UNESCO / University of Mauritius

Enhancing Democratic Systems: The Media in Mauritius

A Dialogue Session

Venue: University of Mauritius - 16 & 17th September 2010

Day 1: Thursday 16th September (ELT2 – Engineering Tower)

Opening Ceremony
13.30 – 14.00 Registration
14.00 – 14.05 Welcome Remarks – Dean FSSH
14.05 – 14.15 UNESCO Representative
14.15 – 14.20 Ag Vice Chancellor, UOM
14.20 – 15.00 Keynote address: Mr Amadou Mahtar Ba – CEO African Media Initiative
15.00 – 15.15 Floor Discussion
15.15 – 15.30 Tea Break

Session 1: Freedom, Media and Democracy
Chair: Ibrahim Koodoruth, UOM

15.30 – 15.45 Constitutional and Legal Frameworks: Opportunities and Constraints for the Media Industry – Maneesh Gobin
15.45 – 16.15 Freedom and Transparency: A Journalistic Appreciation – Subash Gobine and Gilbert Ahnee
16.15 – 16.30 Enlarging the Mauritian Democratic Space: Creating an Informed Citizenry - Catherine Boudet
16.30 – 17.00 Floor Discussion

Day 2: Friday 17th September (LT1 - NAC)

Session 2: Media Systems and Policies
(i) Chair: Amadou Mahtar Ba – African Media Initiative

9.30 – 9.45 Integrity of Public Institutions: The Case of the MBC – Dan Callikhan
9.45 – 10.00 Private Radio: Serving Public or Commercial Interest – Striking the Right Balance – Abdoollah Earally
10h15 – 10.30 Floor Discussion
(ii) Chair: Roukaya Kasenally - UOM

10.30 – 10.45   The Role of Regulation – Gilbert Ithier - IBA
10.45 – 11.00   Experiments in Self Regulation: The NEPA Code of Conduct – Lindsay Rivière
11.00 – 11.15   State or Self Regulation: The Search for Common Ground – Christina Chan-Meetoo
11h15 – 11h30   Floor Discussion

11h30 - 11h45   Tea Break

Session 3: Media, Politics and Democracy
Chair: Sheila Bunwaree - UOM

11.45 - 12.15   Mainstream Political Parties and the Media: Cehl Meeah (FSM ), Steven Obeegadoo (MMM), Nita Deerpalsing (LP)
12.15 – 12.35   Extra-parliamentary Dynamics and the Media: Ashok Subron and Nilen Vencadasamy
12.35 – 12.50   The Media and the notion of ‘Free and Fair’ Elections – Mayila Paroomal
12.50 – 13.10   Floor Discussion

13.10 – 13.40   Lunch

Session 4: Citizens and the Media
Chair: Caroline Ng Tseung Wong - UOM

14.30 – 15.00:  Floor Discussion

15.00 – 15.15:  Tea Break

Session 5: Challenges to the Journalism Trade: Training and Professionalism
Chair: Christina Chan Meetoo

15.15 – 16.15   Round Table: Kiran Ramsahye, Jean-Claude de L’Estrac, Henri Marimootoo, Axxel Cheney and Jean-Luc Emile
16.15 – 16.45   Floor Discussion

16.45 – 17.00   Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks