perspectives and collective decisions are essential to building a stronger broadcasting community.

On 13 May 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) convened its 121st Administrative Council (AC) Meeting in Macau, hosted by Teledifusão de Macau (TDM).

Bringing together senior representatives of ABU member organisations and the Union's leadership, the meeting provided an important platform to review progress, discuss strategic priorities and shape the direction of ABU's future initiatives.

Discussions centred on strengthening member cooperation, reviewing ongoing programmes and addressing emerging challenges and opportunities within the rapidly evolving broadcasting landscape.

As one of ABU's principal governing bodies, the Administrative Council plays a vital role in ensuring effective governance, guiding strategic decisions and keeping the Union's activities aligned with the needs and aspirations of its members.

The meeting also reinforced the importance of inclusive dialogue, allowing representatives from diverse broadcasting environments to contribute their perspectives and participate in decisions that shape the Union's future.

More than a governance meeting, the 121st Administrative Council reflected the strength of ABU's collective leadership, where diverse voices come together with a shared commitment to progress, innovation and a stronger broadcasting community across the Asia-Pacific. ▀



Strengthening Governance. Shaping the Future.

Strong organisations are built on sound governance, clear priorities and a shared commitment to progress. At ABU, the Planning and Strategy Group (PSG) plays an important role in helping shape the Union's strategic direction and long-term sustainability.



Throughout 2025–2026, the PSG continued to provide a platform for reviewing organisational priorities, addressing governance matters and developing recommendations to support the Union's future growth.

Advancing Strategic Priorities

During the 62nd ABU General Assembly in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, in September 2025, recommendations from the PSG were presented to the 120th Administrative Council Meeting, contributing to discussions on policy, administration, financial management and the Union's strategic direction.

The Council's deliberations reflected a continued emphasis on strengthening organisational effectiveness, maintaining financial sustainability and ensuring that ABU remains responsive to the evolving needs of its members.

The PSG's contribution to strategic planning continued into 2026, with the outcomes of its Mid-Year Meeting presented to the 121st Administrative Council Meeting in Macau, China.

These discussions formed part of a broader review of the Union's governance and operational priorities, including progress under the ABU Three-Year Action Plan, financial management, membership matters and proposed amendments to the ABU Statutes concerning the standardisation of the financial year.

Supporting Stronger Governance

As an advisory body, the PSG provides an important link between strategic planning and the Administrative Council's decision-making processes.

Its work supports the continued examination of governance structures, organisational procedures and long-term priorities, helping ensure that the Union remains accountable, adaptable and focused on delivering value to its membership.

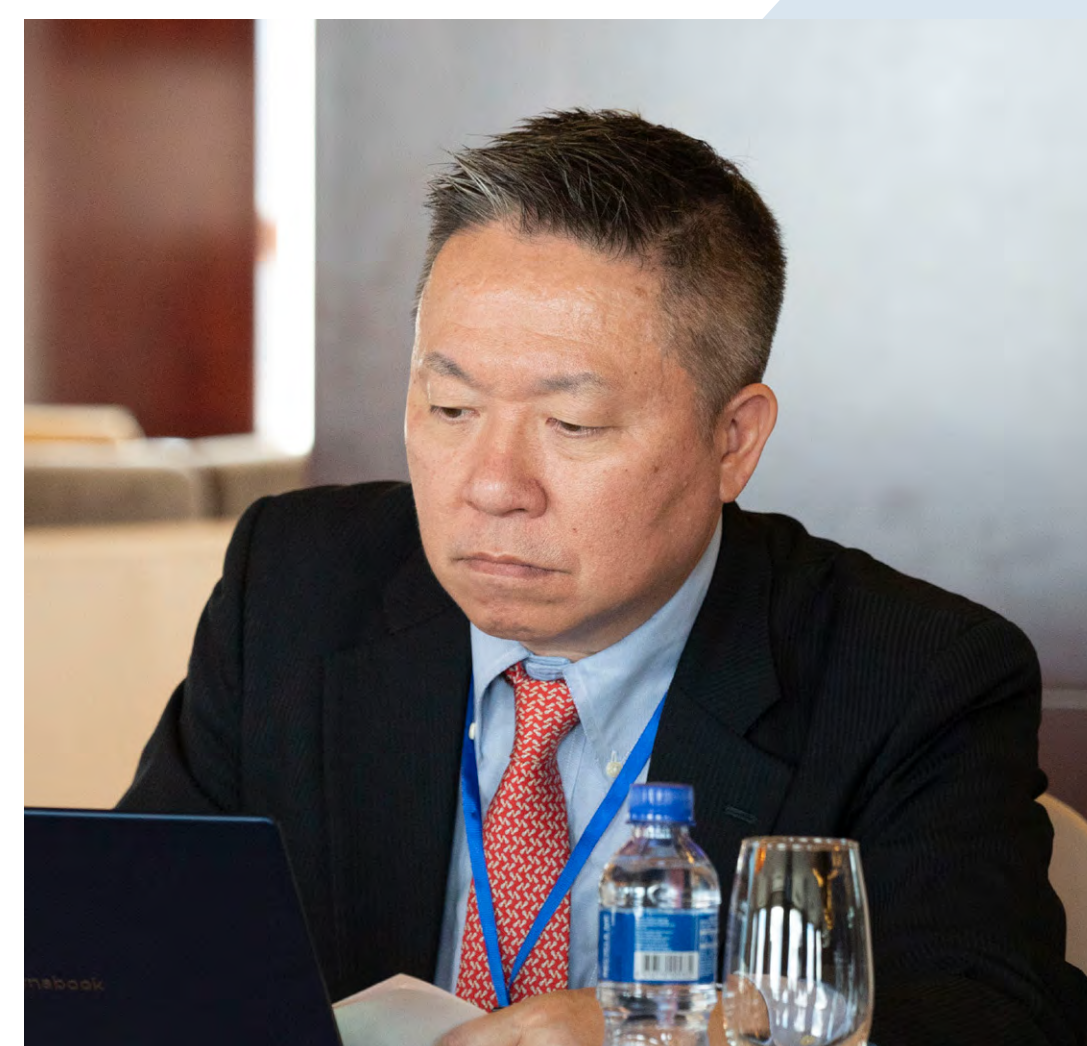
Through consultation and collective consideration of strategic issues, the Group contributes to an approach to governance that recognises both the immediate needs of member organisations and the longer-term challenges facing the broadcasting industry.

Building for the Future

As ABU navigates a rapidly changing media landscape, effective governance and forward-looking planning remain essential to its continued relevance and success.

The Planning and Strategy Group's ongoing contribution reinforces the importance of collaboration, responsible stewardship and informed decision-making in guiding the Union's development.

By strengthening the foundations of governance today, the PSG helps ABU prepare for the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow, ensuring that members remain at the heart of its strategic direction. ▀





On 3 April 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) convened its Technical Bureau Mid-Year Meeting at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, immediately following the successful conclusion of the Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS) 2026.

Held in a hybrid format, the meeting brought together technical leaders and representatives from across the region to exchange insights, review ongoing initiatives and explore new opportunities to strengthen technical cooperation among ABU members.

Chaired by Mr Masashi Kamei of NHK Japan, the meeting also welcomed the updated Technical Bureau composition for 2026–2027, including newly elected Vice-Chairpersons from RTPRC China, IRIB Iran and VTV Vietnam. TDM Macau and PBS Philippines were welcomed as members of the Bureau.

Sharing Knowledge, Shaping the Future

A key highlight was the exchange of developments from member broadcasters, offering valuable perspectives on how organisations across the Asia-Pacific are responding to technological change.

Phoenix TV Hong Kong, China, shared its growing use of artificial intelligence for translation, transcription, voice-over production and workflow efficiency. Prasar Bharati India highlighted the launch of its Waves OTT platform, featuring more than 100 channels,

ABU Technical Bureau 2026: Strengthening Collaboration, Advancing Innovation

From artificial intelligence and digital broadcasting to emergency warning systems and emerging technologies, the future of broadcasting demands more than innovation. It demands collaboration.

alongside developments in Digital-to-Mobile broadcasting trials.

VTV Vietnam provided updates on its OTT initiatives, while MTV Sri Lanka discussed the challenges and opportunities surrounding its transition to digital broadcasting.

NBT Thailand shared progress on channel upgrades, licensing and the nationwide implementation of emergency warning systems. Meanwhile, NHK Japan highlighted developments in broadcasting regulations, infrastructure modernisation and the transition of radio services from AM to FM.

Together, these exchanges demonstrated the value of ABU's technical network, where members can learn from one another's experiences, share practical solutions and explore technologies that could shape their own broadcasting operations.

Turning Technical Expertise into Member Support

Beyond industry updates, discussions focused on strengthening ABU's technical assistance and professional development initiatives.

Members reviewed ongoing training activities, technical study projects and opportunities to provide more structured support to broadcasters facing complex operational and technological challenges.

A significant discussion centred on the proposed ABU Technical Consultancy Board (ATCB), envisioned as an advisory platform connecting member organisations with technical expertise and consultancy support.

While welcoming the proposal, members emphasised the importance of clear governance, sustainable arrangements and a practical understanding of members' technical requirements before implementation.

The discussions reflected a shared ambition to ensure that ABU's technical expertise translates into meaningful, accessible support for its members.

Building on the Success of DBS 2026

The meeting also reflected on the success of DBS 2026, recognising its role in bringing broadcasters, technology specialists and industry partners together to exchange ideas and explore emerging developments.

Members welcomed the strong engagement at the Symposium, with NHK Japan highlighting its positive experience and encouraging greater participation from Asian broadcasters, particularly young engineers who could benefit from the learning and networking opportunities.

Looking ahead, the Bureau discussed preparations for its forthcoming meetings alongside the 63rd ABU General Assembly in Sri Lanka, as well as opportunities to expand technical training and collaboration across the region.

A Shared Commitment to Progress

The meeting concluded with Mr Kamei expressing his appreciation to members for their contributions and continued commitment to the Bureau's work.

More than a platform for technical discussions, the Mid-Year Meeting demonstrated the strength of ABU's member-driven approach: bringing expertise together, encouraging practical cooperation and ensuring that no broadcaster has to navigate technological change alone.

As the industry continues to evolve, ABU's Technical Bureau remains an important link between innovation and implementation, helping members build the knowledge, partnerships and capabilities needed for a stronger broadcasting future. ▀

ABU Committees and Groups: Advancing Collaboration, Strengthening Member Value

Throughout 2025–2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to strengthen regional cooperation through its committees, bureaus and specialised groups, providing members with platforms to exchange knowledge, shape strategic priorities and address the evolving challenges of broadcasting.

From technological innovation and content development to sports broadcasting and news exchange, these engagements reinforced ABU's commitment to ensuring that collaboration delivers practical and lasting value to its members.

Technical Committee: Driving Innovation and Digital Transformation

The ABU Technical Committee convened on 11–12 September 2025 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, during the 62nd ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings, hosted by Mongolian National Broadcaster (MNB).

A major outcome was the election of 18 members to the Technical Bureau for the 2026–2027 term, with Mr Masashi Kamei of NHK Japan elected Chairperson, supported by Vice-Chairpersons Mr Zhang Wei of RTPRC China, Mr Mohieddin Moradi of IRIB Iran and Mr Nguyen Duc Tue of VTV Vietnam.

Discussions centred on emerging broadcasting technologies, digital transformation and the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence. Members reviewed the ABU AI Principles, providing non-binding recommendations to guide broadcasters in developing responsible AI frameworks. Presentations also addressed spectrum management, distribution, production, training and the future of linear broadcasting.

The Technical Bureau Mid-Year Meeting, held on 3 April 2026 in Kuala Lumpur following DBS 2026, built on these discussions. Members shared progress in AI-assisted production, OTT development, digital migration, emergency warning systems and broadcasting infrastructure.

The Bureau also examined proposals for an ABU Technical Consultancy Board, while emphasising the importance of strengthening existing cooperation mechanisms and expanding professional development opportunities for young broadcast engineers.

Together, these meetings reinforced the Technical Committee's role in supporting innovation, technical resilience and knowledge-sharing across the region.

Programme Committee: Strengthening Creativity and Content Collaboration

The ABU Programme Committee met on 10 September 2025 in Ulaanbaatar, chaired by Ms Claire Gorman of ABC Australia, alongside Vice-Chairpersons Mr Tomohiro Inoue of NHK Japan and Mr Faruk Güven of TRT Türkiye.

The meeting reviewed the Programme Department's activities and strategic priorities, including proposals to strengthen collaboration across television, radio and digital media.

A key development was the proposed consolidation of the Radio Working Party, Digital Media Working Group and ABU Prizes Reform Working Party into the Programme Bureau, reflecting the increasing convergence of media platforms. Members also considered a three-year strategic plan to enhance the effectiveness and value of ABU's programme services.

Under the General Assembly's theme of safeguarding national and cultural heritage, members explored the role of broadcasters in preserving traditions through contemporary storytelling. Special presentations, panel discussions and three-minute programme pitches provided opportunities to showcase creative projects and encourage future partnerships.

Progress continued at the Programme Bureau Meeting on 7 July 2026 in Kuala Lumpur, held alongside ABU CONFEST 2026. Members expressed strong support for the Programme Department's Three-Year Strategic Plan and a new Podcast Co-Production Project aimed at expanding collaborative audio storytelling.

Further initiatives included reforms to the ABU Prizes, continued development of the Children's Drama Series, Documentary Exchange and Music Exchange platforms, and discussions on the future of the ABU Song Festival.

These efforts strengthened opportunities for co-production, creative exchange and content innovation, supporting members in developing programming that resonates with increasingly diverse audiences.



Sports Committee: Expanding Opportunities Through Strategic Partnerships

The ABU Sports Committee convened during the 62nd ABU General Assembly in Ulaanbaatar, providing members with an opportunity to review the Sports Department’s progress and establish priorities for future cooperation.

Discussions revisited the origins and objectives of the ABU Sports Group and Sports Fund, established in the 1980s, while examining how existing mechanisms could better serve members in an increasingly competitive sports broadcasting environment.

The Committee approved the Sports Department’s activity report, 2026 budget and travel plan, while expressing strong support for continued engagement with international sports federations and rights-holding organisations. Discussions on rights acquisition levies were deferred for further consideration.

Throughout 2026, the Sports Department continued to advance these priorities through negotiations, partnerships and broadcast distribution arrangements.

A significant achievement was securing an agreement with Commonwealth Sport for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, providing broadcast rights opportunities for participating Southeast Asian members.

ABU also strengthened its engagement with the Olympic Council of Asia and other international sports organisations, supporting efforts to expand access to sporting events and develop sustainable content acquisition arrangements.

These initiatives demonstrated the Sports Committee’s contribution to strengthening ABU’s collective position in international sports broadcasting and delivering greater value to participating members.



Sports Group: Strengthening Regional Sports Content Exchange

The ABU Sports Group Conference, held alongside the 62nd General Assembly in Mongolia, brought together approximately 40 participants from a registered membership of 95.

The conference focused on strengthening collaboration, improving content exchange and encouraging greater participation in regional sports broadcasting initiatives.

Throughout the reporting period, the ABU Sports & Entertainment Network (ASEN) continued to serve as an important content-sharing platform, enabling broadcasters to contribute and access coverage of international and regional sporting competitions.

The network distributed content covering cycling, motorsport, fencing, archery, golf, netball and other sports, while supporting member access to specialised sporting events that might otherwise be difficult to acquire independently.

The Sports Department also facilitated livestreaming and distribution opportunities, including the ABU Panda Cup and university sporting competitions, while strengthening cooperation with the ASEAN University Sports Council.

These activities highlighted the importance of collective resources, cost-effective production and regional partnerships in expanding sports coverage.

By encouraging members to share expertise, content and production capabilities, the Sports Group continued to strengthen cooperation and broaden access to sporting content across the Asia-Pacific region.



Asiavision and News Group: Building a Stronger Regional News Network

The ABU News Group and Asiavision (AVN) continued to advance regional news cooperation through regular member consultations, editorial exchanges and improvements to content-sharing infrastructure.

Throughout 2025, Asiavision’s monthly Editors’ Meetings provided a platform for participating broadcasters to discuss operational requirements, exchange feedback and identify opportunities to strengthen the network.

These discussions highlighted the growing importance of direct engagement between member newsrooms. Among the proposals raised was extending the annual Asiavision Coordinators’ Meeting from two to three days to allow more time for strategic discussions and collaboration.

The 2026 Asiavision Coordinators’ Meeting, held on 21–22 January in Kuala Lumpur, brought together 60 participants, comprising 30 official member representatives and 30 non-member participants, with representation from 25 countries and territories.

The meeting reinforced the importance of timely, reliable news exchange and provided opportunities for members to discuss newsroom innovation, digital transformation and the changing demands of international news coverage.

Developments included enhanced live-feed capabilities and integrated audio features, strengthening members’ ability to exchange breaking news and access regional content more efficiently.

The Monthly Asiavision Awards also underwent improvements to encourage greater member participation in recognising outstanding news contributions.

Membership expansion remained another priority. In December 2025, JSC Khabar Agency of Kazakhstan joined Asiavision as its 32nd member, further extending the network’s regional reach.

ABU News also strengthened cooperation with Alianza Informativa Latinoamericana (AIL), exploring closer coordination in content verification, direct-upload workflows and international breaking news exchange.

Throughout 2026, Asiavision maintained substantial content-sharing activity, providing broadcasters with access to regional news footage, breaking stories and coverage of issues of shared public interest.

These developments reinforced the News Group and Asiavision’s commitment to stronger editorial cooperation, responsible journalism and a more connected regional news community.



Looking Ahead: Collaboration That Delivers Value

The activities and decisions of ABU’s committees and specialised groups throughout 2025–2026 reflected a shared commitment to strengthening the broadcasting community through meaningful cooperation.

Beyond formal meetings, these platforms contributed to practical outcomes, from technical knowledge-sharing and collaborative productions to expanded sports coverage and more effective news exchange.

As ABU moves into 2027, its committees and groups will continue to play a central role in responding to emerging industry challenges, encouraging innovation and strengthening partnerships.

Through sustained member engagement and collective expertise, ABU remains committed to transforming collaboration into lasting value for broadcasters and the communities they serve. ▀



MAJOR EVENTS & KEY REGIONAL ACTIVITIES 2026

Bringing People Together. Creating Opportunities. Delivering Impact.

Some of the most meaningful changes begin when people come together. Ideas are exchanged, perspectives are challenged, partnerships are formed, and conversations become opportunities for progress.

Throughout 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to bring its members together through major international events and regional initiatives that addressed the opportunities, challenges and changing realities of broadcasting.

From the future of artificial intelligence and digital transformation to the importance of trusted journalism, creative storytelling and regional cooperation, ABU's activities reflected an industry navigating extraordinary change, and a community determined to shape what comes next.

Five Flagship Events. One Shared Vision.

Across five major gatherings, ABU created platforms for broadcasting leaders, media professionals, content creators, technology specialists and industry partners to connect, exchange expertise and explore new possibilities.

The Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS), Sports Media Conference (SMC), CON-FEST, Global News Forum (GNF) and 63rd ABU General Assembly each brought a different dimension of broadcasting into focus.

Together, they addressed the technologies transforming media delivery, the power of sport to connect audiences, the creativity driving content production, the responsibility of journalism in an increasingly complex world and the importance of unity across the broadcasting community.

But their value extended beyond conference programmes and industry discussions. These gatherings created opportunities for members to build relationships, discover practical solutions, strengthen their professional networks and contribute to conversations shaping the future of broadcasting.

Regional Connections. Lasting Impact.

Beyond its flagship events, ABU's key regional activities brought cooperation to life through practical initiatives, professional development and shared experiences.

From the ingenuity of young engineers at ABU Robocon to the technical expertise developed through the OTT Engineering Workshop and the creativity nurtured by the Children's Drama Co-Production initiative, these activities demonstrated the many ways ABU supports its members and the wider broadcasting community.

Each initiative served a distinct purpose, yet all shared a common ambition: to encourage innovation, strengthen capabilities, connect people across borders and create opportunities that extend beyond individual events.

More Than Events. A Commitment to Members.

What connects ABU's major events and regional activities is not simply their scale or reach. It is the value they create for the people and organisations they serve.

Every new connection, every skill developed, every idea exchanged and every partnership strengthened contributes to a more capable, resilient and connected broadcasting community.

Because ABU's greatest achievement is not measured by the number of events it organises, but by what its members take away from them and what they are empowered to achieve next.

In 2026, ABU continued to turn connections into collaboration, knowledge into action and shared ambitions into meaningful impact.

ABU DIGITAL BROADCASTING SYMPOSIUM 2026

The Rising Synthetic Era: Embracing Technology. Empowering Broadcasters.

The future of broadcasting is no longer knocking at the door. It has already walked in, and it is changing everything.

814 Total number of participants

279 Total number of organisations

18 Total number of topics discussed

53 Total number of speakers

37 Total number of countries represented by participants at the event



Artificial intelligence is transforming how stories are created, content is produced and audiences are reached. Technologies that once seemed distant are now becoming part of everyday broadcasting. For media organisations, the question is no longer whether change is coming, but how quickly they can adapt and make it work for them.

Against this backdrop, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) brought the industry together for the Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS) 2026, held from 30 March to 2 April in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the theme “The Rising Synthetic Era.”

As one of ABU’s flagship events, DBS provided a platform for broadcasters, technology experts and industry leaders to explore the opportunities, challenges and responsibilities that accompany rapid technological advancement.

But DBS was about more than machines, systems and technical specifications. **It was about people, possibilities and preparing broadcasters for what comes next.**

From the growing influence of artificial intelligence to the changing ways content is produced and delivered, discussions highlighted how innovation is reshaping the industry. Equally important were the questions surrounding trust, authenticity and the responsible use of emerging technologies.

For ABU members, the value of DBS lies in making these developments

understandable, relevant and, most importantly, useful.

Not every broadcaster has the same resources, infrastructure or technological capabilities. Yet every organisation faces the challenge of remaining competitive, credible and connected to its audiences. DBS created opportunities for members to learn from industry experts, exchange experiences with fellow broadcasters and discover approaches that could be adapted to their own organisations.

A new idea, a practical solution or a conversation with someone facing a similar challenge can become the starting point for meaningful change.

And that is what ABU hopes members carry home.

Not simply an understanding of the latest technologies, but greater confidence to ask the right questions, explore new possibilities and make informed decisions about their organisation’s future.

DBS 2026 reinforced an important message: technology may be transforming broadcasting, but people remain at the centre of that transformation.

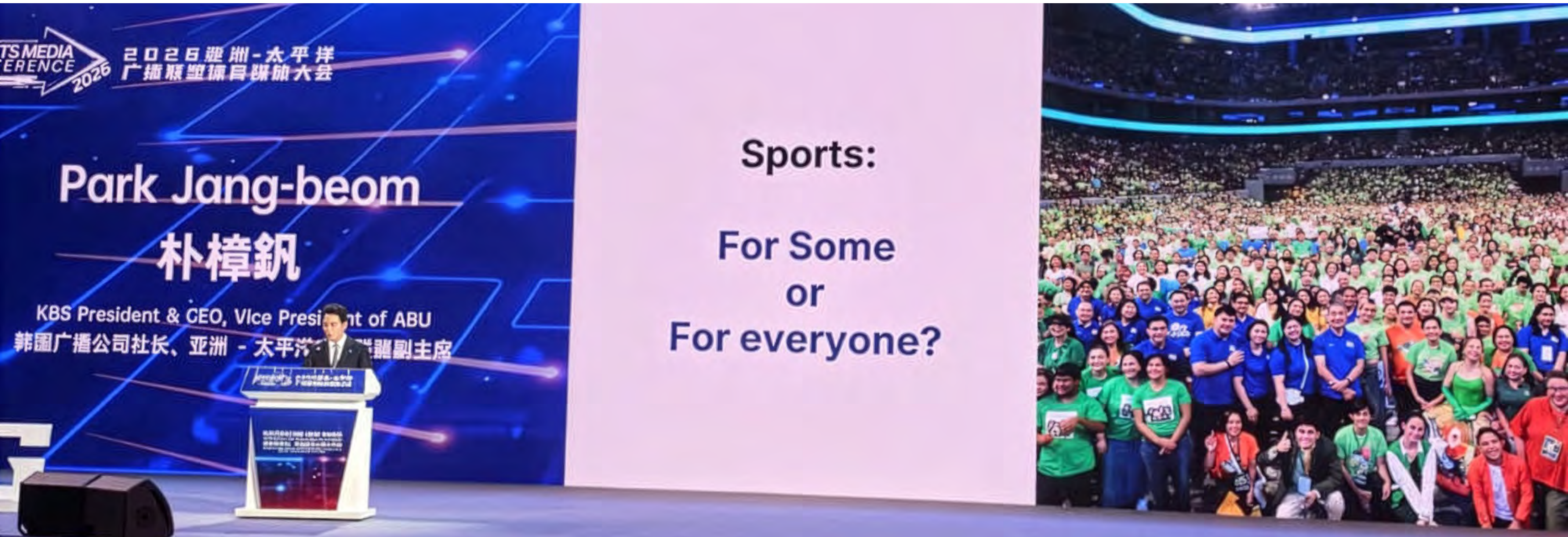
Because the future of broadcasting will not be defined by technology alone. It will be defined by how wisely, creatively and responsibly we choose to use it.



ABU SPORTS MEDIA CONFERENCE 2026

Beyond the Game. The Power of Sport to Connect the World.

For a few unforgettable seconds, the world holds its breath. A final whistle. A winning goal. A record shattered. And suddenly, millions of people, separated by borders, languages and cultures, are sharing the very same emotion.



That is the extraordinary power of sport. And behind every moment that reaches our screens are the broadcasters, storytellers and production teams who bring the excitement to life.

Held from 14 to 16 May in Chengdu, China, the ABU Sports Media Conference (SMC) 2026 brought together sports broadcasters, media executives, industry specialists and innovators to explore how the world of sports media is evolving.

Sport has always united audiences, but the way we experience it is changing dramatically. Fans no longer wait for the evening highlights or gather exclusively around television screens. They follow their favourite athletes across multiple platforms, watch matches on mobile devices and expect instant access to the action, wherever they are.

For broadcasters, this presents both an exciting opportunity and a considerable challenge.

SMC 2026 provided a platform to examine these changes, exchange experiences and explore how emerging technologies, innovative production techniques and new distribution platforms are transforming the delivery of sporting content.

But the conference was about more than keeping pace with technology. It was about understanding audiences, finding new ways to tell compelling sporting stories and ensuring that

broadcasters remain at the heart of the sporting experience.

For ABU members, the value extended beyond the discussions themselves. It was an opportunity to learn from organisations operating in different markets, discover fresh approaches to audience engagement and explore ideas that could strengthen their own sports broadcasting operations.

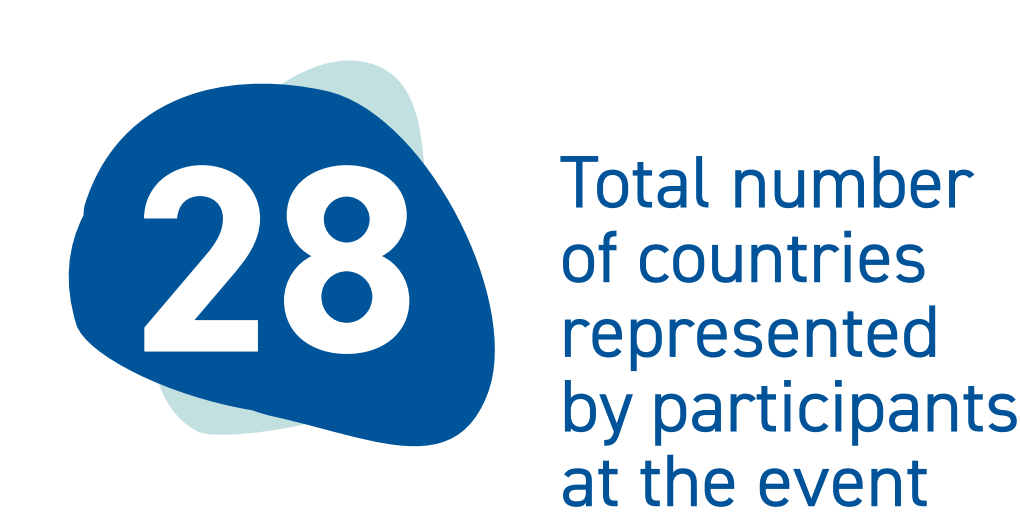
Just as importantly, SMC created space for relationships to grow. In an industry where cooperation, content exchange and shared expertise are invaluable, a single introduction can open the door to future partnerships and opportunities.

Members could return home with new perspectives, practical insights and stronger professional connections, ready to share what they had learnt with their colleagues.

For ABU, that is what makes SMC so important. It strengthens not only the skills and capabilities of individual broadcasters, but also the connections that bring our regional sports media community closer together.

Because sport is never just about the final score. It is about the stories, the passion, the people and those extraordinary moments that remind us how much we have in common.

And through SMC, ABU continues to help its members bring those moments to the world. ▀



ABU CON-FEST 2026

Where Creativity Meets Opportunity



A great story can make us laugh, bring us to tears, make us fall in love with life, challenge the way we think or stay with us long after the screen goes dark. But in a world overflowing with content, how do we create stories that truly matter?

That was the spirit behind ABU CON-FEST 2026, held from 7 to 9 July in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, bringing together storytellers, content creators, producers, broadcasters and industry leaders to explore the future of content in an increasingly competitive media landscape.

With more than 450 participants joining onsite and online, CON-FEST became a vibrant meeting point for creative minds, fresh perspectives and conversations that challenged conventional thinking.

Today’s audiences have more choices than ever before. They decide what to watch, when to watch it and where to find it. For broadcasters, capturing attention is only half the challenge. Keeping audiences engaged, building meaningful connections and creating content that resonates across cultures and generations require imagination, adaptability and a willingness to do things differently.

CON-FEST placed these conversations centre stage.

Through thought-provoking discussions, industry insights and creative exchanges, participants explored changing audience expectations, emerging storytelling approaches and the opportunities presented by new platforms and technologies.

Yet beyond the trends and innovations, one message remained clear: **technology can change how a story is told, but it is creativity that gives the story its soul.**

For ABU members, CON-FEST offered something equally important: the opportunity to step outside familiar routines and see the creative world through someone else’s eyes.

An unexpected idea from a fellow producer, a different approach to engaging younger audiences or a conversation with an industry expert could spark the next programme, collaboration or creative breakthrough.

And sometimes, the most valuable exchanges happened away from the stage, where introductions became conversations, conversations opened doors and shared interests created the foundations for future partnerships.

This is why CON-FEST matters to ABU. It is not simply about showcasing creativity. It is about nurturing it, connecting the people behind it and ensuring members return to their organisations with fresh ideas, renewed inspiration and the confidence to explore new possibilities.

Because while platforms will evolve, technologies will advance and audience habits will continue to change, the desire for compelling stories will always remain.

CON-FEST 2026 reminded us that the future of content belongs not simply to those who keep up with change, but to those bold enough to imagine what comes next. ▀

243

Con-fest Total number of participants

41

Total number of organisations

8

Universities

17

Total number of topics discussed

62

Total number of speakers

23

Total number of countries represented by participants at the event

ABU GLOBAL NEWS FORUM 2026

Resilient Journalism: Defending Truth in a Changing World

The truth has never travelled faster. Unfortunately, neither have the lies.

52

Total number of organisations

5

Total number of topics discussed

15

Member showcases

6

Workshops

28

Total number of speakers

34

Total number of countries represented by participants at the event

In a world where a single social media post can reach millions within seconds, where artificial intelligence can create convincing images and videos, and where misinformation can spread before facts have been verified, journalism faces one of its greatest challenges yet.

How do we protect the truth when the line between fact and fiction is becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish?

This question was at the heart of the ABU Global News Forum (GNF) 2026, held from 2 to 4 September in Sydney, Australia, under the theme “Resilient Journalism.”

Bringing together journalists, newsroom leaders, editors and media professionals, GNF created a space for conversations that were not always comfortable, but were increasingly necessary.

Today’s journalists operate in an environment where speed competes with accuracy, public trust is constantly tested and newsrooms must adapt to technologies that are changing the very nature of reporting.

Yet amid these challenges, one responsibility remains unchanged: **to tell the truth, hold power accountable and give audiences information they can trust.**

GNF 2026 explored how news organisations can remain credible, independent and resilient while navigating technological disruption, changing audience expectations and the pressures facing modern journalism.

For ABU members, the forum offered more than an opportunity to discuss the state of the news industry. It was a chance to listen, question, exchange experiences and discover how fellow broadcasters are responding to challenges that often extend far beyond national borders.

A newsroom in one country may face different circumstances from another, but the struggle to maintain credibility, protect editorial standards and serve the public interest is one that journalists everywhere understand.

These shared experiences are what make GNF particularly valuable.

Members could return to their newsrooms with fresh perspectives, practical ideas, renewed professional connections and the reassurance that they are part of a wider community committed to responsible journalism.

Just as importantly, the forum reinforced the value of solidarity. When journalists share their experiences, learn from one another and stand together in defence of professional integrity, the entire broadcasting community becomes stronger.

For ABU, GNF represents a commitment to supporting those entrusted with one of society’s most important responsibilities: keeping the public informed.

Because journalism is not simply about breaking the news first. It is about getting it right, earning the public’s trust and having the courage to stand by the truth, even when doing so is difficult.

And in a world overflowing with information, that responsibility has never mattered more. ▀



The Next Disaster Won't Wait. Neither Can We.



10th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action & Disaster Prevention and ABU AI Forum 2026 | Paro, Bhutan | 16–18 June 2026

As climate emergencies intensify, the question is no longer whether media can make a difference, but how quickly it can turn information into action and help save lives.

When disaster strikes, every second matters. A timely warning, a trusted voice and accurate information can mean the difference between safety and tragedy. But as climate threats grow increasingly complex, are broadcasters prepared to meet the challenge?

This urgent question brought media leaders, scientists, technologists, policymakers and humanitarian organisations together in Paro, Bhutan, for the 10th ABU Media Summit on Climate Action & Disaster Prevention (CADP) and ABU AI Forum 2026, held from 16–18 June.

Under the theme “From Awareness to Action: Intelligent Media for Climate Resilience and a Safer Future,” the joint event examined how broadcasting and artificial intelligence could strengthen disaster preparedness, protect communities and transform climate communication.

Hosted by Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation Limited

(**BBSCL**), the summit opened with addresses by BBSCL CEO Dorji Tashi and ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem. Bhutan’s Honourable Minister of Industry, Commerce and Employment, Lyonpo Namgyal Dorji, delivered the keynote on media’s role as a first responder in a climate-impacted world.

When Information Saves Lives

The opening day challenged broadcasters to move beyond reporting climate emergencies towards becoming active partners in disaster prevention.

Discussions explored early warning systems, newsroom preparedness, journalist safety and the importance of reaching vulnerable communities. Experts from international organisations and broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific emphasised that warnings must not only reach people but also be understood, trusted and acted upon.

AI: Opportunity Meets Responsibility

The second day shifted attention to artificial intelligence and its potential to transform broadcasting and emergency response.

From AI-assisted forecasting and real-time crisis coverage to multilingual

communication, participants explored technologies that could improve the speed and effectiveness of public information.

Yet innovation came with an equally important message: technology must support, not replace, human judgement, editorial accountability and public trust.

From Conversation to Commitment

A special session brought together representatives from science, finance, technology and media to explore stronger cross-sector collaboration. The programme included the World Meteorological Organization’s State of the Climate in Asia report launch session and concluded with the 2026 CADP and AI Forum Call for Action.

The summit also featured the 2026 ABU T4P Media Awards Gala, celebrating media’s contribution to positive change, before concluding with a cultural excursion on 18 June.

The gathering reinforced one essential truth: broadcasting’s responsibility extends far beyond delivering news.

In an increasingly unpredictable world, the most powerful story a broadcaster can tell may be the one that helps prevent tragedy. ▀

Small Islands. Powerful Voices. One Pacific Future.

Across the vast Pacific, where oceans separate nations but stories connect communities, the future of broadcasting depends on one powerful force: working together.

Geography has always presented unique challenges for Pacific broadcasters. Vast distances, scattered island communities, limited resources and rapidly changing technologies make delivering reliable information anything but simple. Yet despite these obstacles, Pacific media continues to play an indispensable role in connecting communities, preserving cultural identities and ensuring local voices are heard.

It was against this backdrop that the Pacific Media Partnership Conference (PMPC) 2026 brought broadcasters, media executives, policymakers and industry stakeholders together in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, from 2–3 June 2026.

Jointly organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) of Papua New Guinea, the conference embraced the theme “Resilient Voices: Empowering Blue Pacific Media.”

Strengthening the Pacific Voice

The conference opened with welcoming remarks from NBC Papua New Guinea Managing Director Kora Nou, who highlighted the essential role broadcasters play in informing, educating and connecting communities across the Pacific.

ABU Director of News Indra Singh delivered an address on behalf of ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem, reinforcing the importance of regional cooperation and collective progress.

NBC Board Deputy Chairman Henao Iduhu emphasised the need for stronger media resilience, innovation and partnerships to secure the future of Pacific broadcasting.

Digital transformation also featured prominently, with Flierl Shongol, Deputy Secretary of Papua New Guinea’s Department of ICT, presenting opportunities for improved connectivity and technological advancement across the region.

Building Partnerships That Matter

One of the conference’s central discussions explored how Pacific broadcasters could move beyond traditional cooperation towards partnerships that deliver meaningful, long-term results.

From content sharing and revenue generation to sustainable business models, delegates examined ways to strengthen broadcasting organisations operating in increasingly competitive media environments.

Leadership development also emerged as an important priority. With the industry undergoing significant transformation, succession planning and nurturing emerging media leaders were recognised as essential to maintaining institutional knowledge, encouraging innovation and ensuring continuity.

The conversations reflected a shared understanding that resilience is not simply about overcoming immediate challenges. It is about building organisations capable of adapting, evolving and remaining relevant to future generations.

A Connected and Resilient Pacific

Throughout the conference, discussions addressed media sustainability, emerging technologies, audience engagement and the importance of strengthening Pacific storytelling.

Beyond the formal sessions, PMPC 2026 provided an opportunity for broadcasters to exchange experiences, strengthen professional relationships and identify common solutions to challenges that no single organisation can address alone.

For the ABU, the gathering reinforced its commitment to supporting Pacific members through knowledge exchange, collaboration and opportunities for collective growth.

The conference carried a message that resonated beyond Port Moresby: while Pacific nations may be separated by thousands of kilometres of ocean, their broadcasting communities share common ambitions and responsibilities.

Because the strength of Pacific media is not measured by the size of its markets or the reach of its transmitters, but by the power of its voices and its determination to ensure that no community is left unheard. ▀



Who Owns the Future of Content?

ABU Tackles AI, Copyright and Digital Rights in Jakarta



In a world where content can be copied, repackaged and redistributed in seconds, protecting creativity has become a battle for the future of broadcasting.

Every great broadcast begins with an investment. Behind every documentary, sporting event, news report and entertainment programme are countless hours of creativity, expertise and resources. Yet in today's digital economy, that valuable content can travel across borders, platforms and audiences in seconds, often without permission.

This growing challenge took centre stage at the 32nd ABU Intellectual Property & Legal Committee (IPLC), held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 22–23 July 2026.

Hosted by Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI), the conference brought together broadcasters, legal practitioners, policymakers and industry experts from across the Asia-Pacific under the theme “AI, Copyright & Royalties in the Digital Content Economy.”

Protecting Creativity in a Borderless World

As artificial intelligence transforms content creation and digital platforms reshape distribution, traditional concepts of ownership, copyright and compensation are being tested.

For broadcasters, intellectual property protection is no longer simply a legal obligation. It is essential to sustaining investment in original programming, safeguarding revenue and ensuring that creators receive appropriate recognition and compensation.

Throughout the conference, delegates explored the increasingly complex relationship between technological innovation and intellectual property rights.

Discussions examined emerging legal challenges surrounding AI-generated content, copyright protection, royalty arrangements and content monetisation, while highlighting the importance of regulations that can respond to rapidly evolving technologies.

Collaboration Beyond Legislation

The conversations extended beyond contracts and copyright laws to address a broader industry concern: how can broadcasters protect their creative investments while

embracing innovation?

Through presentations, panel discussions and knowledge exchange, participants considered practical approaches to strengthening intellectual property protection across an increasingly interconnected media landscape.

The conference also reinforced the importance of regional cooperation. With digital content crossing national boundaries almost instantly, collaboration between broadcasters, regulators and legal experts remains essential to addressing common challenges.

Recognising Excellence

The 32nd IPLC also celebrated members' contributions through the IPLC Awards, recognising good practices and achievements within the broadcasting community.

Following an independent evaluation, IRIB was named Winner, while Sarawak Media Group received the Runner-up award. TRT Türkiye was awarded a Certificate of Participation.

The awards provided an opportunity to acknowledge members' efforts, encourage knowledge sharing and celebrate initiatives supporting the wider broadcasting industry.

Protecting More Than Content

The successful conclusion of the Jakarta conference reaffirmed ABU's commitment to helping members navigate the changing legal and commercial realities of digital broadcasting.

As technology continues to advance faster than traditional regulatory frameworks, the need for informed dialogue, cooperation and forward-looking solutions becomes increasingly urgent.

Ultimately, intellectual property protection is about far more than ownership.

It is about ensuring that creativity retains its value, journalism retains its independence, and broadcasting retains the resources to inform, educate and inspire future generations.



ABU Robocon 2026: Where Young Minds Turn Ideas into Innovation

A robot may be built from circuits, sensors and steel, but behind every great invention is something far more powerful: human imagination.

From 21 to 25 August 2026, Hong Kong welcomed some of the region's brightest young engineering minds for ABU Robocon 2026, bringing together university teams, broadcasters and industry partners from 15 countries and regions.

More than a robotics competition, ABU Robocon is a celebration of creativity, problem-solving, teamwork and the determination to turn ambitious ideas into reality.

For participating students, the journey begins long before the competition. Months of designing, programming, testing and refining culminate in a challenge where every decision matters and every second counts.

The competition provides an opportunity for young innovators to demonstrate their technical abilities while learning from peers representing different cultures, educational systems and approaches to engineering.

Beyond the excitement of competition, ABU Robocon reflects the Union's commitment to connecting broadcasting with education, technology and youth development.

By bringing together universities, broadcasters and industry partners, the initiative encourages knowledge-sharing, strengthens regional friendships and provides a platform for the next generation of engineers to showcase their potential.

It also demonstrates the role broadcasters can play in inspiring young audiences, making science and engineering more accessible while celebrating the achievements of emerging talent.

Because ABU Robocon is not simply about which robot performs best. It is about the young people who dare to imagine, the teams who learn to overcome challenges and the ideas that may one day change the world.

Through ABU Robocon 2026, the Union continued to champion innovation, regional cooperation and the limitless possibilities that emerge when young minds are given the opportunity to shine. ▀

Beyond Broadcasting: ABU OTT Engineering Workshop Prepares Members for a Streaming Future



Audiences have changed the way they watch. Broadcasters are changing the way they deliver. And behind every seamless streaming experience is a world of technology working to make it possible.

From 11 to 13 August 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) brought media and engineering professionals together in Kuala Lumpur for its OTT Engineering Workshop, strengthening the technical expertise needed to navigate an increasingly digital broadcasting landscape.

As audiences move between traditional television, smartphones and connected devices, Over-the-Top (OTT) services have become an essential part of modern media delivery.

For broadcasters, however, successful streaming involves far more than making content available online. It requires reliable infrastructure, efficient content delivery, sound engineering decisions and the ability to maintain consistent quality across platforms.

The workshop provided a platform for participants to explore the technical considerations behind OTT operations, exchange practical knowledge and better understand the challenges associated with delivering content in a rapidly evolving digital environment.

From streaming technologies and distribution systems to operational efficiency and service reliability, the

programme reinforced the importance of building technical capabilities that support both innovation and audience expectations.

Equally valuable was the opportunity for participants to connect with fellow professionals, share experiences and learn from the different approaches being adopted across the region.

For ABU, technical capacity building remains central to supporting members through digital transformation. By providing opportunities for professional development and knowledge exchange, the Union helps broadcasters strengthen their capabilities and make more informed decisions about emerging technologies.

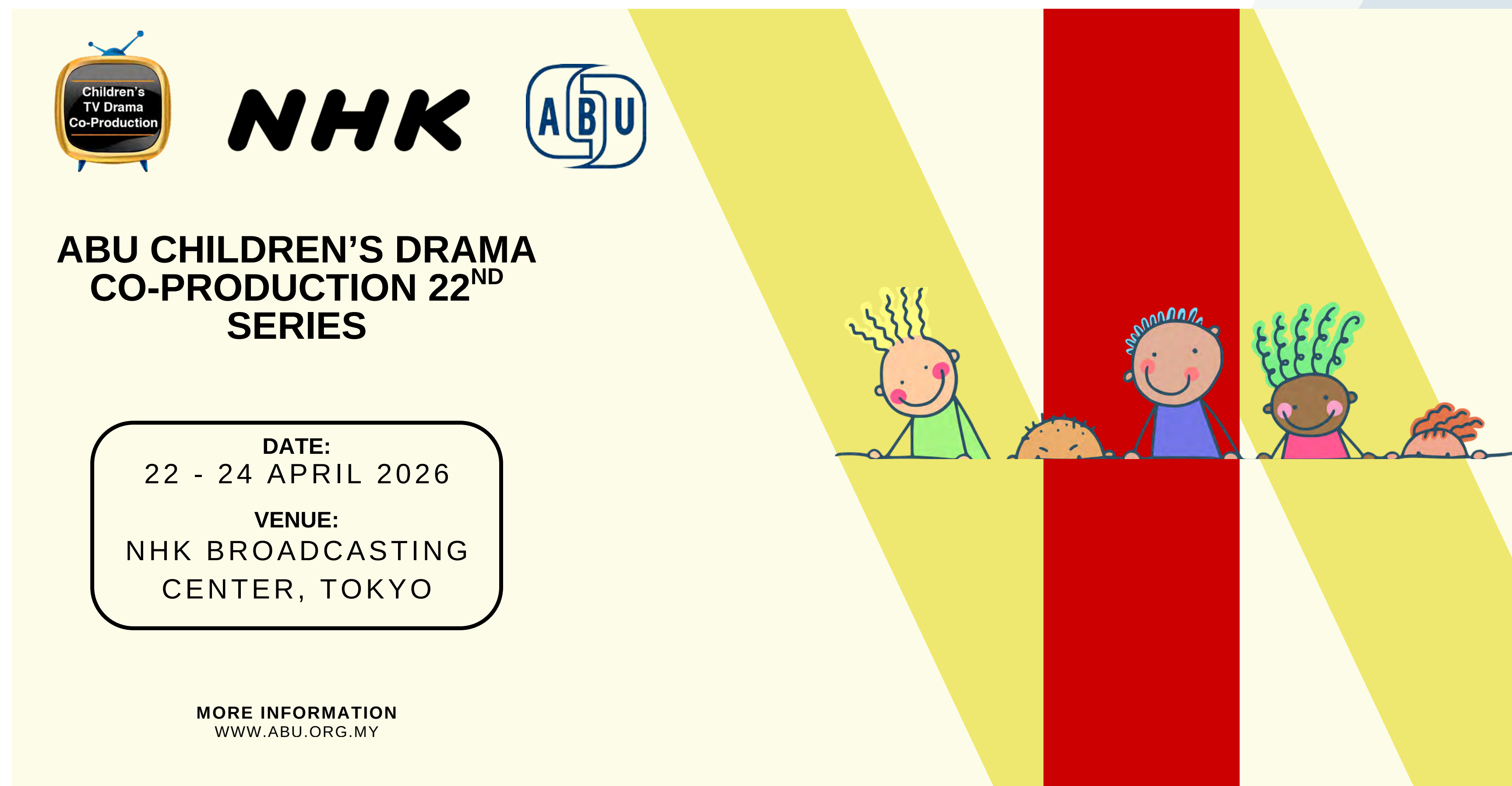
Because the future of broadcasting is not simply about reaching audiences on more screens. It is about having the expertise, infrastructure and confidence to deliver content wherever audiences choose to watch.

Through the OTT Engineering Workshop 2026, ABU continued to support a more connected, capable and future-ready broadcasting community.



Little Stories. Big Imaginations.

ABU Children's Drama Co-Production Connects Asia



A child's world is filled with curiosity, imagination and discovery. And sometimes, the simplest stories leave the biggest impressions

From 22 to 24 April 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in collaboration with NHK Japan, brought together 18 children's drama producers from nine countries and territories in Tokyo for the 21st and 22nd Series Meeting of the ABU Children's Drama Co-Production initiative.

Now in its 22nd series, the initiative continues to demonstrate how storytelling can transcend borders, bringing together creative minds to produce meaningful, entertaining and culturally diverse content for young audiences.

Centred on the theme “**Mental Growth**”, the programme encouraged producers to explore the everyday experiences, emotions and challenges of children aged seven to nine.

While united by a common theme, participants were encouraged to bring their own cultural perspectives and creative approaches to each production, ensuring that every story remained distinctive while conveying

messages children everywhere could understand.

Under the guidance of Executive Producer Kazuhiro Motoki of NHK Japan, eight completed dramas from the 21st series were screened, marking the conclusion of one creative journey and the beginning of another.

The meeting also introduced new story concepts for the 22nd series, allowing producers to exchange ideas, receive feedback and develop their projects through regional collaboration.

Professional development was another important element of the programme. Workshops explored global content trends, the challenges of reaching changing audiences and the power of sound design in creating emotionally engaging stories.

Participants also gained behind-the-scenes insights into television production through visits showcasing drama production techniques and Foley sound effects.

A memorable highlight was the **Producer's Choice Award**, presented to NHK Japan's Sumire Terai for *The Time Exchange*, recognising the production's creativity and emotional storytelling.

For ABU, the initiative goes beyond producing children's programmes. It nurtures creative talent, encourages cultural exchange and gives members opportunities to develop stories that resonate with young audiences across different countries.

Because while children may grow up speaking different languages and experiencing different cultures, the emotions that connect them — friendship, courage, kindness and discovery — are universal.

Through the Children's Drama Co-Production initiative, ABU continues to bring these shared experiences to life, one story at a time. ▀

Building Skills. Strengthening Broadcasters. Empowering the Region.

Throughout 2025–2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to invest in the professional development of its members through an extensive programme of capacity-building initiatives, workshops, webinars and specialised training.

Delivered across ABU departments and in collaboration with international partners, these activities addressed the changing needs of the broadcasting industry, equipping media professionals with practical knowledge, emerging technical skills and strategies to navigate an increasingly complex media landscape.

From artificial intelligence and digital transformation to journalism, content production, sports broadcasting, intellectual property and disaster preparedness, ABU's capacity-building efforts reflected its commitment to ensuring that members remain informed, adaptable and prepared for the future.

ABU Media Academy: Advancing Professional Development

The ABU Media Academy (AMA) remained central to the Union’s capacity-building efforts, delivering a diverse range of learning opportunities for broadcasters, journalists, content creators and media executives.

Its programmes addressed emerging industry priorities, including artificial intelligence, digital storytelling, social media engagement, copyright, environmental sustainability and media leadership.

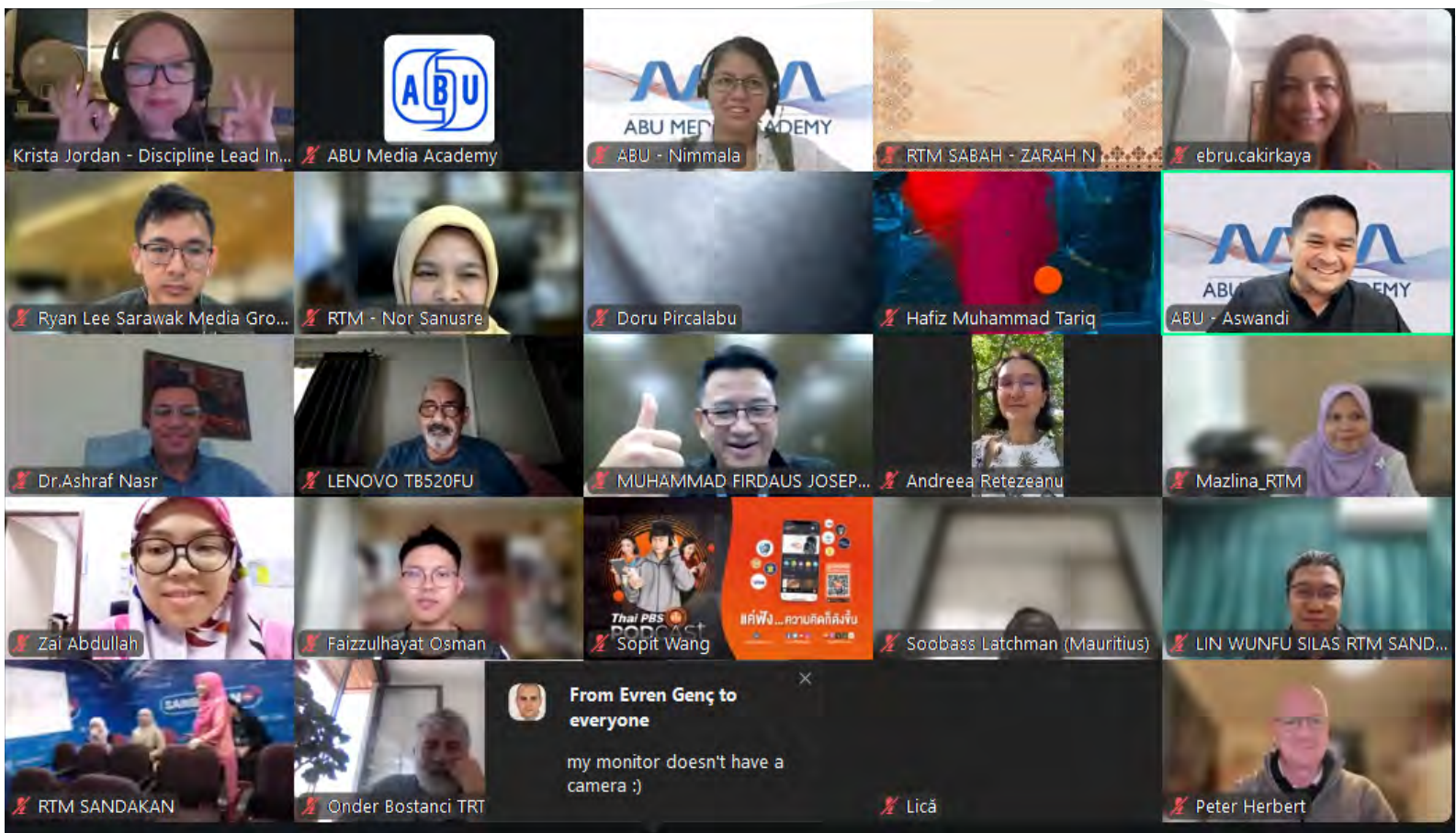
At its 12th Online Forum Meeting in September 2026, the Academy reported delivering 13 webinars over the preceding six months, attracting more than 1,100 registrations and 681 attendees from 41 countries.

A major highlight was the four-part AI webinar series conducted in partnership with the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS). Held between June and July 2026, the sessions explored practical applications of artificial intelligence in media production, editing and organisational workflows.

The series generated 532 registrations and 271 attendances, reflecting strong interest among members in understanding the opportunities and challenges presented by AI.

Other programmes examined copyright compliance, ESG considerations, social media strategies, digital news trends and the changing role of public service broadcasters.

Through these initiatives, the Academy continued to support professional growth, encourage knowledge-sharing and strengthen members’ ability to respond to evolving audience expectations and industry demands.



Technology and Innovation: Building Technical Expertise

The ABU Technology and Innovation Department continued to strengthen technical capabilities through specialised training, workshops and knowledge-sharing programmes.

The Engineering Fundamentals for Broadcasters programme remained an important initiative for developing the next generation of broadcast engineers. Its second Level 1 training batch, conducted from December 2025 to February 2026, selected 87 candidates from 15 member organisations.

The programme provided foundational engineering knowledge through structured learning modules, assessments and interactive sessions with industry experts.

The ABU Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS 2026), held in Kuala Lumpur from 30 March to 2 April, also provided significant learning opportunities. Four dedicated workshops explored synthetic media, 5G non-terrestrial networks, AI in audiovisual production and developments in audio and radio technologies.

Additional technical webinars addressed cellular communication networks, IP-based broadcast delivery and emerging distribution technologies.

In September 2026, the webinar “IP Delivery in Action — Glasgow 2026” examined practical lessons from ABU’s Commonwealth Games broadcast operations, including the use of internet-based delivery protocols and cost-effective distribution solutions.

These initiatives reinforced ABU’s commitment to helping members strengthen their technical infrastructure, improve operational efficiency and adopt emerging technologies with confidence.



Programming: Encouraging Creativity and Content Innovation

The ABU Programme Department continued to support creative development through workshops, masterclasses and collaborative production initiatives.

Training activities covered television, radio, documentary filmmaking, podcasting and digital content creation, encouraging members to explore new storytelling formats and strengthen production capabilities.

The Change Asia Rescue the Earth (CARE) documentary co-production initiative provided opportunities for filmmakers to exchange expertise, receive professional guidance and develop stories reflecting the region’s diverse cultures and communities.

CARE12, held in Melaka, Malaysia, in November 2025, included practical workshops and discussions led by experienced documentary professionals. The programme encouraged participants to refine their storytelling approaches while promoting cultural preservation and regional collaboration.

The subsequent CARE13 initiative continued this emphasis on professional development, with documentary masterclasses bringing together 38 participants.

The Department also supported podcasting development, audio storytelling and creative exchanges through initiatives designed to connect members with industry practitioners.

These activities demonstrated the importance of collaborative learning in developing compelling content, nurturing creative talent and supporting broadcasters in reaching audiences across multiple platforms.



News and Asiavision: Strengthening Journalism and Editorial Skills

The ABU News Department and Asiavision continued to promote professional development through initiatives addressing the challenges facing modern newsrooms.

Training activities explored mobile journalism, digital verification, responsible reporting, newsroom innovation and the impact of technological change on journalism.

Sessions on mental health in journalism highlighted the importance of supporting media professionals working under challenging conditions, while mobile journalism training encouraged broadcasters to adopt accessible, flexible and cost-effective reporting techniques.

In August 2026, the webinar “Mobile Journalism as a Catalyst for Change” brought together 48 participants, reflecting growing interest in mobile-first news production.

News-related capacity building also addressed copyright awareness, digital content distribution and the need to maintain editorial credibility in an environment increasingly influenced by artificial intelligence and misinformation.

Through these programmes, ABU continued to support journalists in developing practical skills while reinforcing the importance of accuracy, ethical reporting and public trust.



These activities complemented ABU's broader efforts to expand access to international sporting events, strengthen production capabilities and support sustainable sports broadcasting arrangements.

By combining legal expertise with practical broadcasting applications, ABU strengthened members' awareness of compliance requirements while supporting responsible innovation.

Partnerships and Cross-Departmental Training: Building Resilience and Inclusion

Collaboration between ABU departments and international partners remained an important feature of the Union's capacity-building activities.

Working with UNESCO, ABU delivered programmes addressing media and information literacy, disaster preparedness, gender equality, diversity and inclusion.

In December 2025, an ABU–UNESCO workshop supported Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) in developing its Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan for 2026–2028.

Another UNESCO-supported webinar introduced practical approaches to integrating media and information literacy into media organisations, helping broadcasters strengthen transparency, audience engagement and public confidence.

In May 2026, specialised training on media preparedness for disaster response supported broadcasters in improving organisational readiness and strengthening their ability to serve communities during emergencies.

These initiatives reflected ABU's wider responsibility to support not only technological and professional development but also the social, ethical and public service dimensions of broadcasting.

Looking Ahead: Learning That Creates Lasting Impact

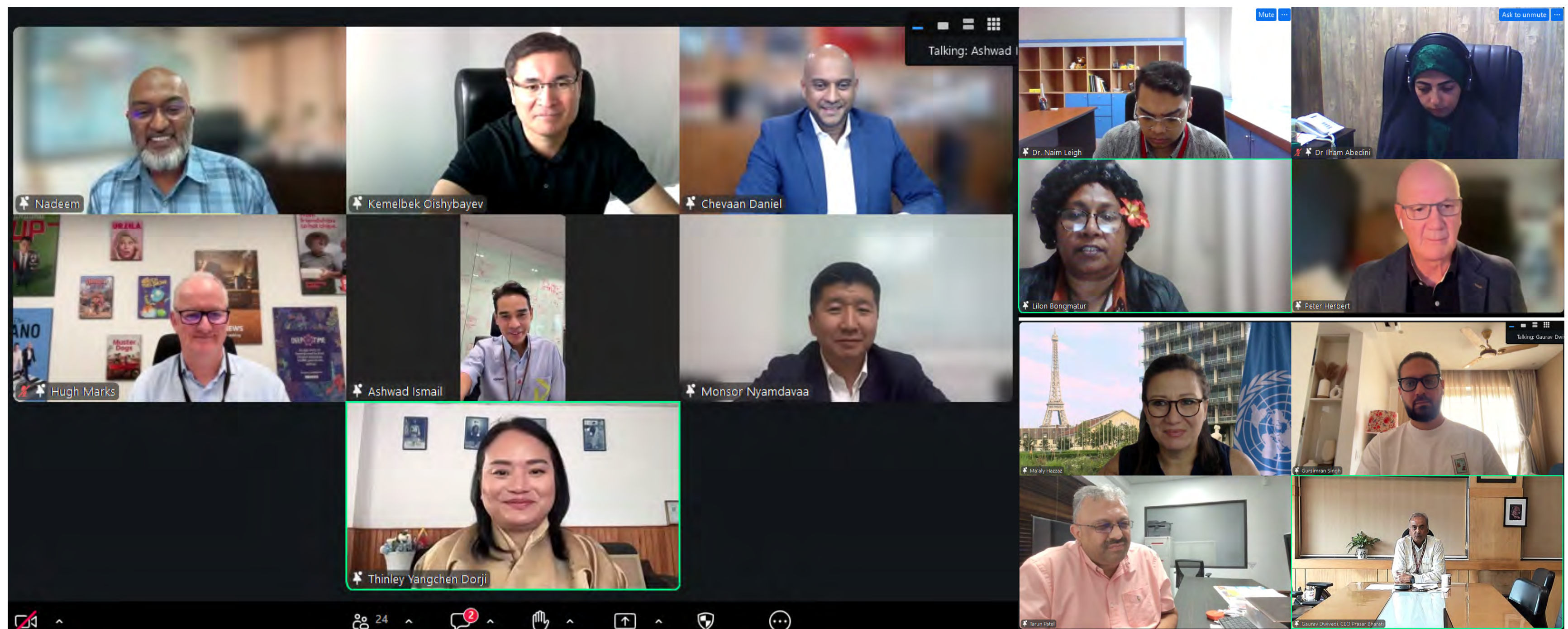
ABU's capacity-building activities throughout 2025–2026 demonstrated the value of sustained investment in people, professional expertise and regional cooperation.

Through departmental initiatives, specialised training and international partnerships, the Union continued to create opportunities for members to acquire practical skills, exchange experiences and strengthen their organisations.

As ABU moves into 2027, capacity building will remain an essential part of its commitment to member development, with greater emphasis on emerging technologies, collaborative learning and the evolving needs of the media industry.

By connecting knowledge with practical application, ABU continues to empower its members to innovate, adapt and deliver meaningful value to the audiences and communities they serve. 





ABU Opens a New Chapter in Industry Dialogue

In a world where audiences have more choices than ever, how can public media remain the voice people trust, the stories they connect with and the service they continue to value?

This question took centre stage on 20 August 2026 as the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) launched its **Media Futures Dialogue Series**, bringing together broadcasting leaders for an important conversation on the future of public media.

The inaugural online session, themed “*The Role of Public Broadcasters and Public Media in a Changing Media Landscape*”, featured representatives from ABC Australia, MTV Channels Sri Lanka, RTM Malaysia, MNB Mongolia and Khabar Agency Kazakhstan.

Together, they explored the realities facing public broadcasters as digital platforms reshape viewing habits, audiences become increasingly fragmented and competition for attention intensifies.

At the heart of the discussion was a fundamental challenge: **how can public media evolve without losing the trust, credibility and public service values that define its purpose?**

Participants examined the growing impact of misinformation and disinformation, the importance of safeguarding editorial independence and the need to connect with younger audiences who increasingly consume news and entertainment through digital platforms.

The conversation also challenged traditional measures of broadcasting success. While audience ratings remain important, public media’s contribution extends far beyond numbers. Its true value lies in informing communities, reflecting diverse voices, preserving cultural identities and ensuring that reliable information remains accessible to all.

For ABU, the dialogue marked the beginning of a wider exchange of ideas, experiences and practical approaches to help members navigate an increasingly complex media environment.

Because the future of public media is not simply about keeping pace with change. It is about remaining relevant without compromising purpose, embracing innovation without sacrificing trust and continuing to serve the communities that depend on it.

Through the Media Futures Dialogue Series, ABU is creating space for broadcasters to ask difficult questions, share valuable perspectives and work towards a stronger, more resilient future for public media across the Asia-Pacific. ▀

ABU AI Hub: Connecting Innovation, Knowledge and Trust

Artificial intelligence is transforming broadcasting at an extraordinary pace. But navigating this transformation requires more than access to new technology. It requires knowledge, collaboration and the confidence to use AI responsibly.

Recognising this need, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) introduced the **ABU AI Hub**, a digital platform designed to help member organisations share experiences, access practical guidance and explore the opportunities and challenges of artificial intelligence.

Guided by the motto “**Governing Intelligence, Securing Trust**,” the initiative brings together ABU’s AI Principles, legal guidance, member case studies and emerging industry practices in a shared online resource.

More than an information platform, the AI Hub is intended to become a collaborative space where broadcasters can learn from one another, exchange solutions and strengthen their approach to responsible AI adoption.

Turning Principles into Practice

Building on the ABU AI Principles, the Hub promotes four essential areas of responsible AI use: data security and sustainability; diversity and inclusion; ethics, transparency and accountability; and human oversight.

Together, these priorities encourage broadcasters to protect sensitive information, recognise and address algorithmic bias, clearly identify AI-generated content and ensure that human judgement remains central to editorial and creative decisions.

By connecting these principles with practical examples, the Hub aims to help members translate ethical commitments into everyday broadcasting practices.

Learning from Shared Experiences

One of the Hub’s greatest strengths lies in the collective knowledge of ABU’s membership.

As broadcasters experiment with AI in news production, programming, audience engagement and technical operations, their experiences can provide valuable lessons for organisations facing similar challenges.

The platform is designed to bring together contributions from ABU members, international partners and sister broadcasting unions, creating opportunities to share case studies, practical applications and emerging best practices.

It also provides access to legal briefings addressing issues such as copyright, data protection and accountability. These resources offer research-based guidance to help members better understand the legal considerations surrounding AI, while recognising that implementation remains the responsibility of individual organisations.

Supporting Members Through Change

For ABU, the introduction of the AI Hub reflects a broader commitment to helping broadcasters embrace technological progress without compromising editorial integrity or audience confidence.

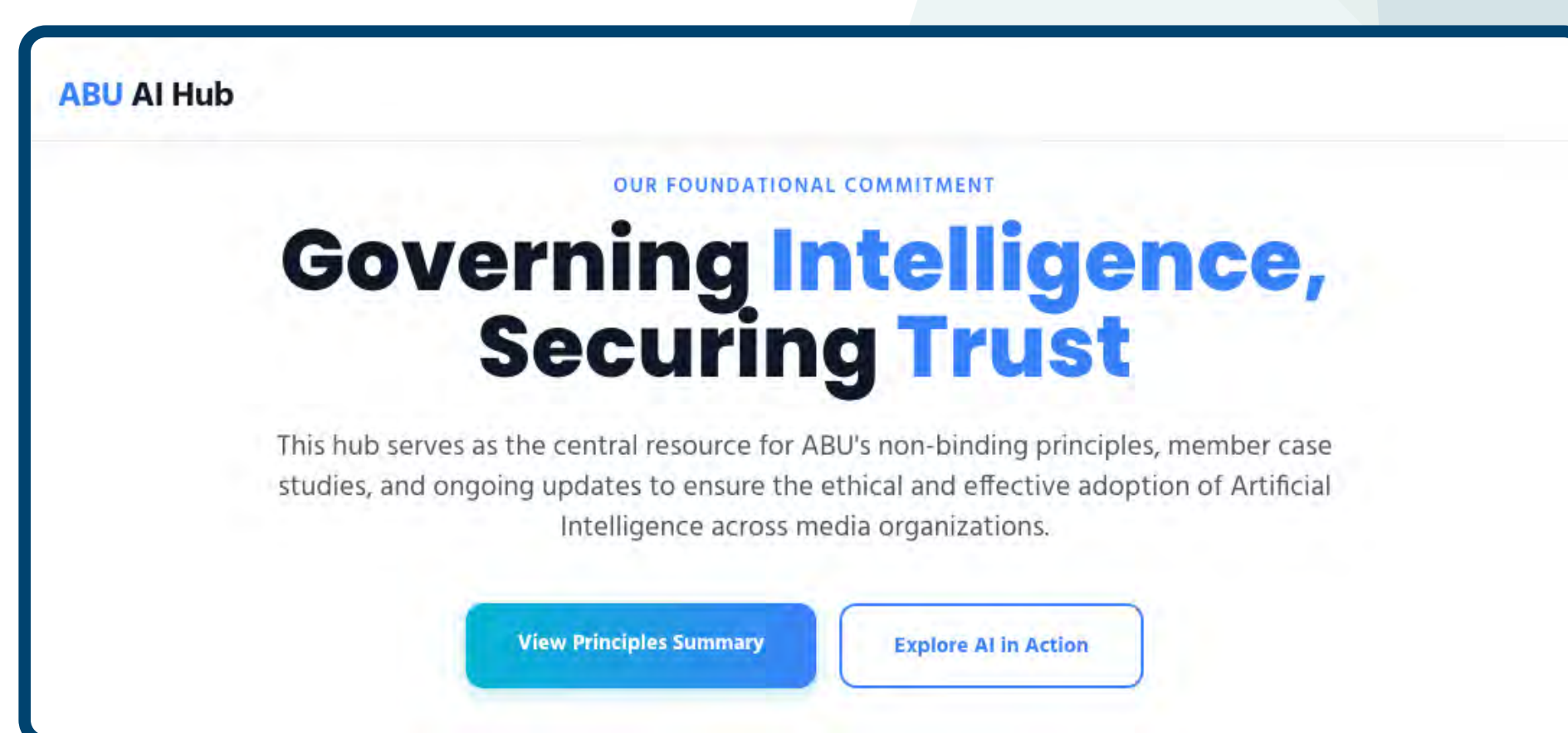
The initiative complements the Union’s ongoing training, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing efforts, providing members with another resource as they develop their own AI strategies.

ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem highlighted the significance of the initiative, emphasising that AI’s enormous potential must be harnessed in ways that strengthen, rather than undermine, public trust.

As the technology continues to evolve, the Hub is intended to grow alongside it, offering new insights, practical resources and opportunities for collaboration.

Because the future of AI in broadcasting should not be shaped by technology alone, but by the people, principles and shared knowledge that guide its use.

Through the ABU AI Hub, the Union continues to connect innovation with responsibility, helping members navigate a changing media landscape while keeping trust at the heart of broadcasting. ▀



ASIAVISION 2026: MORE STORIES. GREATER REACH. STRONGER CONNECTIONS.

Bringing the Region's Newsrooms Together Through the Power of Exchange

A story breaks in one country. Within moments, it can become news that matters to millions of people across the region. That is the power of Asiavision.

In a world where news moves at extraordinary speed, no newsroom can be everywhere at once. Yet audiences expect timely reporting, credible information and perspectives that help them understand events beyond their own borders.

For the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), Asiavision (AVN) has long been an important part of meeting that challenge. Through its international video news exchange, member broadcasters can contribute news coverage from their own countries while accessing stories shared by fellow members.

The principle is simple but powerful: **when broadcasters share their news, everyone gains a wider view of the world.**

And in 2026, that spirit of exchange continued to grow.

The Numbers Tell a Powerful Story

During the first nine months of 2026, Asiavision recorded 21,929 news uploads, averaging 2,437 items per month. This represented a 29.6% increase in monthly upload activity compared with 2025, when the average stood at 1,881.

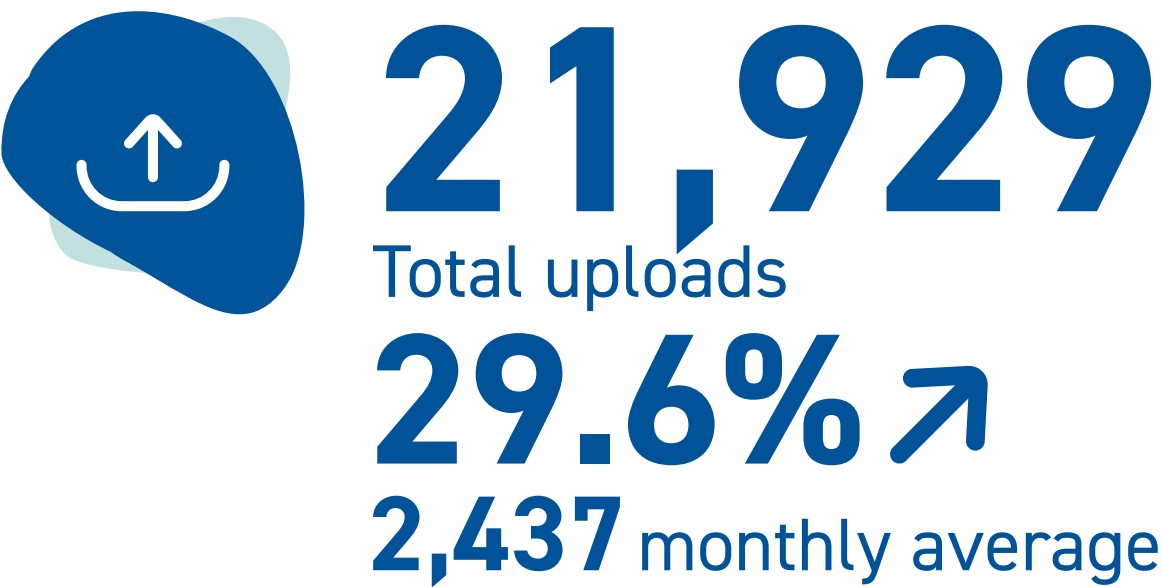
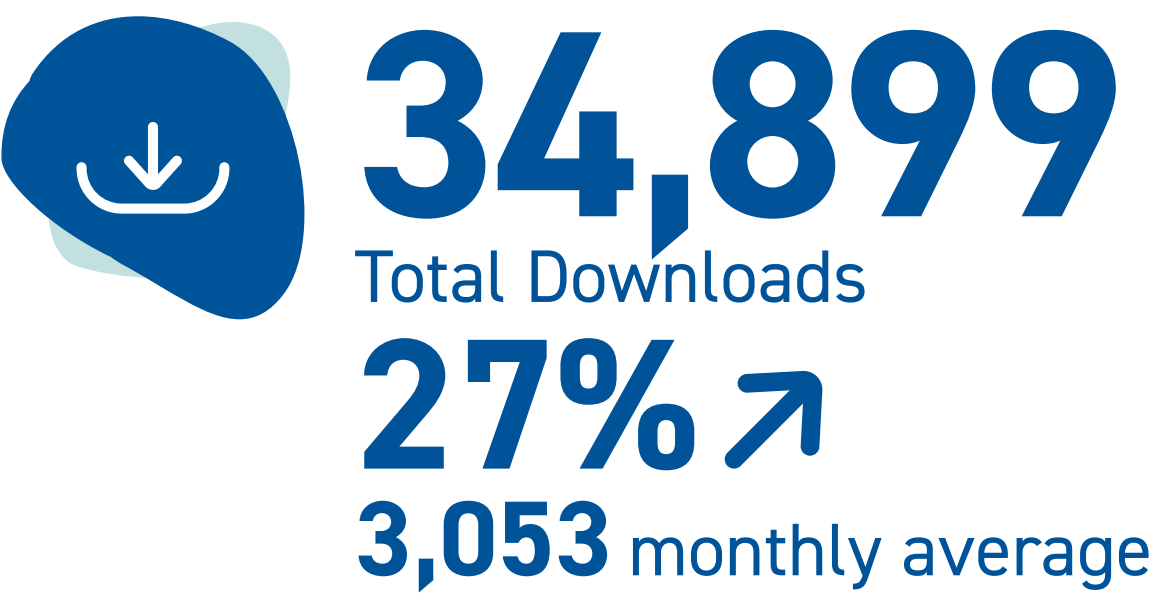
Demand grew alongside supply. Members recorded 34,899 downloads between January and September, averaging 3,878 per month, a 27% increase over the 2025 monthly average of 3,053.

The longer-term picture is equally encouraging. In 2024, Asiavision averaged 1,341 uploads and 2,389 downloads each month. By 2026, both figures had risen substantially, demonstrating the growing use of the exchange.

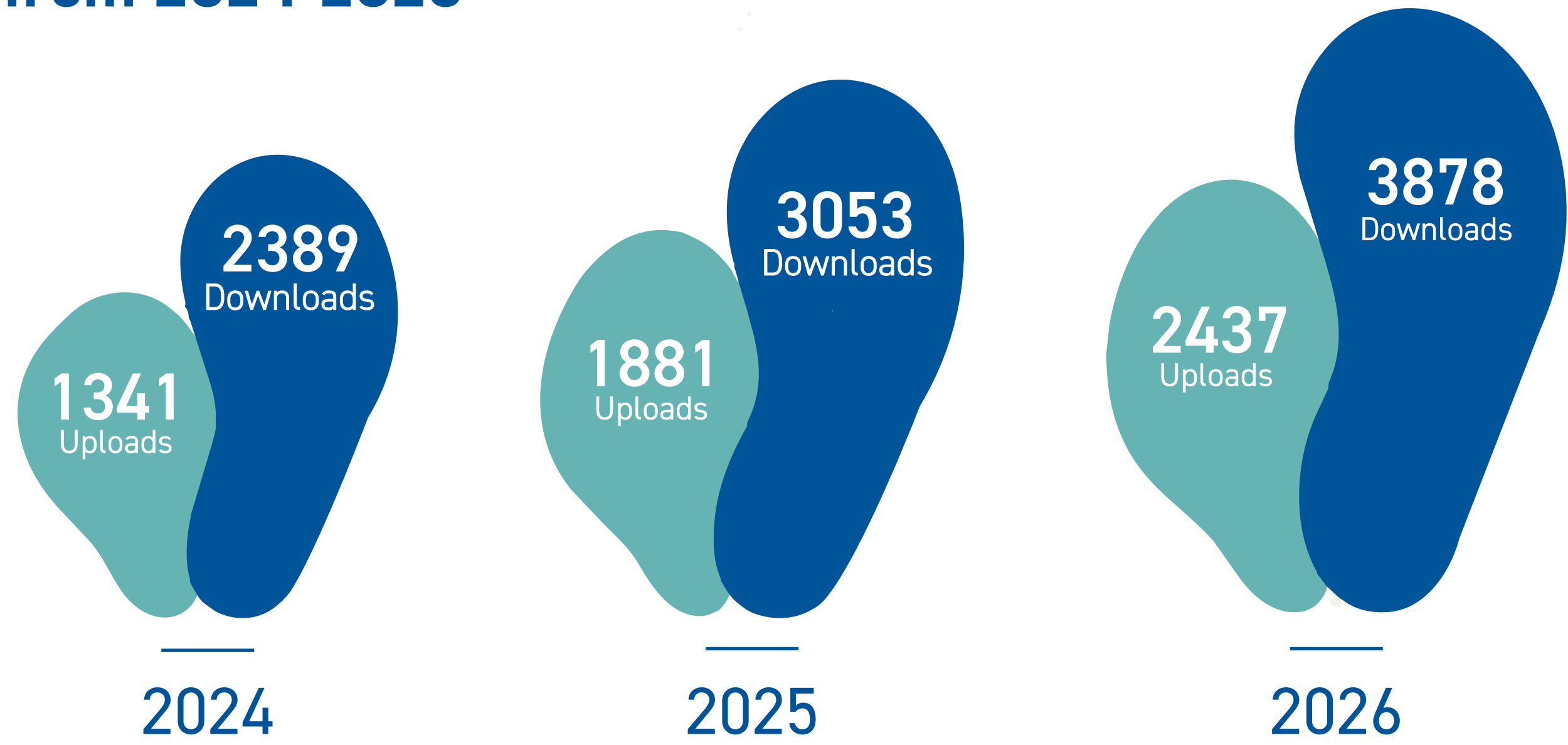
But behind these statistics lies something more meaningful than increased activity.

Every upload represents a story made available to fellow broadcasters. Every download represents an opportunity for that story to reach audiences beyond its original market.

January - September 2026



Monthly average uploads and downloads
from 2024-2026



One Region. Many Perspectives.

The Asia-Pacific is home to extraordinary diversity, and its news reflects that richness.

From major international developments and natural disasters to scientific discoveries, cultural celebrations and stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things, Asiavision gives members access to reporting that reflects the experiences and perspectives of different communities.

For smaller broadcasters in particular, the exchange provides a valuable means of accessing international news coverage without needing to maintain reporting teams in every country.

For contributing broadcasters, it creates opportunities for locally produced journalism to reach wider audiences and bring regional perspectives into international news coverage.

This is what makes Asiavision more than a digital content platform. It is a practical expression of cooperation among ABU members.

Beyond the Exchange

At a time when misinformation, fragmented audiences and pressure on newsroom resources are challenging journalism, cooperation between broadcasters has become increasingly important.

Asiavision helps strengthen that cooperation by connecting newsrooms, encouraging the sharing of reporting and making a wider range of perspectives available to participating members.

The continued growth in uploads and downloads during 2026 reflects both an expanding supply of content and increasing demand for the stories shared through the platform.

For ABU, these figures are encouraging because they demonstrate the value of a service built around mutual contribution and shared benefit.

A story contributed by one member becomes an opportunity for many. A perspective from one country can deepen understanding in another. And through every exchange, the broadcasting community becomes a little more connected.

As Asiavision continues to evolve, its purpose remains clear: to help members tell the stories that matter, bring the region’s diverse voices to wider audiences and strengthen international news cooperation.

Because when news travels across borders, understanding can travel with it.



Connecting Sport Across Borders: ASEN Strengthens Content Exchange in 2026

Great sporting moments deserve to travel beyond the stadium, beyond national borders and beyond the audiences who witnessed them first-hand.

Throughout 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to strengthen regional sports and entertainment content-sharing through its Sports & Entertainment Network (ASEN), providing members with a platform to exchange content, broaden programming opportunities and bring more diverse sporting stories to audiences.

ASEN serves as a collaborative exchange platform where participating broadcasters and partners can upload, access and distribute sports and entertainment content. From event highlights and sports news to magazine programmes and entertainment features, the platform helps members enrich their programming while extending the reach of content produced across the region.

690 Uploads. 521 Downloads. One Connected Network.

From October 2025 – September 2026, ASEN recorded 690 content uploads and 521 downloads, reflecting continued participation in the exchange of sports and entertainment programming.

These figures represent more than platform activity. Each upload contributes to a shared pool of content available to participating members, while every download represents an opportunity for broadcasters to explore stories, events and sporting achievements beyond their own markets.

For content-contributing members, ASEN provides an additional avenue to showcase their productions and extend their visibility. For broadcasters accessing the platform, it offers opportunities to diversify programming and discover content that may otherwise be difficult to obtain.

The value of ASEN lies in this two-way exchange, where members contribute to a collective resource while benefiting from the creativity, expertise and coverage of their regional counterparts.



Strengthening Collaboration Through Content

In an increasingly competitive media environment, access to relevant and engaging content remains essential. ASEN supports this need by encouraging cooperation rather than duplication, allowing members to share resources and expand their programming possibilities.

Beyond the exchange of sporting highlights, the platform also strengthens connections among broadcasters, creating opportunities for greater regional visibility and collaboration.

For ABU, ASEN reflects an important part of its commitment to delivering practical value to members through shared resources, stronger networks and wider access to content.

Because the power of sport lies not only in the moments that inspire audiences, but also in the ability to share those moments with the world.

Through ASEN, ABU continues to connect broadcasters, extend the reach of regional sporting stories and demonstrate how collaboration can create opportunities for every participating member. ▀



ABU Documentary Exchange: Sharing Stories Beyond Borders

Every country has stories worth telling. Stories of its people, cultures, challenges, achievements and the experiences that shape its identity. But the true power of a documentary lies in its ability to take those stories beyond the borders where they began.



In 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) introduced the ABU Documentary Exchange, a dedicated digital platform designed to strengthen documentary-sharing opportunities among its member organisations.

Overseen by the ABU Programme Department, the initiative provides a space where broadcasters can make documentary productions available for exchange, helping connect regional stories with wider audiences.

One Region. Countless Stories.

The Asia-Pacific is home to extraordinary cultural diversity, rich traditions and communities with experiences that deserve greater visibility.

Documentaries play an important role in preserving these perspectives, exploring social issues and encouraging audiences to understand lives beyond their own.

The ABU Documentary Exchange seeks to support this storytelling tradition by creating a central platform specifically for documentary content.

Unlike general content-sharing services, the platform is dedicated exclusively to documentaries, providing a focused environment for broadcasters seeking factual, cultural and educational programming.

Participating organisations can share their productions and explore documentaries contributed by fellow members, opening possibilities for wider distribution and programming diversity.

ABU provides the digital infrastructure, while copyright, licensing and any financial arrangements remain matters for direct agreement between contributing and receiving organisations.

This approach allows members to explore collaboration while retaining control over their intellectual property and distribution arrangements.

A New Chapter for Documentary Collaboration

The platform's introduction in 2026 represented an important development in ABU's efforts to encourage greater content exchange among its members.

Throughout the launch phase, the Programme Department established the necessary Terms and Conditions, created accounts for more than ten member organisations and engaged potential contributors on copyright and licensing requirements.

At the time of reporting, onboarding discussions were continuing, with initial documentary uploads scheduled as part of a three-month activation plan.

The plan targets an opening collection of 20 to 30 documentaries, followed by wider member engagement, introductory webinars and the development of a content request facility.

These steps are designed to encourage participation and establish a sustainable framework for future documentary exchange.

Giving Regional Stories a Wider Voice

For ABU members, the platform offers opportunities to showcase locally produced documentaries, discover perspectives from neighbouring countries and expand access to diverse programming.

It also reinforces the value of collaboration in an industry where compelling stories often have relevance far beyond their original audiences.

Because while stories may begin in one country, their ability to inform, inspire and connect people should never be limited by geography.

Through the ABU Documentary Exchange, the Union is laying the foundation for more regional stories to travel, more perspectives to be heard and more opportunities for members to share the experiences that make the Asia-Pacific unique. ▀

ABU Sound Works: Sharing Sounds. Inspiring Stories. Connecting Broadcasters.



Every great story has a sound behind it. From the gentle rhythm of falling rain to the energy of a bustling city, sound brings stories to life, evokes emotions and connects audiences to the world around them.

Recognising the importance of audio in creative production, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) introduced **ABU Sound Works (AMX)** in 2026, a digital exchange platform designed to strengthen collaboration and resource-sharing among its members.

Overseen by the ABU Programme Department, the platform provides a centralised digital space where participating broadcasters and media organisations can upload, manage, preview, request and access music and sound effects for use in their productions.

Whether creating radio programmes, television features, documentaries, dramas or podcasts, members can benefit from a shared collection of audio resources that supports creativity and expands production possibilities.

A Shared Resource for Creative Production

At its heart, ABU Sound Works is built on a simple principle: when broadcasters share resources, everyone has more opportunities to create.

The platform enables participating organisations to contribute original audio material while accessing resources made available by fellow members across the Asia-Pacific.

By bringing these materials together in one digital environment, AMX aims to simplify content discovery, encourage creative exchange and support broadcasters seeking practical production resources.

Importantly, contributing organisations retain ownership of their material, while copyright and usage requirements help safeguard intellectual property and promote responsible content-sharing.

Laying the Foundation for Collaboration

The introduction of ABU Sound Works marked an important step in the Programme Department's efforts to expand digital content exchange in 2026.

During its initial phase, the Department established the platform's Terms and Conditions, created accounts for more than ten member organisations and engaged prospective contributors in discussions about participation, copyright and licensing.

With members progressing through onboarding, the next phase focuses on developing an initial library of music and sound effects, expanding participation and encouraging regular use of the platform.

Plans include introductory webinars, wider member outreach and opportunities for broadcasters to contribute and request content according to their production needs.

These efforts are intended to establish AMX as a practical, member-driven resource that grows through continued participation.

Creating More Possibilities Through Sound

For ABU members, the value of Sound Works extends beyond convenient access to audio files. It represents an opportunity to share creative expertise, make better use of existing resources and strengthen connections among broadcasters.

By encouraging organisations to contribute to a common library, the initiative supports a culture of cooperation in which members can both share their work and benefit from the contributions of others.

Because great storytelling is not only about what audiences see. It is also about what they hear, what they feel and the moments that stay with them long after a programme ends.

Through ABU Sound Works, the Union is laying the foundation for a more connected creative community, where shared resources can inspire new ideas and help broadcasters bring their stories to life. ▀

Finance Commentary

Financial Performance for the Six Months Ended 31 December 2025

For the six months ended 31 December 2025, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) recorded total income of USD1.91 million and total expenditure of USD1.76 million, resulting in a surplus before taxation of USD149,914. Following the recognition of tax expenses amounting to USD841,275, primarily relating to prior years, the Union recorded a deficit of USD691,361 for the period.

ABU continued to derive its income primarily from membership subscriptions and interest earned on bank deposits, supplemented by other income. During the period, membership subscriptions contributed USD1.11 million, while interest income amounted to approximately USD384,500. The financial results also included foreign exchange gains of approximately USD413,700 and a provision for doubtful debts of USD665,833.

Despite the deficit recorded for the period, ABU maintained a sound financial position as at 31 December 2025, with total assets of USD24.80 million and accumulated reserves of USD22.89 million. Cash and cash equivalents stood at USD22.78 million, providing liquidity to support the Union's operations, activities and financial commitments.

Moving forward, the Union will continue to emphasise prudent financial management, effective resource allocation and the strengthening of financial controls to support its activities and long-term sustainability.

BALANCE SHEET

All figures in USD	As at	As at
	31.12.2025	30.06.2025
	<i>Audited</i>	<i>Unaudited</i>
Fixed Assets	148,619	137,992
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank Equivalents	22,777,083	22,241,139
Accounts Receivable and Accruals	1,874,672	2,610,719
Total Current Assets	24,651,755	24,851,858
Total Assets	24,800,374	24,989,850
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payables and Accrued Expenses	1,436,589	915,057
Grants Received for ABU Projects	375,133	407,181
Sports Events Completed and In Progress	95,533	83,132
Total Current Liabilities	1,907,255	1,405,370
Net Current assets	22,744,500	23,446,488
	22,893,119	23,584,480
Union’s Reserve		
General Reserves	22,893,119	23,584,480
Total Reserve	22,893,119	23,584,480
Total Liabilities and Reserve	24,800,374	24,989,850

Notes
As at 31 December 2025, ABU maintained a sound financial position, with total assets of USD24.80 million and accumulated reserves of USD22.89 million. Cash and cash equivalents stood at USD22.78 million, providing a strong liquidity position to support the Union’s ongoing operations and activities.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

All figures in USD	For the periods ended	
	31.12.2025 (6 months)	30.06.2025 (12 months)
	<i>Audited</i>	<i>Unaudited</i>
Members' Subscription Fees	1,114,689	2,349,335
Interest Received	384,534	862,303
Revenue from ABU Activities	-	416
Other Income	-	-
Total Operating Income	1,499,223	3,212,054
ABU Activities	177,075	144,627
Staff Costs	742,624	1,356,360
Travel Costs	45,338	76,755
Provision for Doubtful Debts	665,833	25,484
Bad Debt written off	30,131	159,064
Professional plus Audit Fees	19,709	47,810
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	21,449	39,963
Other Office Expenses	60,832	113,252
Total Operating Expenses	1,762,991	1,963,315
Foreign Exchange (Gains)/Loss	(413,682)	(936,859)
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	149,914	2,185,598
Taxation	(841,275)	-
Surplus/(Deficit) after tax	(691,361)	2,185,598

Notes

For the six months ended 31 December 2025, ABU recorded total income of USD1.91 million and total expenditure of USD1.76 million, resulting in a surplus of USD149,914 before taxation. Following the recognition of taxation expenses amounting to USD841,275, the Union recorded a net deficit of USD691,361 for the period. The financial results reflect the Union's continued operations and activities, alongside the impact of tax provisions relating to prior years.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in USD	For the periods ended	
	31.12.2025	30.06.2025
	<i>6 months ended</i>	<i>12 months ended</i>
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Surplus of income over expenditure, before tax	149,914	2,185,598
Adjustment for:		
Provision for Doubtful Debts	665,833	25,484
Bad Debt written off	30,131	159,064
Depreciation	21,449	39,963
Equipment written off	-	1,082
Interest Income	(384,095)	(860,617)
Net unrealised foreign exchange loss	(413,431)	(941,845)
Staff Gratuities Benefits Provisions	5,093	57,103
Operating Profit Before Working Capital Changes	74,894	665,832
Decrease/(Increase) in :		
Receivables from members	38,255	(442,698)
Sundry debtors, deposits and prepayments	11,385	36
Staff loan and advances	1,148	13,990
Grant Receivable	(10,705)	-
Increase/(Decrease) in :		
Sundry Creditors, provisions and accruals	24,535	(12,991)
Subscription in advance	(259,932)	(91,494)
Grant Received	(32,048)	55,926
Other minor games	12,401	(51,713)
Cash (Used In)/ Generated From Operating Activities	(140,067)	136,888
Gratuities paid	(53,717)	(77,479)
Tax paid	(35,722)	-
Net Cash (Used In)/Generated From Operating Activities	(229,506)	59,409
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Interest Received	384,095	860,617
Purchase of equipment	(32,076)	(15,129)
Net Cash Generated From Investing Activities	352,019	845,488
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	122,513	904,897
Effect on exchange rate changes on bank balances	413,431	941,845
Cash and Bank Equivalents at beginning of period	22,241,139	20,394,397
Cash and Bank Equivalents at end of period	22,777,083	22,241,139
Cash and cash equivalent comprise :		
Cash and bank balances	642,828	902,440
Deposits with licensed banks	22,134,255	21,338,699
	22,777,083	22,241,139

Notes

For the six months ended 31 December 2025, ABU recorded net cash used in operating activities of USD229,506, offset by net cash generated from investing activities of USD352,019. Together with the favourable impact of exchange rate movements, cash and cash equivalents increased from USD22.24 million to USD22.78 million. The Union maintained a strong liquidity position to support its ongoing operations and activities.

Partnerships That Create Possibilities: ABU Strengthens Global Collaboration

A signature may formalise a partnership, but its true value lies in the opportunities it creates and the people it brings together.

Throughout 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to strengthen its network of international partnerships, building on existing agreements while forging new collaborations in media education, sports broadcasting, content exchange and professional development.

These partnerships reflect ABU's commitment to delivering meaningful opportunities for its members and connecting the broadcasting community across borders.

Investing in Future Media Talent

On 8 July 2026, ABU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **University of Wollongong Malaysia (UOWM)** during ABU CON-FEST 2026.

The agreement establishes opportunities for joint academy courses, professional training, applied research and knowledge-sharing, bridging the gap between academic learning and the practical demands of the broadcasting industry.

Strengthening International Media Connections

On 22 August 2026, ABU formalised a landmark MoU with the **Information Services Department (ISD) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government**.

The agreement, the first of its kind between ISD and a regional broadcasting union, creates opportunities for media exchanges, editorial visits, access to verified information and joint industry events through 2027.

Expanding Opportunities Through Sport

ABU also strengthened its engagement with the international sporting community through a strategic agreement with the **World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC)**, announced in May 2026.

The collaboration focuses on expanding the reach of baseball and softball broadcasting, strengthening content distribution and creating opportunities for broadcasters to connect with wider sporting audiences.

Building on Partnerships Established in 2025

Two significant agreements signed in 2025 continued to form part of ABU's international cooperation framework in 2026.

The MoU with **Badminton Asia**, signed on 17 November 2025, established a foundation for closer cooperation in sports broadcasting, supporting opportunities to enhance the visibility and reach of badminton across the region.

Meanwhile, the agreement with the **Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU)**, signed on 21 October 2025, strengthened cooperation in news exchange and information-sharing between the two broadcasting unions, encouraging greater collaboration and access to diverse regional perspectives.

Together, these agreements demonstrate how partnerships established in previous years can continue to support ABU's wider ambitions.

Turning Agreements into Opportunities

From nurturing future media professionals to strengthening sports coverage and international news exchange, ABU's partnerships reflect a shared commitment to progress.

Because the success of a partnership is not measured by the signatures on a document, but by the knowledge shared, the opportunities created and the lasting value delivered to members.

Through new agreements and established relationships, ABU continues to build bridges that connect organisations, strengthen capabilities and create possibilities for the broadcasting community.



Strengthening Leadership and Collaboration: ABU Vice-President Zhou Jihong Visits Secretariat

Strong organisations are built on shared vision, committed leadership and the relationships that bring people together towards a common purpose.

On 9 December 2025, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) welcomed its Vice-President, Ms Zhou Jihong, Director-General of the International Cooperation Department of China's National Radio and Television Administration (NRTA), for a courtesy visit to the ABU Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur.

During her visit, Ms Zhou met with ABU Secretary-General Mr Ahmed Nadeem and members of the Secretariat team, providing an opportunity to reflect on the Union's achievements and discuss its priorities for the year ahead.

Mr Nadeem presented an overview of ABU's key activities and milestones throughout 2025, highlighting the Union's ongoing efforts to strengthen member engagement, encourage industry collaboration and support the evolving needs of the broadcasting community.

The discussions also looked ahead to 2026, focusing on priority initiatives, collaborative projects and opportunities to deepen relationships with members and international partners.

As ABU continues to navigate a rapidly changing media landscape, the importance of strong leadership and meaningful cooperation remains central to its mission. The visit reinforced the value of maintaining close engagement between the Union's leadership and Secretariat in advancing shared objectives.

Ms Zhou's continued support and commitment to ABU reflect the collective responsibility of its leadership in guiding the organisation's development and strengthening its role as a platform for regional and international broadcasting cooperation.

More than a courtesy visit, the meeting was a reaffirmation of shared purpose, strengthening the relationships and collective commitment that will continue to guide ABU's work in 2026 and beyond. ▀

Bridging Education and Industry: ABU and UOW Malaysia Forge New Partnership



The future of broadcasting depends not only on advancing technology, but also on developing the people who will shape it.

On 8 July 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the University of Wollongong Malaysia (UOWM) took an important step towards nurturing the next generation of media talent with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during **ABU CON-FEST 2026** in Kuala Lumpur.

Formalised by ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem and UOWM Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Professor Dr Hiew Pang Leang, the agreement establishes a framework for closer collaboration in media education, professional development and industry engagement.

At the heart of the partnership is a shared ambition to **bridge the gap between academic knowledge and real-world broadcasting experience**, ensuring that both aspiring and established media professionals are equipped with the skills needed in a rapidly evolving industry.

The collaboration will explore joint academy courses, specialised training programmes, capacity-building initiatives, applied research and knowledge exchange, bringing academic expertise and practical industry experience closer together.

For ABU members, the partnership presents opportunities to access relevant professional learning, strengthen industry capabilities and benefit from new approaches to media education.

Beyond the classroom, the agreement also creates a foundation for meaningful exchanges between educators, researchers and broadcasting professionals, encouraging fresh ideas and closer alignment between industry needs and academic programmes.

By connecting education with industry experience, ABU and UOW Malaysia are investing in more than professional development. They are helping build a stronger talent pipeline and preparing media professionals for the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow. ▀

ABU and Hong Kong Strengthen Ties Through Media Cooperation



Strong partnerships open doors to new opportunities, bringing people, ideas and stories closer together across borders.

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) welcomed Mr John Tse Chun Chung, Hong Kong's Director of Information Services, to its Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur for discussions aimed at strengthening long-term media cooperation.

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, creating opportunities for greater content exchange and access to regional developments.

The discussions also explored the possibility of hosting future ABU workshops and major industry events in Hong Kong, opening new avenues for professional engagement, knowledge-sharing and collaboration among broadcasters.

The visit came ahead of **ABU Robocon 2026**, held in Hong Kong from 21 to 25 August. Bringing together university engineering teams, broadcasters and industry partners from 15 countries and regions, the competition demonstrated how innovation, creativity and regional cooperation can connect the next generation of talent.

Mr Tse also extended an invitation to media professionals across the ABU network to visit Hong Kong and gain firsthand insights into the city's latest developments, encouraging greater understanding and opportunities for regional storytelling.

For ABU, the engagement reflected its continued commitment to building partnerships that deliver meaningful opportunities for members, from improved access to information and content to professional development and international networking.

More than a courtesy visit, the meeting laid the groundwork for closer collaboration, stronger media connections and new opportunities to bring Hong Kong's stories and perspectives to audiences across the Asia-Pacific.



Beijing and Singapore Delegations Visit ABU

On 19 May 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur welcomed a delegation from Beijing and Singapore, opening new conversations on technology, creative collaboration and the future of broadcasting.

Ms Nargiza Numanova, Head of the Secretary-General's Office, and members of the Secretariat welcomed the delegation, providing an overview of ABU's activities and opportunities for greater regional cooperation.

Led by Mr Han Xinxing of the Beijing Municipal Radio and Television Bureau, discussions explored potential collaboration in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, technology exchange, content co-production and regional storytelling. The delegation highlighted China's technological advancements and the opportunities these could create for broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific.

Mr Tony Tang, Chief Financial Officer of G.H.Y Culture & Media, Singapore, introduced the Asian Screen Institute and expressed interest in working with ABU to strengthen professional development and industry skills. Discussions included a potential partnership built around three pillars: foundation, expansion and global impact.

Meanwhile, Ms Li Jia, Deputy Director of the Communication Department of the CPC Beijing Dongcheng District Committee, highlighted the power of film and television in showcasing cultural heritage while embracing modern storytelling and innovation.

For ABU, the visit reinforced the importance of connecting members and industry partners with opportunities that extend beyond traditional broadcasting, particularly in emerging technologies, talent development and international content collaboration.

More than an exchange of ideas, the visit reflected a shared ambition to turn innovation into opportunity, strengthen cross-border partnerships and build a more connected, creative and future-ready broadcasting community. ▀



RTA Delegation Visits ABU Secretariat

Stronger broadcasting communities are built through dialogue, shared knowledge and a willingness to work together.

On 23 January 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Secretariat welcomed Hedayatullah Hedayat, Deputy Director General of Radio Television Afghanistan (RTA), for a courtesy visit aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two organisations.

During his meeting with ABU Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem and members of the Secretariat team, discussions centred on Afghanistan's broadcasting landscape, its evolving challenges and opportunities for greater collaboration.

ABU highlighted its continued commitment to supporting member broadcasters through professional training, knowledge-sharing and content exchange, providing opportunities to strengthen capabilities and learn from regional experiences.

Both organisations also explored potential initiatives in technical support, capacity building and collaborative projects that could contribute to RTA's continued development.

The visit reaffirmed ABU's commitment to placing members at the heart of its work, fostering meaningful partnerships and creating opportunities for broadcasters across the Asia-Pacific to grow stronger together. ▀



Cambodian Delegation Visits ABU Secretariat

Every meaningful partnership begins with dialogue, and every exchange of knowledge creates new opportunities for progress.

On 13 January 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur welcomed a delegation from Cambodia's Ministry of Information for a courtesy visit aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing.

During the meeting, Dr Veysel Binbay, ABU's Director of Technology & Innovation, provided an overview of the Union's activities, highlighting its commitment to supporting member broadcasters through capacity building, professional development and regional knowledge exchange.

The Cambodian delegation shared valuable insights into the country's evolving broadcasting landscape, particularly the challenges and opportunities surrounding its digital migration. Discussions also explored emerging broadcasting technologies and the importance of equipping media organisations with the knowledge and expertise needed to navigate an increasingly digital environment.

The exchange highlighted the value of regional partnerships in addressing shared industry challenges, allowing broadcasters to learn from one another's experiences while exploring practical approaches to technological advancement.

For ABU, the visit provided another opportunity to better understand the needs of broadcasters in Cambodia and reaffirm its commitment to supporting members through training, technical knowledge-sharing and regional events.

The visit underscored a simple but important message: progress in broadcasting is stronger when knowledge is shared, partnerships are nurtured and members move forward together. ▀



NBT Delegation Strengthens Ties with ABU Secretariat

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Secretariat welcomed a distinguished delegation from the National Broadcasting Services of Thailand (NBT) during their recent visit to Kuala Lumpur, marking another meaningful step in reinforcing regional collaboration among broadcasters.

The delegation was led by the Director-General of Thailand's Government Public Relations Department, Ms Sudruetai Lertkasem. The visit served as a valuable platform for open dialogue and strategic exchange, with both parties engaging in constructive discussions on existing collaborations while identifying new avenues for partnership. Central to these conversations was the continued strengthening of cooperation in areas such as news exchange, professional development, and active participation in ABU's flagship initiatives, including its training programmes, conferences, and regional forums.

Beyond operational collaboration, the engagement also reflected a shared commitment to addressing the evolving challenges faced by broadcasters in today's dynamic media landscape. The NBT delegation held in-depth discussions with various ABU teams on critical topics such as crisis and disaster reporting, digital transformation strategies, and content innovation.

These areas are increasingly shaping how broadcasters respond to audience expectations while maintaining credibility and public trust across the Asia-Pacific region. The visit highlighted the importance of adaptability and collaboration in an industry undergoing rapid change. Both ABU and NBT acknowledged the need to continuously evolve, not only in terms of technology adoption but also in how content is created, distributed, and consumed.

The exchange of perspectives during the visit reinforced the value of regional cooperation in navigating these shifts collectively. Reaffirming its role as a convener and enabler for its Members, ABU emphasised its ongoing commitment to providing platforms that facilitate knowledge sharing, encourage innovation, and support capacity building across the broadcasting community.

Engagements such as this play a vital role in ensuring that ABU's initiatives remain relevant, impactful, and aligned with the realworld needs of its Members. Ahmed Nadeem, Secretary-General of ABU, expressed his appreciation to the NBT delegation for what he described as a highly productive and forward-looking exchange.

He noted that such interactions are essential in deepening partnerships and fostering stronger regional ties, and he looked forward to building on this momentum in future collaborations.

The visit ultimately underscored a shared vision between ABU and NBT: to strengthen the broadcasting ecosystem across the Asia-Pacific through cooperation, innovation, and a collective commitment to excellence. ▀

Building Bridges Beyond Borders: ABU Strengthens Global Broadcasting Partnerships

Broadcasting may serve different regions, cultures and audiences, but the challenges facing the industry are increasingly shared. And so are the opportunities to overcome them.



Throughout 2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) continued to strengthen its relationships with fellow regional broadcasting unions, reinforcing the importance of international cooperation, knowledge exchange and collective progress.

Under the leadership of Secretary-General Ahmed Nadeem, ABU's engagement with the African Union of Broadcasting (AUB) and the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) reflected a commitment to building stronger connections between broadcasting communities across Asia, Africa and the Arab world.

Strengthening Ties with Africa

On 16–17 April 2026, Mr Nadeem participated in the 17th General Assembly of the African Union of Broadcasting in Banjul, The Gambia.

The gathering provided an opportunity for broadcasting leaders to exchange perspectives on the challenges facing the industry and explore opportunities for greater cooperation between regional organisations.

ABU's participation reaffirmed the importance of strengthening relationships with African broadcasters,

particularly in areas such as content exchange, professional development and shared industry expertise.

By maintaining these international connections, ABU continues to create opportunities for collaboration that can benefit its members while encouraging greater understanding between broadcasting communities.

Advancing Cooperation with the Arab World

ABU's relationship with ASBU represents another important dimension of its international engagement.

In December 2025, Mr Nadeem participated in a joint meeting of regional broadcasting unions held during ASBU's 45th General Assembly in Tunis, Tunisia.

His participation highlighted opportunities for closer cooperation in broadcasting technology and news exchange, including the development of more integrated systems for sharing news content between regional organisations.

Building on these discussions, ABU continued its cooperation with ASBU in 2026, including through joint technical knowledge-sharing initiatives.

The relationship reflects a shared recognition that collaboration between broadcasting unions can help members navigate technological developments, strengthen access to information and develop more connected media networks.

One Industry. Shared Ambitions.

Although operating in different parts of the world, ABU, AUB and ASBU share a commitment to supporting their members and advancing the broadcasting industry.

Through international dialogue and ongoing cooperation, these relationships provide opportunities to exchange expertise, identify common priorities and explore collaborative solutions to emerging challenges.

For ABU, such engagements are an important extension of its member-focused mission, helping connect the Asia-Pacific broadcasting community with partners and perspectives beyond the region.

Because the future of broadcasting cannot be shaped by one region alone. It will be built through the ideas we exchange, the partnerships we strengthen and the opportunities we create together. ▀

Building Resilient Media Through ABU–UNESCO Collaboration

When disaster strikes, information is more than news. It is a lifeline.

Across Asia, the growing frequency and intensity of natural disasters have made one thing increasingly clear: communities need media organisations that are prepared, responsive and trusted.

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) reported that 2015–2025 was the warmest decade on record, with 2025 ranking among the three hottest years. Rising ocean temperatures, increasing sea levels and more extreme weather events serve as stark reminders of the challenges facing communities across the region.

In this changing environment, broadcasters have a responsibility that extends far beyond reporting what has happened. They must help people understand what is coming, how to prepare and where to turn when every second matters.

Recognising this responsibility, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in partnership with UNESCO, is implementing a regional initiative to strengthen media capacity in disaster risk reduction and climate action across South and Southeast Asia.

Bringing together broadcasters from **Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam**, the project focuses on equipping media organisations with the knowledge, skills and systems needed to respond effectively before, during and after emergencies.

Turning Preparedness into Action

At the heart of the initiative is the development of institutional **Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans (DPRPs)**.

These are more than documents sitting on a shelf. They are practical tools designed to help newsrooms continue operating during emergencies, verify information under pressure and

communicate clearly when audiences need reliable guidance most.

Through needs assessments, specialised training and ongoing mentoring, participating broadcasters are strengthening their ability to respond with confidence, accuracy and speed.

Equally important is the role of media before a disaster occurs.

By improving climate reporting, raising awareness of potential risks and helping communities understand preparedness measures, broadcasters can move beyond reacting to emergencies and become active partners in prevention.

Stronger Together, Across Borders

Disasters do not recognise national boundaries, and effective communication should not be limited by them.

The initiative encourages broadcasters to share expertise, exchange resources and explore opportunities for collaborative content production. This regional approach helps strengthen the flow of trusted information while building a network of media organisations better equipped to support one another during crises.

Participating organisations also receive targeted assistance to translate their learning into practical newsroom improvements, including climate reporting initiatives and disaster-focused programming.

For ABU, the collaboration reflects its wider commitment to delivering meaningful support to members, strengthening professional capabilities and ensuring that broadcasters remain

essential sources of trusted public information.

Because when communities face their most difficult moments, the value of a prepared newsroom cannot be measured simply in stories broadcast or bulletins delivered. It is measured in people informed, communities protected and lives potentially saved.

Through its partnership with UNESCO, ABU is helping build a broadcasting community that is not only better prepared for tomorrow's challenges but also better equipped to protect the people it serves. ▀



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Year of Progress. A Future of Possibilities.

Behind every achievement is a shared commitment. Behind every milestone are people who believe in the power of collaboration. And behind every step forward is a community determined to make a difference.

As we reflect on 2025–2026, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) extends its deepest appreciation to the individuals and organisations whose trust, dedication and contributions have made this year one of meaningful progress.

To our **members**, you are the heart of the Union. Your continued engagement, shared expertise and commitment to cooperation give purpose to everything we do. Your success is our motivation, and your trust remains our greatest responsibility.

To our leadership, we are grateful for your vision, guidance and steadfast commitment to strengthening the Union and advancing the interests of broadcasters across the region.

To our **industry members, strategic partners, sponsors, host broadcasters, sister unions and international collaborators**, thank you for opening doors, sharing opportunities and helping us turn ambition into action. Your partnerships remind us that progress knows no borders.

To the **ABU Secretariat**, whose dedication often goes unseen, your professionalism, resilience and teamwork are the driving force behind our achievements. Every successful initiative reflects your commitment to serving our members.

As we move into **2027**, we carry forward more than the accomplishments of another year. We carry the lessons learned, relationships strengthened and possibilities yet to be explored.

The challenges ahead will demand fresh thinking, courage and collaboration. But they also present opportunities to innovate, strengthen trust and redefine what broadcasting can achieve.

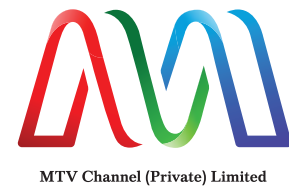
Our greatest strength has never been what we accomplish individually, but what we make possible together.

To everyone who has contributed to our journey, thank you.

The next chapter awaits. And together, we are ready to shape it. ▀



62nd ABU GA & Associated Meetings



Media & Culture Days 2025



CADP 2025



Children's Drama Production



Sports Co-Production



SMC 2026



121st AC Meeting



CARE13 Series Producer's Meeting



PMPC 2026



CADP 2026 I AI Forum



32nd IPLC



Robocon 2026

WABC GNF 2026

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