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Workshop on Building Strong Journalists' Associations: Key Policy Documents

Agenda
14 October 2020
by Remote

Myanmar has come a very long way in terms of journalists' associations from just ten years ago, with a significant and growing number of associations currently operating. These include larger, national associations for all journalists, regional associations, for example in Mandalay, Taunggyi and Southern Myanmar, and associations that focus on specific types of journalists, such as women journalists.

To ensure that these various associations are as effective as they can be, it is important to establish them properly. At the same time, this can be complex. Issues such as who will qualify for membership, for example, can raise complicated questions, such as how far this goes in terms of individuals who disseminate content only online. Proper governance structures (i.e. the bodies that lead the associations and made decisions on their behalf) are crucial to ensure that associations operate democratically and smoothly. Associations may also want to adopt codes of conduct for their members, setting out their core values and how they expect their members to behave while working as journalists.

This Workshop will look at these issues, providing an overview of the key (constitutional) documents that associations need (or should at least seriously consider adopting), the issues that are normally addressed in these documents and some of the approaches that are commonly taken by associations around the world. The core goal is to help members of journalists' associations, and especially those playing a leadership role in these bodies, to understand what is needed to build a strong organisation and provide specific examples to help them do this.

Agenda

1600 – 1610

Introductions, Agenda and Purposes of the Workshop

1610 – 1630	Overview of the key Constitutional Documents for Associations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toby Mendel, Executive Director, CLD
1630 – 1645	Open Discussion
1645 – 1700	Codes of Conduct: Purpose and Core Content <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toby Mendel, Executive Director, CLD
1700 – 1720	Open Discussion
1720 – 1730	Closing Comments