

# Broadcaster

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## 45th Annual Gathering/ 18th AIBD General Conference & Associated Meetings Paro, Bhutan 2019





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Warmest greetings from the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development.

Another year-end is round the corner. It is a time for all of us to retrospect and introspect, personally and professionally, on our achievements and failures. It is also a good time to think and plan for the next year and beyond.

AIBD was without a Director for almost nine months. However, that did not hamper us from working and we achieved some commendable results as well. The 16th Asia Media Summit in Siem Reap, Cambodia was a great success with record number of attendance. It was not just an annual gathering of professionals sharing knowledge and ideas. We took some concrete decisions and initiatives are being undertaken accordingly.

Many came for the General Conference in Bhutan. And there again, the members agreed and took decisions to make AIBD stronger and professional. Despite all the challenges last year we managed to conduct 35 workshops benefitting about 1000 broadcasters.

All of these could be achieved because of your continued guidance and assistance. The trust and faith that you have in the existence of AIBD is reassuring and that only makes us, at the Secretariat, to work even harder and push boundaries.

It was on 12th August 1977 that the farsighted pioneers came to pen down together, laying the foundation of this very important Organisation. It has come a long way, and it must go a long way. The road ahead will not be smooth, but it must not falter.

As the so-called national territorial boundaries between us become thinner the need for such an Organisation like AIBD is felt even more. I am sure many of you and your colleagues would have benefitted from AIBD, either directly or indirectly. I myself is one. I took my first training from AIBD many years ago. Today, as I sit at the helm of this AIBD, I am constantly reminded of the very vision that AIBD was founded of, some 40 years ago.

Once again, thank you for your continued guidance and wisdom.

I wish you a very happy new year and merry Christmas.

Philomena Gnanapragasam



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# Doing Things Different and Better

During the 18th AIBD General Conference in Bhutan, then AIBD Officiating Director Philomena Gnanapragasam delivered a key message before members: Amidst the changing media landscape, “the institute will build its capacity to innovate and be agile”.

This strategy becomes critical amidst changing media consumption, increasing competition, emerging new technologies, millennials’s increasing preference for mobile viewing, and rise of choices like over-the-top services.

It also becomes urgent as broadcasters confront the profound and systematic change throughout the world brought about by the fourth industrial revolution. The scale and scope of this change covers the fusion of technologies like nanotechnology and quantum computing, and their interaction across the physical, digital and biological domains.

The fourth industrial revolution will generate great benefits and big challenges to industries. There will be disruptions and innovations that will in many cases benefit consumers - from higher value, more convenience and lower costs.

For media, the task is daunting for bringing innovations into the organisation as it requires coming up and implementing new ideas, creating dynamic activities and improving existing services.

Innovation can be a catalyst for growth and success as AIBD aims to listen to the needs of members and implement more dynamic programmes under its new Director.

In her report to the 18th AIBD General Conference & Associated Meetings in August, Mrs Gnanapragasam identified projects they have implemented to build capacity of members amid the emergence of new technologies, among these, advanced IPTV, digitisation, digital radio, and data journalism.

For 2020, the Institute plans to conduct close to 40 training programmes dealing with technology updates, digital content production, infographics, digitisation of audio-video archives, leadership management, safety for journalists, media law, sports and investigative journalism.

At the last Asia media Summit in Cambodia, Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD GC President, said one of the challenges broadcasters face is “adequate supply of skilled workers with strong cognitive, adaptive and creative skills necessary for working with the new technologies”.

He also identified other challenges, among them, the identification of the right technological infrastructure, provision for financial resources to adopt digital technologies, and concern on the exclusion of critical voices and knowledgeable stakeholders in utilising digital technologies and big data for development programmes.

To meet these challenges and be successful amidst the major changes in the broadcast industry, innovation should be an in-built part of an organisation’s strategy. This will help grow a culture of innovation, an environment that produces collective enthusiasm for creativity and glorifies productive innovators. It will also lead the way in innovative thinking, creative problem solving, more efficient work processes and have better productivity and performance.

This strategy is not lost to AIBD as it implements current and future programmes, and plots its future direction that benefit members. The Institute’s guiding principle: Doing things different and better.

# Important Role of Broadcast in Times of Peace, Natural Calamities

Bhutan's Minister of Information and Communication Lyonpo Karma Donnem Wangdi stressed the importance of radio and television in times of peace and during natural calamities



These media platforms are also crucial in a small country like Bhutan, with rugged mountains of the Himalayas, making it even more difficult and expensive to communicate, he told participants during the inaugural ceremony of the 45th Annual Gathering/18th AIBD General Conference & Associated Meetings in Paro on 22 August 2019.

In his speech, the Information Minister said Bhutan has 100% coverage of radio and television in the urban areas, and 70% radio coverage in the rural areas.

He also said that Bhutan has licensed private media houses in 2005 as the government believes in the importance of independent media and acknowledges the need for more perspectives. In addition to state owned Kuensel newspaper and BBS radio, the country now has seven private newspapers, three private radio stations and a few community radio and campus radio stations.

He said the government has also enacted the Information, Communications and Media Act, and works are underway to change the status of the Bhutan Broadcasting Service (BBS), to that of a public service broadcaster.

Continued on next page

The government is also in the process of upgrading BBS for enhanced definition and wider reach, including the digitisation of the BBS by 2023.

“The hosting of prestigious international events, such as this General Conference, provides good opportunities for Bhutan to interact and learn from the outside world, and advance the interests of broadcasting in the region”, he said.



He thanked AIBD and its partners for helping build Bhutan’s capacity through training and technical assistance.



Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, President of the AIBD General Conference, and Director General of All India Radio, India, also spoke during the inaugural ceremony.

In his opening remarks, he took cognisance of broadcasters’ initiatives to become more professional in a fiercely competitive market. He urged media practitioners to choose different broadcast technologies that best meet the needs of their respective countries.

He also spoke about the problem of illiteracy in the region, urging broadcasters to help deal with this deficiency.

Mr Tshering Wangchuk, BBS CEO, delivered the welcome remarks, saying that Bhutan is most privileged to host a big gathering of broadcasters for the first time.



General Conference 2019

He spoke briefly about the challenges and initiatives of BBS to fulfil its mandate to inform, educate and entertain the people of Bhutan.

During the inaugural ceremony, a cultural show was presented to highlight local songs and dances. Winners of the AIBD Awards 2019 were also honoured.



Another highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of a commemorative award to the Bhutan Minister of Information and Communication for the successful hosting of the AIBD General Conference, and also a commemorative award for Cambodian Information Minister Dr Khieu Kanharith for the success of the 16th Asia Media Summit in Siem Reap.



## A Strong Media in Asia Pacific

UNESCO and AIBD should work together in fighting new challenges to freedom of expression and right to information such as the rise in disinformation and increasing risks to safety of journalists.



Mr Moez Chakchouk, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO made the call in his video message during the inaugural ceremony of the 45th Annual Gathering IBD General Conference & Associated Meetings in Paro, Bhutan on 22 August 2019.

“UNESCO and AIBD together can help counter these dangers. As one of founding members of AIBD, UNESCO remains committed to expanding range of information available to the public, supporting the importance of diversity and plurality in media”, Mr Moez Chakchouk said.

He also said that rapid advances in technologies and ever-changing way we interact with media have mediated some obstacles hindering access to information and freedom of expression.

“It’s now easier for users to share opinions and exchange perspectives in global scale, which has empowered a number of marginalised and hard to reach population”, he pointed out.

In his message, he stressed the importance of pluralism and diversity in media, and maintaining it needs united efforts to ensure a strong media in Asia Pacific and around the world emerges.

He took cognisance of UNESCO-AIBD initiatives in promoting gender equality in and through media, and training journalists in climate change reporting.

“We should continue and expand these efforts”, he said.

He urged participants in the AIBD General Conference to take advantage of this platform “to identify common obstacles and exchange perspectives to inspire meaningful dialogue”.



## GC appoints AIBD's New Director

AIBD full members selected Mrs Philomena Gnanapragasam as the Institute's new Director at the 18th General Conference (GC) & Associated Meetings held in Paro, Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

Prior to her appointment as the first lady Director of the Institute, Mrs Gnanapragasam served as AIBD's officiating Director for eight months.

Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, GC President, nominated her during the AIBD Executive Board (EXBO) meeting, which approved her endorsement as a candidate to the post for GC's approval.

He cited several reasons for endorsing Mrs Gnanapragasam's candidacy, namely; her understanding of AIBD operations; knowledge of Malaysian laws and good liaison with local authorities; her efforts to run the Institute creditably for the last eight months following the end of contract of the previous Director. In particular, he noted her talent and managerial skills in successfully implementing the 16th Asia Media Summit in Cambodia, one of the biggest AMS in AIBD's history.



The GC President also said the regular Director will be answerable to the GC for all her activities, noting that all major financial and administrative decisions must have the approval of the GC President and Vice President as well as the EXBO Chairman.

Nine member countries of the EXBO supported the endorsement of Mrs Philomena's candidacy, citing her experience and competence in temporarily running the Institute as officiating Director. These are Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, and Thailand.

During the EXBO meeting, China raised concerns about the recruitment process and was non-committal on the proposal to endorse Mrs Gnanapragasam. It also said that the choice of the AIBD leadership was critical for a healthy functioning of the Institute, and called on members to 'take a thoughtful attitude' towards leadership and the process of selection.

Iran dissented, saying the regular recruitment procedure was not fully completed, denying members the opportunity to be selected.

Both countries, however, acknowledged the tremendous work that Mrs Gnanapragasam undertook as the officiating Director to ensure continuity and efficient operations of the Institute.

At the GC, she was chosen as a full-pledged Director with immediate effect. She thanked members for their support and trust on her, promising to ensure a stronger Institute, ready to innovate and become agile, particularly amid the emerging Fourth Industrial Revolution.

## AIBD to Innovate and be Agile

AIBD Officiating Director Philomena Gnanapragasam delivered before member countries a review of the Institute's annual performance, its future plan and strategy "to build its capacity to innovate and be agile with a 'no-man-or-woman-left-behind' policy".

Part of the strategy, she pointed out, is dealing with the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on media. The Institute will also implement 40-50 training activities covering areas that members have identified for 2019-2020.

She said AIBD will work intensively with

skilled regional partners in ensuring members are equipped and ready to embrace the emerging technologies.



### Training programmes



among others.

True to its mandate to pursue broadcast development in Asia Pacific, AIBD implemented several training activities that benefitted close to a thousand broadcasters from the region during the past year.

In her report to the 18th AIBD General Conference & Associated Meetings, Mrs Gnanapragasam said the Institute implemented 31 training activities and four special projects within the period of 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

Training covered areas such as digitisation, content creation, news programming, satellite technology, IPTV, and media literacy,

In-country participants totalled 465 while regional participants reached 498. Some 803 participants were self-funded while 91 others were partly funded. 69 participants were fully-funded.

From July to December this year, AIBD will implement some 25 training activities covering data journalism, climate change reporting, digital radio, and social media, among others.

For 2020, the Institute plans to conduct close to 40 training programmes dealing with content production and technology updates, media law, infographics, leadership management, safety for journalists, video archiving, sports and investigative journalism.

### 16th Asia Media Summit

"The most outstanding event for this year was the Asia Media Summit in Cambodia, which saw a record participation of 650 people from all across the globe. We are proud of the impact of the AMS on broadcasters, partners and governments as we brace to enter the fourth Industrial Revolution", Director Gnanapragasam said.



A highlight of the event in Siem Reap hosted by the Ministry of Information (MOI), Cambodia, was the inaugural speech of Prime Minister Hun Sen, who spoke of several ways to maximise the benefits of the digital revolution and help combat disinformation, cybercrime, hate speech and various forms of discrimination.

The two-day conference theme centered on “Media Digitisation-Focusing on Developing Markets”, which saw participation of over 40 speakers and moderators in this two-day summit.

Dr. Khieu Kanharith, Cambodia’s Minister of Information, described the 16th Asia Media Summit a success, saying it gave participants opportunities to evaluate how best to take advantage of digitisation and other new technologies that can serve society better.

The conference also attracted support from various partners that enabled AIBD to offer fellowships to members in ensuring wider participation in the sessions.

Three important meetings were also held on the sidelines of the AMS. One was the meeting of Information Ministers who discussed efforts to deal with fake news and media digitisation. Six information ministers and Vice minister from Cambodia, Philippines, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Korea and Samoa attended this meeting. They agreed to use the AMS as a platform for information ministers to discuss media developments and other matters related to enhancing communication ministers’ role in the AIBD as an intergovernmental organisation.

“The direct involvement of ministers will ensure active involvement of all members and swift decision making where needed. It will also create one voice for the betterment of media in the region”, Director Gnanaprasam said.

Another was the ASBU-AIBD partnership meeting that looked into ways to strengthen cooperation in broadcast training. A third meeting was on the Angkor Fake News Initiative, highlighted by the launch of the regional research on combating fake news.

These meetings came out with three key outcomes, namely, a conclave of Information Ministers in Samoa this November to examine ways to fight fake news and other issues that impact the broadcast industry in the region; continued ASBU support for the World Television Awards and training workshops in Tunisia and Kuala Lumpur for AIBD and ASBU members; and lastly, the efforts to pursue the regional research on fake news in the region.

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### **International Partnerships**

United Nations agencies such as UNESCO/IPDC and UNDP have come on board again to support AIBD's capacity development efforts. These include assistance in the first ever UNESCO/ IPDC Ted talk session on access to information, SDG seminars by UNDP, and in UNESCO activity on gender issues gender, and fake news Ted talk session in the AMS 2019. UNESCO is also supporting the AIBD regional research on fake news under the Anti Fake News Angkor Initiative.

AIBD also signed the UN-SDG Compact with several countries at the UN headquarters with focus on climate change.

In collaboration with the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), the Institute completed three workshops on Digital Radio, OTT and IBB Technologies and Engineering Fundamentals.

Partnership with the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) has become stronger with their continuing support for the AMS and the World Television Awards. Such assistance was articulated anew during the AIBD-ASBU meeting on the sideline of the 16th AMS in Cambodia.

China Global Television Network (CGTN) collaborated with AIBD for a Regional Workshop on Convergent Journalism on 10-19 October 2018 in Beijing, China. 18 Participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Malaysia, Macau, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Tonga attended the course.

NRTA, China and AIBD organised the Regional Workshop on Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Technology held in Yunnan, China in October 2018, in which 27 participants from 7 countries attended.

AIBD has also strengthened relationships with the Korean government and other Korean institutions like the Korea Communications Commission (KCC), and Community Media Foundation (CMF). A key project was the Regional Seminar on Community Media Centres in November 2018; a similar activity is set in November 2019.

In collaboration with Hosono Bunka Foundation (HBF) of Japan, AIBD organised the Regional Workshop on New Approaches to Gender Issues through Broadcasting held in Dec 2018.

The National Broadcasting Services of Thailand (NBT) co-organised a Regional on Media's Role in Coping with Disinformation, which was attended by journalists from Bhutan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand in January 2019.

France Media Monde continued to support the Institute's World Television Awards. Radiodays Europe also collaborated with AIBD in organising the AMS pre-summit workshop on Creating Impactful Content in the Digital Era. It also helped the Institute in its first even Radio Days Asia conference in Kuala Lumpur in August 2019.

The 16th Asia Media Summit in Cambodia attracted other partners such as the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Whiteways Systems Ltd, ADINNO, StarTimes Communications, Media Guru, LGU+, Rentak Setia and Radio Television Malaysia.

IPPTAR, Malaysia's Ministry of information training institute along with Malaysia Multimedia Development Corporation - MDEC supported one regional workshop on Data Journalism, which had 27 participants from 7 countries. To follow through the success of earlier activities in 2016 and 2017, BIRTV once again worked with AIBD for a Technical / Programme Exchange Project.

AIBD also continued the partnership with Broadcast Asia by supporting Broadcast Asia 2019 in Singapore, organising two sessions in the conference, and mounting an exhibition booth to promote the Institute.

Other AIBD partners were the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) of the Republic of Korea, and Korea Radio Promotion Association (RAPA) which are pursuing the 'Support the Improvement of the Broadcasting Environment' Programme. This initiative provides broadcasting facility and relevant training to partner countries. AIBD was requested to encourage member countries to participate in the 2021 and 2022 programmes.

### **Membership**

The AIBD currently has 26 Full Members (countries), represented by 44 organisations, and 62 Affiliates (organisations). Altogether, the Institute boasts of 108 (44+62) full-member and affiliate-member organisations, representing 46 (26+20) countries and regions.

The newest member of the AIBD family is Netflix. The institute hopes to enhance and tap on each other's knowledge on content development and build a deeper understanding of the changing media consumption behaviour. It is also initiating possible membership of Sputnik Russia and Kiribati Media, both of which have shown interest to join AIBD.

AIBD also successfully encouraged some members with subscription arrears to meet their obligations and enable the Institute to strengthen its training activities. Meanwhile, Broadcast Australia and Unisulla Indonesia voluntarily terminated their membership from the Institute.

### **Strategies for Stronger AIBD**



Continued on next page

In her report, Mrs Gnanapragasam identified several strategies to ensure a stronger Institute, ready to innovate and become agile, particularly amid the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

She said "Asia Pacific broadcasters should be focusing in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, utilising the power of Internet of Things (IOT) and envisioning the future of broadcasting industry. AIBD will work intensively with skilled regional partners in ensuring our members are equipped and ready to embrace the emerging technologies".

On training, AIBD will organise 40-50 workshops for the year 2019-2020. These workshops will address the topics suggested by our members. Because of fast paced change in media industry, the institute will constantly be upgrading its course contents, explore top gurus of this industry and engage global key players of this industry.

The AIBD Director also said that the Institute will strengthen its functions as an intergovernmental organisation. "Historically AIBD has a huge standing with this status. However, this status has not been fully explored yet. AIBD has the potential to help media policy makers in charting the path for media development", she said

In collaboration with AIBD's strategic team, she added that the institute will look further into the ideas on how to enhance meaningful partnerships with different government ministries, commissions and state broadcasters.

AIBD will continue with its secondment of experts programme from its external stakeholders and internal stakeholders. Aimed at improving the Institute's human capital and external relations with its members, AIB welcome's members' support for experts' secondment that may take between three months and one year.

"My heartfelt thanks also goes out to my colleague and in particular to our Korean members for sharing an expert advisor from KCC, Mr. Jung Seob Bae who has been a source of support, strength and valuable input to AIBD. He is an administrator and has shared several recommendations to uplift the Institute", she said.

The Institute is also reviewing its Office Manual in order to install new work procedures in AIBD and follow relevant laws to protect the Institute and its people.



## Cambodia elected as EXBO Chair



**Mr. Has Sam Ath from Cambodia**

AIBD's Executive Board (EXBO) has elected Cambodia as its new Chair following the new composition of its membership. Fiji was chosen as its Vice Chair. Both countries will serve the post for a period of one year, and are eligible for re-election after serving their term.

Election of additional members to the 10-man board was held during the 45th General Conference in Paro, Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

Two new members were elected, namely, Thailand and Fiji. Both countries will serve from 2019 to 2021.

The GC members also approved Malaysia's proposal to be returned to the EXBO as a permanent member based on the provisions of the August 1977 Agreement between AIBD and Malaysia that, among others, established the AIBD Governing Council or EXBO.

That document also cited that the EXBO will have 11 members, one being Malaysia, which is AIBD's host country, as a permanent member.



**Mr. Izek Ashwin Lal from Fiji**



Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD President, said he found it bizarre that Malaysia, host country of AIBD, is divested of its status as a permanent member of EXBO.

The Board is now composed of Maldives, Bhutan, Cambodia, Iran, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, plus the two newly elected, Thailand and Fiji.

During the 17th EXBO meeting in Paro, Bhutan on 22 August 2019, members took serious note of the absence of the EXBO chairman from Pakistan and vice chairman from Sri Lanka without written excuse.

In view of this development, Dr Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information, Cambodia, accepted the nomination to serve as the interim EXBO chairman while Mr Suresh Kumar Karki, Executive Director of Radio Nepal, was interim EXBO vice chairman.

# AIBD to redraft Manual of Procedures

For a better professional functioning of AIBD, its full member countries approved a recommendation to revise Its Manual of Procedures last drafted and adopted in December 1981.



Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD GC President, said the redrafted Manual will be a comprehensive rule book that will guide day-to-day functioning and professional discharge of duties of AIBD. The Manual should cover all activities pertaining to administration, finance, broadcasting, disciplinary action and human resource management.

The AIBD Executive Board (EXBO) recommended the Manual’s revision, which was approved by members of the 45th General Conference (GC) held in Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

Mr Shahryar directed the AIBD secretariat to expeditiously complete the redrafting of the Manual.

Ms Yan Ni of ICD, NRTA, China, agreed that AIBD should be rules-based and be more professional guided by a proper Manual of Procedures.

The AIBD secretariat has been tasked to send a copy of the Manual to all members who may propose revisions for submission to the secretariat not later than 20 September 2019. It was also recommended to make available online the Manual to facilitate exchange of ideas and propose revisions.

The Members agreed that AIBD should appoint a four-member group in charge of the revisions. It will be comprised of officials from the Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Human Resources, both from Malaysia, and broadcast professionals from radio and TV in the region.



**Ms. Yan Ni from China**

AIBD officiating Director Mrs Philomena Gnanapragasam said the secretariat had discussions with Malaysia’s Labour Ministry on the Manual, which agreed to help in the revision.

She said the secretariat needs professional help in revising the Manual. For instance, she said, there is no proper procedure on how to increase salaries of performing staff.



## Malaysia Reinstated as EXBO Permanent Member

Malaysia is back as a permanent member of the Executive Board (EXBO) of AIBD. The 18th AIBD General Conference (GC) approved a recommendation by the EXBO for Malaysia's return as a permanent member in EXBO based on a 1977 Agreement between AIBD and Malaysia.

Fifteen full member countries from Asia Pacific participated in the GC held in Paro, Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD President, said he found it preposterous that Malaysia as host country to AIBD was divested of its status as a permanent member of EXBO.



**Ms. Munira Binti Murad from Malaysia**

Ms. Munira Binti Murad, Deputy Director of Marketing & Promotion Division of Radio TV Malaysia (RTM), brought up her country's status in the EXBO meeting on 22 August 2019, citing the August 1977 Agreement that, among others, established the AIBD Governing Council or EXBO. The document also stated that the EXBO should have 11 members, one being Malaysia as a permanent member since it is host country to AIBD. Malaysia is also one of the founding members of AIBD.

Ms Murad thanked members of the General Conference for its decision to return Malaysia as a permanent member of EXBO and said they will continue to support the Institute's as its host country.

Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD GC President, said the redrafted Manual will be a comprehensive rule book that will guide day-to-day functioning and professional discharge of duties of AIBD. The Manual should cover all activities pertaining to administration, finance, broadcasting, disciplinary action and human resource management.

The AIBD Executive Board (EXBO) recommended the Manual's revision, which was approved by members of the 45th General Conference (GC) held in Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

Mr Shahryar directed the AIBD secretariat to expeditiously complete the redrafting of the Manual.

## Nepal to host 17th AMS in 2020

Nepal has agreed to host the 17th Asia Media Summit in 2020. Mr Suresh Kumar Karki, Executive Director of Radio Nepal, announced this during the 45th AIBD General Conference in Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

The venue will be in Kathmandu, Nepal's capital, rich in natural beauty and historical destinations as well as home to some UNESCO heritage sites.

Through an audio-visual presentation, GC participants had a preview of what Nepal has to offer.

Mr Karki said Nepal's Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology and Ministry of Tourism have consented to jointly host the Summit.

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In a simple ceremony, Mr Karki signed a Memorandum of Understanding with AIBD officials as host for the next AMS, ensuring close coordination with the Institute for a successful summit.

He suggested that the theme of the Conference should focus on the role of media in national development, particularly in promoting tourism in developing countries.

Other possible themes for the AMS in Nepal were discussed during the GC. One is the applicability of public service broadcasting, which is altruistic in character, and hedonistic broadcasters, which focus more on eliciting revenues. Two is on broadcasting for the physically challenged population in the region, and, three is on Asian impact on world broadcasting.

Members were encouraged to submit other summit topics to the AIBD secretariat.

Mr Karki urged members to participate in the AMS in Nepal, which will coincide with Visit Nepal Year 2020 to promote tourism in Nepal.

## Laos will host the 2020 GC



Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) is the next venue for the 46th AIBD General Conference and Associated Meeting in 2020.

Mr Phosy Komanivong, Director General of Lao National Radio, announced that the capital city of Lao PDR, Vientiane, will host the 46th General Conference in August, 2020.

The announcement came with a video presentation of what Laos has to offer, in particular, its historical, cultural and tourist spots, during the 45th General Conference in Paro, Bhutan on 23 August 2019.

He said the event will have the support of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao National TV and Lao National Radio.



In his remarks, he said this gathering will afford members an opportunity to review AIBD's activities and future projects as well as share members' needs that should be addressed by the Institute.

He also said the people of Lao PDR now enjoy political stability and peaceful society.

Having been a member of AIBD for years, Laos will host for the first time an AIBD-organised event and said he hopes there will be fruitful discussions.

He urged participants to come to Laos for the GC and enjoy the many historical, cultural and tourist sites in the country.



# AIBD to Form a New Strategic Plan Team

AIBD is set to form a new Strategic Plan Team (SPT) in September 2019 that will look into both internal and external challenges as inputs in crafting a strategic plan for the Institute.

Experts from eight countries will form part of the SPT, as agreed upon in the AIBD General Conference (GC) held in Bhutan on 23 August 2019.



Member countries elected in the SPT are Cambodia, Fiji, India, Iran, China, Korea, Philippines and Thailand.

Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, AIBD GC President, urged members to select the right professionals in technology, planning, radio and TV technology so that the SPT will be properly guided in crafting the strategic plan.

Mr Rizal Giovani Aportadera Jr, Director of Bureau of Broadcast Services, Philippine Broadcasting Service, and GC Vice President, stressed the importance of this group, and called on members to choose dynamic people who will help craft the Institute’s strategic plan, and address recurring issues that adversely affect AIBD.

The GC decided that each country should nominate an expert, and send the nominee’s name to the secretariat by September 15. AIBD plans to convene the new SPT in the following weeks in Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Shehryar said the SPT must keep pace with advanced technologies and the needs of audiences in a fast changing media landscape, and on the basis of these forces, work out a strategic plan.



**Mr Rizal Giovani Aportadera Jr from Philippines**

It will cover proposals to introduce appropriate technology innovations, undertake audience researches, and ways to create better content amid advanced technologies and fast evolving media environment.



"The SPT must also allow media to play a key role in times of calamities and help determine specific needs of countries in the region," he said.

Ms Yan Ni of ICD, NRTA, China proposed that aside from the external challenges, the SPT should not forget challenges within the organisation.

The 17th AIBD GC in Sri Lanka had proposed in 2018 to reform the SPT, which was tasked to draft, refine and complete a strategic plan for AIBD. The SPT was supposed to meet in Malaysia in 2018 to pursue these concerns, but this did not take place. Moreover, there were concerns as to how to reform the SPT.

## Bringing Asian Stories to over 190 Countries Globally

Netflix, AIBD's newest family member, gave a brief presentation on the company's learning journey in Asia during the AIBD General Conference in Bhutan.

Mr Kuek Yu-Chuang, Managing Director, APAC, Netflix, Singapore, said it hopes to bring Asian stories to other parts of the world.

Mr Darren Kwan Tong Ong, Manager, Public Policy, APAC, Netflix Singapore, spoke of the benefits their subscribers get, such as affordable monthly subscription, unlimited viewing, and no ads. They can also start, pause continue where they left off, and benefit from a fully curated library, and no user generated content.

He said Netflix offers local stories for a global audience in over 190 countries, and can help local stories gain international acclaim. It also fosters innovation and growth.

He also said that placing consumer interests at the centre of decision-making is critical in an online environment.

"Consumers demand content with the best quality and relevance. They want to be empowered to make content choices for themselves and their family. Consumers are less willing to use illegal platforms if content is available on legal sources", he pointed out.

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**Mr Darren Kwan Tong Ong**



**Mr Kuek Yu-Chuang**

He also said most users find VOD safety features useful and an alternative to piracy. In conclusion, he said that Netflix is in a unique position to connect APAC creators to audiences in over 190 countries. "There are early indicators of success in Netflix's investments in APAC and we look forward to doing more", he said.

## AIBD TV & Radio Awards 2019

By **Nabeel Tirmazi**  
Programme Manager, AIBD

The winners of the AIBD TV & Radio Awards 2019 were awarded cash prizes and trophies during the inauguration of the 45th Annual Gathering/18th AIBD General Conference and Associated Meetings on 22nd of August 2019 in Paro, Bhutan.

The winners were from Sri Lanka, Singapore and China. There were 23 entries in total.



Based on the entries received for this award, the panel assessed the entries for the different award categories based on concept and production values. The final award winners were:

AIBD TV Award 2019 for the Best TV programme on: The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher:

**“Amazing School” from Sri Lanka Rupavahini (TV) Corporation, Sri Lanka**

**AIBD TV Award 2019 for the best TV programme on The Sound of Silence:**

**“This is What I Hear – Finding My Way” from Channel News Asia, MediaCorp - Singapore**

AIBD Radio Award 2019 for the best radio programme on Rural Women: Tapping the power within:

**“Xiaomei, When you are you going to show up?” from News Radio, CNR - China**

**Reinhard Keune Memorial Award 2019 for the best radio programme on Vanishing Sounds:**

**“Rechiming China’s Legendary Bells” from China Radio International - China**

The judging session was held on 19 July 2019 at the AIBD office in Kuala Lumpur. The winners were awarded at the

According to the jury, the overall content of the submissions was better from previous years and were quite relevant to the themes announced for this year’s awards.

The judges’ board included Mr Jack Nadarajah, renowned Malaysian Broadcaster; Dr Ramachandran Ponnaiyan, Taylor’s University, Malaysia; Ms Salbiah Mohd Sharif, Assistant Director, Department of Broadcasting Malaysia and Mr Zairul Eizam Abdul Rahman, renowned Malaysian documentary maker.



**Award recipient, Ms. Zhang Wan of China Plus, China Radio International**

## Angkor Anti-Fake News Initiative

Cambodia Information Minister Dr Khieu Kanharith and Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, President of the AIBD General Conference, and Director General of All India Radio, signed a Memorandum of Undertaking for the launch of the 'Angkor Anti-Fake News Initiative', an undertaking to help combat the menace of disinformation in the region.

The signing ceremony took place during the 18th AIBD General Conference held in Paro, Bhutan on August 23, 2019.



In brief remarks, Dr Khieu Kanharith highlighted the importance of the newly launched Angkor Anti-Fake News Initiative, which is a joint undertaking among AIBD, Cambodia's Ministry of Information and UNESCO.

On the sidelines of the 18th Asia Media Summit held in Cambodia, information ministers and senior officials from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Korea, Myanmar, Philippines, and Samoa, discussed concerns on the spread of disinformation or fake news in the region. They endorsed the Angkor Anti-Fake News Initiative, highlighted by a regional research on fake news in the region.

They also decided to meet anew this year to set up a road map to combat fake news that will protect society and sustain harmony among the people.

The research project is a year-long undertaking that will examine the impact of disinformation on its member countries, which are mostly public service broadcasters. It is also an attempt to understand 'fake news' as a research concept and impact on society from the Asian broadcasters' perspective.

The findings from the research will serve as a baseline for AIBD and its member organisations to plan and initiate various activities to train relevant people. These will also serve as a blueprint for the formulation of policies by the respective governments.

The research project, a partnership among AIBD, UNESCO and two Malaysian universities - Taylor's and Berjaya Universities, involves key public service media. It will be the first of its kind in the region.



## Q&A with Philomena Gnanapragasam, Director of AIBD

In every edition of Broadcaster Magazine, we bring you an up-close, candid one-on-one interview with a head of one of our member organisations. It is a new initiative so that their ideas could be reached out to other member organisations as well. In this edition we caught up with the new Director of AIBD.



**Broadcaster: Firstly, Congratulations on becoming the first female Director of AIBD. Tell us, briefly, about yourself and your career?**

Ms Philomena: My career into broadcasting happened by chance. I always wanted to be a teacher but got hooked on creative media instead. I won my first international award, a year after joining RTM. It was for a science documentary. And coincidentally, the award was by AIBD. I was just 20 years old. I think it was in me, to do something which no one does. Of course all the veteran broadcasters were wondering how a rookie grabbed international awards. But for me broadcasting is such a wonderfully challenging field and brought out the best of my creative soul.

Together I have 15 international awards for radio and television programming, mostly for children's documentary and talk show programmes, so it has been a wonderfully rewarding career in RTM.

I attribute my success, to be heading an international organisation to RTM. Being in the Public service I have been exposed to a professional government management system and It has given me so many wonderful opportunities; to work abroad, to travel and to lead and rebrand radio stations.

**Broadcaster: What are your views on the changing media landscape in the region?**

Ms Philomena: The media landscape is changing and changing very fast. In the last few years, advancement in technology has disrupted the way we work and do things. That is good. We now have multiple technologies to reach out to our viewers and listeners faster and easier. But, what worries me most is the gap, even among our members. We have to ensure no one is left behind, so AIBD has a big role as an intergovernmental media centre.

**Broadcaster: AIBD has come a long way. What are your plans and priorities to keep AIBD relevant to its members and partners?**

Ms Philomena: AIBD will have to remodel itself from time to time to remain relevant and beneficial to our members. Our strategies must keep pace with the changing market dynamics and we must seek new opportunities to address the challenges faced by our member organisations. AIBD need to bring the latest and the best to its members. It has to be the catalyst to ensure change.

**Broadcaster: What are some of the challenges you foresee?**

Ms Philomena: AIBD is made up of 26 governments represented by public service broadcasters, private media organisations and entities in Asia, Pacific, Africa and Europe. In total there are 108 member organisations. Everyone has similar problems; that is how to remain relevant, how to keep radio relevant, how to keep television running. These are some of the challenges we are facing as we sit on the brink of fourth industrial revolution.

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Over the years we have seen platforms have changed. What has remained constant is the content. "Content is still the King". So, we have to train people to make extra good content, and also empower them with the skills to use multi-platforms to reach out to as many people as possible.

**Broadcaster: What should members do to help AIBD realise its potential?**

Ms Philomena: There is an old idiom, 'it takes two to tango'. AIBD alone cannot achieve its goals and mandate without the support of its members. Their active participation is very important and I would like to call on members to render their full support. AIBD was founded to achieve a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region through policy and resource development. It is more relevant than ever because of the changing media landscape as I mentioned above. Let's not forget the strength of AIBD, it is an intergovernmental international organisation and there is so much more we can do together. This is their platform to connect with Asia and the Pacific.

**Broadcaster: And lastly, tell us what makes you tick, what's your motto?**

Ms Philomena: I am a creative person and I like to look at solutions and new ideas. I like challenges thrown at me because I like looking at challenges as opportunities. How else can you grow? Doing the best I can in whatever I do is my life motto. I believe that no one would ever fail if one starts giving the best they could in their lives. Get up and go for it, never ever give up!

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## Digital Radio Implementation and Transition Strategy

By **Utpal Kanti Mandal**

Former Programme Manager, AIBD



The Asia Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) conducted a seminar on Digital Radio Implementation and Transition Strategy in collaboration with Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and supported by Informa/UBM Singapore during BroadcastAsia-2019 on 18 June 2019, at Suntec Singapore. The primary objectives of the event was to understand technology of digital radio standards, trends and strategies being adopted for transition to digital radio broadcasting all over the world; share case study and experiences on transition from analogue to digital broadcasting; build skills on smooth transition from analogue to digital radio broadcasting.

For providing equal opportunities to two competing standards such as DAB+ Digital Radio and DRM Digital Radio, experts from both consortiums were invited to discuss the respective digital radio systems and implementation. The first 90 minutes of the seminar was allocated for the DAB speakers where four experts in the technology talked on DAB/DAB+ Digital Radio. Another 90 minutes of the session was for DRM and three experts discussed the DRM digital radio.



The first speaker in DAB session Mr. Lindsay Cornell, Principal System Architect, BBC, talked about Global DAB+ digital radio status. He said 41 countries with DAB services on-air, 500 million people receive DAB signal and over 75 million DAB receivers sold. He also touched upon DAB+ enhance metadata, data applications, emergency features of DAB, multiplexing, system design and coverage of DAB services.

Mr. Rich Redmond, President-Managing Director-International of Gates Air, in his presentation discussed economic & environmental benefits of DAB+. He showed the differences between DAB+, DRM+ & FM transmission on various parameters like frequency, transmit power, programme per channel, modulation schemes etc. Mr Redmond also elaborated on cost comparison of various radio network topologies and new advanced technology impacts on network deployment costs.

Dr. Pakdee Manaves, Asst. Professor & Deputy Secretary-General of Broadcasting of the Office of NBTC, presented DAB+ Digital Radio implementation in Thailand. He told that as per NBTC survey result on radio service accessibility and user behaviour in 2016, 46% of Thai people still listen to the radio on terrestrial platform, and more that 50% listen to radio and kitchen radio. Listening time is more than 600 min per week and 35% of Thai people listen to radio at home and in car. And most popular radio contents are song, information and news, and also traffic report. In line with Thailand's broadcasting master plan and digital economy and society development plan, Thailand has to deliver digital radio broadcasting services.

Ms. Kathryn S Brown, Head of Strategic Development, Commercial Radio Australia(CRA), presented WorldDAB Australian case studies of DAB/DAB+ Digital Radio implementation. She said that CRA coordinated various aspects of DAB+ roll out for industry such as technology standards review and DAB+ development, policy settings & legislation, network design, procurement and implementation, commercialisation – automotive, retail, receiver manufacturers, marketing and PR, regional roll out planning and channel allotments with regulator.

In the second 90 minutes' session of the seminar, DRM experts representing Fraunhofer IIS, and DRM Consortium, struck a balance in their presentations between the theoretical aspects of the standard and the practical experience and lessons learned in many countries of the globe and shared case studies and experiences in transition from analogue to digital radio from the region and beyond.

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Mr Alexander Zink Vice-Chair DRM Consortium; Senior Business Development Manager, Fraunhofer IIS, presented key benefits and features of DRM and its implementation steps for a successful DRM roll-out in both VHF and AM bands. He provided technology updates of DRM Digital Radio, DRM Digital Radio specifications for AM and bands I, II (FM) and III, features and benefits, network design & Emergency Warning Functionality (EWF).

Dr. Albert Waal Head of Hardware Development, RF mondial spoke about DRM – implementation steps and financial considerations. He discussed implementation of DRM in the FM band and upgradation of existing FM transmitter to DRM transmitter and detailed about the migration costs for doing so. Mr Albert spoke about DRM Field Trials & Case Studies for local DRM Services done in Johannesburg, South Africa; DRM Trial (in FM band) – Edinburgh, UK & DRM Local Coverage Trial by RRI, Indonesia in 2017 at Batam Indonesia – FM Transmitter Site.



Mr. Sharad Sadhu, Digital Radio Consultant, presented DRM Digital Radio implementation in general and case study of India in particular besides speaking about DRM receivers. He mentioned that Public Service Broadcaster All India Radio (AIR) has got 675 transmitters with break-up of 138 MW, 48 SW and 489 FM transmitters. Domestic coverage by pollution is 98.4% for MW, 52% for FM. He told that AIR DRM implementation is one of the largest digital radio deployment in the world having 39 DRM transmitters covering 0.5 billion people across the country.

Mr Sadhu also touched upon the RRI DRM trial in Bali Indonesia and mentioned that Radio Republik Indonesia announced in March 2019, at the DRM GA that it will acquire two DRM medium wave transmitters for populated areas of Indonesia and two other transmitters to be used for emergency warning in west Sumatra and west Java. Sharad then discussed the status of DRM receivers and deployment as standalone, in cars, desktop receivers and other receiver solutions. He mentioned that over 1.5 million cars with DRM receivers are on the road in India and car manufacturers such as

Mahindra, Hyundai, Maruti, Suzuki are installing DRM receivers or have plans to install it in various models of car manufacturers.

The participants in the seminar were from all ConnectTechAsia delegates who have had interest and stake in digital radio broadcasting.

## Tooling the Trainer

By **Dr. Ramachandran Ponnar**

Consultant/Associate Professor, Taylor's University

A framework of training competencies essential for workplace learning was the basis of the sub-regional Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop organised by AIBD in Kuala Lumpur, from 23rd to 26th July 2019.

Twelve (12) participants Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Malaysia attended the workshop. They were middle managers with vast broadcasting experience in their respective areas, aspiring to become trainers. Their learning initiative became apparent immediately from their active participation, when they were asked to assume the role of broadcast training managers for the duration of the workshop.

Creating a relevant context for participants' engagement with training brought out the value of competencies (tools and strategies) required for their lifelong learning and application to training.

The four-day workshop adhered to three (3) phases of the philosophy of teaching and learning: Instructional design, curriculum design and assessment design.



### Objectives

Participants of the four-day intensive module were able to:

- Construct, evaluate, and utilise learning objectives during a training session;
- Select appropriate training strategies to achieve learning objectives for targeted learners for a training session;
- Demonstrate their training skills using appropriate strategies in a classroom training sessions;
- Conduct evaluation sessions of their fellow participants in a collective and one-on-one session.

### A Framework

A framework of hierarchy of training needs, training activities and taxonomy of learning, guided the workshop that finally led to the 'Design of a Training Module'. To achieve this aim, standards, conditions and a set of attributes required as a basis for training activities were embedded into the schedule. Participants were expected to manage training situations in their respective context, situate training content, and evaluate training needs of broadcasters at their workplace.

From the onset, participants were guided through their purpose of choosing to be in the course. They were instilled the basics of developing learning objectives, crucial to navigate their direction of achieving goals. Participants explored the criteria of objective construction, in the areas of their respective expertise in meaningful ways. They were constantly reminded to observe the various strategies such as computer-assisted impacted advance learning, and interactive dynamic discussion used in the classroom. Participants had to show the use of google classroom and monday.com. The philosophy of 'show me', finally caught up with the participants.

Participants underwent training in a simulated multimedia environment. The standards included obligatory (must be present) areas of broadcasting. Where applicable, methods and strategies used included pedagogical attributes such as; relevant trainees' attributes for learning, education, teaching and training, mastery level, and other prerequisites. As their final presentation, participants were expected to develop a 'Five-Day Training Module'.

The participants were provided mentor-mentee assistance during all trainer-moderated sessions. The trainer elaborated on dynamic communication strategies, management of training issues including situations that required prudent time management. Training sessions were complimented by modified lectures, with researched input and multiple training strategies within an open learning environment. Participants gradually engaged in practical sessions with trainer-guided demonstrations with participants eventually taking the stage by themselves.

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### Conclusion

Each participant developed a five-day training module as a final presentation in their own area of expertise following the attributes from the workshop, demonstrating their acquired repertoire of training strategies.

After receiving their completion certificates, participants acknowledged that they were leaving with substantial new tools and knowledge to start on-the-job (OTJ) training, peer-to-peer training at their workplace. The outcome of this sub-regional training was evident when all participants managed to successfully make their final presentation.

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## Management and Digitisation of Audio-Video Archives

By **Utpal Kanti Mandal**

Former Programme Manager, AIBD

The Asia Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) & Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) organised a seminar on "Management and Digitisation of Audio Video Archives". The event was supported by Informa/UBM Singapore and conducted during BroadcastAsia-2019 on 18 June 2019, at Suntec Singapore. The seminar addressed steps necessary towards digitalisation of audiovisual archives, beginning with ways to further extend the life of existing analogue tapes to choosing the appropriate technology, metadata schemas and storage requirements and options. It also looked into implementation of MAM systems, its benefits in content management and workflow. Several Industry leaders in the area of archiving from the region presented and shared their experiences in this challenging and mission critical process.

Moderator Mr. Sharad Sadhu, Media Specialist started the session by providing an overview on the ecosystem of archival, need of archiving of content and related activity. Archives have always created descriptive tools to identify and locate documents, as well as to arrange and classify them according to their origin, their functions, their type or their thematic content. The first speaker Mr Aale Raza, Managing Director of Whiteways System presented preservation techniques and management of existing archives. Whiteways design, supply, install, commission the system for restoration (physical & digital), digitisation, archiving and software management of video content owned by the customer. Mr Raza explained about current Whiteways project where an organisation wants to digitise large quantities of audio / video assets. He shared this case study as an example on the steps on how to set up an archival system and manage it. He explained all the steps in managing audio-video archives and also touched upon Digital Right Management (DRM).

Dr.Marc M. Batschkus, Business Development Manager, Archiware, talked about Digital Solutions for Preservation and Building a Modern Archiving Systems. He said archive needs support from the organisation, people and processes. The purpose of archive is to free up space on production storage, preserve media and productions for long-time enrich with metadata. He said that the metadata are the key to the archive. He briefed about technical metadata (e.g. camera, resolution, lens); descriptive metadata (e.g. description, actors, location) and individual metadata schema.



Mr Bruno Burtre, Director of Business development for NOA GmbH, took some time to talk about audiovisual archives and how to give them a new life and make them valuable again. He then delivered on Archive Transfer Technology to service providers and broadcasters, Archive Asset Management (AAM), Long Term Database within Archives and how to preserve media and metadata on the long term. Mr Bruno also detailed the archival projects completed by NOA in Finland, Vienna, UAE and Slovenia.

Ms Punam Sharma, Director of Mediaguru, Singapore, presented two success stories her company accomplished in digitising archives. The first project was offered by a government agency in the Middle East in January 2014 which was completed by Mediaguru in five months. The project of Qatar Television: Digitising Archives for State Broadcaster was one of the largest digitisation facility spread across 100,000 square feet enabling ease of access to legacy content having 50+ 2" players, 1" players, U-Matic, DigiBeta, VHS, HDCam, film scanners, cleaners etc. It was digitising over 100,000 hours of legacy content by providing on-site solution and management of digitising archive content. On to the next success story of digitising archives for Rwanda Broadcasting Agency (RBA), Ms Punam told that digital conversion, indexing, cataloguing and management of over 75 thousand hours of audio-visual content was done for RBA and the organisation is planning to establish their VOD platform to distribute all digitised and restored content to the audience.

The moderator conducted a panel discussion with all the speakers on floor and addressed large number of issues on the subject matter and also all the queries raised by the delegates were responded by the panelists satisfactorily. Preserving the string of bits is not the same thing as preserving the audiovisual content since, for the latter, it also requires the technology that allows the data to be interpreted i.e. a computer and software able to convert this string of bits into images and sound. Digital preservation also includes the preservation of the context information, i.e. all the information related to the circumstances of the document's creation: its authorship, origin, date of creation, etc. Thus digitising audio-visuals and managing them is very important for preserving our time.

The seminar provided useful information to the participants who were in attendance in conjunction with Broadcast Asia.

# Exciting Times for Digital Radio

By **Monica Phang**,  
Programme Manager, AIBD

Drums of Asia – a performance of music from Malaysia and across the region kicked off the First Radiodays Asia Conference which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 27-28 August, 2019.



Mr Anders Held, Swedish founder of Radiodays Europe and Radiodays Asia, said one of Radio's strengths is that it is local, using the local language, and able to connect with audiences' needs and everyday life. But the challenges and rapid changes in how people listen, how they use media, and how they find their music and information are global.

He added that the trends are global, the technical platforms and innovations are spreading globally while some of the new big players like Apple, Google, Spotify and Amazon that are reshaping the audio business are global giants.

Radiodays Asia has worked with local host partners including the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) and the Commercial Radio of Malaysia (CRM).

AIBD Director Ms Philomena Gnanapragasam said Radiodays Europe has provided great platforms for media industry leaders from all around the world to interact. It has been a valuable partner of AIBD and 'it gives us great pleasure to collaborate with it in Kuala Lumpur for Radio Days Asia'. She expressed hope that the attending participants would find Radiodays Asia a great opportunity for the radio industry to explore the opportunities arising in this Fourth Industrial Revolution.



## Radio and digitisation

Abraham Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Bigfm, India, spoke during the opening session and said times are exciting for radio as it adapts to the ever changing media landscape. He added that radio continues to be the second most accessed media in India, reaching 65% of the population. This paves the way for hyper-local content to reach the corners of the country where other media organisations are unable to reach.

Abraham pointed out that radio is also considered the most credible and trusted source of information over other media. The growth in digital has in fact, opened up numerous

opportunities for audio entertainment. Radio stations are amplifying their reach and visibility using digital platforms, while digital platforms are using radio to tap into audiences. Radio content is also getting on to digital platforms via podcasts and so forth.



Joan Warner, Chief Executive Officer, Commercial Radio Australia, described radio is very much alive with ideas. She said in one day a listener can wake up to breakfast radio, listen in the car using DAB+, follow a radio show page on Facebook, listen on-demand to a radio podcast, use a mobile app or listen on a smart speaker such as an Amazon Echo using voice technology. To make all of these happen, radio has forged new partnerships with global giants and utilised their deep content expertise to create new customer experiences. She said that 'we should all feel proud of the ground-breaking work that's being done in these new areas to make sure radio is easily available wherever our listeners need us to be'.

**Technology and disruption: How the world will be listening in the future?**

James Cridland, Radio futurologist, Australia, rounded off the opening session with a presentation on artificial intelligence, big data, self-driving cars, 5G, and programmatic advertising.

He said radio has the power to unite us - to give us more understanding of the world and people around us. Radio can have many positive effects on mental health, social inclusion, and understanding of our fellow human beings.

Some 300 participants from 150 different radio stations and other media organisations from 30 countries attended the two-day event. Over 60 speakers presented a wide range of topics relevant and important to radio and audio industries. Topics include fake news and truth in the media, the rise of podcasting, monetising radio, brand extension, the importance of both talk and music radio, a look at the future of radio and where technology is influencing radio and the future of radio in the car.

The attendees gave an exceptionally high rating of 93% and positive comments of the event as shown below:

"Fantastic to get an understanding of what is happening in the Asian markets"

"An amazing opportunity to network with other broadcasters about fighting fake news"

"Everyone has been extremely positive and we all leave richer for the experience"

"This was really a breakthrough event in Asia"

"Very inspiring. I feel like graduating from Radio University"

"A real eye-opener on what is happening in the Asian radio world"

"A very fruitful conference for me and my team"

"Heard tons of new ideas. Met a lot of new friends. Great event"

"Loved the whole concept of Radiodays in Asia"

"I came out feeling more optimistic, motivated and full of ideas"

"A great first event. Proud to have supported it"

"First time attending a conference from which I have gained so much learning"

"Provided an innovative approach to radio"



# Data Journalism: Pushing Boundaries of Storytelling

By **Mr Kevin Anderson**

Consultant/Managing Producer, Digital Media at ideastream

Very few journalists get into the industry because they love numbers, but our world is awash in them. And with new technology, it is easier than ever to analyse numbers and present them in a way that engages broadcast and digital audiences.



From September 18 through 20, 22 journalists, communications professionals and government workers from, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives and Thailand came to hazy Kuala Lumpur to learn about cutting edge tools to analyse data and also how to unleash their creativity in using numbers to tell stories. They participated in the AIBD/ MDEC Regional Workshop on Data Journalism and Infographics for Newsroom.

In television, numbers and engaging graphics play a central role in news, financial reporting and live sports, but modern data journalism is opening up new areas of creativity that push the boundaries of storytelling.

The participants learned that the first step is understanding the kind of story that they wanted to tell and that the data is telling.

We looked at stories where the key data element is time, others that focused on place and still others that used advanced visualisation techniques to help audiences make sense of complex information.

For instance, Bloomberg created a story that looked at major U.S. Supreme Court decisions that addressed major social issues throughout history. With dynamic graphics and limited text, the story showed how social change was accelerating in the US by looking at the relatively short time that the court has decided on social issues in the last 50 years.





Some of the examples we looked at pushed the boundaries of storytelling. CNN looked at the issues of guns in the US in a totally different way, using bullets and other objects to create visualisations in real time.

In three days, participants learned spreadsheet skills including how to perform basic calculations and how to summarise thousands of records of data. This analysis helped them understand the story they were telling.

Once they learned how to analyse data, participants also learned how to create charts, graphs and maps to allow them to see trends in the data and also to tell stories. They worked with tools like Google charts and maps, Datawrapper and Flourish.

Flourish also has a story tools that allowed the participants to tie together their maps and charts into a narrative. They worked to tell stories about the haze covering Malaysia, tourism in the Maldives and disabled people in Thailand.

In addition to learning about data journalism techniques, the participants also learned about how to build data journalism teams using examples from publishers including The Guardian and The Financial Times and public service broadcasters like Australia's ABC. The key takeaway from these examples is that data journalism projects require a range of skills and skilled staff. They take data collection and analysis skills as well as visual storytelling skills.

The participants left the workshop with the skills to tell data stories and the enthusiasm to use these skills.

## Fine-tuning Sports Reporting and Production as a Run-up to Tokyo 2020

By **V. Sivakumar**

Consultant/Assistant Dir of Programmes (Sports & International Relations), All India Radio, New Delhi

The Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD), took the first step towards fine-tuning skills of the best sports reporting and production talent available in the Asia-Pacific by organising a workshop on sports journalism for broadcasters and journalists.

This activity was the first in a series of workshops planned for broadcasters as a run-up to the forthcoming 32nd Olympic Games scheduled in Tokyo in July-August, 2020. The three-day sub-regional workshop was conducted at the AIBD premises in Angkasapuri, Kuala Lumpur from 23rd to 25th September, 2019.

Sixteen television and radio broadcasters and journalists from three countries, i.e., Malaysia, Vietnam and Myanmar, participated in the three-day workshop and were awarded certificates by AIBD.

I was assigned the job of conducting the workshop by AIBD in my capacity as an experienced sports broadcaster currently heading sports broadcast content production in All India Radio, Prasar Bharati, New Delhi.

This was the first-ever workshop organised by AIBD during the last decade that focused on basics of sports journalism and sports content in the context of changing media consumption pattern across the world, with content over television, radio and print increasingly being accessed by consumers online, using social media tools and mobile devices.



Participants at the workshop were encouraged to actively acquaint themselves with skills required for coverage of sports events. These included preparatory work and research, liaison and procurement of technical facilities, reporting from sports venues, polishing of interviewing skills and techniques, production of eye-witness accounts and origination of live play-by-play commentary from venues.

The workshop provided an appropriate forum to discuss the positive role played by sports in democratic as well as other societies and how sports helped bringing people together fostering and instilling human values like cooperation, sportsman spirit, hard work, focus, persistence and discipline in those who were involved in it. Development of a healthy body and mind and character of young individuals through sports, the craft of sports coverage in multi-cultural settings, sports as a career and the perks and positive aspects of being a sportsperson were highlighted during the workshop.

For a sports broadcaster, getting to know the audience and consumers was paramount and acquisition of skills required for extensive preparatory research and homework and probable sources of accurate information or broadcasts were discussed in detail.

Sessions at the workshop began with a recap of main points discussed the previous day. Participants of the workshop were constantly involved in practical exercises and assignments involving indoor and outdoor recording of video and audio. The audio/ video production assignments attempted by participants were presented before the group and analysed. These included introductions to a game of their choice, sports personalities, presentation of sports news, and eye-witness accounts.

Live commentary, broadcast rights acquisition and logistics associated with coverage of large international multi-sports events and methods of reporting live from venues in such settings were discussed in detail. Practical issues that often hampered smooth production of sports programmes, need for speed and accuracy were dealt with at length. Tips for achieving optimum results from designated mixed zones of international events, covering player press conferences and formulation of alternatives like devising a Plan 'B' for emergencies during a live coverage were explored.

Matters like gender issues, money in sports, ethics and negative aspects like match fixing and doping were also covered during the three-day workshop. Communication games and quiz sessions were interwoven into interactions aimed at making participants actively involved in knowledge sharing.

Overall, this attempt by AIBD at skilling sports broadcasters from the Asia-Pacific region proved to be a tremendous success with several participants of the sub-regional workshop requesting for follow-up sessions and activities on various aspects of sports coverage.

A closing function was held on 25th September, 2019 at AIBD with the Director, Ms. Philomena Gnanapragasam along with the course consultant giving away certificates to workshop participants.





Ms. Gnanapragasam congratulated the course consultant and participants for a successful workshop. She remarked that AIBD had received requests from several countries for organising such workshops and thanked Prasar Bharati and All India Radio for deputing an experienced sports producer and broadcaster as consultant for conducting the workshop. AIBD, she said, was also planning follow-up workshops on sports coverage as a run up to next year's Olympic Games in Tokyo considering the demand for training in generation of sports content from AIBD members and journalists in the region.

Hope AIBD continues to serve broadcasters from the Asia-Pacific better in future and is able to grow faster, higher and stronger!

## Skills and Techniques of single camera production operation

By **Mr Noor Azhar Kamat**  
Consultant/Trainer

A good TV programme does not rely on the script and directing only. Photography/ videography also plays an important role to pull the audience. It is important for a cameraman to, not only able to understand the command of TV language but has creativity and the skill to handle a camera /camcorder independently. He may be an experienced cameraman in the News department and studio but situation is different for a single camera production operation where creativity and techniques of shooting in sequence (SIS) are amongst the determining factors of success for the production and the needs of post-production.

A three days In-Country Workshop on Single Camera Production Operation was successfully held on 24th -26th September 2019 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. It was organized by Radio Television Brunei (RTB) with the collaboration of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD). It was aimed to enable the ENG cameraman to acquire the skills and techniques of SCP Operations to become professional and creative besides upskilling the cameraman to multi-task in both SCP and MCP operation in the TV station.

A total of 25 participants who are mostly cameraman and technicians from various unit (OB, EFP, ENG, studio, lighting & audio) attended the 3 days workshop.

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In this workshop, participants learned about the important parts and the switches of the camcorder and had hands-on sessions practicing the technique of shooting.

The fundamentals of a basic MCP and SCP operation were revisited whereby the participants were reminded about the importance of the preparation for pre-production i.e. to get idea, planning, storyboard, shooting list and to be clear of the use for basic shot of what is establishing shot, detail shots and cutaway shots.

The important rules of Orientation / 180degrees rules, Interview and VOX pop in television production and technique of shooting were also demonstrated in order to make participants really understood what was been taught.



### Shooting In Sequence (SIS)

To understand SIS, the cameraman must have knowledge or expertise in dealing with camcorder and to understand the basic production rule such as:

- What & where to use basic shot / composition (rules of third)
- What is orientation / line of axis (180 degrees rule)
- What is cut away shot. (important during editing rule)

SIS technique can save time, storage and it helped the cameraman to be independent. To showcase what had been learned, the participants were divided into small groups and given a chance to make mini project each using SIS technique.

All thanks to the experience of the trainer, Mr Azhar Kamat, the workshop ended with the participants acquiring the understanding of the importance of Pre-production preparation, storyboards and shooting list, the purpose and impact of taking quality shot with minimal storage and most of all know how to operate the camcorder professionally and shoot independently.



The workshop was officially closed by YM Cheong Chee Keong, Acting Deputy Director of Training and Human Resource Department.

## Mobile Journalism

By **Nabeel Tirmazi**

Consultant/Programme Manager, AIBD

AIBD and Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI) organised an In-Country workshop on Mobile Journalism in the historical Royal city of Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 23 to 27 September 2019. The workshop was designed for the broadcasters of Indonesia working in the programme, camera, news and social media departments.

The aim of this practical training was to enable the participants to explore the potential of mobile journalism in Fourth Industrial Revolution, which requires new perspectives to be adopted by the Broadcasting industry. The workshop discussed the importance of effective and efficient communication between the newsroom and the field reporters.

Participants of the workshop gained insight and practices during the training producing interviews, documentaries and promos with smartphones, exploiting the smartphone specs with the manual controls, editing the footage, creating motion graphics, newsroom management for Mojo reporters, doing live streams from smartphones, working with the teams and distributing the reports on different platforms. The workshop also included extensive sessions on script writing and media management through smartphones. The workshop ended with a session on VR journalism and application of Artificial Intelligence as the future of Mojo as a way forward for a potential future workshop.

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Participants, being senior broadcasters of TVRI, appreciated the training workshop and found it useful for both the future and their current work activities. Initially, some concerns were raised by the participants from camera department on 'one-man show' and being less dependent on the traditional ways of production. In response, the consultant, Nabeel Tirmazi discussed the global models of integration of Mojo workflow with the traditional setup, and emphasized that even cameramen should learn this workflow along with the storytelling techniques to uplift their profile and to contribute more impact fully for their organisation.

On the first day, Mr Apni Jayaputra, Director of News & Programme TVRI, delivered his presentation on his experience as a Mobile Journalist and showcased his work. He told that TVRI has the plan to integrate the Mojo workflow in its mainstream broadcasting, but to do that, the employees should know the potential of this skill, the authorities will leave no stone unturned to uplift their employees for this skill. He also added that Mr Helmi Yahya, Director President, TVRI, has planned further to recognize the significant contributors of MoJo and in near future there might be a separate division on MoJo.

During the 5-day workshop, participants were given three assignments to showcase their newly gained skills. For this purpose, two sessions were allocated for the outdoor recording, one being a final report on historical Borobudur Temple, World's largest Buddhist temple near Yogyakarta.



Participants showed active participation during the practical training and produced altogether fifteen short reports on various issues in Yogyakarta, which were shot, narrated and edited on smartphones only. The participants displayed high commitment to not only to apply the knowledge learned from this workshop but also to mentor their colleagues and subordinates to use the potential of 'mojo' to create impactful stories.

On the last day, Mr Isnan Rahmanto, Director Finance, TVRI was the chief guest, and he praised the quality of the reports produced by the participants of the workshop and encouraged them to teach these skills to their colleagues. He also mentioned that as President Director TVRI seeks to empower the employees of TVRI in the subject of Mobile Journalism, the organisation might organise more in-country workshops on the advance concepts of MoJo.

Lastly, Mr Rahmanto praised the role of AIBD in uplifting the Asian-Pacific broadcasting industry and showed support to the initiatives of Ms Philomena Gnanapragasam on coping with research on Fake news and to have an annual regional Ministerial meeting of Information Ministers of AIBD's member countries.

Twenty-One participants from 15 TV stations of TVRI, which included regional stations of Turi Kalimantan Barat, TVRI Jogja, TVRRI Sumut, TVRI Sumsel, TVRI Sulbur, TVRI Kaltim, TVRI Aceh, TVRI Jawa Barat, TVRI North Sulawesi, TVRI Bali, TVRI Jateng, Tvri Sulsel and Head office in Jakarta with working experience from 7 to 20 years attended the workshop.

Mr Nabeel Tirmazi, former producer from Pakistan Television and AIBD Programme Manager conducted the workshop while Ms Yohana Savitri provided the translation from English to Bahasa Indonesia.

## Re-inventing Radio with digital

By **Monica Phang**  
Programme Manager, AIBD

AIBD together with Radio Televisyen Brunei (RTB) recently organised an in-country workshop in Brunei focused on how broadcasters can enhance radio programming through digital media and social media.



Entitled 'Super Radio', the workshop also examined various digital products that can generate high reach and better sales revenues for radio.

Twenty-four participants joined the three-day workshop held from 1-3 October 2019.

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Topics covered in the workshop included current global media Insights, media landscape in Brunei, opportunities via social media, video platform, podcast, music streaming, e-commerce, and digital products for revenue generation. Participants were also presented subjects on storytelling on multiple platforms, radio and promotions, and radio and clients.



The workshop began with the consultant sharing with the participants the latest data in digital and social media consumption globally and regionally. This is to showcase how and why a radio or TV station should leverage on social media's strength. An open discussion with participants were also held to gauge and understand the challenges in the local broadcast industry by having them to share their experience and knowledge.

Throughout the workshop, participants displayed excellent enthusiasm and cooperation especially during group presentation activities. The highlight of the three-day workshop was when they participated in a parody video challenge and produced their own short videos. Also the participants were impressive when showcasing their creativity in coming out with radio plus digital solutions for clients, incorporating the social media and digital assets they have learned.

Towards the end of the workshop, the participants learned that change is necessary to embrace digital disruption in the organisation, and this would be possible with sound leadership, positive culture and training.

Overall, the participants were keen to learn about the media insights and how they could apply the knowledge gained from the workshop to re-invent radio with digital.



# ADRENALIN RUSH AND A WHOA! ADVENTURE FOR AIBD STAFF- Novice Rafting & Drum Circle Team Bonding

By **Lee Lai Mee**  
Programme Manager, AIBD



As work stress mounted and routine by day became energy sapping, the staff of AIBD took off to a great one-day team building trip in Kg Ulu Slim, Slim River on 11th October 2019. It aimed to give the staff a way to relax out of Kuala Lumpur and be with team mates to de-stress, energise and promote a deeper sense of camaraderie.

The team building programme also aimed to inculcate the following work values & ethics

Cheered on by the saying 'Never be afraid to try something new. Remember amateurs built the Ark, professional built the Titanic', the majority of the staff voted to go on a white water rafting experience, to let the adrenalin rush and be WHOA by it!



Kg Ulu Slim is about 140 kilometres, about 1 1/2 hours from Kuala Lumpur and the 7 kilometres Slim River Rapids Grade 3 (intermediate level river) was great fun, the adrenalin rush cannot be explained by words for novice rafters like us.

My Adventure Host team, led by Mr Izz Idris (Izni) assisted us with the logistics. He provided impeccable service throughout the day, along with the incredible warm-welcoming nature of his co-hosts that orchestrated the rafting activities. Our wonderful moments were even captured by his team offside.

From the basecamp at Kg Ulu Slim, we had awesome 4WD experience to the Put-In Point at Kuala Tibang, about 4 kilometres from the basecamp. We had a chance to see some Orang Asli (indigenous people) villages along the way. At Kuala Tibang, besides getting our rafting equipment -helmet, paddles and PFD (Professional Floatation Device), a detailed briefing on safety and procedures of white water rafting was given by Ms Eja, the raft instructor and her team of river guides. We were then divided into 4 groups with 2 guides in each raft. Snacks and drinks were provided at pit-stop.



Cool! The river was as so-called `slim` that we had to squeeze through many rocks. Often, we had to jump from left to right-right to left in the raft and falling on top of each other. To reach the Take-out point at Post Bersih, Rule no. 1 learned- teamwork; Rule no.2-follow the instructions of the leader (river guide)- ALL RIGHT, ALL LEFT, NORMAL, ALL FRONT, ALL BACK & ALL IN. Rule No.3: team spirit and calm response when risk arise- when the raft overturned, somebody fell off the raft or succumbed to an over flipped and have to swim the last rapid before the take-out.

### **Drumcircle Team Bonding Activity**

In this activity, drumming was used as the vehicle for creating connections among us and ultimately in the workplace. It uses rhythm to explore and inspire group empowerment, leadership and build better relationship. According to the drumming instructor, Mr Haiqal, drumming builds effective teams and inspires oneness towards a common goal.



## Team building activity

We had a fun time trying to create simple rhythms by playing percussion instruments in a drum circle. We were required to concentrate, listen and communicate through rhythms. Creating spontaneous rhythms and beats helps to reduce stress and releases negative energy besides promoting creativity.

We were amazed at how fast we can create simple rhythm and beat together as a team when we had to showcase our learnings in AIBD GOT TALENT presentation. Lalalala,lalalaah,lalalalah,lalalaah... was such an effective method to motivate team spirit working together besides increasing potential skills that we have.

All in all in just a day, we really learned that when the going gets tough, there is no turning back but just follow the leader, stay focus towards oneness in achieving the common rhythm /goal and drop the past if the loads get heavier, just move on. For now, we have just supported the local communities to make a living from eco-based tourism.

Henry Ford once quoted 'Coming together is a beginning, keeping togetherness is progress, and working together is success.'



## AIBD Quality Management System (QMS), First Surveillance Audit 2019

By **Lee Lai Mee**  
Programme Manager, AIBD

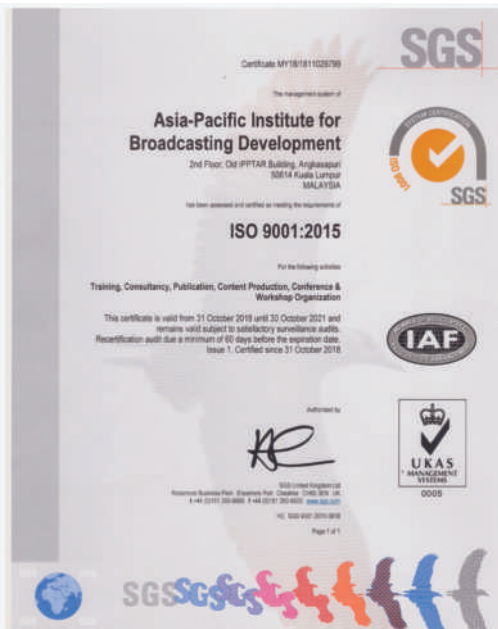
AIBD has obtained ISO 9001:2015 certification in October 2018. The certificate includes AIBD's Quality Management systems and its core activities in training, consultancy, publication, content production and workshop organisation. As an inter-governmental organisation and an international institute for capacity building, the staff of AIBD have worked hard to uphold the certification.

The new standard ISO 9001:2015 is the fifth edition, which replaces the fourth edition (ISO 9001:2008). The certification is valid for 3 years from 2018 till 2021 and is subject to 3 years of surveillance audit from 2019 onwards.



The first surveillance audit was done on 11 September 2019. The focus was on Training, Consultancy, Conference and Workshops Organisation for the programme department; whereas for the administration and IT department, it was on purchasing and for the Management it was about changed directorship. Termed as Operation Control 1, Ms Normalis Ali from SGS(M) Sdn Bhd, conducted the audit using interviews, observation of activities and review of documentation and records.

The Project 'Asia Media Summit 2019, from 12-14 June 2019 in Siem Reap, Cambodia' and a Regional Workshop - AIBD/IPDC/ UNESCO on 'Addressing Gender Bias in Media from 27-29 March 2019, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia' were used as samples. All internal reports, documents and evidence were verified as no non-conformity. The procedures for purchases in relation to the two events were sampled and no major non-conformity was raised.



The ISO 9001:2015 internal audit program for 2019 had been fully implemented and demonstrated effectiveness as a tool for maintaining and improving management system. The three minor non-conformities raised during stage 2 audit 2018 were identified and fast appropriate actions taken accordingly.

The auditor remarked that the good cooperation and display of positive attitude by all the staff in maintaining the standards were a plus point for the organisation and the new director, and with proper documentation of the action plan when planning for its objectives and targets, could be amongst some great opportunities for improvement. Reviewing some procedures and the risk matrix with documented action plan would be useful tools for the top management to consider.

The auditor concluded that the organisation has established and maintained its management system in line with requirements of the ISO standards, and recommended that the certification be continued.

# AIBD Director meets UNESCO Assistant DG for Media and Information

By **Jigme Thinley**  
Programme Manager, AIBD

The AIBD Director, Ms Philomena Gnanapragasm, met with the UNESCO Assistant Director General for Media and Information, Mr Moez Chakchouk, here in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last week. The meeting saw discussions on building partnerships between the two agencies to carry out various activities in the region.



Some of the key areas discussed were on disinformation or 'fake news', Media and Information Literacy (MIL), safety for journalists and climate change among others.

Speaking on 'fake news', Ms Philomena highlighted the big initiative undertaken by AIBD with its member countries. She said that AIBD has launched the 'Angkor Anti-Fake News' Initiative in Bhutan recently. "Under the Initiative, with the help of UNESCO, we have embarked on a year-long research project with two universities in Malaysia and conduct various trainings and workshops in the region," she said, adding that questionnaire for the research has already been sent out to the member organisations.

Mr Chakchouk said he was pleased to learn that and UNESCO remains committed in supporting the Initiative, as well as other activities carried out by AIBD. "It is very timely and well chosen. If we want to combat

disinformation we need to improve the quality of journalism," he added.

The Assistant Director General said that there are lot of opportunities to work together and reach out to as many countries as possible, especially in the Pacific and Africa. One of the mandates of AIBD as an intergovernmental organisation, Ms Philomena said, is to build capacity of its member organisations. And since both UNESCO and AIBD are on the same path, she said, the two must join hands to work together to raise awareness on key media issues, and enhance media and information literacy in the region.

The Director also briefed the Assistant Director General on the information ministers' conclave in Samoa and the next Asia Media Summit in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### Director meets the Diplomats

As AIBD Director, Ms Philomena Gnanapragasam visited the embassies and high commissions of AIBD member countries for a courtesy call in her first two months, after assuming the charge. Ms Philomena met with several ambassadors and high commissioners serving in Kuala Lumpur to introduce AIBD as an intergovernmental organisation, serving media industry in the region.

The diplomats congratulated the new Director and ensured their support to the institute. Almost all of them had this view that AIBD has contributed a lot in the past for media development in their countries and they wish to strengthen the ties with the institute to help their respective information ministries and public broadcasters. They also showed support to AIBD's recent inter-governmental research project, The Angkor initiative on combating fake news in the region.



H.E Md Shahidul Islam  
High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Malaysia



Ms Yong Xin Tian, First Secretary (Political)  
High Commission of the Republic of Singapore



Anne Jalandon-Louis  
Deputy Chief of Mission and Consul General  
Philippines Embassy in Malaysia



H.E Udaya Raj Pandey  
Ambassador of Nepal to Malaysia



H.E Anna Baloch  
High Commissioner of Pakistan to Malaysia



H.E Ms. Rath Many  
Ambassador of Cambodia to Malaysia



H.E Frederic Laplanche  
Ambassador of France in Malaysia









