Romer, Flavie

From: Atty. Abraham A. Agamata <aaagamata@malacanang.gov.ph>

Sent: mardi 29 mai 2018 12:50

To: Coudray, Sylvie; McCabe, Saorla; Romer, Flavie

Cc: Lim, Ming Kuok

Subject: Update on the 70 cases classified as journalist killings by the UNESCO

Attachments: PTFOMS UPDATES re UNESCO queries.pdf

Good day!

In response to your letter dated 04 April 2018 addressed to Ambassador Maria Theresa P. Lazaro, a copy of which was directly sent to us by Ms. Romer through email, please see attached PDF file of the filled-out table containing the latest information that we have on the cases subject of your query. As indicated in our statement in Section 4 therein, we will provide you with further updates on the cases by **28 June 2018.**

Please note that we sent a printed copy of the attached file to the Department of Foreign Affairs which previously forwarded your query to us through its Office of the United Nations and International Oganizations (DFA-UNIO). I wish to emphasize, as stated in our response to Sections 2 and 3 of your query, that on 20 April 2018 we furnished the UNESCO, also through the DFA-UNIO, a printed copy of our Urgent Appeal to the CPJ for the delisting of the Philippines from its Global Impunity Index. The Urgent Appeal provides a detailed report of the accomplishments and continuing activities of the Task Force in pursuit of its mandate to protect the life, liberty and security of media workers in the Philippines.

Lastly, as I have mentioned to Dr. Lim in a previous email, we are interested to attend upcoming international conferences/seminars for the remaining months of 2018 organized by your office on the protection of journalists/media workers. We look forward to our Executive Director, Undersecretary Joel Sy Egco, being invited to such events as a speaker or delegate/participant representing the Philippine government in his official capacity. Should there be any forthcoming events, kindly send us invitations at least a month in advance so we could thoroughly prepare for them.

We hope the attached file sufficiently addressed your query. Should you have further questions, we would appreciate if you could communicate directly with the Task Force through this email as well as through the contact details provided below. We look forward to your immediate feedback as well as to fruitful collaborations with your office as we continue to do our share in the global campaign to eradicate violence against media workers. Thank you.



ABRAHAM A. AGAMATA
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Presidential Task Force on Media Security

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Permanent Delegation of the Republic of the Philippines to UNESCO

30 May 2018

Dear Ms. Coudray,

Following the submission of updates on the status of legal investigations conducted on the deaths of 70 Filipino journalists from 2006 to 2017 by the Philippine Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMS) on 29 May 2018, it would be highly appreciated if the Section for Freedom of Expression could course through, or at least copy furnish the Permanent Delegation of the Philippines its communications with the PTFoMS.

Furthermore, the Government of the Philippines would like to request that cases already deemed closed or determined not to be media-related be removed from the list of cases included in the Director General's Report on the Safety of Journalists and the UNESCO website.

With renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Very truly yours,

ENS. MENDIOLA-

Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

Ms. Sylvie COUDRAY

Chief of the Section for Freedom of Expression Communication and Information Sector (CI)

Cc: Ms. Flavie ROMER

Section for Freedom of Expression

Model Table assisting responses by Member States

Section 1: Table

Current List of Journalists Killed (as condemned by the UNESCO Director-General) and Legal Investigations (as reported by UNESCO Member States)

Date: To be sent to UNESCO before 30 May 2018

Name of journalist /Affiliation	Gender	Date of alleged murder	Investigating Authority	Case Number	Current Status	Verdict	Additional remarks
Rolly Canete	Male	20 January 2006	Region IX Pagadian City Police Station, Zamboanga del Sur	Crim. Case No. 8167- 2006	Decision rendered by Judge Abraham Ramas of Branch 18 of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) of Pagadian City	Date of Verdict: November 14, 2008 Accused Herbert Liguan y Romualdez was acquitted for the crime of murder. The prosecution failed to prove the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt.	Case closed.
Graciano Aquino	Male	21 January 2006	Region III Bataan Police Provincial Office	N/A	Still under investigation. Local police suspected that RHB member was the one responsible in the killing of said mediaman at the cockpit arena	N/A	Not media work related. Case referred to the Directorate for Investigation and Detection Management (DIDM) of the Philippine Nations

							Police (PNP) for further investigation.
Fernando "Dong" Batul DYPR Radio Commentator	Male	22 May 2006	Region IVB Puerto Princesa City Police Station, Palawan	Crim. Case No. 21309	Trial is ongoing. Accused PO1 Aaron Golifardo is presently detained at the provincial jail.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring.
Ponciano Grande	Male	7 December 2006	Region III Nueva Ecija	N/A	Under investigation by Nueva Ecija PNP	N/A	Not work related. Victim is not a legitimate member of media at the time of the killing and not a hard-hitting commentator.
Fernando Lintuan	Male	24 December 2007	Region XI Davao City	Crim Case no 695-37- 08.	Warrant of arrest issued by Branch 17 of the RTC Davao City against the suspect Leonilo Larosa	N/A	For follow up / manhunt operations by PTFoMS.
Robert Sison	Male	30 June 2008	Region IVA Sariaya,	Crim Case No. 10-3351-	Tried at Branch 150 of the RTC Makati City; Decision rendered by Judge Elmo M. Almeda	Date of Verdict: June 28, 2013 Accused Mario Biscocho,	Case closed.

			Quezon	10-3353		Michael Biscocho, and Menandro Biscocho were acquitted for the crime of murder due to lack of eyewitness.	
Martin Roxas	Male	7 August 2008	Region VI Roxas City, Capiz	Crim. Case No. C-209-08	Decision rendered by Judge Ignacio A. Alajar of Branch 18 of the RTC Roxas City	Date of Verdict: March 8, 2016 Accused Kristian Tan and Joenel Lastimoso were convicted of Homicide.	Case closed.
Tiburcio "Jojo" Trajano	Male	2 June 2009	Region IXA Taytay, Rizal	Crim. Case No. 09- 38543-44	Tried at Branch 74, RTC Antipolo City, under Judge Mary Jane P. Lazaro	Accused Jeffery Samul alias Jack Tamondong and Zoren Samul died in an encounter during the manhunt operations (Serving warrant of arrest).	Case closed.
Crispin Perez	Male	9 June 2009	Region IVB Puerto Princesa City Police Station, Palawan	Crim. Case No. R-6992	Decision rendered by Branch 85 of the RTC Lipa City	Date of Verdict: March 23, 2016 Accused PO2 Darwin Quimoyog y Refugia was acquitted for lack of factual and legal grounds.	Case closed.
Godofredo Linao	Male	27 June 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM /	Crim. Case No. GL – Q-	One hundred eighty-eight (188) accused officially charged. Four (4) accused acquitted after their	N/A	Under PTFoMS monitoring.

	178638	respective demurrers to evidence were granted by the court. Five (5) excluded / dropped from the information and became state witnesses. One hundred seven (107) accused are currently detained and four (4) of them are already dead. Two (2) accused are out on bail. One (1) accused was release by virtue of an order of release in connection with his petition for Habeas Corpus. All of them have been arraigned. Eighty-one (81) accused are still at large. The Prosecution has presented one hundred ninety-one (191) witnesses including the private complainants and those who have been recalled, while the accused have already presented one hundred (100) witnesses for defense evidence-in-chief.		
PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
	er PNP DIDM /	er PNP DIDM /	excluded / dropped from the information and became state witnesses. One hundred seven (107) accused are currently detained and four (4) of them are already dead. Two (2) accused are out on bail. One (1) accused was release by virtue of an order of release in connection with his petition for Habeas Corpus. All of them have been arraigned. Eighty-one (81) accused are still at large. The Prosecution has presented one hundred ninety-one (191) witnesses including the private complainants and those who have been recalled, while the accused have already presented one hundred (100) witnesses for defense evidence-in- chief. ARMM -do- PNP DIDM /	excluded / dropped from the information and became state witnesses. One hundred seven (107) accused are currently detained and four (4) of them are already dead. Two (2) accused are out on bail. One (1) accused was release by virtue of an order of release in connection with his petition for Habeas Corpus. All of them have been arraigned. Eighty-one (81) accused are still at large. The Prosecution has presented one hundred ninety-one (191) witnesses including the private complainants and those who have been recalled, while the accused have already presented one hundred (100) witnesses for defense evidence-in- chief.

Lea Delmacio	Female	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Marites Cablitas	Female	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Alejandro Reblando	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Andres Teodoro	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Arturo Betia	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Bataluna Rubello	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

Benjie Adolfo	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Bienvenido Legarte	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Jhoy Duhay	Female	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Fernando Razon	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

				T		T .	
Hannibal Cachuela	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
lan Subang	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Joel Parcon	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
John Caniban	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Lindo Lupogan	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

Napoleon Salaysal	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Noel Decina	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Rey Merisco	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Reynaldo Momay	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Romeo Jimmy Cabillo	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

Ronnie Perante	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Rosell Morales	Female	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Santos Gatchalian	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Ernesto Maravilla	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Henry Araneta	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Marife "Neneng"	Female	23 November	ARMM	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

Montano		2009	PNP DIDM / NBI NCR				
Eugene Dohillo	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Mark Gilbert Arriola	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Victor Nunez	Male	23 November 2009	ARMM PNP DIDM / NBI NCR	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
Desiderio Camangyan	Male	14 June 2010	Region XI	Crim. Case No.	Decision rendered by Judge Retrina E. Fuentes of RTC Davao	Date of verdict: May 26, 2016	Case closed.

			Mati City Police Station, Davao Oriental	5630-10	City Branch 11.	Accused Dennis Lumikid was found guilty for the crime of murder and was sentenced to suffer the penalty of reclusion perpetua.	
Jovelito Agustin	Male	15 June 2010	Region I Bacarra Police Station Ilocos Norte	Crim. Case No. 14526-12	Trial ongoing. Venue was transferred to Muntinlupa City Regional Trial Court as Accused Leonardo Banaag, Jr.is serving sentence at NBP for illegal recruitment case.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Nestor Bedolido	Male	19 June 2010	Region XI Digos City Police Station, Davao del Sur	Crim. Case No. 47(2012)	An information for murder was filed before RTC Branch 19, Digos City initially against Accused Artemio Timosan Jr. Alias "DokDok", Richie Mirafuentes and one John Doe. Upon review by the Department of Justice, the information against the said accused was withdrawn and instead, an information for murder was filed against Davao del Sur Governor Douglas Cagas, Matanao Mayor Vicente Fernandez, Ali	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.

Roy Baktikan	Male	14 October	Region XIII	Crim. Case No.	Awaiting trial at RTC Branch 28, Lianga, Surigao del Sur; a warrant	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow
Niel Jimena	Male	23 August 2011	Region VI Magalona Police Station Negros Occidental	Crim. Case No. 8510-69	Case for murder against accused Noel Guimeroy y Morales, was provisionally dismissed as private complainant Kholyn Joy Jimena and her witnesses failed to appear in court several times, while other accused Joel Calungsod is still at large.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Marlina "Len" Flores- Sumera	Female	24 March 2011	NCR Malabon City Police Station	Crim. Case No. XV-W- 11D-INV- 259	Murder charges were filed against Alejandro Carlos. Case has been forwarded to the Department of Justice (DOJ),	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
					Ordaneza, and Bado Sanchez. A warrant for the arrest of the said accused was issued by Judge Carmelita Sarno-Davin. On 20 October 2014, Gov. Cagas surrendered to the police and was committed at the BJMP-Davao del Sur.		

Gallego		2011	Lianga Police Station, Surigao del Sur	5202	for the arrest of accused Hildo Tejero and one John Doe was issued but the said accused remain at large.		ир.
Aldion Layao	Male	8 April 2012	Region XI Calinan Police Station Davao City	Crim. Case No. 72-488- 12	Trial ongoing at RTC Branch 14, Davao City. Accused Petronillo Quino Demicillo Jr. detained at city jail.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Nestor Libaton	Male	8 May 2012	Region XI Mati City Police Station	Crim. Case No. 5910-12	Case for murder against accused Jaklo Palatic and Polan Quitab was provisionally dismissed in the absence of any witnesses for the prosecution.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Eddie Jesus Apostol	Male	1 September 2012	ARMM Maguindanao PNP	N/A	Still under investigation by the PNP.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Bonifacio Loreto Jr.	Male	30 July 2013	NCR CIDU Quezon City	Crim. Case No. Q-12- 176172	Decision rendered by Judge Luisito G. Cortez of RTC Branch 85, Quezon City.	Date of verdict: October 23, 2014 Accused Benji Bate y Constantino pleaded guilty to the lesser offense and sentenced to suffer a penalty of imprisonment for	Case closed

						fourteen (14) years.	
Richard Kho	Male	30 July 2013	NCR CIDU Quezon City	Crim. Case No. Q-12- 176172	-do-	-do-	-do-
Mario Sy	Male	1 August 2013	Region XII General; Santos City Police Station	N/A	Still under investigation. Investigation team is still conducting tracking of witnesses.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Fernando "Nanding" Solijon	Male	30 August 2013	Region X Iligan City Police Station	Crim. Case No. 06-17582	Warrant of arrest had been issued against Accused PO1 Peejay Capampangan who remains at large. Information for murder was originally filed before RTC Branch 6, Iligan City but the case was ordered by the Supreme Court to be transferred to RTC Cebu upon the petition of Solijon's widow, Mely Solijon, to avoid miscarriage of justice due to possible intervention of Iligan City Mayor Celso	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.

					Regencia.		
Vergel Bico	Male	4 September 2013	Region IVB Calapan City Oriental Mindoro	Crim. Case No. 15-12- 117	Warrant of arrest issued for the arrest of accused Romano Rogales y Cabula and other cohorts who are still at large.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Joash Dignos	Male	29 November 2013	Region X Valencia, Bukidnon	Crim. Case No. 2507914	Trial ongoing. Accused Dionesio Daulog, Jr. is detained at City jail.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Michael Diaz Melo (Mike Milo)	Male	7 December 2013	Region XIII Tandag Police Station, Surigao Del Sur	N/A	Under investigation byTandag Police Station.	N/A	Not work related. Victim is not a hard hitting commentator and motive of the killing has been theorized as family problem/love triangle.
Rogelio "Tata" Butalib	Male	11 December 2013	Region XI Tagum City Police Station	NPS No. XI-09- INV-151- 00325	Accused Wrenter Libres Azarcon and two (2) others still at large.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.

Rubylita Garcia	Female	6 April 2014	Region IVA Bacoor Cavite PS	Crim. Case No. 6599	Trial is ongoing. Accused Roberto Gatil and Manuel Aruta are still at large. Accused Artemio Gatil, Alberto Gatil, and Cresencio Labaclado have been arrested.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Nerlita Ledesma	Female	8 January 2015	Region III Balanga PS Bataan	Crim. Case No. 14827	The case for murder against Accused Inocencio Bendo was provisionally dismissed by RTC Branch 2, Balanga, Bataan on 08 August 2017.	N/A	Not work related, incident arose out of land disputes.
Maurito Lim	Male	14 February 2015	Region V11 tagbilaran City Police Office	N/A	Under investigation by Tagbilaran PNP	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Gregorio Ybanez	Male	18 August 2015	Region XI Tagum City Police Station	NPS No. XI-09- INV-151- 00325	For preliminary investigation at the Tagum City Prosecutor's Office.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Teodoro Escanilla	Male	19 August 2015	Region V Barcelona Police Station, Sorsogon	N/A	Under investigation.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.

	l						
Cosme Diez Maestrado	Male	27 August 2015	Region X Ozamis City Police Station, Misamis Occidental	Crim. Case No. 7383	Awaiting trial at the RTC Branch 36, Ozamis City. Accused Gregie Azcona y Albor and three (3) John Does still at large.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Jose Bernardo	Male	31 October 2015	NCR CIDU Quezon City	N/A	Under investigation by CIDU Quezon City.	N/A	Not work related. Jose Bernardo is not legitimate broadcaster. Referred to DIDM.
Elvis Ordaniza	Male	16 February 2016	Region IX Pitogo Police Station Zamboanga del Sur	N/A	Under investigation. The victim is testifying on various drugs cases in his area.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Larry Que	Male	20 December 2016	Region V Catanduanes City Police Station	NPS No. XBI-INV- 17E- 0013	The complaint for murder has been submitted for resolution by the DOJ.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.

Joaquin Briones	Male	13 March 2017	Region V Masbate Police Station	Crim. Case No. 18720	Warrant of arrest issued against Acused Antonio Villarin del Rosario, Ronnie del Rosario and six (6) other John Does. All accused are still at large.	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.
Rudy Alicaway	Male	6 August 2017	Region IX Molave Police Station Zamboanga del Sur	N/A	Under investigation by the PNP.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Leodoro Diaz	Male	7 August 2017	Region XII Sultan Kudarat Police Station	Crim. Case No. 5519-PQ (17)	Trial is ongoing at RTC Branch 20, Tacurong City, Accused Toto Kalamag and one (1) John Doe are still at large.	N/A	Not work related. Referred to DIDM.
Christopher Iban Lozada	Male	24 October 2017	Region XIII Bislig City Police Station / NBI NCR	N/A	On March 12, 2018, in a press briefing about the killing, PTFoMS Executive Director USec. Joel Sy Egco disclosed that a witness had pointed to Rolly Mahilum, former driver and aide of Bislig City Mayor Librado Navarro, as the	N/A	For PTFoMS monitoring / follow up.

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Section 2: Positive or Innovative Measures the Member State is taking to promote safety of journalists and combat impunity

Section 3: Steps the Member State has taken to consider the specific risks faced by women journalists in the exercise of their work

*For Sections 2 and 3, we would like to invite the attention of the UNESCO to the fact that on 20 April 2018, the Philippine government, through the Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMS), has filed an Urgent Appeal for the delisting of the Philippines from the Global Impunity Index of the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). The Urgent Appeal contains a discussion of the activities and accomplishments of the PTFoMS in pursuit of its mandate to protect the life, liberty, and security of media workers as provided in Administrative Order No. 1 issued by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on 11 October 2016. The UNESCO was furnished a copy of the Urgent Appeal through the Department of Foreign Affairs. In addition, the PTFoMS is in the

process of drafting a handbook of security measures/protocols for media workers in the Philippines and welcomes inputs from its member-agencies, resource persons, as well as local and international non-governmental organizations.

Section 4: Agreement to post the submitted information on UNESCO's dedicated webpage

The PTFoMS reserves the right to confirm its agreement to the posting of the submitted information until it has received the latest updates from the investigating authorities and after it has conducted an exhaustive review of all files in its possession relative to the cases subject of your query. We will provide your office with the latest updates on the cases by 28 June 2018.