

**REPORT
OF THE ASEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
REGIONAL FORUM ON MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASEAN**

**HOTEL ISTANA, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
16 & 17 MAY 2016**

I. Overview

The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) organised the AICHR Regional Forum on Media and Human Rights in ASEAN at Hotel Istana in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 16 and 17 May 2016. The Forum was led by AICHR-Malaysia, working in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, the Ministry of Communications and Information of Malaysia, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), ASEAN Secretariat and the Regional Europe-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument, Human Rights Facility (READI, HRF). The Forum brought together more than 100 participants from all ASEAN Member States including AICHR Representatives, representatives of government media agencies, media practitioners, academics and human rights experts. The list of participants appears as **ANNEX I**.

2. The objectives of the Forum was for AICHR to engage with the media, to inform its on-going work and to share good practices among media practitioners. Participants paid particular focus to human rights issues involving four selected groups, namely, women and children, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV and migrant workers.

3. The two-day Forum was divided into four sessions, i.e. (i) Bridging the Gaps between Human Rights & the Role of Media; (ii) Ethics and Professionalism in Reporting: Embracing Human Rights; (iii) New Media in Promoting Human Rights: Opportunities and Challenges; and (iv) Media Reporting on the Rights of women and children, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV and migrant workers. The Programme of the Forum appears as **ANNEX II**. Taking stock of the discussions, an 'Outcome Document' has been prepared at the end of the session. The Document contains observations and recommendations from the Forum for AICHR's adoption including the drafting of an explanatory note or comment on Article 23 of the AHRD and guidelines of good practices on media reporting.

II. Summary of Opening Session

4. The Forum was officiated by H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, the Representative of Malaysia to AICHR on 16 May 2016. In his welcoming remarks, H.E. Edmund Bon, pointed out that the media is the 'fourth estate' – an arm to check and balance the use (and abuse) of power. Commenting on the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information enshrined in Article 23 of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD), he explained that while freedom of opinion is absolute, freedom of expression may be limited. The grounds for permissible limitations are found in Article 8 of the AHRD, and they must be read narrowly. He said that such limitations must be (i) prescribed by

law, (ii) pursue a legitimate aim, and (iii) be restricted to the extent necessary to attain the legitimate aim. H.E. Edmund Bon further stressed the need for AICHR to assist ASEAN Member States develop a common approach and position on human rights matters of interest – in this case, the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information – as mandated by paragraph 4.11 of AICHR's Terms of Reference. His full statement appears as **ANNEX III**.

5. H.E. Phoukhong Sisoulath, Chair of AICHR 2016 stated that AICHR is committed to implement its Five-Year Work Plan (2016-2020) including programmes or activities that relate to the media. He reaffirmed the AICHR's commitment to continue raising the awareness to various groups of society on the principles and purposes of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement, on the work of the AICHR and human rights issues in the region.

6. Mr. Letchumanan Shanmugam, Undersecretary from the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia of Malaysia said that human rights issue is becoming increasingly prominent in Malaysia and ASEAN at large. He remarked that the media often highlighted human rights news in the context of civil and political rights and disregarded the most important aspects of human rights such as social, economy and cultural rights. He added that the media should have overarching understanding on human rights so as to ensure that they carry equal coverage on human rights issues in the region.

7. Madam Rodziah Abdul, Secretary of Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) informed that SUHAKAM has always regarded media as an essential instrument that could contribute immensely to the promotion and protection of human rights. She stressed the importance of having a certain code of ethics among media practitioners to ensure professionalism in media reporting, covering both mainstream and the new media, to which she informed that SUHAKAM had developed a draft code of ethics to guide media practitioners in the course of their work. The draft code has been presented to the Government of Malaysia.

8. H.E. Luc Vandebon, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union Mission in Kuala Lumpur in his remarks emphasised on the crucial role played by governments in ensuring a free-flow of information and transparency in governance and management of information. He opined that the media practitioners face security threats and discrimination by various quarters in the conduct of their duty. Hence, safety of journalist and their protection is one aspect that should be taken into account. Governments in the region must take necessary action in ensuring that the protection of journalists is not only for mainstream media practitioners but also for citizen journalists and bloggers.

III. Summary of Sessions

Session 1: Bridging the Gaps between Human Rights and the Role of Media

9. H.E. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community and Corporate Affairs stressed the importance to understand the linkages as well as gaps between the role of the media and human rights. He said that the gaps may be due to

the complexity in the ASEAN structure and system of bureaucracy, citing that most of media practitioners are not familiar with ASEAN processes and mechanisms. He added that ASEAN Member States (AMS) have different level of maturity and acceptance to human rights issues. This may cause different impacts in relation to the role of the media in promoting human rights in the country. He informed that the AMS is committed to promote and protect human rights of its peoples and that this has been specifically highlighted in the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. The main challenge is how best these commitments can be translated into actions and mainstreamed into all pillars of ASEAN Community.

10. Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Chairman of Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) informed that media practitioners tend to have superficial observations in their news rather than covering the actual human rights issues. He encouraged media practitioners to play a more active role in changing the mind set of the AMS to be more open when discussing human rights issues.

11. Mr. Laurent Meillan, Representative of Regional Office for South East Asia of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) explained the common challenges facing media practitioners in ASEAN. They are, among others, due to the limited capacity of media practitioners to report on human rights violations; and the restrictions and censorship that are imposed upon when reporting human rights cases. He said that revolution in technology has a direct implication on the freedom of information and expression. He viewed that the rise of social media platforms are paramount for the enjoyment of freedom of expression and transformed mechanisms in human rights monitoring.

12. During the interactive session, these observations and recommendations were made:

- To intensify efforts to promote and disseminate information of the AHRD, in particular Article 23 of the Declaration concerning the freedom of opinion and expression; and
- For the Government to continue providing training and capacity building programmes for government officials as well as media practitioners on the responsibility to promote and protect human rights.

Session 2: Ethics and Professionalism in Reporting: Embracing Human Rights

13. H.E. Jess Anthony Que Yu, Chair of Senior Officials' Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI) in his presentation informed that the media practitioners in the Philippines followed and abide by a series of code and ethics in journalism, broadcasting and advertising. In recent years, in their efforts to report the truth and document the cases of human rights, journalists themselves became victims of abuses. He highlighted that the media in the Philippines operate under a regime of self-regulation and that there is no specific guideline/rule/regulation implemented by the State against media practitioners. However, ethics and professionalism standards remain to be important and relevant to media practitioners in their reporting. This could prevent conflict of interest and with the law.

14. Dr. Lim Ming Kuok, Advisor for Communication & Information of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) noted that there is high level of standards that can be best referred in relation to ethical journalism and professionalism. These include instruments, legislations and resolutions developed through United Nations Treaties such as International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), European Court of Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Dr. Lim stressed that UNESCO has been promoting professionalism and ethical standards for journalists around the world. This is because ethics and professionalism give credibility to the work of journalists or media practitioners. He added that the Philippines is one of the countries that report quite diligently on the killings of journalists to UNESCO. There is a special dedicated unit in the Philippines which collects information on the killings of journalists which would then be submitted to UNESCO. He cited that over 70 journalists have been killed over the past ten years in the Philippines and from a policy maker's point of view, this need to be reflected in public record.

15. Datuk Dr. Khaw Lake Tee, Former Vice-Chairman of SUHAKAM in her presentation reminded that the essential roles of media practitioners are to gather, prepare and provide information on news relating to politics, economy, social and cultural aspects of the society. The information they provided to the public may shape opinion and perceptions and later on contribute to changes in laws, policies and practice. Dr. Khaw further informed that media reporting on human rights is still lacking in Malaysia. These may be due to various reasons, such as the lack of understanding on human rights principles and mechanisms; inability to contextualise or covering human rights news in a positive manner; limited space for news coverage (battling for news space); and the absence of a standard code of ethic in the country.

16. During the interactive session, these observations and recommendations were made:

- To promote the concept of self-regulatory mechanisms by the media;
- To conduct studies on laws and policies in ASEAN that promote the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information with regard to the media;
- To initiate/organize raising awareness event, taking advantage of international day such as World Press Freedom Day to highlight or engage in discourse in improving media reporting on human rights; and
- To conduct studies on the possible creation of a mechanism to monitor or investigate harm caused to the media practitioners in carrying out their work.

Session 3: New Media in Promoting Human Rights: Opportunities & Challenges

17. H.E. Tan Li San, Vice Chair of SOMRI in her presentation informed that the use of social media has expanded in tandem with internet access. Social media had created platform for voices to be heard, access to information and enable formation of digital community. Although it provided access to information, there is also a risk of consuming rumours, unverified facts and information. In the positive point of view, H.E. Tan informed that social media can also be used to correct rumours and untruths. She was of the view that appropriate regulations and codes can be imposed to protect others' rights.

18. Mr. Rafendi Djamin, Regional Director of Amnesty International for South East Asia and Pacific shared that the Amnesty International utilised the new media extensively in its regional meetings, research, gathering information and organisation of campaigns. According to Mr. Djamin, legitimate limitations of freedom of expression particularly on online media would need to be discussed through a meaningful and thorough consultation with the experts and stakeholders.

19. Dr. Khoo Ying Hooi, Senior Lecturer from the University of Malaya in her presentation informed that internet penetration in the Southeast Asia in 2014 was 32% and it is predicted that by 2020, it would increase to 52%. This shows potential on the usage of new media to promote human rights. The current trend of the new media in Southeast Asia has been focussing on the usage of media in disseminating information about ASEAN Community. With the new media, information can be disseminated easily and there are more human rights watchdogs including citizen journalists that have come on board. However, some AMS are not very keen on a free access to information and knowledge and would restrict its citizens' online activities. The censorship measures however are not transparent - making it difficult to determine whether the measures taken are in accordance with international human rights standards or otherwise.

20. Ms. Gayathry Venkiteswaran, Former Executive Director of Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA) in her presentation informed that the new media allows local media to link with communities and issues across the border easily. It created more platforms for information sharing, education, political and cultural expression. Across the region, the new media has enabled citizen journalists and individuals to produce and share content transnationally. Yet, there are disparity in terms of geography, socioeconomic status, gender, languages and the continued domination of corporations or companies of digital platforms that need to be addressed. Additionally, lack of access to information, lack of transparency and meaningful consultation on regional policies such as ASEAN ICT Plan have been the obstacles to empower online media in covering human rights cases.

21. During the interactive session, these observations and recommendations were made:

- For AICHR to collaborate with SOMRI to disseminate information regarding Article 23 of the AHRD;
- To strengthen the media's role in educating society on human rights and to equip the media to popularise and mainstream human rights

Session 4A: Media Reporting on the Rights of Women and Children

22. Ms. Nora Murat, Regional Director for International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) pointed out that a number of ASEAN countries would avoid discussing sensitive issues such as sexuality, sex, abortion, sexual reproductive health and rights. The media therefore plays a very important role in changing the public perception and to some extent, national policies. However, some media have the tendency to perpetuate gender stereotypes and to only highlight "sensational" news items. Ms. Murat further informed that a conducive environment for journalists

needs to exist. In this regard, AICHR should play a formal or informal role in ensuring that the media are allowed to exercise their rights, and also to hold the AMS accountable if they are seen to be restricting media practitioners.

23. Ms. Achara Ashayagachat, Senior Reporter of The Bangkok Post remarked that the current trend of news reporting are characterised by patriarchal perspective, sympathy-charity approach, flattering successes of Government and NGOs projects, crime scenes and sensationalised description of the crime. She stressed that media practitioners must be passionate about promoting and protecting of human rights and to go beyond these characters of reporting. In highlighting human rights news, media practitioners must also consider linking women and children-related news to socio-economic and political structures of the communities, country and the region. A proper analysis of the causes of the problem is needed to connect the individual cases to the bigger issues surrounding women and children.

24. During the interactive session, these observations and recommendations were made:

- The speakers and participants had the common understanding on the importance of having more women journalists or editors in the media industry. These may reduce gender stereotypes in media reporting; and
- For the Government to conduct case studies on possible human rights violations of the media of marginalised and vulnerable groups by the media.

Session 4B: Media Reporting on People with Disabilities

25. H.E. Dr. Seree Nonthasoot, Representative of Thailand to AICHR underlined that persons with disabilities enjoy the same rights as other individual and they cannot be discriminated on the grounds of their disabilities. He highlighted that persons with disabilities are at risk of poverty and exclusion from other aspects of life such as education and employment. Women with disabilities in the meantime are more prone to poverty compared to men with disabilities. It is of utmost importance that persons with disabilities be accorded with rights and opportunities so that they too can contribute to the society. Not only the media, the general public and human rights defenders need to be educated and be aware of issues relating to persons with disabilities. Dr. Nonthasoot informed that he would discuss with SOMRI on the possibility of developing an ASEAN manual on disabilities for media during the Regional Dialogue on Persons with Disabilities in June/July 2016.

26. Mr. Wong Yoon Loong, Vice-President of the Malaysian Confederation of the Disabled stated that persons with disabilities include those who have long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments that could hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. The media therefore plays an important role in highlighting human rights issues in relation to persons with disabilities and to push for action by relevant parties. He stressed that persons with disabilities should not be seen as a charity case as they too could contribute effectively and meaningfully to the society at large.

27. Ms. Mary Chen, Editor of CHALLENGES magazine informed that the term “disabilities” is an umbrella concept covering impairments, activity limitations and

restrictions of participation among persons with disabilities. She stated that the society in general view “disability” as a problem which resulted others to be under the impression that one should fear having or acquiring a disability. Some media portrayed people with disabilities in a negative manner and reinforces social and economic exclusion.

28. Among other suggestions that were put forward during the session are as follows:

- To consider developing an ASEAN manual/guidelines in using proper languages by media practitioners; and
- To continue organising training and capacity building programmes aiming at strengthening media practitioners in using proper languages, scoping, portraying positive image of people with disabilities.

Session 4C: Media Reporting on People Living with HIV

29. Ms. Fifa Rahman, Policy Manager for the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) in her presentation said that journalists bear a strong ethical burden in ensuring that the language in their reporting supports the basic human rights of the HIV-key affected population. There are already existing manuals in reporting that can be used by media practitioners in the areas of people living with HIV such as the HIV Manual Reporting (2012) developed by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation which highlighted that many individuals at risk of HIV are women and children living in poverty and it is essential that all AIDS journalism to be sensitive to the circumstances of people’s lives. Ms. Rahman further informed that stigmatised journalism could negatively affect the key affected population’s right to health and the right to freedom from inhuman and degrading treatment, among others. Inappropriate terminologies such as ‘junkie’ and ‘addicts’ are often used in the news reports and this should be avoided.

30. To ensure fair reporting and uphold the rights of people living with HIV, the session put forward a line of suggestions as follows:

- To develop common used of languages and terminologies (or glossaries) to be used by media practitioners in reporting people living with HIV;
- To continue raise awareness on the need to have policies that favour the human rights of people living with HIV and to overcome public misconception surrounding HIV and the people living with HIV.

Session 4D: Media Reporting on the Rights of Migrant Workers

31. Mr. Rafendi Djamin, Regional Director for Amnesty International for Southeast Asia and Pacific in his presentation informed that the issue of migrant workers is one of the contentious issues in ASEAN. He stressed the importance of the media in bringing the issue of migrant workers and their human rights to the forefront in order to encourage AMS to discuss it at its Meetings and Programmes, and to also change public perceptions and policies towards migrant workers.

32. Ms. Anni Santhiago, National Project Coordinator for International Labour Organisation (ILO) stated that ASEAN region has approximately 6 million documented

workers, which makes up 30% of the total number of migrant workers worldwide. Ms. Santhiago noted that positive contributions of migrant workers are apparent with regard to the remittance received by origin countries. Total remittance in 2015 was US\$ 441 billion, in which 6 Asian countries were among the top ten remittance receiving countries. Remittances are often used for the purpose of education and health. The study undertaken by ILO in 2012 proved that migration was positive for the Malaysian economy given that it filled in existing labour shortages. The media, in collaboration with international organizations and national institutions, can play a bigger role in portraying positive images and contribution of migrant workers to the host and origin countries. ILO in Malaysia, for instance, embarked on Migration Works Campaign highlighting positive contribution of migrant workers to the Malaysian economy.

33. Ms. Arlene Tan, Independent Media Practitioner of *Durian ASEAN* underscored that the objective of the new media, including *Durian ASEAN*, are to produce more personalised stories about individuals, especially the youth. The rise of citizen journalism is crucial in spreading awareness on human rights issues. They play a part in amplifying the voices of the marginalised and to sway public perception in a positive manner. One of the obstacles that is facing media practitioners - especially the small-scale and independent media - is the lack of support with regard to resources, information and protection from governments. This may hamper their role in providing an empowering platform to raise awareness and change public misconception.

34. Mr. Adrian Pereira from the North-South Initiative informed that the existing policies in Malaysia does not reflect the necessary changes to improve the rights of migrant workers. At the regional level, ASEAN has not made much impact on the rights of migrant workers. Mr. Pereira pointed out that there are 4.5 million undocumented workers out of the total of 6.7 million migrant workers in Malaysia, and about 80-90% of migrant workers in Malaysia arrive with documents, but become undocumented due to elements of trafficking. Thus the role of the media is important in allowing potential migrant workers in countries of origin to make informed decisions before choosing to travel for employment.

35. During the interactive session, speakers and participants suggested a number of recommendations, as follows:

- To provide greater transparency and access to information for the media practitioners to use and disseminate;
- To ensure rights-based approach to policies and engagement with regards to migrant workers both at national and regional levels which encompasses aspects of participatory, accountability, non-discriminatory, empowerment and highest standard in line with related international instruments.

Forum Observations and Outcome Document (Phases 1 & 2)

36. At the end of each day, H.E. Edmund Bon chaired a session to take stock on the discussion held during the day. The rapporteurs's summary of the speakers' presentations and discussions with the participants for each day was presented at each session. The participants then provided their views and comments on the summary where they agreed on a list of observation points and recommendations. These are categorised into four sections: Aspirational; Training, Education and

Capacity Building; Publication of Guidance Tools; and Research. The final Outcome Document appears as **ANNEX IV**.

ANNEX I**LIST OF MODERATORS/SPEAKERS/PARTICIPANTS OF
THE AICHR REGIONAL FORUM ON MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASEAN****HOTEL ISTANA, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
16 & 17 MAY 2016**

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
MODERATORS/SPEAKERS				
1.	H.E. Polyne Hean	Cambodia	Representative of Cambodia to AICHR	Moderator
2.	H.E Luc Vandebon	European Union (EU)	Ambassador & Head of Delegation EU Mission in KL	Speaker/co-organiser
3.	H.E. Dr. Dinna Wisnu	Indonesia	Representative of Indonesia to AICHR	Speaker
4.	Dr. Lim Ming Kuok	Indonesia	Advisor for Communication and Information UNESCO	Speaker
5.	Mr. Rafendi Djamin	Indonesia	Regional Director Amnesty International for South East Asia & Pacific	Speaker
6.	H.E. Phoukhong Sisoulath	Lao PDR	Chair of AICHR/ Representatives of Lao PDR to AICHR	Speaker/Chair of AICHR
7.	H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon	Malaysia	Representative of Malaysia to AICHR	Speaker
8.	Tan Sri Razali Ismail	Malaysia	Chairman, Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF)	Speaker
9.	Mr. S. Letchumanan Shanmugam	Malaysia	Undersecretary, Ministry of Communication and Multimedia (KKMM)	Speaker/co-organiser
10.	Ms. Rodziah Abdul	Malaysia	Secretary of SUHAKAM	Speaker/co-organiser
11.	Dr. Khaw Lake Tee	Malaysia	Former Vice-Chairman of SUHAKAM	Speaker
12.	Ms. Nora Murat	Malaysia	Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation	Speaker

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
13.	Ms. Khoo Ying Hooi	Malaysia	Senior Lecturer, University of Malaya	Speaker
14.	Ms. Mary Chen	Malaysia	Director, Challenges Media	Speaker
15.	Ms. Gayathry Venkiteswaran	Malaysia	Former Executive Director Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA)/ Media Freedom Activist	Speaker
16.	Ms. Fifa Rahman	Malaysia	Policy Consultant, Malaysian AIDS Council	Speaker
17.	Mr. Adrian Pereira	Malaysia	Executive Director, North South Initiative	Speaker
18.	Mr. Wong Yoon Loong	Malaysia	Vice President, Malaysian Confederation of the Disabled (MCD)	Speaker
19.	Ms. Anni Santhiago	Malaysia	National Projector Coordinator. International Labour Organization of Malaysia	Speaker
20.	Dr. Sharifah Syahirah Syed Sheikh	Malaysia	Senior Lecturer, University College Poly-Tech MARA, Kuala Lumpur	Moderator
21.	H.E. Jess Anthony Que Yu	Philippines	Chair of ASEAN SOMRI/ Undersecretary Legislative, Policy and Legal Affairs, Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)	Speaker
22.	Hon. Loretta Ann Pargas-Rosales	Philippines	Representative of Philippines to AICHR	Moderator
23.	H.E. Tan Li San	Singapore	Deputy Secretary (Industry and Information), Ministry of Communications and Information	Speaker
24.	Mr. Shashi Jayakumar	Singapore	Alternate Representative of Singapore to the AICHR	Moderator
25.	H.E. Dr. Seree Nonthasoot	Thailand	Representative of Thailand to AICHR	Speaker

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
26.	Ms. Achara Ashayagachat	Thailand	Senior Reporter, Bangkok Post	Speaker
27.	Mr. Laurent Meillan	Thailand	Officer-in-Charge, OHCHR Regional Office for South-East Asia	Speaker
28.	DSG Achmad Kurnia Prawira Mochtan	ASEAN Secretariat	Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN Secretariat	Speaker
PARTICIPANTS				
29.	Mr. Rasydan Haji Nokman	Brunei Darussalam	Special Duties Officer, Prime Minister's Office	Participant
30.	Mr. Azaraimy Haji. Habib	Brunei Darussalam	Chief Reporter, Brunei Press Sdn Bhd	Participant
31.	Mr. Chou Heng	Cambodia	Human Rights Lecturer for Journalist, Cambodian Mekong University	Participant
32.	Mr. Prak Sophea	Cambodia	Bureau Chief of ASEAN Department, Office of the Council of Ministers	Participant
33.	Mr. Kin Vibol	Cambodia	Director of Department/ General Dept of Information and Broadcasting	Participant
34.	Marcel Roijen	European Union (EU)	Head of Political Section - Netherlands	Participant
35.	Ivo Apostolov	European Union (EU)	Third Secretary - Bulgaria	Participant
36.	Ms. Susana Rita Kumalasanti	Indonesia	Journalist, KOMPAS Newspaper	Participant
37.	Mr. Ghofar Ismail	Indonesia	AICHR Assistant	Participant
38.	Ms. Rikianarsyi Arrassyidinta	Indonesia	AICHR Assistant	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
39.	Mr. Ali Murtado	Indonesia	Embassy of the Republic Indonesia to Kuala Lumpur	Participant
40.	Mr. Freddy M. Panggabean	Indonesia	Embassy of the Republic Indonesia to Kuala Lumpur	Participant
41.	Mr. Nilandone Keorodom	Lao PDR	Deputy Director of News Analysis Division Press Department, MOFA of Lao PDR	Participant
42.	Mr. Somxay Sengdara	Lao PDR	Journalist, Lao Press in Foreign Languages/ Vientiane Times	Participant
43.	Ms. Keolangsy Manythone	Lao PDR	Journalist, Laos New Agency	Participant
44.	Mr. Phoumake Vandavong	Lao PDR	Assistant to Representative of Lao PDR to AICHR/Human Rights Division, Department of Treaties and Law Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Participant
45.	Ms. Wong Yen Nee, Jenny	Malaysia	Director, Media & Communications, Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF)	Participant
46.	Mr. Raja Azraff	Malaysia	Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF)	Participant
47.	Mr. Mazlan Zurin Zulkifli	Malaysia	Senior Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Communication and Multimedia	Participant
48.	Mr. Che Abidin Che Omar	Malaysia	Ministry of Communication and Multimedia	Participant
49.	Mr. Bala Supramaniam a/l Applasamy	Malaysia	Chief Assistant Secretary II, Ministry of Communication and Multimedia	Participant
50.	Ms. Nurul Adni Zainul Ariff	Malaysia	Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Communication and Multimedia	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
51.	Ms. Joanne Koo Yoke Ann	Malaysia	Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Communication and Multimedia	Participant
52.	Mr. Muhammad Shahir Mustaffa	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
53.	Ms. Nor Azni Aziz	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
54.	Mr. Mahendran A/L Subramaniam	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
55.	Ms. Sukma Azura Che Ahmad	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
56.	Ms. Fauziah Hussain	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
57.	Ms. Norhasliwati Mohd Ali	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
58.	Mr. Khairoul Hussen	Malaysia	Department of Information, Malaysia	Participant
59.	Ms. Azzah Mohamad@ Md Som	Malaysia	Pegawai Berita, BERNAMA	Participant
60.	Ms. Rafe'aton Mohd Ali	Malaysia	Editor, BERNAMA	Participant
61.	Ms. Sera Nasir	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant
62.	Mr. Ghandi Kasinadan	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant
63.	Mr. Amrizan Bin Madian	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant
64.	Ms. Christine Lim May Yu	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant
65.	Ms. Nur Aimidiyana Zuher	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant
66.	Ms. Wan Asmanizan Wan Ahmad Najib	Malaysia	BERNAMA	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
67.	Ms. Rafini bt Othman	Malaysia	Assistant Director, Radio News Section, Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)	Participant
68.	Ms. Arnie binti Arapa	Malaysia	TV Producer, Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)	Participant
69.	Ms. Ramlah Binti Johari	Malaysia	Deputy Director, News Dept (TV), Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)	Participant
70.	Ms. Nor'ain bt Hj Bakir	Malaysia	Assistant Manager, Nasional FM, Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)	Participant
71.	Ms. Harlizawati binti Mohd Razali	Malaysia	Programme Producer, Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)	Participant
72.	Mr. Simon Karunagaram	Malaysia	Deputy Secretary of the Communications Group, SUHAKAM	Participant
73.	Ms. Jesrina Grewal	Malaysia	Head of the Media Division, SUHAKAM	Participant
74.	Ms. Chua Yen Sin	Malaysia	Officer of the International Coordination Division SUHAKAM	Participant
75.	Ms. Adlyss Adnan	Malaysia	Officer of the International Coordination Division SUHAKAM	Participant
76.	Lee Pei Hsi	Malaysia	SUHAKAM	Participant
77.	Ms. Alva Marika Bruun	Malaysia	Human Rights Coordination, Assistant, UN Malaysia	Participant
78.	Ms. Sasha Surandran	Malaysia	Communication Officer UNICEF Malaysia	Participant
79.	Mr. Ahmad Hafiz Osman	Malaysia	Communication Analyst UNDP	Participant
80.	Mr. Gessen Rocas	Malaysia	International Planned Parenthood Federation East & South East Asia & Oceanic Region (IPPFESCAOR)	Participant
81.	Muhammad Iqbal	Malaysia	International Planned Parenthood Federation East & South East	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
			Asia & Oceanic Region (IPPFESCAOR)	
82.	Ms. Fiona Barnaby	Malaysia	Legal Advisor (ICRC)	Participant
83.	Kwek Ai Wei	Malaysia	Public Affairs Officer (ICRC)	Participant
84.	Dato' Shariffah Norhana Syed Mustaffa	Malaysia	Deputy Director-General, ASEAN- Malaysia National Secretarial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
85.	Mr. Mohd Suhaimi Ahmad Tajuddin	Malaysia	Deputy Director-General, ASEAN- Malaysia National Secretarial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
86.	Mr. Mohd Fareed Zakaria	Malaysia	Director, ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretarial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
87.	Ms. Raja Intan Nor Zareen	Malaysia	Director, ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretarial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
88.	Mr. Andika Ab Wahab	Malaysia	Researcher, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
89.	Mr. Jason Low Tze Hian	Malaysia	Assistant Secretary, Divison of Human Rights and Humanitarian, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Participant
90.	Mr. M. Mukundan	Malaysia	Director, Department of Information and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia	Participant
91.	Ms. Christine	Malaysia	Malaysian Confederation of the Disabled (MCD)	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
92.	Mr. Tin Lin Aung	Myanmar	Senior Reporter, Ministry of Information, Myanmar	Participant
93.	Mr. Aye Kywe	Myanmar	Director, Ministry of Information Myanmar	Participant
94.	Ms. Kay Thwal	Myanmar	Editor, Ministry of Information Myanmar	Participant
95.	Tito G. Cruz	Philippines	Director, Philippines Broadcasting Service, Bureau of Broadcast Services	Participant
96.	Mr. Philippe Cortes	Philippines	Special Concerns, Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)	Participant
97.	Mr. Christian De Vivar Esguerra	Philippines	Multimedia Correspondent ABS-CBN	Participant
98.	Hon. Celso Jr. Cruz Santiago	Philippines	Assistant Secretary, Special Concerns, Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)	Participant
99.	Ms. Braema Puthri Mathiapparanan	Singapore	Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism (MARUAH) Singapore	Participant
100.	Mr. Chew Kuok Hou Aaron	Singapore	Executive Director Channel News Asia, Media Corp	Participant
101.	Prof. Ang Peng Hwa	Singapore	Professor, Nanyang Technological University	Participant
102.	Noraphon Pacharoen	Thailand	Editor in Chief Foreign News Department	Participant
103.	Aksarapak Lapanut	Thailand	Reporter, Editorial Department Post Today	Participant
104.	Ms. Le Phuong Lan	Viet Nam	Officer, Press and Information Department, MOFA Vietnam	Participant

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	CATEGORY
105.	Ms. Tran Thu Trang	Viet Nam	Journalist, The World & Vietnam Report, MOFA of Vietnam	Participant
106.	Ms. Gita Agnestasia	ASEAN Secretariat	Technical Officer, ASEAN Secretariat	Participant
107.	Ms. Widia Librianti	ASEAN Secretariat	Technical Officer ASCC	Participant
108.	Mr. Girard Philip Espanola Bonotan	ASEAN Secretariat	Senior Officer ASCC	Participant
109.	Mr. Ray Hervandi	ASEAN Secretariat	Communication Specialist READI HRF	Participant
110.	Ms. Yuyun Wahyuningrum	ASEAN Secretariat	Team Leader READI HRF	Participant

ANNEX II**PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES****16 May 2016 (Monday)**

Time (hrs)	Subject
0830	Registration of Delegates
0900	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opening Session</u></p> <p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, Representative of Malaysia to AICHR <p>Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Phoukhong Sisoulath, Chair of AICHR 2016 • H.E. Dato' Dr. Sharifah Zarah Syed Ahmad Secretary-General, Ministry of Communication & Multimedia Malaysia • Mdm. Rodziah Abdul, Secretary of Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) • H.E. Luc Vandebon, Ambassador & Head of Delegation, European Union Mission in Kuala Lumpur <p>* Photo Opportunity</p>
0945	Coffee Break
10.00	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Session 1 (Panel Session)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Bridging the Gaps between Human Rights & the Role of Media”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community & Corporate Affairs • H.E. Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Chairman of Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) • Mr. Laurent Meillan, Officer In-Charge, Regional Office for South-East Asia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, Representative of Malaysia to AICHR
1135	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Session 2 (Panel Session)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Ethics and Professionalism in Reporting: Embracing Human Rights”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Jess Anthony Que Yu, Chair of SOMRI • Dr. Ming-Kuok LIM, Advisor for Communication & Information, UNESCO • Datuk Dr. Khaw Lake Tee, Former Vice-Chairman of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr. Shashi Jayakumar, Alternate Representative of Singapore to AICHR

1300	Lunch
1400	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Session 3 (Panel Session)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“New Media in Promoting Human Rights: Opportunities & Challenges”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Tan Li San, Vice Chair of SOMRI • Mr. Rafendi Djamin, Former Representative of Indonesia to AICHR • Dr. Khoo Ying Hooi, Senior Lecturer, University of Malaya • Ms. Gayathry Venkiteswaran, Former Executive Director of Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA) <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Loretta Ann Pargas-Rosales, Representative of Philippines to AICHR
1530	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Session 4A (Sharing of Best Practices)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Media Reporting on the Rights of Women & Children”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nora Murat, Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Malaysia • Ms. Achara Ashayagachat, Senior Reporter, Bangkok Post <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr. Dinna Wishnu, Representative of Indonesia to AICHR
1630 – 1730 (Inclusive of tea break)	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>What do we do next?</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Forum Observations and Outcome Document (Phase 1)”</p> <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, Representative of Malaysia to AICHR
1930 – 2130	<u>Welcome Dinner Hosted by Representative of Malaysia to AICHR</u>

END OF DAY ONE

17 May 2016 (Tuesday)

Time (hrs)	Subject
0900	<p align="center">Session 4B (Sharing of Best Practices) “Media Reporting on People With Disabilities”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr. Seree Nonthasoot, Representative of Thailand to AICHR • Mr. Wong Yoon Loong, Vice-President of the Malaysian Confederation for the Disabled • Ms. Mary Chen, Editor of CHALLENGES (Malaysia’s 1st Cross-Disability National Magazine) <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Hean Polyne, Representative of Cambodia to AICHR
1030	Coffee Break
1045	<p align="center">Session 4C (Sharing of Best Practices) “Media Reporting on People Living with HIV”</p> <p><u>Speaker</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fifa Rahman, Policy Manager, Malaysian AIDS Council <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Hean Polyne, Representative of Cambodia to AICHR
1230	Lunch
1400	<p align="center">Session 4D (Sharing of Best Practices) “Media Reporting on the Rights of Migrant Workers”</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rafendi Djamin, Former Representative of Indonesia to AICHR • Ms. Anni Santhiago, National Project Coordinator for Malaysia, GMS Triangle Project, International Labour Organization (ILO) • Ms. Arlene Tan, Independent Media Practitioner/Expert, <i>Durian ASEAN</i> • Mr. Adrian Pereira, North-South Initiative <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sharifah Syahirah Syed Sheikh, Senior Lecturer, University College Poly-Tech MARA, Kuala Lumpur
1530	Coffee Break
1545	<p align="center">What do we do next? “Forum Observations and Outcome Document (Phase 2)”</p> <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, Representative of Malaysia to AICHR
1700	<p align="center">Closing Session</p> <p>Concluding Remarks By H.E. Edmund Bon Tai Soon, Representative of Malaysia to AICHR</p>

ANNEX III

**WELCOMING REMARKS BY H.E. EDMUND BON TAI SOON
REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO AICHR**

**AICHR REGIONAL FORUM ON MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASEAN
16 MAY 2016, HOTEL ISTANA, KUALA LUMPUR**

His Excellency Phoukhong Sisoulath, the Chairperson of AICHR,

Madam Rodziah Abdul, Secretary of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM),

His Excellency Luc Vandebon, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union Mission in Kuala Lumpur,

Mr. Letchumanan Shanmugam, Undersecretary, Ministry of Communications & Multimedia Malaysia,

His Excellency Jess Anthony Que Yu, Chairperson of Senior Officials' Meeting Responsible of Information (SOMRI),

His Excellency Dr AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community & Corporate Affairs,

Dato' Shariffah Norhana Syed Mustaffa, Deputy Director-General of the ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia,

Excellencies, Representatives and Alternate Representatives of AICHR,

Distinguished speakers and panellists,

Media practitioners and representatives from the ASEAN Member States,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. On behalf of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), I am very pleased indeed to welcome you to the "AICHR Regional Forum on Media and Human Rights in ASEAN".

2. The media plays an increasingly important role that should support and strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights. It is an avenue for dialogue and discourse, and assumes a position that may influence public policy and opinion on human rights issues. These speak of a capacity to change people, change governments, and on a greater scale - nations.

3. At the same time, the media may create or perpetuate stereotypes, or unwittingly allow the festering of hate and violence which severely impacts human rights. The lack of human rights awareness may cause further abuses such as the loss of dignity and breaches of privacy.

4. In ASEAN's context, human rights issues are considerably under-reported. Even if they are reported, reporting is essentially reactive to rights violations. Some still view human rights as taboo while some others view the same as having little or no news value. There are at times unforeseen pressures at play while growing sensitivities affecting the local psyche - particularly when it comes to marginalised or vulnerable groups - bear heavy on the media.

5. Additionally, the changing landscape in today's media industry particularly in terms of the online press - and how people who are connected to the internet are accessing their news and information - brings a new set of questions regarding media ethics.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. The right to freedom of opinion, expression and information is the cornerstone of a democratic society. It is essential to the enjoyment of other human rights. It proliferates other rights, such as the right to health, the right to association, the right to assembly and the right to education. It is therefore vital that we make a conscious effort to ensure that this right is jealously protected.

7. The right materialises itself very prominently within the media industry which, we can all agree, is a powerful institution by itself. It has traditionally been regarded as the 'fourth estate' - an arm to check and balance the use (and abuse) of powers. It is also a 'watchdog' in a democratic society.

8. Given its power, the media has to strive for accuracy and sensitivity to the effect of any inflammatory reporting that could lead to hate speech and widespread violence. Speak truth to power but do not abuse your own power.

9. Article 23 of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration 2012 provides that every person has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information, whether orally, in writing or through any other medium of that person's choice.

10. Consistent with international human rights law, freedom of opinion is absolute. Freedom of expression may be limited. The grounds for permissible limitations must be read narrowly and are found in Article 8 of the Declaration. They must (i) be prescribed by law, (ii) pursue a legitimate aim, and (iii) be restricted to the extent necessary to attain the legitimate aim. The 'legitimate aim' must be solely for the purpose of securing due recognition for the human rights of others and to meet the just requirements of national security, public order, public health, public safety, public morality and general welfare of the peoples in a democratic society.

11. In sum, the right to freedom of expression must be regulated by law that must define restrictions with sufficient clarity and to ensure that they do not lead to an unjust or unnecessary or disproportionate interference with the right to freedom of expression. The restrictions must not - and they cannot - impair the essence of the right.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

12. I am extremely excited by your attendance today from all ASEAN Member States. In particular, I note that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of SOMRI are here to engage with us. This, to me, is proof that ASEAN is ready to go beyond the mere declaratory, and to invest in the nuts and bolts of making human rights protection a reality.

13. But before protection can run its full course, there must be the setting of applicable human rights standards in order that our regional rights jurisprudence will grow, and then flourish. In this regard, AICHR's overarching role in the ASEAN community includes the mandate in 4.11 of our Terms of Reference to develop common approaches and positions on human rights matters of interest to ASEAN. In short, standard-setting.

14. I would be therefore encourage the forum today to assist AICHR by sharing your expertise and knowledge with us, and to use us as your platform not only to assist your work as media practitioners in your respective countries but also to assist the work of all practitioners in every ASEAN country. I hope too that this forum will be an avenue to share good practices to positively impact our regional human rights mechanism.

14. We have dedicated Sessions 4A to 4D to the sharing of such good practices among media practitioners on their publications regarding four selected groups namely, women and children, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV and migrant workers. This was done intentionally, having recognised that the freedom of opinion and expression cross-cuts itself with several other rights, such as the right to personal liberty and security, the right to freedom of movement and residence, the right to be free from arbitrary interference, the right to work, and the right to basic and affordable healthcare.

15. In this vein, we must take a stand against the discrimination of vulnerable and marginalised groups. It is interesting to note that Article 4 of the Declaration affords special emphasis on certain groups of people, far more progressive than any other rights instrument. Article 4 reads as follows:

"The rights of women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, migrant workers, and vulnerable and marginalised groups are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of human rights and fundamental freedoms."

16. We need to consciously educate ourselves of the sensitivities they face. For example, instead of using the word 'prostitute', we might want to consider using the word 'sex worker'. Instead of 'mentally retarded', the phrase 'mentally challenged'. In place of 'disabled', 'differently abled'. Instead of saying persons 'with AIDS', the phrase persons 'living with HIV'.

17. With that, let us consider how we can synthesise and implement good media practices in the portrayal of these groups. Good reporting, on the one hand, can facilitate the special protection that these groups deserve. On the other hand, bad reporting may instead lead to these groups being negatively perceived, thereby affecting our societies' responses towards them.

18. This forum is a means to a goal, and not an end in itself. You would notice from the programme that we have dedicated two sessions at the end of each day - 'Forum Observations & Outcome Document' - where we will distil our key discussions and conclusions and put together an Outcome Document for us to find our commonalities. This is an integral part of the forum as the document will be presented to AICHR to inform on our on-going work, to implement your aspirations within the ASEAN context and to promote human rights in the region by working with our media partners more concretely.

19. We hope that you will leave this forum having built meaningful relationships that will serve in improving the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information. Similarly, I hope that the representatives of government agencies will use this forum to fully engage media practitioners, and to go the extra mile in understanding the concerns and challenges they face.

On that note, allow me to wish all of you a fruitful and enjoyable time.

Thank you.

Dated this 16th day of May 2016

Edmund Bon Tai Soon
Representative of Malaysia to AICHR

ANNEX IV

**OUTCOME DOCUMENT
ASEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
REGIONAL FORUM ON MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASEAN**

**16-17 MAY 2016
HOTEL ISTANA, KUALA LUMPUR**

The 'What do we do next? Forum Observations & Outcome Document' sessions were held in two phases on the 16th and 17th of May.

The Representative of Malaysia to AICHR, Edmund Bon Tai Soon, chaired the sessions.

The following methodology was used:

- (1) The rapporteur's summary of the speakers' presentations and discussions with the participants for the day was presented.
- (2) The participants then provided their observations and recommendations for AICHR to consider adopting and implementing.

These were the observations and recommendations:-

I. Aspirational

1. Note that the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information is an enabler of other rights which is crucial to the full attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.
2. Reaffirm Article 23 of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration 2012 which is to be read with the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration 2012.

3. Note the various international human rights laws that elaborate on the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information.
4. Note that any 'limitations' under Article 8 of AHRD should be interpreted in accordance with international human rights norms.
5. Promote the concept of self-regulatory mechanisms and standards by the media, and which should take into consideration issues of professionalism and ethics in accordance with principles of international human rights law.
6. Encourage closer collaboration and greater alignment with the Senior Officials Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI) with regard to Article 23 matters.

II. Training, Education and Capacity-Building

7. Encourage the continued training and capacity-building of media practitioners, policy-makers, citizen journalists, and marginalised and vulnerable groups (a) to embrace human rights, (b) to strengthen the media's role in educating society on human rights through, among others, investigative journalism, (c) to equip the media to popularise and mainstream human rights by making it simple and accessible to the layperson, and (d) to promote self-protection mechanisms for media practitioners.
8. Encourage the continued training and capacity-building of government officials in media agencies with regard to the State's obligations to promote, respect and protect human rights.
9. Encourage the raising of awareness about Article 23 of the Declaration through international days such as World Press Freedom Day on 3 May and the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists on 2 November.

III. Publication of guidance tools

10. Draft and publish guidelines of good practices on media reporting (with particular emphasis on marginalised and vulnerable groups) in accordance with the fundamental principles of the right to life and to live with dignity, of non-discrimination and of equality before the law.
11. Draft and publish an explanatory note or comment on Article 23 of the Declaration to elaborate on what it means and entails, and which includes issues such as enabling environments for media practitioners to work in, regulations, censorship, and the protection of media practitioners and sources.

IV. Research

12. Conduct discussions, research and/or studies into:
 - laws and policies in ASEAN that promote and/or restrict the right to freedom of opinion, expression and information with regard to the media;
 - case studies regarding possible human rights violations of the media and/or of marginalised and vulnerable groups by the media;
 - the possible creation of a mechanism to monitor and/or investigate harm caused to media practitioners in carrying out their work; and
 - the possible creation of media-friendly indicators regarding safe and enabling environments for media practitioners to work in.
13. Request SOMRI to collect, compare, contrast, synthesise and release baseline information or data of ASEAN Member States on human rights matters of interest (regarding, for example, unemployment, migration, persons with disabilities etc.) for the use of media practitioners, researchers and academics.

Made this 17th day of May 2016