

COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ITU/ABU REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON NEEDS OF DEVELOPING BROADCASTERS FOR DIGITAL SERVICES IMPLEMENTATION

Duration, date:	4 days, from 1 to 4 December 2008			
Workshop venue:	Vientiane, Laos			
Language:	English			
Executing Agency:	Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) in collaboration with ITU (BDT)			
Brief Description:	ITU (BDT) will provide expertise and contribute to ABU towards ASP fellowships thus encouraging participation in the above-mentioned Workshop (Action 9684).			
Organisation	Signature	Date	Name/Title	
For ABU			David Astley Secretary-General ABU	
For ITU			Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid Director BDT	
Annex: Agenda				

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON NEEDS OF DEVELOPING BROADCASTERS FOR DIGITAL SERVICES IMPLEMENTATION

(hereinafter referred to as "the workshop")

Organized by ABU & ITU 1-4 December 2008, Vientiane, Laos

1. Background

Broadcasters in developing countries have special needs in progressing along their path of development. The ABU has sensed this special requirement at a very early stage and has serviced the requirement as much as resources permitted.

Implementation of digital technology is a complex process involving assessment of requirements, appropriate technology, change in traditional workflows and capital expenditure. The scope of complexity is limited in the studio environment, identifying IT based equipment and methods. It is far more complex in the transmission area where other players and consumers are deeply involved.

All these issues will be addressed and assessed at the regional workshop.

2. Aims

This workshop is aimed at providing sufficient information to such broadcasters and to assist ABU members to make decisions as to how the countries in the region could transit to digital services and how they need to prepare themselves for digital implementation.

Senior staff of broadcasting organizations from Laos and the following nearby countries, Cambodia, Mongolia, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh, will participate in the workshop.

3. Objectives

To identify the requirements of ABU broadcasters in the developing countries comprising ABU member broadcasters and other industry players in the developing countries and to guide them in the development process.

To provide a unique opportunity to broadcasters in the developing countries in the region logically assess their requirements, both in terms of expertise and infrastructure.

The present proposal, organization of a regional workshop, aims at furthering this effort in identifying needs of such broadcasters and determining strategies useful for implementing digital services and marshalling the required resources.

4. Duration

Four (4) Days.

5. Proceedings

The workshop will be interactive. will be exposed to Background information on digital transition will be made available to participants as will be practical elements concerning digital services implementation in the existing environment.

As an important part of the workshop, individual broadcasters will be asked to prepare an assessment of the status of their own preparedness for transition to digital environment and plans for digital services for their own countries.

6. Participants

It is expected that broadcasting senior engineers, planners and decision makers associated with planning and implementation of digital services, will take part in this workshop. Participants will be invited from Laos and from the following nearby countries: Cambodia, Mongolia, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Number of participants expected to attend under their own funding: ten (10).

7. Inputs

ITU will provide financial support in the amount of 18'000 CHF (eighteen thousand Swiss Francs) to ABU for ASP fellowships (ten (10) fellowships to ABU members in: Cambodia, Mongolia, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh) to facilitate participation in the workshop. In addition, fellowships will be offered to six (6) senior executives from Laos to participate. The funding will also be used to assist the two resource persons referred to in Article 8 below, in travel and stay in Vientiane.

ITU will cooperate with ABU in preparing the workshop's programme and in selecting suitable speakers; in addition, ITU will provide [X?] expert[s] to deliver presentations.

ABU will be responsible for all other aspects of the workshop, including invitations and management of administrative arrangements regarding participation and fellowships, etc.

8. Speakers

Mr Yeo Kim Pow, Senior Vice President (Broadcast Engineering) and Mr Asaad Sameer Bagharib, Senior Vice President (Technology and New Media) of MediaCorp TV/Radio Singapore Pte; one for TV and the other for Radio broadcasting.

9. Draft Programme Schedule

	Morning Session 0900 – 1230hrs	Afternoon Session 1400 - 1730hrs
Day 1	Opening Session	
	Choosing modern digital equipment in TV studios	Digital TV broadcasting and new development
	Choosing modern digital equipment in Radio studios	Digital Radio broadcasting and new development
Day 2	 Identification of issues Presentation to be made by Participants on digital transition Assessment by Experts 	Approaches in planning for digital services (TV & Radio)
Day 3	Elements of frequency planning and coverage targets Wide Area Regional Local Urban	Identification of needs of developing broadcasters in implementing digital services Technical Regulatory Business Planning Equipment availability Consumer awareness Analogue switch off Country specific needs
Day 4	 Finding solutions to the issues Making recommendations to ABU for further work 	Analysis of results of Exercises

10 Privileges and Immunities of ITU

Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute or be interpreted as a waiver or renunciation of the privileges and immunities which ITU enjoys by virtue of the international treaties and agreements or national laws applicable to it.

4