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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION
(IPDC)**

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(Twenty-eighth session)

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REPORT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IPDC (Twenty-eighth session)

UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS

22 – 23 MARCH 2012

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1. Opening of the 28th Session of the IPDC Council

The 28th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) took place at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 22 and 23 March 2012. Representatives of the 39 Member States that form the Council attended the meeting (Appendix 3), along with observers from various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and United Nations agencies, programmes and funds. Mr Jyrki Pulkkinen from Finland was elected as the Chairperson of the IPDC Council, becoming its seventh Chairperson since the Programme's inception in 1980. In this capacity, Mr Pulkkinen presided over the session's proceedings.

In the absence of the outgoing Chairperson, Mr Raghu Menon from India, the session was opened by UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, Mr Jānis Kārklīņš. After welcoming the participants, Mr Kārklīņš suggested that Vice-Chairperson, Ms Ladavan Bua-aim of Thailand, preside over the session until the election of the new Chairperson under item 3 of the proceedings. This suggestion was made following consultation with the two other Vice-Chairpersons of the IPDC Bureau, and was met with no objections.

In taking the floor, Ms Ladavan expressed appreciation to Mr Menon for his contribution to the IPDC and its activities over the past two years, before moving on to the adoption of the agenda.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Concerns were raised by the representatives of Brazil, Ecuador and Cuba regarding the lack of balanced regional representation among the experts selected for the thematic debates. In particular, the absence of a panelist from Latin America during the discussion on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity was considered regrettable, since it represents the region the most touched by this issue in the past decade. The point was also raised that intergovernmental discussions must be prioritized over experts' contributions, with the representative of Cuba suggesting that the time allocated to experts' presentations be shortened.

Mr Guy Berger, IPDC Secretary and Director of UNESCO's Division for Freedom of Expression and Media Development, responded to these concerns by stating that efforts had been made to secure the participation of panelists from Latin America, but that the current budget constraints had unfortunately prevented this from being a reality. The experts in attendance were participating at their own cost. He reassured the assembly that the Secretariat would do its utmost to ensure fair geographic representation at future IPDC meetings. He went on to stress that Member States' viewpoints were not considered secondary to those of experts, reflected in the agenda by the fact that their input was prior to that of the experts, therefore placing the onus on Member States to shape the proceedings accordingly.

A further request was made to the IPDC Secretariat to replace within the agenda the word 'endorse' with 'consider' with regard to the Draft UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity being submitted to the Council. The Brazilian representative underlined that it was the prerogative of the Council members to decide whether or not to endorse such documents. At the Council Members' general agreement, acting Chairperson Ms Ladavan then formally incorporated this change within the agenda, as well as the previous suggestion to reduce the amount of time allocated to experts' presentations.

The representative of India expressed his wish to incorporate a discussion on the structure of the IPDC within the agenda, specifically with regard to the possibility of a rotating Chair in order to adequately represent the various geographical groups. He also requested clarification on the Programme's traditions, established conventions, statutes and roles. This request was supported by Pakistan as well as the representative of Peru, who added that improved clarity was also required with regard to the composition of the IPDC Bureau, and stated that the presence of five regional groups for eight available positions on the Bureau would always lead to a certain imbalance.

Acting Chair, Ms Ladavan, responded to this request by incorporating an extra item on the agenda entitled 'Structure and methods of work of the IPDC Council' (Item 12). The amended agenda was then adopted (see Appendix 1).

3. Election and speech of new Chairperson of the IPDC Intergovernmental Council

Prior to inviting the submission of nominations for the new Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council, Ms Ladavan reminded the floor of the importance of this role, which also involves chairing the meetings of the IPDC Bureau. The elected Chairperson would remain in this function until the next Council session on 2014.

On behalf of Regional Group 1, the representative of the Netherlands nominated Mr Jyrki Pulkkinen of Finland, explaining this choice with reference to Mr Pulkkinen's proven leadership skills, his strong educational and development assistance background, and expertise in many fields related to the work of the Council. This proposal was seconded by Thailand, with Yemen also voicing its support for Mr Pulkkinen's candidature. A consensus was evident and Ms Ladavan officially pronounced Mr Jyrki Pulkkinen of Finland new Chairperson of the IPDC.

Mr Pulkkinen is Senior Adviser at the Department for Development Policy of the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He is responsible for the Information Society, Science, Technology and Innovation for Development policies, including ICT4D, development communication and freedom of expression. He is currently also an Expert Member of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission and Co-chair of the EU-Africa 8th Partnership on Information Society.

In the past he has been the CEO of the Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GeSCI) in both in Dublin and Nairobi, a position in which he was responsible for GeSCI's operations in four continents and more than 10 countries. This entailed leading and managing a global UN-affiliated international organization and trust fund, streamlining HR policies, managing and supervising staff, and developing strategic partnerships with several international organizations, including UNESCO.

In addressing the assembly, Mr Pulkkinen began by thanking the Council for its support and trust in electing him as Chairperson, a role which he considered an honour and great pleasure to accept. He promised to do his best to ensure that the activities of the Council and Bureau would be conducted efficiently and democratically. He also affirmed his willingness to ensure that the projects of the IPDC are selected and looked after in the best possible manner, with the selection criteria renewed to reflect the changing face of the world of communication.

He continued by giving a brief overview of his professional background, which had enabled him to follow the IPDC from the sidelines over the past seven years through his role within the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He explained that he considers the core values and developmental goals of the IPDC to be highly relevant in today's world, and stressed the necessity of continuing its work to promote freedom of expression, the free flow of information, democracy, good governance, gender balance and transparency. He felt, however, that there is an ever-pressing need to reflect the dramatic changes which the world of communication has undergone in recent times. In this regard, he made specific reference to the increasingly participatory and bi-directional nature of media which has emerged particularly as a result of the proliferation of social media and mobile technologies over the last few years, as well as the use of media to promote good governance and transparency by opening up public data to citizens. These new forms of 'citizen-centric' media, as he referred to them, are, in his mind, generally convergent with traditional forms of communication, and could therefore be incorporated within the existing framework of the IPDC. To illustrate this point, he used the example of the IPDC's capacity-building activities in regard to media and information literacy, reflecting the fact that, in a modern communication environment, the media skills of citizens are becoming as important as the skills of the professionals.

In concluding, Mr Pulkkinen reaffirmed his commitment to developing the Programme in the coming years and said that he would make every effort to remain fair when chairing its meetings and open-minded in discussing new ideas. He encouraged the Member States to engage in discussions, reminding them that the only way to build the IPDC as an institution is through communication.

4. Election of the IPDC Bureau Members

The members of the Bureau, elected by consensus and for two years, are as follows:

- Vice-chairpersons: Peru, Tanzania, Thailand
- Members: Albania, Algeria, United States of America
- Rapporteur (*elected in a personal capacity*): Mr Mikhail Gusman (Russian Federation)

5. Report by the Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information on IPDC activities since the 27th Council session in 2010

In taking the floor, UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, Mr Jānis Kārklīņš, began by reminding those present of IPDC's mission to strengthen the capacities of free, independent and pluralistic media in developing countries and countries in transition. He underlined that its important role has been regularly reaffirmed by the United Nations' General Assembly, most recently through Resolution A/RES/66/81, '*Information in the service of humanity*', adopted on 9 December 2011, which urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system and all other stakeholders concerned "to provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication [of UNESCO], which should support both public and private media."

Continuing, he spoke of the events witnessed over the past year in the Arab region, in particular in Tunisia and Egypt, which provided a reminder of media's potential to create a vibrant public sphere in which voices can be heard, as well as contributing to increased transparency, dialogue and accountability, which are essential in the development of effective democratic systems.

In such contexts, he stated, the IPDC is crucial in its ability to provide support to media development initiatives carried out by local actors seeking to expand press freedom and media diversity. The multi-donor Special Account through which most IPDC projects are financed ensures that this support is not tied up to any particular country, something which is viewed positively by many beneficiary organizations in terms of preserving their independence and integrity. Although the funds provided for each project are relatively modest, they often constitute the seed capital which can attract support from other funding sources.

To illustrate this point, Mr Kārklīņš used the example of the Mugambo Jwetu Community Multimedia Centre (CMC), which was officially launched on 30 July 2011 thanks to funding from the IPDC. Immediately after its launch, the Embassy of Finland in Kenya expressed its readiness to form a partnership to co-fund the project. The opening ceremony was attended by hundreds of people from the community, dignitaries from across the country and by the Prime

Minister of Kenya himself, who praised UNESCO for being at the forefront of promoting community radio.

The Assistant Director-General then proceeded to deliver the Report on the IPDC's activities in 2010-2012 (Appendix 2; document reference: CI-12/CONF.202/2) which, he explained, contained an overview of the main achievements of the Programme over the past two years.

After detailing the content of the Report, Mr Kārklīšs thanked the IPDC Council and Bureau members for their collaboration and assistance in enabling the IPDC Secretariat to organize the two statutory meetings of the Programme in 2012, despite the difficult financial situation faced by the Organization.

He also thanked outgoing Chairperson, Mr Raghu Menon, and Indian Ambassador H.E. Mr Vinay Sheel Oberoi, for their contribution to the work of the Council and leadership of the Bureau. After detailing the various cost-saving measures undertaken in the organization of the 2012 Bureau and Council meetings, Mr Kārklīšs stressed the importance of Member States' support during these challenging times in order to take the IPDC to a new level of leadership within the media development community worldwide.

6. Director General's Report: "The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity"

The session on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity began with the presentation of Director-General's Report on this subject (document reference: CI-12/CONF.202/4 REV), delivered by UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, Mr Jānis Kārklīšs. The proceedings also included consideration of the following documents:

- The United Nations Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and The Issue of Impunity
- The IPDC Decision on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

In opening, Mr Kārklīšs recalled that over the last decade, more than 500 journalists and media workers have been killed worldwide, with many more wounded while carrying out their professional responsibilities. The majority of these were not even working in conflict zones. He continued by stressing the importance of ensuring a safe environment for journalists in order to protect the right of all citizens to reliable information and the right of journalists to provide this information without fearing for their security.

Reaffirming UNESCO's commitment to promoting the safety of journalists and ending impunity for attacks against them, Mr Kārklīšs continued by listing numerous decisive actions taken by the Organization in this area in recent years. Often carried out in collaboration with other organizations, this work has included supporting safety training courses and workshops for

journalists and media workers worldwide, creating awareness-raising campaigns and advocating with Member States in an effort to put an end to impunity. UNESCO has also enriched the international legal field by endorsing resolutions and declarations that have in some cases served as catalysts for the advancement of a safer climate for journalists, consequently providing citizens with easier access to quality information.

The IPDC has been at the forefront of these efforts, since the Council's request to the Director-General in 2006 to produce a biennial report based on her condemnations of the killings of journalists and media workers, including updated information of responses received on a voluntary basis from Member States concerned by these killings.

In 2010, the IPDC Council unanimously adopted the second Decision on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, which additionally requested the Director-General "to consult with Member States on the feasibility of convening an inter-agency meeting of all the relevant UN agencies with a view to formulating a comprehensive, coherent, and action-oriented approach to the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity."

On the basis of the responses received following a consultation with Member States, the first UN Inter-Agency Meeting on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 13-14 September 2011. The event gathered representatives of United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, as well as a wide range of international and regional institutions, professional organizations, NGOs and Member States in order to formulate a results-oriented UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.

The measures in the resulting Plan of Action include the establishment of a coordinated inter-agency mechanism to handle issues related to the safety of journalists, and the involvement of other intergovernmental organizations at international and regional levels to encourage the incorporation of media development programmes focusing on journalists' safety within their respective strategies.

To further reinforce prevention, the Plan foresees the extension of work already conducted by UNESCO in this area, and recommends working in cooperation with governments, media houses, professional associations and NGOs to conduct awareness-raising campaigns on a wide range of issues such as existing international instruments and conventions; emerging threats to media professionals, including from non-state actors; as well as various existing practical guides on the safety of journalists and how to counteract impunity. Emphasis is also given in the Plan to the importance of disseminating good practices, with journalism education institutions being encouraged to include, within their curricula, relevant materials on the issue.

The 2012 Director-General's Report includes the finalized draft of this Plan, which constitutes an example of how the United Nations can ensure better implementation of existing standards for the protection of journalists and how to address more effectively the issue of impunity.

Mr Kārklīš then proceeded to give an overview of the Director-General's Report, citing some of the key figures and trends. Over the period 2010-2011, the Director-General condemned the killings of 127 journalists from 37 countries, most of whom were reporting on local conflicts, organized crime, drugs, corruption and other illegal activities. The most dangerous countries for journalists were Mexico, Pakistan and Honduras, with 18, 16 and 13 killings respectively.

Regarding the Director-General's request to Member States to provide information on the status of the judicial inquiries into killings which occurred during the period 2006-2009, information was received (prior to the deadline of 31 December 2011) from 21 Member States, accounting for 101 of the 245 cases requested. Of these 101 cases, 9 had led to a conviction.

In closing, Mr Kārklīš spoke of the upcoming activities in this area, which include the presentation of the Plan of Action at the UN Systems Chief Executives Board at its meeting in April 2012¹, and, with the support of Austria, the organization of a follow-up Inter-Agency Meeting to be held in November 2012. This, he stated, would provide an opportunity to incorporate valuable suggestions from Member States, enabling the move from an Action Plan to a Work Plan.

Chairperson Pulkkinen then opened the floor to Member States for their comments on the Director-General's Report.

6.1 Discussion on the Director-General's Report

A large number of Member States affirmed their governments' commitment to promoting freedom of expression and the safety of journalists, and voiced concern at the worrying situation portrayed by the figures within the Report. Representatives' comments covered various themes in the ensuing discussion. These have been grouped together in the narrative that follows below.

6.1.1 Discussion on contextual issues concerning journalistic safety

Among the specific points raised during the session was the issue of the context in which crimes against journalists are committed. Using his own country as an example, the representative of Honduras spoke of the need to consider the specific situation in Latin America, where organized crime and drug trafficking presented major obstacles not only to the work of journalists but to the general functioning of all the countries in the region. The Honduras government was not denying that there was a problem with violence, but this was a more general problem, concerning society as a whole, not just journalists. Honduras was not a State that arrested journalists or tried to restrain freedom of expression; on the contrary, it defended this right.

¹ The Plan was subsequently endorsed by the Board on 13 April, 2012.

The Dominican Republic's delegate also proposed that the safety of journalists be put in the context of how crime affects society in general. The representative of Mexico, intervening as an observer at the Council, stated that attacks perpetrated by criminal organizations against journalists were criminal acts. He added that the State was not responsible for them and was doing all it could to fight organized crime and stop the perpetrators, with some of its actions recorded in paragraph 46 of the Director-General's report.

Pakistan's delegate held the view that killings should be contextualized in terms of hotspots and the country's fight against terrorism. Some of the incidents mentioned in the Director-General's Report took place in remote areas where the police either did not have sufficient access or sufficient resources to carry out investigation work. As a consequence, the investigation processes were very slow and patience-testing. It was suggested that distinction be made between deaths caused by local organized groups and those within conflict zones. The Government of Pakistan assured that the legal proceedings in all cases of murder were underway and that the prosecutions were at various stages.

The representative of Niger pointed out that the safety of journalists had another dimension beyond murders, namely illegal imprisonments, intimidation, physical threats and violence, and unfair dismissal. Journalists were therefore fearful, and this led to self-censorship. The country was establishing a new law to decriminalize press offences, and the President had committed that no journalist would be jailed for denouncing corruption or other violations under his government.

Afghanistan's delegate stated that condemnations were not enough; there was also a need for media development and other support. The problem of suicide attacks and terrorist activities meant that hundreds of innocent civilians were killed, and sometimes journalists were amongst them. This was difficult to prevent and to investigate. The delegate invited UNESCO to send an expert to Kabul to monitor freedom of expression. The IPDC Secretariat responded that it would investigate the feasibility of sending such an expert.

6.1.2 Discussion on specific country information in the Report.

A number of countries commented on the contents of the Director-General's Report. The representative of Honduras requested that the Report recognize contexts in which Governments struggled to contend with the powerful force of organized crime and the escalating spiral of violence which resulted from it. He stated further that paragraph 22 of the Report included a quotation from an NGO which did not distinguish between politically motivated killings in the past in which governments were implicated, and those killings which governments were not responsible for. He explained that in 2009 there had been a difficult political situation in Honduras which had now been overcome, but that the quote in the report suggested that this situation was ongoing. The representative requested the removal of the quotation, stating that it would taint the impression of those reading the report of what was going on in Honduras.

The Secretariat responded by agreeing to add the date of the quotation to the Report. A streamlined process in future would also enable Member States to send information at any given moment throughout the year, on a voluntary basis. This information could then be made available in real time online, which would make it possible to show the evolution and the changing situation in a given country over time.

The representative of Cameroon expressed surprise that his country was listed in the Director-General's Report. With regard to the specific Cameroonian case mentioned, the representative said that his was not linked to the professional activities of the journalist Ngota Ngota Germain, who was killed in 2010.

Croatia's delegate wished to update the information in the Report by advising that in the case of Ivo Pukanic and Niko Franjic, killed in a car bomb attack in 2008, the perpetrators had been convicted and the alleged contractor was now on trial. Information was also provided by the Thai representative, who stated that in the cases of the four journalists referred to in the Director-General's Report, all were currently under investigation or in the hands of the courts. Brazil stated that its final report to UNESCO was not reflected in the Report, and that it had emerged that some killings were not related to the victims' journalistic activities.

The Secretariat responded that the Report included all information received before the deadline of 31 December 2011, and that it had not been possible to include information received after that date. It urged all concerned countries to send their reports before the cut-off date, and also to include information about what they were doing to proactively pre-empt such situations.

6.1.3 Discussion points on verification issues

Questions were raised about the sources of information used by UNESCO. The representative of Honduras stressed that the Secretariat should assess the objectivity of these sources in order to ensure consistency throughout the document. He made specific reference to the quotation in paragraph 22 (referred to above), considering this to paint an inaccurate picture of the situation in terms of the timescale it referred to. Cuba's delegate also commented on the objectivity of sources, saying that some were politically biased, and requested that regional networks such as the Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos y Caribeños (CELAC) and the Latin American Federation of Journalists should be taken into account.

India's delegate expressed concern that the Report's figures did not supply sources of information. He further asked what kind of investigation was carried out prior to the issuing of a press release by the Director-General about a killing, and whether a corrigendum was issued if the information proved to be inaccurate. India insisted that the source of information be provided, and asked if UNESCO collaborated with responsible organizations of journalists in the country concerned.

The Brazilian representative made specific reference to paragraph 38 of the Report which, he stated, contained information on the killings of Auro Ida (2011) and José Givonaldo Vieira (2009) which was inconsistent with that sent to the Secretariat by the Brazilian authorities. The police investigations, he stated, had found these cases to be unrelated to the journalistic activities of the victims, as was also the situation with the (2006) killing of Ajuricaba Monassa de Paula. The delegate said that besides the NGOs and other sources used by UNESCO, the Organization should also provide the official information that Member States were sending. If a Member State stated that a case had been proven to be unrelated to the exercising of the profession of journalism, this case should be withdrawn from the list. Bangladesh's representative proposed that before the release of any note or press release, the information should be verified with the State.

The United Kingdom said it would defeat the objective of the press statements by asking governments to verify the killing before the release of the Director-General's statement, adding that it was never wrong to condemn a killing. Finland suggested that the Secretariat should consider situations when revealing the source might not be safe for the source. This was seconded by the USA who also stated that a dead journalist could not respond so there needed to be the ability to stand up for those killed, adding that for practical reasons there needed to be a fairly urgent response from the Director-General.

Responding to the points, the Assistant Director-General explained that in identifying cases of a journalist killed in the line of duty, it always required at least two independent sources. UNESCO worked with an extensive list of reputable partners based across the world, including professional associations and specialized NGOs – many of which have associate or consultative status with UNESCO – as well as the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, UNESCO field offices, relevant international and regional organizations and their rapporteurs, UNESCO's own field offices, and the press itself. Because UNESCO had strict verification standards, its overall statistics of killed journalists were lower than many of the figures given by NGOs.

In response to points raised in the meeting by the representatives of India, Cuba and Cameroon concerning the question of how to define a journalist, Mr Kārklīņš acknowledged the complexity of this issue. He noted that the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Opinion considers journalists to be *“individuals who are dedicated to investigating, analyzing and disseminating information, in a regular and specialized manner, through any type of written media, broadcast media, (television or radio) or electronic media”*, also stating that *“with the advent of new forms of communication, journalism has extended into new areas, including citizen journalism”*. Providing a separate example, the speaker cited General Comment N° 34 on Article 19, adopted by the Human Rights Committee, which defines journalism as *“a function shared by a wide range of actors, including professional full-time reporters and analysts, as well*

as bloggers and others who engage in forms of self-publication in print, on the Internet or elsewhere”.

The Assistant Director-General said that if Member States wished, every release could have a specific link to the sources, in order to facilitate verification. This would be the most transparent way of indicating where the information was drawn from. He stated that UNESCO was not a primary source of information about killings as the Organization was not an investigative agency and did not have resources to carry out its own further investigations. This was the reason for the Director-General’s appeal to governments to investigate the fact of killing and to communicate this information to UNESCO. He clarified that the press statements condemned the fact of killing of a journalist, not the government of the affected State and it should not be considered as a criticism of a government. He affirmed that the Secretariat carried out cross-checking and no press release was issued if there was not sufficient proof that the killing of a journalist had taken place and that that killing was directly or indirectly linked to his or her professional activity.

The Assistant Director-General further clarified that the Director-General is not asked by the Member States to pronounce on cases other than killings of journalists. For this reason she did not make public statements on cases such as harassment or imprisonment, unless there was a grave and systematic violation in a particular country. The press releases were followed by requests for governments to inform the Director-General on the results of judicial investigations and the information provided by these replies was included in the Report, which was a public document. All information provided by Member States by the due date was reflected in the Report. In the current report, of the 245 cases, information was provided for 101 cases, with no information provided prior to the deadline for the remaining 144 cases.

6.1.4 Additional points of discussion

Canada’s delegate commented on the number of cases where UNESCO received responses from Member States and pointed out that very few of the judicial inquiries carried out had led to a conviction. It was not clear if trials were taken seriously or just going on because they had to. The delegate proposed that indicators needed to be developed so as to produce better information that would capture absent data in the future. The UK’s representative requested more transparency in responses provided by Member States, including presenting in tabular form the list of those governments who had not responded to the Director-General’s request.

The representative of the Dominican Republic, supported later by Cameroon, expressed the view that the Report covered safety of journalists and impunity, and that it should rather address the issue of impunity as a second phase.

Generally, speakers affirmed their country’s commitment to promoting freedom of expression and the safety of journalists. Pakistan’s delegate mentioned it had established an endowment

fund for families of journalists killed. Thailand's delegate reported on investigations into four killings since 2006 and on a compensation scheme for the families of assassinated journalists. The Government would work with regional stakeholders, in particular regional media and training institutes, to organize training courses to educate and enhance knowledge and awareness, and to establish general safety provisions for journalists.

Mexico's representative said the country had been rolling out a public safety strategy that calls on the coordination of all levels of the public administration and law enforcement. The country was also reforming its constitution to federalize crimes against journalists, which would enable the federal government to bring its full power and weight to bear on the subject.

6.2 Experts' perspectives on the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

Chairperson Mr Pulkkinen introduced Part Two of the Discussion on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity by welcoming the three selected experts invited to give their perspectives and views on the issue.

Mr Anthony Mills has been Manager of Press Freedom for the International Press Institute (IPI) since 2009. Prior to this, he spent almost 10 years in Beirut, Lebanon, as a correspondent for CNN, Deutsche Welle, and other news outlets.

Mr Ole Chavannes is a journalist and media development expert from the Netherlands, currently working in Qatar as Senior Coordinator of Emergency Assistance at the Doha Centre for Media Freedom. This involves cooperating with a team of regional experts to provide direct support to journalists in need of urgent medical or legal assistance.

Ms Quinn McKew is Senior Operations Director for Article 19, an independent human rights organization founded in 1986 that works around the world to protect and promote the right to freedom of expression and information. She is responsible for coordinating the organization's security and risk assessment work, as well as ensuring the integration of its seven regional offices and regional partner organizations.

First to take the floor was **Mr Anthony Mills**, who began by citing statistics on the journalists killed thus far in 2012, which, according to the International Press Institute's Death Watch, is on track to be the deadliest year for media since IPI began maintaining such records. The figures stood as a renewed reminder of the urgent need for multilateral action to ensure that working journalists are protected and that those responsible for crimes against the media are swiftly brought to justice. Impunity, he continued, was the single greatest promoter of continued aggression against the media.

The Draft UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity could become a very important strategic document, said Mills, who affirmed his organization's faith in UNESCO's initiative to focus on the issue and bring together numerous key players to define a coordinated action-oriented UN-wide approach. He emphasized that it is the duty of Member States to comply with international treaties they have signed, as well as to implement legislation protecting freedom of expression and ensure that their journalists are not killed while exposing criminal activities, official wrongdoing or simply covering dangerous assignments and seeking to distribute information of public interest. He added that it was also the duty of Member States to ensure that if a journalist is killed, justice is served. To him, the Plan of Action, in its current state, expressed a degree of tolerance for "mistakes" and "weaknesses" of Member States that could lead to failure to ensure respect for such obligations. He proposed that a team of international independent investigators working with government agencies be established to investigate attacks against journalists and produce reports about their findings, together with close monitoring of the steps taken by governments to bring the perpetrators of attacks against journalists to justice.

Mr Ole Chavannes said he regarded the Director-General's Report and proposed UN Plan of Action to constitute realistic and important steps towards a safer environment for journalists to do their jobs without limitations, with the main challenge now being how to translate the policies into tangible actions on the ground.

He expressed his appreciation of the involvement of a wide range of different stakeholders, such as media development organizations, in this effort to improve the safety of journalists worldwide, but felt that media companies should be given a more prominent role in the Plan since they share a clear responsibility to protect journalists better. Mr Chavannes also proposed that safety training should not merely be conducted on a one-off basis, but rather as part of a 'training cycle', by which journalists and media workers could access regular updates and refresher courses at least twice a year. Such a cycle should be part of a broader safety protocol, which also guaranteed life and molestation insurance, safety briefings, digital security measures and, if needed, post-traumatic psychological support.

He appealed for the Plan to operate with full recognition for community media workers and citizen journalists, who deserved as much protection as conventional journalists – all of whom exercised the same right to press freedom.

Ms **Quinn McKew**, of ARTICLE 19, expressed her organization's concern that the incidence of violence and culture of impunity showed no signs of abating, as demonstrated by the Director-General's report. The rise of social media in particular has opened a new frontier in the battle for freedom of expression, with citizen and community media journalists becoming increasingly targeted. She stated her organization's wholehearted endorsement of the UN Plan of Action, which represents a necessary step towards coordinated protection of journalists around the

world. It was felt however, that the language contained within the document could be deepened and certain definitions refined in order to strengthen it even further.

Ms McKew's organization recommended that the IPDC adopt or advocate the following measures set out by the European Court, which had articulated a State's obligation to undertake effective investigation into acts of violence and harassment. These included the identification of certain crucial features indispensable in maintaining public confidence in the rule of law, the first of which being that investigations must be carried out by a body independent of those implicated in events. They must be prompt, and the investigative authorities must make an effort to expedite the investigation. Investigations must also be thorough and capable of imputing responsibility for the violation. Finally, there must be sufficient public scrutiny of the investigation, with the victim or the next-of-kin afforded effective access to the procedure.

Ms McKew also expressed her organization's strong support for Action Point 5.9 of the Plan of Action, which encouraged Member States to ensure that defamation becomes a civil, not a criminal action. Criminal defamation laws, she stated, continue to contribute to the overall climate of intimidation facing journalists and increasingly social media users.

Her final point focused on the question of how to define a journalist. Quoting Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that "*Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers*", Ms McKew drew attention to the fact that the word 'journalist' makes no appearance in the text. It is the end, the right to freedom of opinion and expression that is enshrined, and not the means, therefore making it particularly relevant to the contemporary world, where the rise of social media and mobile platforms has opened up a new front in the war against expression and the free flow of information.

In underlining the importance of recognizing and protecting social media users, if not as journalists, then as agents of free expression and information, Ms McKew made the recommendation that UNESCO adopt the definition of a journalist used by the Council of Europe in its Recommendation No. R (2000)7: "*The term 'journalist' means any natural or legal person who is regularly or professionally engaged in the collection and dissemination of information to the public via any means of mass communication.*"

6.3.1 Council consideration of the UN Plan

6.3.1 Member States' general discussion

Discussion amongst Member States concerning the UN Plan of Action began with several expressing their support for the initiative. These included, amongst others, Finland, Sweden, USA, Albania, Croatia, Tanzania and Poland. The Norwegian representative praised the work of

the Secretariat, adding that although the Plan had one or two shortcomings, it was very much in line with the long-standing wish to see UNESCO as a high banner institution giving direction not only to governments but to those involved in media across the world. This instrument, he stated, represented a very important tool in that purpose. Thailand's delegate said the country strongly supported the Plan, and the UK's representative expressed his recognition of the Secretariat's excellent work in meeting the request of the Council. The delegate of the Netherlands warmly welcomed the Plan. Peru's representative stated that Plan was not perfect but was a powerful and important tool to fight against violence and impunity which constituted a threat to journalists. The principles contained within the Plan would enable each agency within the UN in its respective field of competence to bring its experience and strengths to bear in order to create an effective and consistent approach. Brazil's representative commended UNESCO for the initiative, and Pakistan's delegate expressed appreciation to UNESCO for convening the Inter-agency Meeting on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, which took place at UNESCO Headquarters on 13-14 September 2011. Uruguay, as an observer country, commended the Plan. The representative of Albania added that failure to endorse the Plan would send the wrong message to the world and particularly to the perpetrators of violence against journalists.

Observers to voice their support were the representatives of the African Union, the United Nations Development Programme, the Council of Europe, the World Press Freedom Committee on behalf of the Inter-American Press Association, and the Centre for Freedom of the Media, with the latter two organizations expressing their particular support for the proposal to broaden the scope of UN Security Council Resolution 1738.

Some concerns were also expressed. The representative of Pakistan stated that the Plan went further than the Decision taken by the Council at its previous session which had asked the Director-General to consult on the feasibility of organizing an Inter-Agency meeting on the issue of safety. Brazil's delegate made reference to the Plan's encouragement of Member States to explore ways of broadening the scope of UN Security Council Resolution 1738 on the safety of journalists in conflict zones, reminding that this was a very sensitive proposal and should be examined by the UNESCO Executive Board and General Conference. Pakistan's representative also stated that the Plan's proposal to expand Resolution 1738 was not within the mandate of IPDC and UNESCO. Peru's delegate said that the Group of Latin American Countries (GRULAC) agreed that ensuring the safety of journalists and problem of impunity was important, but did not have a consensus on procedural matters and still awaited instructions from their ministries. India's representative asked if the Plan was the best way forward in light of the financial pressures on UNESCO, and expressed concern about encroachment on other UN agencies' mandates.

The delegates from the USA and the Netherlands stated that the Plan was within the mandate of UNESCO and IPDC's work of safety. The UK's representative said there was no prohibition on the initiative in the basic texts of the IPDC.

The UNESCO Assistant Director-General responded that the issue lay at the heart of UNESCO's mandate, as provided by Resolution 36 C/DR.43 at the last General Conference which had entrusted UNESCO, through the Communication and Information Sector, "to monitor in close cooperation with other United Nations bodies and other relevant bodies active in the field, the status of press freedom and the safety of journalists, with emphasis on cases of impunity for violence against journalists, including monitoring the judicial follow-up through the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC, and to report on the developments in these fields to the biennial General Conference".

He further indicated that the Council of 2010 had asked the Secretariat to "formulate a comprehensive, coherent and action-oriented UN-wide approach to the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity" and that this had been translated as a call for developing a document. Throughout the development of the UN inter-agency Action Plan, Member States had been kept informed and formed part of the process. The initial information and first draft of the Plan of Action was sent to all Member States ahead of the meeting. The Member States were invited and given the floor during the consultations on the Plan of Action on 13 September 2011 and their comments were taken into account during the Inter-agency Meeting on 14 September 2011. When the final draft was ready, it was presented to Member States with an invitation to provide comments on it. Seven Member States provided such comments. The Assistant Director-General explained that since the initiative came from Member States, through the IPDC Council, it had been considered appropriate to seek their endorsement of the Action Plan. This had been a gesture of transparency and engagement vis-a-vis Member States who originated this proposal and had asked the Secretariat to deal with it.

6.3.2 Discussion about appropriate forum for the Plan

Peru, Brazil and Cuba called for the UN Plan to go before the Executive Board, while Afghanistan echoed this call by stating that the Plan should go to the various governing bodies of UNESCO. Brazil's representative referred to point 5.5 of the Plan, concerning strengthening the role of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights as well as the mandate and resources of the UN Special Rapporteur for the promotion and protection of rights of freedom of expression. He said that this type of action would necessarily involve Member States. The representative of Albania said that this was now an Inter-Agency document which needed to be endorsed by the UN Chief Executives' Board; if Member States still wished it to go to the UNESCO Executive Board or General Conference however, it would help to give it greater visibility. The UK's delegate also stated that the Plan was an Inter-Agency document which would go to higher levels within the UN. The USA's representative said it was not up to the IPDC to decide whether the UN process went forward or not, stating that the document was more than simply a UNESCO Plan of Action and instead sought to establish UN system-wide coherence.

6.3.3 Discussion on specific points of the UN Plan

Poland's delegate commended what he termed the many positive pro-active measures included in the Action Plan. Croatia's representative praised the concept of monitoring as a long-term process that gave ownership to countries and raised awareness. Tanzania's delegate described the document as a well-balanced one.

Colombia as an observer expressed two reservations: (i) In 5.8 of the Plan, reference to establishing an emergency mechanism should be deleted because it limited the way and means in which States could address a given situation. Each State had to have the possibility to come up with the right corrective measures on the basis of a local context. (ii) In 5.24, reference to a media corridor was out of place.

Amongst observers, the African Union representative noted the emphasis on partnerships in the Plan and proposed formalizing its partnership with UNESCO on this basis. The representative of the Council of Europe said his organization had also agreed to establish a partnership with UNESCO arising from the Plan, and encouraged focal points to be established in all partner organizations. An observer from the UN Development Program (UNDP) said that under the Plan, his organization was ready to help the governments in the 170 countries where it worked. A further point was raised by the representative for the Centre for Freedom of the Media concerning the importance of raising Member States' awareness of recent changes in international law, in particular the Human Rights Committee's General Comment N^o 34² which referred to States' obligations to proactively put in place the laws and practices required to protect those exercising their right to freedom of expression, especially when this was under threat. The observer particularly applauded the Action Plan on the issue of monitoring.

The European Representative of the World Press Freedom Committee, delegated by the Inter-American Press Association, said this latter body was very favourable to the Action Plan as a whole and in particular to point 5.9, which encouraged countries to eliminate limiting statutes in national legislation concerning crimes against journalists and to broaden the scope of UN Security Council Resolution 1738.

6.3.4 Specific comments: NGOs

The representatives of India and of Bangladesh were of the view that the NGOs referred to in the Plan should not be mentioned by name. The Netherlands' delegate suggested that ILO and UNDP were valid partners, while NGOs like Amnesty International, Reporters without Borders, Free Press Unlimited, the Media Defense Initiative, the Centre for Law and Democracy, the OSI Justice Initiative, and Article 19 might also be interesting partners.

² General Comment No. 34 on Article 19: Freedoms of opinion and expression, adopted at the Human Rights Committee's 102nd Session, Geneva, 11-29 July 2011.

6.3.5 Specific reservations: definition of journalists

Cuba's representative was concerned that an open-ended definition could lead to anyone writing on the Internet being considered a journalist. Norway's delegate supported the Plan's inclusive approach and stated that it was not possible to distinguish between different kinds of journalists; all those who played the role of a fourth estate should be protected. The UK's delegate stated that the definition of a journalist was constantly evolving, and the real issue was about defending freedom of expression. Croatia and the USA said it came down to protecting individuals.

6.3.6 Further discussion

Finland, Poland and Albania called for a focus on the next steps, i.e. implementation of the Plan. The representative of Finland said that better implementation depended on stronger mechanisms on a global level, as well as more specifically within the UN system and UNESCO. More funding and fruitful partnerships with media and civil society organizations were also required, as well as with journalists themselves.

Sweden's delegate expressed her country's desire to see UNESCO develop its intellectual approach by adopting a more active role in synthesizing, further developing and refining knowledge in this subject matter by collaborating with constructive, well-qualified and creative partners. She considered this to be of particular importance when the financial framework is very tight, as is the case today. Implementation of such mechanisms should also be based on effective synergies within UNESCO and the UN system as a whole, particularly the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, the High Commissioner of Human Rights, UNESCO's Institute for Statistics and the research community. She also referred to General Conference Decision 36 CDR 43 encouraging informed dialogue between Member States in order to strengthen freedom of expression and freedom of the press. The representative proposed practical action, including UNESCO monitoring and evaluating the situation of media professionals, and producing, in synergy with other UN bodies, a contextualized report on major media trends from a freedom of expression perspective. Such an initiative would enable the sharing of qualified knowledge in order to stimulate constructive Member State dialogue with effective results.

Niger stressed the Plan's need to focus on prevention and not be limited to ex post facto activities. He said UNESCO should be in a position to provide support to those countries needing to develop their national legislation to provide the necessary protection. Uganda, Tanzania and the USA spoke of the importance of local capacity-building for journalists and awareness-raising activities.

Following the discussion, the Council agreed on a Decision (provided in full below). Among the specific points raised relating to this Decision, was a request for clarification voiced by the representative of Tanzania regarding the reference to a UNESCO Work Plan contained within Paragraph 8 of the document. Responding to this request, the Assistant Director-General confirmed that this Work Plan did not yet exist and would be developed in consultation with Member States and other relevant and representative actors before being presented to the Executive Board at its 191st Session. The representative of the UK questioned if there was any reason why the Plan could not be presented at the Executive Board's 190th Session to which the Secretariat responded by stating that such documents take time to prepare and it was therefore felt that, for practical reasons, the 191st Session would be a more realistic goal.

7. The 2012 IPDC Decision on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

The Intergovernmental Council of IPDC,

1. *Having discussed* the report contained in document CI-12 CONF.202/4 on the killings of journalists and media workers condemned by the Director-General of UNESCO;

2. *Deeply concerned* by the increased frequency of acts of violence against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel in many parts of the world, including in countries which are not considered as conflict areas;

3. *Recalling* Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”,

4. *Recalling* UNESCO Resolution 29 “Condemnation of Violence Against Journalists” adopted by the UNESCO General Conference at its 29th session on 12 November 1997, which called on Member States to remove any statute of limitations on crimes against persons when such crimes are “perpetrated to prevent the exercise of freedom of information and expression or when their purpose is the obstruction of justice” and which urged governments to “refine legislation to make it possible to prosecute and sentence those who instigate the assassination of persons exercising the right to freedom of expression”;

5. *Recalling* Resolution 1738 adopted by the UN Security Council at its 5613th Meeting on 23 December 2006 in which the Security Council:

- “***condemn[ed]*** intentional attacks against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel, as such, in situations of armed conflict, and called upon all parties to put an end to such practices”;
- “***drew attention*** to “the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, in particular the Third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the treatment of prisoners of war, and the Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977, in particular article 79 of the Additional Protocol I regarding the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict”;
- “***emphasiz[ed]*** the responsibility of States to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law”;
- “***request[ed]*** the Secretary-General to include as a sub-item in his next reports on the protection of civilians in armed conflict the issue of the safety and security of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel”;

6. Underlining the importance for journalists, media personnel and media organizations to uphold the principles of neutrality, impartiality and humanity in their professional activities;

7. Commending the progress of the work of the UN agencies and other stakeholders involved in the preparation of the draft UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity;

8. Requests the Director-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and other relevant and representative actors, a UNESCO Work Plan on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, and to present it to the Executive Board at its 191st Session.

9. Requests the Director-General of UNESCO to provide to the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC, on a two-year basis at its biennial session, an analytical report on the Director-General's condemnations of the killings of journalists, media workers and social media producers who generate a significant amount of public-interest journalism who are killed in the line of duty or targeted for murder because of their journalistic activities. This report should be the result of analysis and comparison of information from a broad and diverse range of sources for the sake of ensuring objectivity, including updated information provided by the relevant Member States on a voluntary basis on the killing of journalists, and non-responses, and be made widely available.

10. Also requests the Director-General to make available on UNESCO's website, upon request of the Member States concerned, information officially provided for killings of journalists condemned by the Organization.

11. Requests all Member States concerned by the Director-General's condemnations of the killings of journalists:

(a) to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for violations, where actions have not been taken;

(b) to inform the Director-General of UNESCO, on a voluntary basis, of the actions taken to prevent the impunity of the perpetrators and to notify her of the status of the judicial inquiries conducted on each of the killings of journalists, media workers and social media producers who generate a significant amount of public-interest journalism condemned by UNESCO.

12. Invites the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC to give priority to projects that support local capacity building in the safety and protection of journalists and media workers

8. Award ceremony of the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication

The Chairperson opened the award ceremony of the 2012 UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication and gave the floor to the Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, Mr Jānis Kārklīšs, who began by recalling the origins of the Prize. Established in 1985, it recognizes the special contribution of individuals and organizations to improving communication in rural areas, mainly in developing countries. Communication, he stated, refers not only to media but concerns basic elements of human life, which include freedom of expression, dialogue, empowerment, participation, and access to knowledge and information.

This year, the IPDC received a total of 28 nominations from 20 countries across the world. The nominations were required to meet specific criteria and be endorsed by the National Commissions of Member States or by relevant NGOs with consultative status with UNESCO. Mr Kārklīšs expressed gratitude to the eight members of the IPDC Bureau for serving as jury of the award, whose recommendation was followed by the Director-General of UNESCO in her decision to jointly award the Prize of US\$ 20 000 to the Arid Lands Information Network and the Nepal Forum for Environmental Journalists.

The Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN) is a Kenyan-based NGO created in 2000 with the mission to improve the livelihoods in arid lands communities in East Africa. This mission is achieved by providing access to information using modern technologies through 12 community-based Maarifa (knowledge) Centres in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Consisting of a room or fabricated shipping container, these centres allow people to connect to the internet and gain skills to use computers and ICTs in order to promote local content generation, and enable local communities to receive information and knowledge. This has permitted the sharing of local knowledge on issues including farming techniques. Access to such information is of critical importance given the fact that, in most of the communities supported by ALIN, agriculture represents the most significant part of the economy.

The Nepal Forum for Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ) was established in 1986 as an NGO for the promotion of environmental journalism in Nepal. Throughout its 25-year journey it has been actively engaged in raising public awareness in favour of sustainable development through the creation of a vibrant community media sector. In 1997, with IPDC support, it created Radio Sagarmatha, the first community radio not only in Nepal but in the whole of South Asia, paving the way for Nepal's community radio movement which today touches approximately 85% of the country's 27 million population. To enhance its role, in 2000, NEFEJ established its Community Radio Support Centre (CRSC), which ever since has been actively involved in supporting community radios in their various stages of development, from conceptualisation to obtaining licenses, setting up stations, programming, and human capacity building.

Present in person to collect the award on behalf of their organizations were Mr James Nguo, Regional Director of ALIN, and Mr Raghu Mainali, Director of NEFEJ/CRSC. Mr Nguo delivered

remarks about the background to ALIN, leading to the creation of the Maarifa centres in 2007. He went on to state that the centres promoted the same ideals as are promoted by UNESCO and made ICT facilities more readily accessible. In recognition of its pursuit of these ideals, ALIN was awarded the 2011 Access to Learning award by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In concluding, Mr Nguo spoke of his delight in receiving the award on behalf of ALIN, which he hoped would open channels for future collaboration with UNESCO.

Mr Raghu Mainali of NEFEJ then spoke about his organization. He recalled that 15 years ago, it was UNESCO that had provided much-needed impetus to local initiatives in order to open up Nepal's airwaves for community broadcasting. He expressed his particular gratitude for the support and cooperation of Mr Wijayananda Jayaweera, previous Secretary of the IPDC, and Programme Specialist Mr Hara Prasad Padhy, as well as the other professionals of UNESCO, who helped to make the dream of community radio a reality.

NEFEJ's Community Radio Support Centre (CRSC) has been working since 2000 to keep the notion of community radio alive within Nepal's independent radio movement. Its main activities include awareness-raising on the principles of community radio, demonstrating mobile broadcasting stations, lobbying and advocating for enabling policies and laws, and general support, promotion and facilitation work. Through encouraging community groups to set up their own media, the Centre has been directly involved in promoting over 125 community radios, and has released over 20 publications on different aspects of community radio broadcasting. Currently working on the development of a resource centre, CRSC also recently concluded the piloting of the Community Radio Assessment System, with the support of UNESCO Kathmandu. This system attempts to measure the effectiveness of radio stations in an objective manner and ensure that the spirit and intent of community broadcasting is not lost with their growth. In concluding, Mr Mainali stated that the IPDC prize would enhance the commitment, motivation and strength of NEFEJ to continue to ensure that the marginalized sectors of society are given a voice. He informed the floor that NEFEJ/CRSC had decided to use the prize money to establish a trust fund to generate resources for organizations or individuals working on community communications in Nepal.

Following the projection of a short film showcasing some of the work of the winners, the Chairperson then invited Mr Mohan Krishna Shrestha, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal to UNESCO to take the floor.

Ambassador Shrestha expressed his great pleasure at the decision to select NEFEJ as co-winner of the award, and extended his country's ongoing support to the Organization. He continued by speaking of the role of rural communication in his country, with its challenging topography, some 4000 villages, and an average literacy rate of 60-65%. In the past few decades, radio stations and other communication media had greatly sensitized those living in rural communities. The Prize would enhance the responsibility of organizations to do more in the field of rural communication in order to build on the positive work already carried out. He

concluded by stating that communication is the main artery of any country in its quest to further development.

The floor was then given to the representative from the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Kenya, Mr Victor Soo, who began by stating that, although situated in different continents, ALIN and NEFEJ shared the same passion of improving information access for rural communities in developing countries. In this regard, he expressed his country's sincere congratulations to the two winners. In continuing, he spoke of ALIN's Maarifa Centres, several of which are located in extremely remote locations, thus illustrating the value of such capacity-building efforts. He stressed the importance of recognizing and encouraging such efforts, and considered the decision to award the Prize to ALIN to be very timely.

9. Thematic Debate on “Gender and Media: Getting the Balance Right”

9.1 Presentation of the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media initiative

Opening the Thematic debate on “Gender and Media: Getting the balance right”, which included the presentation of the “Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media”, Chairperson Jyrki Pulkkinen made reference to the high importance given to gender equality by the IPDC since its creation. A demonstration of this was the large number of projects approved by the IPDC Bureau which address the issue of gender and women's empowerment in and through media. For example, in all of its human resource development projects, which constitute over half of the 178 projects supported in 2010-2011, the IPDC seeks to guarantee gender-balanced participation.

In underlining the fact that gender equality and women's empowerment are not only crucial for the IPDC but form one of the priorities of UNESCO, Mr Pulkkinen stated that if media are the mirror of society they must reflect gender equality as a fundamental human right. He then gave a brief overview of the structure of the session, with the thematic debate being divided into two parts: presentation of the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (hereafter referred to as GSIM) initiative, followed by experts' perspectives on the issue.

He explained that the GSIM were prepared in close cooperation with the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and other experts, and constituted a set of indicators to assess gender equality and women's empowerment in media. They could be seen as an extension of the Media Development Indicators (MDIs), focusing on UNESCO's priority gender. The GSIM bore relevance to all five MDI categories, particularly Categories 2 and 3 (Plurality and diversity of media, and Media as a platform for democratic discourse).

The Chairperson then gave the floor to the Director of UNESCO's Division for Gender Equality, **Ms Saniye Gülser Corat**.

Ms Corat cited her presence as testament to the progress made at UNESCO, in terms of gender equality featuring on the agenda of meetings in every field, but also as testament to the work which remains to be carried out in order for the issue not to have to be raised as a separate concern at every meeting. She went on to recall that since January 2008, gender equality has been one of two global priorities of UNESCO, and is also a fundamental pillar of the mandate of the current Director-General, who places great emphasis on promoting the issue through all of UNESCO's programmes and in all domains. UNESCO considers gender equality as a fundamental human right, a commonly shared value and a condition necessary for the achievement of all internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Continuing, she raised the point that, when looking exclusively at the issue of gender equality and media in terms of numbers, much progress has been demonstrated in the past 25 years, with more women in newsrooms and more female executives. She stressed the importance, however, of looking beyond the numbers to question whether women truly have a voice in such an environment, and by studying their representation in terms of level and content of work, and also in terms of the opportunities they have to progress within the profession. She pointed out that far less progress has been made in this latter aspect.

Ms Corat spoke of the explosion of new technologies and social media, which, in many parts of the world, have provided multiple sources for women and girls to access information and knowledge. In spite of this, media continue to produce negative female stereotypes that limit women's power in societies and communities. She stressed the importance of media in their potential to propagate and perpetuate or to address and ameliorate the inequalities and gender stereotypes that exist in every social structure. She praised UNESCO's Communication and Information Sector for fully embracing its commitment to promoting gender equality and engaging in a wide range of activities that cut across its divisions and main actions, and she made particular reference to its gender equality-related actions which span the supply and demand aspect of media content, policies and capacity building. It was against this backdrop that the GSIM were a critical resource to enhance the capacity of media organizations as key civil society actors to help promote diversity and to operationalize the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The speaker said that she considered it very appropriate that the GSIM tool was being discussed during the IPDC Council meeting, since gender equality in and through media is, in essence, about the development of communication, and about media and development in general. As had been widely recognized, there is no freedom of expression when a majority of the population is excluded.

The Chairperson then handed the floor to **Mr Alton Grizzle**, Programme Specialist in the Freedom of Expression and Media Development Division.

Mr Grizzle expressed thanks to IFJ for their assistance in preparing the GSIM tool, as well as to the other stakeholders involved in the process. He went on to state that media, as part of their function to reflect diversity among society, should play a role in expanding thinking on gender equality. This precisely was the purpose of the GSIM resource. It was a tool to make gender issues transparent and comprehensible to the public whilst at the same time helping media organizations to look inwardly at their operations and practices by assessing the status of their gender sensitivity and use this baseline for setting measurable and achievable goals towards gender equality. It could also serve as a monitoring tool and training resource.

He continued by detailing the two principle groups targeted by the GSIM, with the primary target consisting of media organizations, and a secondary target of citizens' media groups and media and journalism training institutions. He underlined that specific focus will be given to publicly-funded media organizations which, based on their mandate, carry an obligation to demonstrate gender sensitivity as a part of their role to reflect social diversity.

In closing, Mr Grizzle spoke of the process which resulted in the draft of the indicators. This began in 2010 with an online consultation which led to the preparation of a first draft. In April 2011, an international consultation meeting was organized jointly with IFJ to assess this draft and make recommendations for its improvement. A second draft was subsequently prepared, followed by a virtual consultation carried out with print and broadcast unions and associations to solicit feedback from key partners and stakeholders with UNESCO. The second draft was then reviewed by selected experts before preparing the final draft of the initiative.

9.2. Member States comments on the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media initiative

Member States expressed widespread approval of the initiative, considering it to be a welcome and timely extension of the Media Development Indicator tool.

The representative of Ecuador praised the GSIM tool but had slight concerns that the legal aspect of women's careers in journalism had been neglected in the design. The delegate from Bangladesh also expressed his concern over this matter, particularly with regard to the issue of maternity.

The importance of integrating the issue of gender sensitivity into university modules was emphasized by the delegate from Cuba. He thanked the Communication and Information Sector for its support in developing a national journalism project in Cuba which includes a module on women in journalism and has permitted awareness-raising to be carried out on the issue. The representative of The Gambia also expressed his thanks to the Sector for its help in implementing a new university programme which incorporates a special emphasis on raising gender sensitivity through community radio. He spoke of the success of the community radios implemented in The Gambia with UNESCO's support, which feature women broadcasters and focus on cultural and women's issues, which in turn encourages other women to tune in.

The delegate from Niger made reference to the profound injustice which exists in his country, as in many African countries, in terms of women's representation in the media at higher decision-making levels and in terms of content. On a more positive note, he also spoke of the African Professional Women's Association, a regional association whose Niger section recently held a workshop to adopt a Charter on the image and place of women in the media in Niger, which all media organizations will be asked to sign. Reference to positive measures being undertaken at national level was also made by Thailand, through its implementation of a national development fund for women.

The delegate of Bangladesh expressed general approval of the tool but raised the point that specific sensitization measures, advocacy programmes, and training in its use may be required in order to overcome the many pressures which exist in the developing world. He also suggested incorporating a special emphasis on the monitoring of gender portrayal in television drama series and entertainment shows, since these types of programmes can be highly influential to viewers. A further idea was put forward by the delegate from the Dominican Republic, who suggested that UNESCO might consider producing a set of indicators relevant to other marginalized groups, such as religious minorities.

While voicing her country's full support of the initiative, the representative of Sweden expressed concern that the tool lacks a relation with society, such as links to regulators and other authorities of relevance which may have rules on gender mainstreaming, as well as links to national legislation on such issues. She made reference to the positive work currently being carried out at the European Institute for Gender Equality, specifically within the section entitled Women and Media in the Beijing Platform for Action.

In closing the session, Chairperson Mr Pulkkinen summarized the general reaction from the floor as being one of overall support and approval of the initiative. He invited the Secretariat to address the concerns expressed during the debate. The initiative for developing and promoting Gender Sensitive Indicators for Media initiative was then officially endorsed by the IPDC Council.

9.3. Experts' Perspectives

Chairperson Mr Pulkkinen introduced Part Two of the Thematic Debate on Gender and Media by welcoming the five selected experts and journalists invited to give their perspectives and views on the issue.

Ms Mounia Belafia is a writer and journalist, and Vice-Chair of the International Federation of Journalists' Gender and Media Council. She is also Deputy Secretary-General of the National Syndicate of Moroccan Press, Vice-Chairperson of the Moroccan Chapter of the International Women's Forum, and a correspondent for France 24. Her greatest accolades include the Prize for best investigation in the Arab world in 2002 and the Nazek Malaika Prize in 2012. An

international expert in the fields of gender, media and development, she has conducted numerous reports and studies and has published a book entitled "Women in Moroccan Proverbs".

Ms Liza Gross is Executive Director of the International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF), a global network dedicated to strengthening the role of women journalists and international freedom of press. Prior to joining the IWMF, Ms Gross was managing editor for The Miami Herald. With almost 30 years of experience in journalism and communications, Ms Gross has also served as an instructor and editor for the Latin American Journalism Program, an educational initiative of Florida International University in Miami.

Mr Javad Mottaghi is the Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), a non-profit, professional association of broadcasting organizations, formed in 1964 to facilitate the development of broadcasting in the Asia-Pacific region and to organize co-operative activities amongst its network of over 200 members. Prior to assuming this role in 2010, he was Director of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) for 12 years. Mr Mottaghi has over 34 years of national and international experience in media and communication.

Ms Shahira Amin is a freelance Egyptian journalist, writing for the free expression portal, 'Index on Censorship' and for CNN.com. She also produces and presents a weekly talk show on Egyptian television. Ms Amin quit her job as Deputy Head of Nile TV during the 2011 uprising in protest at the biased coverage of the demonstrations. She was also the only Egyptian journalist to interview prominent blogger Maikel Nabil in his prison cell at a time when there was a media ban in her country on his case. In recognition of her work, Ms Amin was awarded the 2011 Catalyst for Change award by the American University in Cairo and the 2012 Julio Aguinta Award for her unwavering defense of human rights.

Ms Roukaya Kasenally is the Director of Communication and Knowledge Management of the African Media Initiative (AMI), a pan-African programme which aims to strengthen the private and independent media sector in Africa so that it can fulfill its role in promoting social development and economic growth as well as in empowering citizens to hold governments and other institutions accountable in the quest for democratic governance. Prior to joining AMI, Ms Kasenally was a senior lecturer in media and political systems at the University of Mauritius and had carried out consultancy work for a variety of institutions on matters pertaining to political governance.

First to take the floor was **Ms Mounia Belafia**, who opened her presentation by speaking of the paradox which exists concerning gender and media. While the situation for women was improving in other domains, women all too often remained invisible or secondary when it comes to media, their presence failing to reflect the principles of equity, equality, diversity and balance.

She continued by talking of the image of women in the media and of the gender stereotypes which infiltrate its content at the various levels.

In terms of content, women are often portrayed as sexual objects, objects of beauty, victims, or as having few interests aside from daily life in the home. Ms Belafia made the point that women in professional roles are often assessed not by their professional capacity but in light of gender stereotypes. In the newsroom and in media in general, women's voices are heard less than those of their male counterparts, and where men and women are matched in terms of skill level, women continue to be neglected and underrepresented, occupying only 8% of decision-making positions at management level.

In concluding, Ms Belafia said that the situation requires us to increase our efforts so as to transform false and stereotyped images into those which better reflect women's actual role in society. She highlighted the importance of remembering that freedom of expression and freedom of the media represent the tools that will allow such a change and correct the image of women in and through media.

The floor was then given to Ms **Liza Gross**, Executive Director of the International Women's Media Foundation (IWWMF), whose intervention provided an overview of the status of women in news media, based on IWWMF's Global Report on this issue.

She began by expressing gratitude to UNESCO for its support of the study which took over two years to complete and saw over 150 local researchers conduct face-to-face interviews with personnel from over 500 media companies across the seven regions of the world. The rationale behind the research was based on the belief that no press can truly be free unless women have the same voice as men in the news gathering and news dissemination processes, as well as on the fact that no comprehensive data had previously been compiled on a global scale to determine women's place in the news industry. Focusing on traditional media outlets, data was aggregated for 170,000 employees on questions relating to occupational role, salary, working conditions, adoption of pro-equality policies in media organizations, as well as other issues.

Among the study's key findings were that men continue to outnumber women almost two to one and hold 75 percent of the top posts in management and governance. This figure did however represent an improvement when compared to Margaret Gallagher's regional study conducted in 1995³, which revealed that women occupied only 12 percent of such posts. Women were found to be overrepresented in sales, finance and administrative posts, and also at junior and entry level, reflecting the fact that in many countries and societies, journalism is a relatively new profession for women. Ms Gross emphasized that much work is required in order to boost the numbers of women at the senior level of media organizations, since it is at this level that the

³ Gallagher, Margaret (1995) *An Unfinished Story: Gender Patterns in Media Employment*, Reports and Papers on Mass Communication, Paris: UNESCO.

decisions are taken to determine how news is produced and disseminated, as well as the working conditions under which the professionals in the industry operate.

The findings also revealed women to be highly disadvantaged when it comes to working conditions, with full-time regular work being less accessible to them and contracts generally offering less security. Certain regions did however display far more encouraging trends than others, with Northern and Eastern Europe in particular displaying relative gender parity.

In closing, Ms Gross emphasized that the issues raised by IWMF's global study represent merely the tip of the iceberg in terms of the work which remains to be carried out. Further research must be undertaken to determine whether the progress displayed by the number of women present in newsrooms actually translates to gender parity in news agendas, or whether the two are unrelated. The report is therefore intended to serve as a valuable tool and as a basis for continuing the discussion of gender parity in newsrooms. As is the case with the GSIM tool, more scientific data is required in order to formulate adequate answers in the struggle to achieve equality in newsrooms on a global level.

Next to take the floor was Mr **Javad Mottaghi**, Secretary-General of Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), who focused on the issue of mainstreaming gender in public service broadcasting. In speaking of the cultural diversity within the Asia-Pacific region, whose countries vary greatly in economic status and population density, Mr Mottaghi emphasized that no single model will fit this entire region, although many best practices exist among its broadcasters. He also spoke of the interlinking relationship between gender equality, social development and media development, highlighting the potential of media development – particularly in the field of public service broadcasting – to facilitate and expedite social development and serve as a key factor in achieving gender equality.

Although many restraining forces exist when it comes to gender equality in media, there are also many positive changes taking place, such as rising education levels and growing public awareness of the issue, with increasing numbers of women and men demanding their rights. The purpose of broadcasting is to provide quality programming for the public, reflecting its constitution. Therefore in order to engage the public, it was necessary to look at human resources within the industry and recruit quality women personnel so as to have content providers, producers and news reporters from both sexes. Action was required to develop and implement organization-wide gender policies and to open up the dialogue and debate among nations to increase public awareness, involving women decision-makers and establishing local institutional capacity building.

Mr Mottaghi said that ABU works in partnership with UNESCO to promote broadcasting for all, focusing on mainstreaming gender in broadcasting. The road ahead for the GSIM tool was for ABU to translate the indicators into an organizational environment through individually-tailored consultancy, and to develop training tools based on these indicators for programmes, championing best practices and involving ABU members. Mr Mottaghi stressed the importance

of adopting a tailored approach to cater for cultural, social and legal differences, and also of involving men in the process. He considered advocacy of ABU members to be essential in helping them to establish local broadcasting capacity building centres in order to enable them to train their local broadcasters. In closing, Mr Mottaghi underlined ABU's commitment to promoting the GSIM tool among its expansive network of members.

Shahira Amin then gave an overview of the situation for women journalists in the Arab region, with primary focus on Egypt. Ms Amin opened her speech by speaking of the worrying levels of violence used to silence Egyptian journalists during the recent events in the Arab World. The relatively low figures of journalist killings presented a deceptive picture, failing to reflect the high number of cases of intimidation, threats, physical assault and sexual harassment of journalists who were simply trying to tell the story. The increasing number of attacks against women journalists in particular was of growing concern. When a western female journalist was physically assaulted, it made international news headlines; local journalists suffering same abuse received far less media attention. She said that virginity tests had been performed by a military doctor on seven arrested protesters; among these was a female journalist who was kicked and beaten. Ms Amin went on to emphasize the need to improve the judicial system to protect journalists against such attacks, and to develop clear terms which cannot be manipulated at the State's convenience.

Ms Amin said that the recent uprisings in the Arab World had, however, also brought about positive change, with media undergoing a revolution of its own. In Egypt, the events had led to the launch of new independent and privately owned channels and publications, with a more vibrant media emerging than ever before. This had enabled the voices of opposition figures to be heard, something which was previously impossible under the State-controlled media. However, public TV remained under state control.

In speaking of gender parity in the media, Egypt ranked highly in terms of wage equality, but had a very poor ranking in women's representation, particularly at the executive or top management level in news organizations. Furthermore, although the situation was beginning to change, the stereotypical notion that women are submissive is reinforced by much of the programming content today which portrayed women as weak, defenseless and lesser objects.

The last speaker to take the floor was **Ms Roukaya Kasenally**, whose presentation focused on the situation specific to the African context. She began by highlighting the continent's diversity; its 54 countries differing greatly in terms of history, culture, language and politics. It was therefore very difficult to standardize processes surrounding gender guidelines. Furthermore, the situation in Africa was highly patriarchal, with women occupying secondary or peripheral roles in society, and in many parts, subjected to prolonged violence and abuse. On a positive note, however, Africa had a very young population, which had implications with regard to innovation and technology, as well as changing attitudes and ideas. The last decade had also seen tremendous political transformation, enabling the issue of gender to be promoted through

political frameworks. The Arab Spring also provided great inspiration, with an increase in cultural protests, dissent and advocacy, much of which has involved the young generation who were no longer apathetic.

Ms Kasenally stressed, however, that the challenge lay not just in ensuring that political frameworks and quotas exist on the issue, but in actually implementing them and putting words into action. At present, a gap existed in the compliance and follow-up of such measures, with a large variation becoming apparent at country and regional level. Southern Africa, for example, had adopted a number of gender equality policies, with Eastern Africa following suit, albeit at a slower pace. Western Africa, by contrast, presented cause for concern. More needed to be done to fill such gaps to ensure a homogenized approach to the issue of gender parity.

She continued by speaking of the advent of technology in the African context and the potential role that mobile content can play in shaping its future, both in terms of leadership transformation and awareness-raising in gender gaps. She also stressed the importance of looking beyond the numbers to the qualitative dimension when assessing women's representation, in order to enact systematic change. In concluding, Ms Kasenally emphasized the enormous potential in people power.

The floor was then given to Member States and observers for their comments.

There was praise for the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to bring the issue to the fore, as well as for the speakers in sharing their experience and understanding. The delegate from Peru raised the point, however, that there was no representative from Latin America among the presenters. This could have added new insight and enriched the discussion, since a lot of work was currently being carried out in the field of gender equality in Latin American journalism. Although austerity measures were undoubtedly to blame, it was necessary to do the utmost to ensure widespread geographic representation in future meetings and events.

Other contributions came from Togo and Cameroon, whose representatives emphasized that Africa is extremely diverse and should therefore be treated as such, for example by considering conflict and non-conflict countries separately. The representative of Uganda added that, from a strategic point of view, UNESCO should capitalize on the proliferation of initiatives which now exist in the African continent and think more towards the creation of regional networks and platforms to encourage the sharing of ideas. In expressing thanks to UNESCO for its handling of the issue, the South African representative, intervening as an observer, asked to hear more in the future on how to tackle ageism in the media, which is also a major form of discrimination that must be addressed.

10. Other business

The Members of the Council took note of Item 10 of the Agenda, representing the IPDC Project Evaluations selected by the IPDC Bureau (document ref. CI-12/CONF.202/1 INF). In the absence of time and at the request of Member States for adequate involvement in the decision-making process relating to the above agenda items and the future direction of the Programme in general, the decision was taken to postpone discussion on Agenda Item 11 “Expanding the Role of IPDC” to a later date. This covered sub-items: New research and reports which promote dialogue between Member States; Preparation of the Thematic Debate of the next IPDC Council session; and Redefining the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication.

Due to time constraints, discussion on Agenda Item 13, ‘Presentation of the IPDC Database’, was also not possible. The same applied to the added Agenda item, Structure and working methods of the IPDC. Informal consultations on these issues and others were subsequently held by the Chairperson on 18-19 June 2012⁴.

11. Closure of the session and dates of subsequent meetings of the IPDC Bureau and Council

The session concluded with the announcement of the dates of the subsequent Bureau and Council meetings. It was decided that the next (57th) Bureau meeting would be held from 20-22 March 2013, and that the 58th Bureau meeting would be held from 5-7 February 2014. The 29th Session of the Intergovernmental Council was scheduled to be held from March 19-21 March 2014.

Representatives of Uganda, Cuba and the United Kingdom noted that insufficient time had been allocated to covering the various items on the agenda. They underlined their wish to be kept involved in decisions pertaining to the future direction of the Programme, with the representative of Uganda requesting that the Bureau consider a mechanism by which the Council Members could be kept informed of their deliberations. He also stressed the importance of striking an appropriate balance between the normative and the practical aspect of communication development, voicing his concern that the latter had been somewhat neglected in the proceedings.

Responding to the above points, the Chairman reassured the floor that the Bureau would develop a roadmap in order to prepare for the next Council session and work out a strategy in terms of the priority areas and future direction of the Programme. He added that a consultation meeting involving the Council members would also be held shortly to discuss such matters.

⁴ Further information on the informal consultations held on 19-19 June 2012 available online at: <http://www.unesco.org/webworld/ipdc>

The Assistant Director-General added that, due to the difficult financial situation, the Secretariat had been forced to compress what is normally a three-day meeting into two days, thus accounting for the lack of time allocated to certain agenda items. He nonetheless confirmed that he had taken note of the concerns raised.

In thanking the Members of the Council for their valuable contribution to the proceedings, the Chairman declared the 28th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC officially closed.



United Nations
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IPDC THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION (IPDC)

28th Session

Fontenoy Building (Room X)

22 and 23 March 2012

AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the session by the Chairperson of the IPDC Intergovernmental Council**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda and organization of the work of the session**
- 3. Election of the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council**
- 4. Introductory speech by the new Chairperson**
- 5. Election of the Bureau Members**
- 6. ADG CI Report on IPDC activities since the 27th Session**
- 7. Discussion “The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity”**
 - 7.1. Presentation of the DG’s Report on The Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity, including the draft UN Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity**
Discussion and feedback from Member States
 - 7.2. Experts’ perspectives on the issue**
 - Anthony Mills, Press Freedom Manager, International Press Institute (IPI)
 - Quinn McKew, Senior Director for Operations, Article 19
 - Ole Chavannes, Senior Coordinator Emergency Assistance, Doha Center for Media Freedom
- 8. Award ceremony of UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication**
- 9. Thematic Debate “Gender and Media: Getting the Balance Right”**
 - 9.1. Presentation of the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (GSIM) initiative**
Discussion and feedback from Member States
 - 9.2. Experts’ perspectives on the issue**
 - Mounia Belafia, Vice-Chair Gender Council, International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)
 - Liza Gross, Executive Director, International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF)
 - Javad Mottaghi, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)
 - Shahira Amin, Egyptian journalist
 - Roukaya Kasenally, Director of Communications & Knowledge Management, African Media Initiative (AMI)

10. Presentation of IPDC project evaluations

11. Discussion: Expanding the Role of IPDC:

11.1. New research and reports which promote dialogue between Member States (Reformulation of the IPDC Thematic Debate)

11.2. Redefining the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication

12. Discussion: Structure and methods of work of the IPDC Council

13. Presentation of the IPDC Project Database

14. Dates of the next IPDC meetings:

- 57th Bureau meeting : 20-22 March 2013
- 58th Bureau meeting : 5-7 February 2014
- 29th Council session : 19-21 March 2014

15. Closure of the session



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
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IPDC THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION

CI-12/CONF.202/2
8 March 2012
Original: English

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION (IPDC) ON ITS ACTIVITIES (2010-2012)

OUTLINE

Source: Article 10 of the Statutes of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

Background: This report is submitted to the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) in pursuance of Article 10 of its Statutes adopted at the 21st session, which stipulates that the Director-General shall submit to the Council, at each of its sessions, a report on the implementation of the Programme.

Purpose: The present report covers IPDC's activities during the period between the 27th (2010) and 28th (2012) sessions of the Council. It provides an overview of important decisions and initiatives of the Council, IPDC projects and the financial situation of the Programme.

INTRODUCTION

The International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), which was created in 1980, is the only intergovernmental programme in the UN system mandated to mobilize international support in order to contribute to sustainable development, democracy and good governance by strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries in transition in the field of electronic and print media. Since its creation, IPDC has channelled more than US\$ 100 million to over 1500 media development projects in some 140 countries.

Its unique role has been continuously reaffirmed through resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, including the most recent one *Resolution A/RES/66/81*, “*Information in the service of humanity*”, adopted on 9 December 2011 at the 66th session of the General Assembly, which urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system and all other stakeholders concerned “to provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.”

27th SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IPDC AND THE FOLLOW-UP TO ITS DECISIONS

The overall responsibility for the Programme lies with the **Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC**, which meets every two years to assess the work carried out by the Programme. It consists of representatives from 39 Member States elected by the General Conference of UNESCO.

The 27th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC was held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris from 24 to 26 March 2010. (Final Report available at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001896/189697m.pdf>).

In accordance with the Council’s rules of procedure, the **Bureau of the IPDC Intergovernmental Council** was elected. Its composition is as follows:

Chairperson:	Mr Raghu Menon (India)	Vice-Chairpersons:	Egypt / Yemen Thailand Venezuela
Members:	Namibia Russian Federation United States of America	Rapporteur:	Mr Mamadou Koumé (Senegal)

Following the report submitted by the Director-General on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity, the Council adopted a **Decision** which led the Director-General decided to organize a UN Inter-Agency Meeting on journalists’ safety at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 13 and 14 September 2011. Representatives of United Nations agencies, programmes and funds as well as Member States, professional associations and NGOs drafted a comprehensive UN Action Plan to improve the safety of journalists and combat the impunity of crimes committed against them. This document is being submitted for endorsement to the 28th session of the Council and will subsequently be presented to the bodies in charge of UN-wide coordination. The latest Director-General Report on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity is also presented to the Council. It includes her condemnations of the assassinations of journalists in 2010-2011 as well as the responses received by Member States on the status of the judicial enquiries conducted on each of the killings condemned by UNESCO between 2006 and 2009.

The application of the UNESCO-IPDC **Media Development Indicators (MDIs)**, which were endorsed by the IPDC Intergovernmental Council in 2008 as an “important diagnostic tool” for assessing media landscapes, has gained momentum. In March 2011, the IPDC Bureau decided to set aside US\$ 100,000 in the IPDC Special Account to be used for this purpose. Through a combination of both Regular Programme and IPDC funding, MDI-based assessments have now been completed in Bhutan, Croatia, East Timor, Ecuador, Jordan, the Maldives, Mauritania and Mozambique, while others are still on-going in 11 countries, including Egypt and Tunisia. These assessments have made it possible to identify media development gaps at national level, provide evidence-based recommendations on how to address them, and guide the formulation of media-related policies.

UNESCO has now developed a new tool – a set of **gender-sensitive indicators for media (GSIM)**-designed to evaluate gender mainstreaming in media, both in terms of how women are represented in media content and the extent to which they participate in the management structure of media. The IPDC Bureau was briefed on a proposal to present the final draft of the GSIM indicators to the Council for discussion at its 28th session. The CI sector is also planning to develop more detailed and refined sub-indicators on other thematic issues besides gender in coming years.

A thematic debate on “Free, independent and pluralistic media: the enabling role of the State” was organized at the 27th Council session, in which three examples of good practice in this area were presented: the Media Development and Diversity Agency in South Africa, the new Uruguayan Law on Community Broadcasting, and the Indonesian Press Council. Member States took advantage of this debate to share information about their respective national media environments and ways in which positive State intervention has helped to foster media pluralism and freedom of expression.

178 PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FINANCING

Two annual meetings of the Bureau of the IPDC Council were organized at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, in March 2011 and February 2012 respectively. The main purpose of the meetings was to select the media development projects to be financed by IPDC in 2011-2012. A total of **223 project proposals were prepared for submission for the Bureau’s consideration** by media organizations worldwide. Proposals were developed following the IPDC guidelines for project preparation and with reference to the Media Development Indicators. Expert assistance was provided by the UNESCO professionals based in 33 field offices and at Headquarters. Among the 223 projects proposals considered, the IPDC Bureau approved **178 projects (31 regional, 1 interregional and 146 national projects from 86 countries) for a total amount of US\$ 4,485,960** (for the list of the approved projects, please see the annex). The projects approved by the IPDC Bureau in 2011 and 2012 can be broken down as follows:

REGIONS	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	TOTAL FUNDS (IN US\$)	% BY REGION
AFRICA	72	1,655,080	37
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	43	1,056,385	23,5
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	36	800,195	17,8
ARAB REGION	24	892,150	19,9
EUROPE	2	49,150	1
INTERREGIONAL	1	33,000	0,8
GRAND TOTAL	178	4,485,960	100%

DISTRIBUTION OF IPDC FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN 2011-2012 BY COUNTRY					
COUNTRY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	AMOUNT US\$	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	AMOUNT US\$
AFRICA			ASIA AND THE PACIFIC		
REGIONAL	12	344850	REGIONAL	9	237050
BOTSWANA	1	12100	BANGLADESH	3	85800
BURKINA FASO	2	40150	BHUTAN	1	13750
BURUNDI	1	13200	CAMBODIA	2	40700
CAMEROON	1	22000	CHINA	1	27500
CAP VERDE	1	27500	EAST TIMOR	1	37400
CENTRAL AFR. REPUBLIC:	1	27500	INDIA	1	33000
CHAD:	2	60500	IRAN	1	17600
CONGO	1	22000	KAZAKHSTAN	1	17600
CONGO (DEM. REP.)	1	26400	KYRGYZSTAN	2	45100
DJIBUTY	1	33000	LAO PDR	2	50600
EQUATORIAL GUINEA:	1	13750	MALDIVES	1	22000
ETHIOPIA:	4	89100	MONGOLIA	2	66000
GABON:	2	39050	MYANMAR	1	16500
GHANA:	2	41800	NEPAL	3	72600
KENYA	2	48950	PAKISTAN	3	82500
LESOTO	1	22000	PAPUA NEW GUINIA	2	47300
LIBERIA	2	39500	SAMOA	1	10285
MADAGASCAR	2	44000	SOLOMON ISLANDS	2	40700
MALAWI	3	39600	SRI LANKA	1	19800
MALI	2	42900	TONGA	2	45100
MAURITIUS	1	27500	VIETNAM	1	27500
NAMIBIA	1	27500			
MOZAMBIQUE	1	11550			
NIGER	2	36300			
NIGERIA	2	51700	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN		
RWANDA	2	36300	REGIONAL	6	143550
SENEGAL	2	37400	ARGENTINA	1	15400
SIERRA LEONE	1	30800	BOLIVIA	2	55550
SOMALIA	2	41800	BRAZIL	2	55550
SOUTH AFRICA	2	46200	CHILI	1	16500
SWAZILAND	1	15400	COLOMBIA	2	66165
TANZANIA	3	79200	CUBA	1	16500

TOGO	1	13860	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	2	35750
UGANDA	4	97020	ECUADOR.	2	50360
ZIMBABWE	2	51700	EL SALVADOR	1	17050
			GRENADA	1	17600
ARAB REGION			HAÏTI	2	54010
REGIONAL	4	254710	JAMAICA	1	17600
ALGERIA	1	15400	MEXICO	2	40700
EGYPT	2	52800	PANAMA	2	35200
JORDAN	2	41250	PARAGUAY	1	16500
IRAQ	2	49500	PERU	1	22660
LEBANON :	2	27500	ST. LUCIA	1	22000
MAURITANIA	2	32450	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	1	14300
MOROCCO	1	14850	URUGUAY	2	36850
PALESTINE	4	68200	VENEZUELA	2	50400
SOUTH SUDAN	1	26400	EUROPE		
TUNISIA	3	309090	ARMENIA	1	18150
			BELARUS	1	22000
			INTERREGIONAL		
			INTERREGIONAL	1	33000

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE IPDC

In accordance with IPDC's procedures, the Bureau allocates funds to projects only on the basis of financial resources already available at the moment of its proceedings. This practice helps to avoid any deficit in the IPDC budget and to proceed with the launching of the projects immediately after the Bureau's meeting. During the period between 2010 and 2012, a total of US\$ 4,277,467 was received from 13 donor countries which was used for the financing of the 178 projects approved in 2011-2012.

		55 th Bureau, (22-24 March 2011)	56 th Bureau, (22-24 February 2012)	Total
1.	Andorra	52,344	42,368	94,712
2.	Belgium	142,653 (FIT)	-	142,653 (FIT)
3.	Denmark	275,000	275,000	550,000
4.	France	27,127	38,000	65,127
5.	Finland	267,738	266,666	534,404
6.	India	530,000	-	530,000
7.	Israel	15,052	-	15,052
8.	Netherlands	-	66,666	66,666
9.	Norway	166,945	174,709 276,420 (FIT)	341,654 276,420 (FIT)
10.	Spain	443,787	130,000	573,787

11.	Sweden	36,737	103,656	140,393
12.	Switzerland	482,456	-	482,456
13.	USA	200,000	264,143	464,143
	TOTAL	2,639,839	1,637,628	4,277,467

IPDC SPECIAL INITIATIVE: Building centres of excellence in journalism education in Africa

Having recognized journalism education as a major issue to be addressed in Africa, UNESCO in 2007 identified 20 institutions with the potential to become centres of excellence and of reference in this area. In 2010-2011, within the framework of the IPDC initiative, over US\$ 700,000 was allocated to purchase equipment, textbooks and organize training-of-trainers workshops for the centres, including three workshops on pedagogical methodologies coordinated by the Deutsche Welle Akademie in cooperation with UNESCO in which all participants from all the centres took part.

EVALUATION OF RECENT IPDC PROJECTS

The projects submitted to IPDC are considered to be a part of the long-term programme implemented by IPDC in each country. Every two years, the IPDC Bureau makes a selection of implemented projects to undergo an **external evaluation**. The reports on seven evaluated IPDC projects were presented and discussed during the 27th Council session. At its 55th meeting, the Bureau decided to increase the funds allocated from the IPDC Special Account for this purpose in order to enable the IPDC Secretariat to reinforce the evaluation of IPDC projects and ensure adequate follow-up. The biennial allocation was thus increased from US\$25 000 (53rd IPDC Bureau meeting, March 2009) to US\$40 000 in view of financing the missions of independent evaluators to complete at least 12 evaluation reports on completed projects per biennium. In accordance with this decision, 16 evaluation reports have been completed for submission to the 28th session of the IPDC Council.

UNESCO-IPDC PRIZE FOR RURAL COMMUNICATION

The Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists and the Kenyan Arid Lands Information Network are the co-winners of the 2012 edition of the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication, which recognizes meritorious and innovative efforts to improve communication for rural communities in developing countries. The award ceremony is to take place during the 28th session of the IPDC Council. The Prize, which involves a cash award of US\$ 20,000, is granted every two years following a recommendation by the Bureau of UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), which acts as prize jury.

**PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE IPDC BUREAU
AT ITS 56TH MEETING
(22-24 FEBRUARY 2012)**

Regions	Number of projects approved for financing	IPDC Special Account (in US\$)	IPDC Funds-in-Trust (in US\$)	Total Funds (in US\$)	% by region
Africa	33	724,350	-	724,350	33,5%
Asia and the Pacific	21	511,500	-	511,500	24%
Latin America and the Caribbean	18	387,310	-	387,310	18%
Arab region	12	237,600	276,420	514,020	23%
Interregional	1	33,000	-	33,000	1,5%
GRAND TOTAL	85	1,893,760	276,420	2,170,180	100%

	AFRICA	PROJECT NUMBER	AMOUNT ALLOCATED (INCL.10%PSC)
1.	LIBERIA: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WOMEN COMMUNITY RADIO JOURNALISTS	IPDC/56 LIR/01	34100
2.	LIBERIA: MEDIA DEFENSE AND SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS	IPDC/56 LIR/02	15400
3.	NIGERIA: BUILDING COMMUNITY RADIO	IPDC/56 NIR/01	27500
4.	SIERRA LEONE: PROMOTING CREDIBLE ELECTIONS REPORTAGE THROUGH THE INDEPENDENT RADIO NETWORK (IRN)	IPDC/56 SIL/01	30800
5.	DJIBOUTI: APPUI A LA CREATION DE L'ECOLE SUPERIEURE DE JOURNALISME A L'UNIVERSITE DE DJIBOUTI	IPDC/56 DJI/01	33000
6.	ETHIOPIA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATION AT MEKELLE UNIVERSITY	IPDC/56 ETH/01	33000
7.	ETHIOPIA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF MEKELLE FM 104.4 IN TIGRAY	IPDC/56 ETH/02	16500
8.	REGIONAL: PAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON JOURNALISTS SAFETY AND TACKLING IMPUNITY	IPDC/56 RAF/01	41250
9.	BURKINA FASO : CREATION DU CENTRE MULTIMEDIA COMMUNAUTAIRE DE BONDOUKUY	IPDC/56 BKF/01	22000
10.	MALI: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITES DE PRODUCTION DE LA RADIO RURALE DE KAYES	IPDC/56 MLI/02	20900
11.	NIGER: FORMATION DES FORMATEURS A INSTITUT DE FORMATION AUX TECHNIQUES DE L'INFORMATION ET DE LA COMMUNICATION (IFTIC)	IPDC/56 NER/01	16500
12.	NIGER: DEVELOPPEMENT DES RADIOS COMMUNAUTAIRES DES REGIONS DE DOSSO, NIAMEY ET TILLABERY	IPDC/56 NER/02	19800
13.	TANZANIA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE TANZANIA SCIENCE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION	IPDC/56 URT/02	12100

14	BOTSWANA: SUPPORT FOR THE CAMPAIGN ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION	IPDC/56 BOT/01	12100
15	MALAWI: TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS IN GENDER-SENSITIVE REPORTING	IPDC/56 MLW/01	13200
16	MALAWI: STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF INDEPENDENT PRIVATE RADIO STATIONS	IPDC/56 MLW/02	13200
17	ZIMBABWE: IMPLEMENTING GENDER EQUALITY POLICIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA	IPDC/56 ZIM/01	24200
18	REGIONAL: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR GENDER BALANCED CONTENT PRODUCTION IN SOUTH EAST AFRICA	IPDC/56 RAF/02	22000
19	CONGO: APPUI A LA CREATION DE L'INSTITUT DE FORMATION AU JOURNALISME ET A LA COMMUNICATION	IPDC/56 PRC/01	22000
20	GABON: REVISION ET SENSIBILISATION AU RESPECT DES CODES D'ETHIQUE ET DE DEONTOLOGIE	IPDC/56 GAB/01	17050
21	BURUNDI: REPORTING ON CHILDREN AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS	IPDC/56 BDI/01	13200
22	KENYA: BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE COMMUNITY MEDIA IN KENYA THROUGH DEVELOPMENT AND SHARING OF LOCAL CONTENT		22550
23	RWANDA: COMMUNICATING FOR DEVELOPMENT: CAPACITY BUILDING OF WOMEN RADIO JOURNALISTS	IPDC/56 RWA/01	14300
24	RWANDA: EMPOWERING THE RWANDAN PEACE AND DEMOCRACY JOURNALISTS NETWORK	IPDC/56 RWA/02	22000
25	SOMALIA: RAISING WOMEN'S VOICES IN SOMALIA THROUGH COMMUNITY MEDIA	IPDC/56 SOM/01	20900
26	UGANDA: ASSESSING THE MEDIA LANDSCAPE IN UGANDA USING THE MEDIA DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS	IPDC/56 UGA/01	27500
27	UGANDA: BUILDING SKILLS OF COMMUNITY RADIO EDITORS AND PRODUCERS IN DIGITAL RADIO PROGRAMME PRODUCTION	IPDC/56 UGA/02	24200
28	LESOTHO: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MEMBERS OF THE MAFETENG COMMUNITY MULTIMEDIA CENTRE	IPDC/56 LES/01	22000
29	NAMIBIA: STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITY TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY LEARNING	IPDC/56 NAM/01	27500
30	SOUTH AFRICA: COMMUNITY RADIO AS A PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT CHANNEL	IPDC/56 SAF/01	18700
31	REGIONAL: REINFORCING THE NAMIBIAN COMMUNITY RADIOS' NETWORK	IPDC/56 RAF/04	17600
32	CAMEROON: AMELIORATION DE L'INFORMATION SUR LE CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE DANS LE RESEAU NATIONAL DE RADIOS COMMUNAUTAIRES	IPDC/56 CMR/01	22000
33	REGIONAL: DEVELOPPEMENT DES CAPACITES DES RADIOS COMMUNAUTAIRES A TRAVERS LA FORMATION SUR LA PRODUCTION DES EMISSIONS DE QUALITE FOCALISANT SUR LES OMD	IPDC/56 RAF/05	25300
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC			
34	KYRGYZSTAN: THE PEOPLE'S MICROPHONE – ORGANIZING A COMMUNITY RADIO CARAVAN	IPDC/56 KYZ/01	17600
35	REGIONAL: ABU: GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN BROADCASTING ORGANISATIONS IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION	IPDC/56 RAS/01	33000
36	PAPUA NEW GUINEA: BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL MEDIA TRAINING CAPACITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GOROKA	IPDC/56 PNG/02	22000
37	SOLOMON ISLANDS: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SOLOMON ISLANDS BROADCASTING CORPORATION CORRESPONDENTS TO STRENGTHEN A NETWORK OF NEWS AND REPORTS FROM THE WHOLE OF SOLOMON ISLANDS	IPDC/56 SOI/01	14300

38	TONGA: CONTRIBUTING TO ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY THROUGH MEDIA FOR OUTLYING ISLANDS	IPDC/56 TON/01	28600
39	REGIONAL: STRENGTHENING INNOVATIVE AND GENDER INCLUSIVE USE OF COMMUNITY MEDIA PRACTICES IN THE PACIFIC REGION FOR PEACE AND SECURITY	IPDC/56 RAS/02	27500
40	CAMBODIA: SUSTAINING COMMUNITY AND MEDIA PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	IPDC/56 CAM/01	17600
41	CAMBODIA: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR LOCAL RADIO STAFF TO PRODUCE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES	IPDC/56 CAM/02	23100
42	LAO P.D.R: SETTING UP A COMMUNITY RADIO IN XIENGGHO DISTRICT	IPDC/56 LAO/01	26400
43	MYANMAR: BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF YOUNG JOURNALISTS IN THE MYANMAR PRINT MEDIA INDUSTRY	IPDC/56 MYA/01	16500
44	VIETNAM: CAPACITY BUILDING OF ETHNIC MINORITY BROADCASTERS FOR PROMOTION OF MEDIA AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY	IPDC/56 VIE/01	27500
45	REGIONAL : TRAINING OF TRAINERS - KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: NAVIGATING THE LAWS THAT INFLUENCE THE WORK OF THE MEDIA	IPDC/56 RAS/03	27500
46	CHINA: PROMOTING GENDER-AWARENESS IN CHINA'S MASS MEDIA	IPDC/56 CPR/01	27500
47	MONGOLIA: BUILDING TRAINING CAPACITY OF THE PRESS INSTITUTE OF MONGOLIA TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW JOURNALISM CURRICULA	IPDC/56 MON/01	27500
48	PAKISTAN: CAPACITY BUILDING OF WOMEN TV JOURNALISTS TO PRODUCE NEWS PACKAGES & NEWS BULLETINS	IPDC/56 PAK/01	29700
49	TIMOR-LESTE: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TIMOR-LESTE PRESS COUNCIL	IPDC/56 TIM/01	37400
50	NEPAL: ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY RADIO SELF REGULATION MECHANISM FOR UPHOLDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	IPDC/56 NEP/01	24200
51	NEPAL: INSTIUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING OF TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY	IPDC/56 NEP/02	26400
52	BANGLADESH: BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF THE PATHSHALA SOUTH ASIAN MEDIA ACADEMY	IPDC/56 BGD/01	25300
53	BHUTAN: DEVELOPMENT OF THIRD TIER OF BROADCASTING COMMUNITY RADIO IN BHUTAN	IPDC/56 BHU/01	13750
54	REGIONAL: AIBD : CAPACITY BUILDING OF POLICY MAKERS IN CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING	IPDC/56 RAS/05	18150
	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN		
55	BRAZIL: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION	IPDC/56 BRA/01	20350
56	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: PROMOTING HIGH QUALITY JOURNALISTIC COVERAGE OF ENVIRONMENT ISSUES	IPDC/56 DOM/01	15950
57	REGIONAL: MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATION COURSE FOR LOCAL AND COMMUNITY MEDIA	IPDC/56 RLA/01	26400
58	JAMAICA: BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY WORKERS TO USE COMMUNITY RADIO AS A TOOL FOR BEHAVIOUR CHANGE	IPDC/56 JAM/01	17600
59	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: TRINIDAD YOUTH CENTRE COMMUNITY MULTIMEDIA TRAINING CENTRE AND RADIO STATION	IPDC/56 TRI/01	14300
60	REGIONAL: EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CARIBBEAN BROADCASTERS	IPDC/56 RLA02	18150
61	ARGENTINA: ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY RADIOS IN ARGENTINA AND PROMOTING GREATER WOMEN PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN THE MEDIA	IPDC/56 ARG/01	15400

62	PARAGUAY - CAPACITY-BUILDING AND AWARENESS RAISING FOR COMMUNITY RADIOS ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PARAGUAY	IPDC/56 PAR/01	16500
63	URUGUAY: S CONSTRUCTION OF A REFERENCE CODE OF ETHICS FOR JOURNALISTIC PRACTICE	IPDC/56 URU/01	14850
64	BOLIVIA: EDUCATING GRASSROOTS COMMUNICATORS FOR THE AFRO-BOLIVIAN NATIONALITY	IPDC/56 BOL/01	22550
65	COLOMBIA: INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM REGARDING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND SELF-PROTECTION MECHANISMS FOR JOURNALISTS	IPDC/56 COL/01	36300
66	ECUADOR: MEDIA SELF-REGULATION AND GENDER TRAINING FOR NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS	IPDC/56 ECU/01	26400
67	PERU: TRAINING WOMEN JOURNALISTS IN ICTS AND GENDER	IPDC/56 PER/01	22660
68	VENEZUELA: DIPLOMA PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY COMMUNICATORS	IPDC/56 VEN/01	20900
69	REGIONAL: TRAINING PROFESSORS FOR MASTERS PROGRAMMES IN THE ANDEAN REGION WITH EMPHASIS ON STRATEGIC USE AND SOCIAL APPROPRIATION OF ICTS	IPDC/56 RLA/04	31900
70	MEXICO: CREATION OF TWO COMMUNITY MEDIA CENTRES FOR YOUTH IN THE RURAL AND INDIGENOUS STATES OF CAMPECHE AND CHIAPAS	IPDC/56 MEX/01	19800
71	PANAMA: COMMUNICATION, KEY ELEMENT FOR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES	IPDC/56 PAN/01	19800
72	REGIONAL: COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN OF MEXICO, NICARAGUA AND GUATEMALA	IPDC/56 RLA/05	27500
ARAB REGION			
73	JORDAN: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR YOUNG CITIZEN JOURNALISTS IN EASTERN AMMAN, ZARQA, MA'AN	IPDC/56 JOR/01	23650
74	LEBANON: STRENGTHENING WATCHDOG JOURNALISM	IPDC/56 LEB/01	16500
75	EGYPT: DEVELOPMENT OF INTERACTIVE TELEVISION PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	IPDC/56 EGY/01	28600
76	SOUTH SUDAN: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE UNION OF JOURNALISTS OF SOUTH SUDAN	IPDC/56 SUD/01	26400
77	REGIONAL: TRAINING FOR EGYPTIAN AND YEMENI JOURNALISTS TO BUILD CAPACITY IN LOCAL NEWSROOMS	IPDC/56 RAB/01	24200
78	IRAQ: TRAINING LOCAL JOURNALISTS IN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM	IPDC/56 IRQ/01	30800
79	ALGERIE: RENFORCEMENT DE LA WEB RADIO « VOIX DE FEMMES »	IPDC/56 ALG/01	15400
80	MAURITANIE: RENFORCEMENT DE CAPACITES PROFESSIONNELLES DE L'UNION DES FEMMES DE MEDIA DE MAURITANIE	IPDC/56 MAU/02	11550
81	TUNISIE : RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITES PEDAGOGIQUES DE L'INSTITUT DE PRESSE ET DES SCIENCES DE L'INFORMATION DE TUNIS (IPSI)	IPDC/56 TUN/01	19800
82	TUNISIA: FIT: FOSTERING MEDIA FREEDOM IN TUNISIA THROUGH THE CREATION OF A DESK OFFICER TEMPORARY POSITION IN TUNISIA	IPDC/56 TUN/02	276420
83	PALESTINE: BUILDING CAPACITY OF THE PALESTINIAN MEDIA IN CONFLICT SENSITIVE REPORTING	IPDC/56 PAL/01	19800
84	PALESTINE: CAPACITY BUILDING OF WATTAN NEWS DEPARTMENT	IPDC/56 PAL/02	20900

85	INTERREGIONAL: INTERNATIONAL MEDIA PROJECT TO PROMOTE AND DISSEMINATE BEST PRACTICE AND RELATED SAFETY AND IMPUNITY ISSUES	IPDC/56 INT/01	33000
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**PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE IPDC BUREAU
AT ITS 55TH MEETING
(22-24 MARCH 2011)**

Regions	Number of projects approved for financing	IPDC Special Account (in US\$)	IPDC Funds-in-Trust (in US\$)	Total Funds (in US\$)	% by region
Africa	39	939,730	-	939,730	40,6%
Asia and the Pacific	22	544,885	-	544,855	23,5%
Latin America and the Caribbean	18	412,885	-	412,885	17,8%
Arab region	12	201,850	176,280	378,130	16,4%
Europe	2	40,150	-	40,150	1,7%
GRAND TOTAL	93	2,139,500	176,280	2,315,780	100%

	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET CODE	AMOUNT ALLOCATED IN US\$
	ARAB REGION		
1.	EGYPT: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR LOCAL MEDIA IN EGYPT	354EGY5001	24,200
2.	IRAQ: CONFLICT SENSITIVE JOURNALISM TRAINING IN KIRKUK	354IRQ5001	18,700
3.	JORDAN: BUILDING CAPACITIES OF WOMEN CITIZEN JOURNALISTS IN RURAL AREAS	354JOR5001	17,600
4.	LEBANON: PRODUCTION OF A CODE OF ETHICS AGREED UPON BY JOURNALISTS	354LEB5001	11,000
5.	MAURITANIA: PROFESSIONAL COURSE TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF THE NETWORK OF MAURITANIAN FEMALE JOURNALISTS	354MAU5001	20,900
6.	MOROCCO BUILDING THE EDUCATIONAL CAPACITY OF ISIC TO INTEGRATE GENDER PERSPECTIVES IN JOURNALISM CURRICULA	354MOR5001	14,850
7.	PALESTINE: CITIZEN MEDIA : A TOOL FOR CHANGE	354PAL5001	11,000
8.	PALESTINE: ENHANCING WOMEN'S ROLES AND VOICES IN MEDIA	354PAL5002	16,500
9.	TUNISIA: BUILDING PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY OF TUNISIAN JOURNALISTS ON COMPUTER ASSISTED REPORTING AND INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM	354TUN5001	12,870
	REGIONAL PROJECTS		
10.	BUILDING FREE EXPRESSION ADVOCACY CAPACITY IN THE MENA REGION	354RAB5001	29,700

11.	BUILDING CAPACITY OF TEACHERS AT MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND JOURNALISM FACULTIES IN THE ARAB REGION ON REPORTING DIVERSITY	354RAB5002	24,530
12.	ASSESSING NATIONAL MEDIA LANDSCAPES IN THE MENA REGION USING UNESCO'S MDIS	517RAB5000 FIT	176,280
EUROPE			
13.	ARMENIA: SOCIAL REPORTING MEDIA: DEVELOPING CITIZEN JOURNALISM IN ARMENIA	354ARM5001	18,150
14.	BELARUS: DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNET TELEVISION WITH CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN BELARUS	354BYE5001	22,000
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			
15.	BOLIVIA: MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN JOURNALISTIC COMMUNICATION BASED ON UNESCO'S MODEL CURRICULA FOR JOURNALISM EDUCATION	354BOL5001	33,000
16.	BRAZIL: NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR JOURNALISTS AND PROFESSORS ON INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BASED ON PUBLIC DATA	354BRA5001	35,200
17.	CHILE: BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY FOR QUALITY MEDIA TRAINING AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION	354CHI5001	16,500
18.	COLOMBIA: STRENGTHENING THE WOMEN'S NETWORK OF THE COLOMBIAN FEDERATION OF JOURNALISTS: "FECOLPER-WOMEN"	354COL5001	29,865
19.	CUBA: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY MEDIA CAPACITIES IN JAIMANITAS COMMUNITY.	354CUB5001	16,500
20.	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: TRAINING WORKSHOP ON RAISING GENDER AWARENESS THROUGH MEDIA	355DOM5001	19,800
21.	ECUADOR: TRAINING IN SECURITY, LAW, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND SELF-REGULATION FOR JOURNALISTS WORKING IN HIGH-RISK ZONES	355ECU5001	23,760
22.	EL SALVADOR: STRENGTHENING IZCANAL COMMUNITY RADIO AND TELEVISION	355ELS5001	17,050
23.	GRENADA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF GRENADA MEDIA WORKERS	355GRE5001	17,600
24.	HAITI: SAKS FOUNDATION: ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY RADIOS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLURALISM	355HAI5001	21,010
25.	HAITI : SUPPORT FOR JOURNALIST TRAINING	355HAI5002	33,000
26.	MEXICO: CAPACITY-BUILDING OF RADIO JOURNALISTS WORKING ON GENDER VIOLENCE	355MEX5001	20,900
27.	PANAMA: WE ARE AN INVINCIBLE YOUTH	355PAN5001	15,400
28.	SAINT LUCIA: HARMONY FM COMMUNITY RADIO	355STL5001	22,000
29.	URUGUAY: SPREADING AND DISCUSSING RESULTS OF THE MEDIA DEVELOPMENT INDICATOR STUDY IN URUGUAY	355URU5001	22,000
30.	VENEZUELA: MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEMOCRACY THROUGH PLURALITY OF INFORMATION SOURCES, CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND "MEDIA ACCOUNTABILITY"	355VEN5001	29,700
REGIONAL PROJECTS			
31.	CBA: MEDIA SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY WORKSHOP FOR CARIBBEAN BROADCASTERS	355RLA5001	22,000
32.	TRAINING ON MULTIMEDIA REPORTING FOR MEXICAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN JOURNALISTS (IAPA)	355RLA5002	17,600
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC			
33.	BANGLADESH: FLAGSHIP UN ACTION FOR COMMUNITY RADIO	355BGD5001	44,000
34.	BANGLADESH: STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF BANGLADESHI MEDIA IN DISASTER REPORTING	355BGD5002	16,500
35.	INDIA: STRENGTHENING JOURNALISTS' SAFETY AND MEDIA RIGHTS MONITORING INITIATIVES IN INSURGENCY PRONE AREAS OF INDIA	355IND5001	33,000

36.	IRAN: CAPACITY BUILDING OF MEDIA PROFESSIONALS IN REPORTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES	355IRA5001	17,600
37.	KAZAKHSTAN: INTERNEWS: TRAINING FOR KAZAKH-SPEAKING JOURNALISTS ON ISSUES OF LIBEL AND DEFAMATION	355KZH5001	20,900
38.	KYRGYZSTAN: STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF COMMUNITY MEDIA IN MOUNTAIN VALLEYS OF KYRGYZSTAN	355KYR5001	24,200
39.	LAOS: BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF MASS COMMUNICATION AT NUOL	355LAO5001	24,200
40.	MALDIVES: JOURNALISM SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN MALDIVES	355MDV5001	22,000
41.	MONGOLIA: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SPECIAL PUBLIC BROADCAST CHANNEL CATERING TO ETHNIC MINORITIES	355MON5001	38,500
42.	NEPAL: GIVING A VOICE TO WOMEN: ESTABLISHING THE COMMUNITY RADIO STATION "RADIO NARI AAWAJ"	355NEP5001	22,000
43.	PAKISTAN: DEVELOPING CAPACITY OF RADIO JOURNALISTS TO PRODUCE NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMMES IN PAKISTAN	355PAK5001	19,800
44.	PAKISTAN: BASIC JOURNALISM SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR DISTRICT CORRESPONDENTS IN PAKISTAN	355PAK5002	33,000
45.	PAPUA NEW GUYANA: EMPOWERMENT THROUGH COMMUNITY MEDIA AND PARTICIPATION IN THE NUKU COMMUNITY PNG	355PNG5001	25,300
46.	SAMOA: ENHANCING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SAMOA, THROUGH INTRODUCTION OF RADIO IN A BOX	355SAM5001	10,285
47.	SOLOMON ISLANDS: TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN COMMUNITY RADIO IN THE PACIFIC	355SOI5001	26,400
48.	SRI LANKA: IMPROVE TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS BY COMPILING A COMPREHENSIVE SYLLABUS BASED ON THE UNESCO MODEL JOURNALISM CURRICULUM	355SRL5001	19,800
49.	TONGA: EMPOWERMENT OF TONGANS IN A TRANSITIONAL POLITICAL ERA THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING FOR TBC	355TON5001	16,500
	REGIONAL PROJECTS		
50.	ADIL SOZ: PROMOTION OF PROFESSIONAL CAPACITIES OF CHIEF EDITORS OF CENTRAL ASIAN PRINT MEDIA ON THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION	355RAS5001	20,900
51.	BUILDING REGIONAL NEWS CAPABILITY BY TRAINING AND EQUIPPING TELEVISION NEWS PRODUCERS IN MICRONESIA	355RAS5002	37,400
52.	ABU: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ABU CHILDREN'S TV PROGRAMME ITEM-EXCHANGE PRODUCERS/DIRECTORS	355RAS5003	22,000
53.	AMIC: REPORTING CLIMATIC CHANGE – TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOR ASIAN PRINT JOURNALISTS	355RAS5004	17,600
54.	AIBD: TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS ON LEGAL AWARENESS IN AN ERA OF MEDIA CONVERGENCE	355RAS5005	33,000
	AFRICA		
55.	BURKINA FASO: CENTRE OF REFERENCE (COR): TRAINING FOR LECTURERS IN THE COMMUNICATION AND JOURNALISM DEPARTMENT	355BKF5001	18,150
56.	CAP VERDE: SETTING UP OF A COMMUNITY MULTIMEDIA CENTRE IN SÃO VICENTE	355CVI5001	27,500
57.	CAR: CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (COE): SUPPORT FOR "TRAIN-THE-TRAINER" TRAINING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BANGUI	355CAF5001	27,500
58.	CHAD: STRENGTHENING THE RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND TECHNIQUES AT THE UNIV. OF N'DJAMENA	355CHD5001	38,500
59.	CHAD: TRAINING OF MEDIA PROFESSIONALS IN ELECTORAL REPORTING	355CHD5002	22,000

60.	CONGO DR: RURAL RADIO FOR THE YOUTH AND WOMEN OF BUKAVU	355ZAI5001	26,400
61.	EQUATORIAL GUINEA: HARMONIZATION OF THE JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING PROGRAMS WITH UNESCO'S MODEL CURRICULA	355EQG5001	13,750
62.	ETHIOPIA: PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUDE COMMUNITY RADIO	355ETH5002	12,100
63.	ETHIOPIA: TRAINING ON INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AND DOCUMENTARY PROGRAM PRODUCTION (ERTV, ETHIOPIA)	355ETH5001	27,500
64.	GABON: ASSISTANCE WITH THE SETTING UP OF THE DEPARTEMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES (UOB)	355GAB5001	22,000
65.	GHANA: (COE) GENDER AND MINORITIES MAINSTREAMING IN JOURNALISM EDUCATION AT AFRICAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION (AUCC)	355GHA5001	22,000
66.	GHANA: SUSTAINING COMMUNITY BROADCASTING TO DEEPEN DEMOCRACY, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (RADIO BULSA)	355GHA5001	19,800
67.	KENYA: ESTABLISHMENT OF RWARE COMMUNITY MULTIMEDIA CENTRE, NYERI DISTRICT	355KEN5001	26,400
68.	MADAGASCAR: (COR) INTRODUCTION OF A MASTERS DIPLOMA IN ECONOMIC JOURNALISM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTANANARIVO	355MAG5001	16,500
69.	MADAGASCAR: PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION TRAINING FOR LOCAL RADIO EMPLOYEES	355MAG5001	27,500
70.	MALAWI: LAUNCHING OF THE CAMPAIGNS TO ENACT ACCESS TO INFORMATION LEGISLATION (MISA-MALAWI)	355MLW5001	13,200
71.	MALI: SETTING UP THE COMMUNITY RADIO, RADIO BRICO	355MLI5001	22,000
72.	MAURITIUS: BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF THE MAURITIAN AND SEYCHELLES PRESS FOR ETHICAL AND GENDER-SENSITIVE JOURNALISM (UNIV. OF MAURITIUS)	355MAR5001	27,500
73.	MOZAMBIQUE: (COE) MOZAMBIKAN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM: INSTALLATION OF COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR ON-LINE TEACHING	355MOZ5001	11,550
74.	NIGERIA: (COE) CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR UNESCO POTENTIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND REFERENCE	355NIR5001	24,200
75.	SENEGAL: (COE) SUPPORT FOR POTENTIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM EDUCATION (CESTI)	355SEN5001	17,600
76.	SENEGAL: ASSISTANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY RADIO, "LA VOIX DU JEGUEM"	355SEN5001	19,800
77.	SOMALIA: STRENGTHENING HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION FLOW THROUGH MEDIA IN SOMALIA AND AMONG SOMALI DISPLACED COMMUNITIES	355SOM5001	20,900
78.	SOUTH AFRICA: UPGRADING THE TECHNICAL AND RADIO PRODUCTION SKILLS OF WOMEN IN COMMUNITY RADIO (BUSH RADIO)	355SAF5001	27,500
79.	SWAZILAND: MEDIA COMPLAINTS COMMISSION (MCC) (MISA-SWAZILAND)	355SWA5001	15,400
80.	TANZANIA: TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) ON THE STANDARDISED DIPLOMA LEVEL CURRICULUM FOR JOURNALISM TRAINING IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA (MEDIA COUNCIL OF TANZANIA)	355URT5002	38,500
81.	TANZANIA: ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY RADIO FOR KAHAMA DISTRICT (TUENDELEZANE-NGO)	355URT5001	28,600
82.	TOGO: PROJECT TO SUPPORT THE NEWSPAPER "LIBERTÉ": CREATION OF REGIONAL CORRESPONDENT POSTS	355TOG5001	13,860
83.	UGANDA: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SELF REGULATION BY NEWSPAPER EDITORS AND RADIO PROGRAM PRODUCERS	355UGA5002	17,820
84.	UGANDA: ESTABLISHING KABALE COMMUNITY RADIO	355UGA5001	27,500

85.	ZIMBABWE: (COR) CAPACITY BUILDING AND CURRICULUM ADAPTATION IN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING	355ZIM5001	27,500
	REGIONAL PROJECTS		
86.	DAYSTAR UNIVERSITY (COE) POTENTIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND REFERENCE - CAPACITY BUILDING: TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN NEW MEDIA JOURNALISM, CURRICULUM REVIEW AND FACULTY EXCHANGES	355RAF5001	27,500
87.	GENDER LINKS: (COE) BUILDING CAPACITIES OF HIGHER LEARNING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA TO MAINSTREAM GENDER IN JOURNALISM EDUCATION	355RAF5002	24,200
88.	AFRICA-UK JOURNALISM EDUCATION EXCHANGE NETWORK (POLYTECHNIC OF NAMIBIA)	355RAF5003	30,800
89.	URTI: TRAINING IN THE USE OF A WEB PLATFORM FOR THE JOINT PRODUCTION AND EXCHANGE OF PROGRAMMES BETWEEN PUBLIC RADIO BROADCASTERS	355RAF5004	33,000
90.	CIRTEF: TRAINING OF ARCHIVISTS AND IT PERSONNEL FOR THE SETTING UP OF AN ARCHIVING AND MULTIMEDIA-EXCHANGE CENTRE	355RAF5005	40,700
91.	CIRTEF: NEW MEDIA TRAINING	355RAF5006	27,500
92.	EAJA: MEDIA LAW REFORM CAMPAIGN IN EASTERN AFRICA (EAST AFRICA JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION,)	355RAF5007	28,600
93.	ARTICLE 19 KENYA & EASTERN AFRICA: BOLSTERING THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS IN EASTERN AFRICA	355RAF5008	26,400

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