IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY 2013-2014

UN PLAN OF ACTION ON THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND THE ISSUE OF IMPUNITY

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I. **INTRODUCTION:**

This document provides the United Nations Implementation Strategy 2013-2014 of the UN Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (hereafter referred to as the UN Plan). In addition to the Strategy, there is a detailed Work-Plan to put the Strategy into place. These follow upon the endorsement of the UN Plan by the UN Chief Executives Board on 13 April 2012, and widespread consultation among stakeholders.

1. **CONTENT AND RATIONALE**

The UN's action in the area of the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity is based on the premise that its component institutions share a common interest in creating conditions conducive to journalistic safety. The rationale is that this safety is an important prerequisite for achieving freedom of expression, democracy, social development and peace – which are all central to UN bodies fulfilling their mandates.

Multiple factors determine whether citizens can exercise the right to freedom of expression without fear of harassment, intimidation or physical danger. It is in this context that the derivative right to press freedom has special relevance. The safe exercise of press freedom impacts on how other sectors of society can enjoy and benefit from free expression. Journalists\(^1\) play a particularly prominent role in society: when they are threatened, attacked or killed, information flows shrink and entire communities are cowed. Citizens are deprived of the necessary information to develop their own opinions and take informed decisions about their lives and development. For these reasons, the work of each UN organization is made easier when journalists can work without fear. Many UN bodies also work directly with the media, and have an immediate interest in the safety of those to whom they provide stories, training or other services.

The UN Plan recognises that the safety of journalists, and the combating of impunity for crimes against their use of freedom of expression, can only be effectively addressed through a holistic approach. This is because the Plan perceives safety as a broad category that extends from preventive, protective and pre-emptive measures, through to combating impunity and promoting a social culture which cherishes freedom of expression and press freedom. Notably, the Plan also acknowledges that safety spans both online and offline worlds, and that solutions require informed action at global, regional, national and local levels whilst at the same time responding to contextual specificities in each case. The Plan is also gender-sensitive. The Implementation Strategy and Work-Plan reflect all these aspects of the UN Plan.

2. **BACKGROUND**

The background to the UN Plan, the Implementation Strategy and the Work-Plan is one of a participatory process involving UN agencies, programmes and funds as well as Member States, intergovernmental organizations, professional associations, NGOs and media houses. This process began in 2010 at the request of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC). This resulted in the convening in September 2011, of the 1\(^{st}\) UN Inter-Agency Meeting on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. It was this occasion that initiated the development of the UN Plan.

The UN Plan aims toward the creation of a free and safe environment for journalists and media workers in both conflict and non-conflict situations, with a view to strengthening peace, democracy and development worldwide. Its action lines include, among other undertakings, the establishment of a coordinated inter-agency mechanism within the UN to handle issues related to the safety of journalists, as well as assisting countries to develop legislation and mechanisms favourable to freedom of expression and information and supporting their efforts to implement existing international rules and principles.

The Implementation Strategy set out here is the outcome of the 2\(^{nd}\) UN Inter-Agency Meeting on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, convened in Vienna on 22-23 November 2012, and related consultations with many

\(^1\) When referring to journalists, this document includes media workers and social media producers who produce significant amounts of public-interest journalism.
stakeholders. It informs the Work-Plan which sets out concrete and realistic processes and actions to be put in place during 2013 and 2014, in order to actualise the implementation of the UN Plan. The 2nd UN Inter-Agency meeting had input from 19 UN bodies, 4 other intergovernmental organizations, 37 governmental delegates and 40 representatives from media and civil society.

3. PRINCIPLES AND STRUCTURE

The Implementation Strategy has been drawn up with the recognition that no single UN body, and indeed not even the UN as a whole, can single-handedly deliver the results envisaged by the UN Plan. Although the Plan is framed primarily as setting out the contributions and associated responsibilities of UN bodies, it is clear that actors outside of the UN have a major contribution to offer through joint and/or complementary activities. As a result, the Strategy has been designed on an inclusive basis, encouraging multiple partnerships between all actors: UN bodies, States, regional bodies, media actors and civil society, including South-South cooperation. In this way, the Plan envisages the UN system drawing on the interests and strengths of its component organizations, and these bodies also working with other stakeholders who also see value in the initiative, such as the specific partners named in the Work-Plan. The Implementation Strategy and Work-Plan are open to many additional stakeholders becoming partners or associates who seek to align or support the envisaged actions.

The Implementation Strategy does not seek to assimilate any party, nor to exclude independent activities about the safety of journalists. All groups retain their full autonomy. The ambition is to catalyse stakeholders, inside and outside the UN, into a concerted multi-faceted effort that will produce results. In this way, the UN Plan can be a mobilising framework in which the diverse contributors advance their own interests by also helping to advance the common cause of journalistic safety. The organizations listed in the Work-Plan are only those which specifically indicated a commitment during the period of developing this document, and the list is by no means exclusive of others. Many other organizations will be making contributions to the safety of journalists over the 2013-2014 period, and these activities are welcome to integrate with the UN Plan or to operate in parallel.

The logical structure of the Strategy is to mirror the UN Plan itself, converting the objectives and action lines of the UN Plan into four Expected Results. The Work-Plan outlines the actions and outputs which in turn produce the outcomes required to reach the Expected Results. It is not possible or desirable to specify one set of priorities in the Work-Plan because different participants are involved in contributing different activities according to their own priorities. However, each participating organization is encouraged to develop its own prioritization and timeframe within the totality of commitments in the Work-Plan. Wherever possible, the Work-Plan adheres to the characteristics of being specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (SMART). The resulting implementation will serve to catalyse many additional and novel activities. In this sense, implementation will also be a creative process that evolves further over the course of the two-year period.

The Work-Plan includes many actions that are specifically focused on women and/or gender issues, but the principle is also that this gender-sensitive approach will be reflected in every dimension of the strategy as a whole.

4. OPERATIONALIZATION

The operationalization of the Implementation Strategy and the Work-Plan will be coordinated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in cooperation with the UN family, particularly the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Department for Public Information (UNDPI).

The actions envisaged will be delivered through the regular programme budgets of the stakeholders involved, as well as through extrabudgetary funds raised specifically for this purpose where participating bodies are able to do so. The UN Plan has large potential to draw in new resources for its implementation. It may be noted that by February 2013, some of the activities proposed had already successfully attracted new funds to help ensure optimum implementation.
To be put into practice, the **Work-Plan** will require operationalization at international, regional, national and local level. At national level, this requires the adaptation of the **Implementation Strategy** and the **Work-Plan** to the national context, as well as a successful co-ordinating mechanism which is comprehensive and rooted in broad-based national ownership. Particularly for operationalization at national level, further customized national strategies and work-plans will be needed. (As a global document, this Work-Plan concentrates mainly on generic actions to be taken). A further level of operationalization will also be needed at the level of specific core work-plans amongst the UN participants, as well as each of the external partners, who are able to align and/or expand their programmes in relation to the overall thrust.

There is a specific focus on boosting the early implementation of the **UN Plan**. The initial phase of implementation, spanning the period 2013-2014, will see actions undertaken at the national level in many interested UN member states - including, but not limited to, countries like Iraq, Nepal, Pakistan and South Sudan, as well as in a number of Latin American countries. Parallel to these country-related activities, cross-cutting activities will be developed in order to build synergies between the country activities and to provide systematized learning and guidance for the further implementation of the **UN Plan**. Therefore, as it unfolds, implementation in one country can develop good practice models for potential adaptation elsewhere, and in this way, the activities envisaged in the **Work-Plan** will amplify and extend existing efforts.

### 5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The **Implementation Strategy** and the **Work-Plan** will be monitored and evaluated as appropriate by participating parties, so that lessons can be learnt and disseminated, and corrective steps taken where needed. The **Strategy** as a whole can be ultimately evaluated in terms of whether the Expected Results have been achieved, which is an approach that aligns with the frame of “Results-Based Management”. It is therefore important to register, where possible, baseline information, against which progress can be measured. The Work-Plan includes monitoring mechanisms to be put in place from the beginning of the implementation, with the aim of promoting an appropriate compilation and systematization of information and data for ongoing learning and improvement, and for an in-depth evaluation at the end of the period of implementation (i.e. 2013-2014). Evaluation and monitoring will include specific gender-sensitive indicators. Due to the many variables involved, however, it is not possible to set quantitative targets relating to the number of journalists being killed.

Incorporated within the **Strategy** and **Work-Plan** is an awareness of **risks**. These could relate to a lack of human and monetary resources, inadequate political will, a fragmented and divided media community, poor communication and sharing, a failure of participants to fully recognise the diverse roles of each other, and inadequate monitoring and evaluation. However, the actions have been designed to mitigate such possibilities. As participants are not asked to go beyond their mandate, but rather to exploit synergies with the safety issue and in a co-ordinated way, there should be no risk of “mission creep” or of over-extension. In this way, implementation can therefore be expected to proceed successfully.
II. UN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY 2013-2014

1. OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:
To combine actions among the UN system, intergovernmental organizations, governments, professional associations, media houses and NGOs for the promotion of a free and safe environment for journalists in both conflict and non-conflict situations, with a view to enabling an informed citizenry that is capable of strengthening peace, democracy and development worldwide.

2. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:

a) To strengthen UN coordination mechanisms in order to work in close cooperation and in a harmonised manner to ensure effective implementation of the UN Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (hereafter referred to as the UN Plan).

b) To support Member States in guaranteeing the right to freedom of expression and press freedom, as well as in their efforts to strengthen the safety of journalists and deal with the problem of impunity, particularly in countries and regions directly affected.

c) To reinforce the work of intergovernmental institutions and other organizations such as NGOs, professional associations, academia and media houses and to promote the harmonisation of their work on the issue of safety and impunity in cooperation with the UN system.

d) To build partnerships among all stakeholders in media development programmes, awareness-raising campaigns and actions aimed at promoting the safety of journalists and the combating of impunity, including by sharing information and good practices.

3. EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:

EXPECTED RESULT 1: UN coordination mechanisms are strengthened and harmonised and current and new actions are put in place to increase the impact of work on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

1.1. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.1: UN internal coordination mechanisms at international level are strengthened, harmonised and created, when relevant, taking into account each UN body’s mandate and differing contribution

1.2. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.2: UN normative work on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity is reinforced

1.3. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.3: The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity are integrated within the UN-system planned activities and the feasibility of creating new activities is studied and, where appropriate, put in place

1.4. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.4: The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity are included within UN national strategies and internal coordination mechanisms
**EXPECTED RESULT 2:** Member States are advised on the implementation of existing international standards at national level and on the development of journalist safety mechanisms, as well as supported in regard to the sharing of good practices and capacity-building among various actors, including the criminal justice chain, to promote a safe environment for journalists at national level

2.1. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.1:** Member States are assisted to implement existing international standards and to share good practices

2.2. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.2:** Member States are assisted to develop national legislation and mechanisms guaranteeing freedom of expression and press freedom, particularly regarding the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

2.3. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.3:** National and local public institutions’ capacities are strengthened in relevant areas

**EXPECTED RESULT 3:** Other intergovernmental organizations and other organizations such as professional associations, media, academia and NGOs are reinforced and their work is harmonised with the UN Plan implementation

3.1. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 3.1:** The work of regional intergovernmental organizations is reinforced and also harmonised with the UN system at regional level

3.2. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 3.2:** The work of international non-governmental organizations, including professional organizations and media, is reinforced and also harmonised with relevant UN system actions at international level

3.3. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 3.3:** The work of civil society, professional associations, media houses and academia is reinforced and harmonised with other national partners, including relevant actions of the UN system at country level.

**EXPECTED RESULT 4:** State institutions, governments, media houses and other key stakeholders have increased awareness of the importance of safety of journalists and combating impunity, and of ways to achieve these conditions

4.1. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 4.1:** Increased awareness among the international community about the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

4.2. **EXPECTED OUTCOME 4.2:** Increased awareness among society at national level about the importance of the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity
III. THE WORK-PLAN 2013-214:

The Work-Plan below is designed to achieve the Specific Objectives and Expected Results of the Implementation Strategy 2013-2014 mentioned above.

Following the structure of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (hereafter referred to as the UN Plan), the Work-Plan 2013-2014 is organized in terms of sectoral stakeholders (UN, Member States and other organizations). There is also an additional thematic chapter on “Raising Awareness” that covers all sectors.

This Work-Plan differentiates between actions at international, regional and national level, although many international and regional actions will also impact at national level. In general, it is expected that the actions at national level will be adapted and further developed to the local context and needs, and will be reflected as such in over-arching national strategies where these can be agreed among participants.

The timeframe of the action lines is the upcoming biennium (years 2013 and 2014). When possible, specific timeframes and/or dates are mentioned.

The modality of implementation includes a wide range of actions in the areas of safety and impunity such as multilateral and bilateral meetings; support for policy and legislative development, advice on institutional design in the criminal justice chain; conferences and seminars; training and workshops; media development programmes and projects; reports, research studies and publications; campaigns and other information materials; resolutions, decisions, declarations and other public statements; innovative activities online and any other type of action with the objective of concretizing the UN Plan.

Each action listed below is followed by the names of the UN organization(s) responsible for reporting on it and, where appropriate, coordinating it; then the other UN bodies participating in the implementation, and finally the other partner organizations outside the UN system. The reporting UN organization (s) is/are named in [brackets]; UN participating organizations in that action are named (in brackets and italics) and other participating or supporting partner organizations are indicated /in italics/
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>UN PLAN ACTION LINE:</th>
<th>1. EXPECTED RESULT 1:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STRENGTHENING UN MECHANISMS</td>
<td>UN coordination mechanisms are strengthened and harmonised and current and new actions are put in place to increase the impact of work on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity</td>
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<tr>
<th>INTERNATIONAL and REGIONAL LEVEL</th>
<th>1.1. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.1.: UN internal coordination mechanisms at international level are strengthened, harmonised and created, when relevant, taking into account each UN body’s mandate and differing contribution</th>
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<tr>
<td>[UN body with co-ordinating/reporting responsibility]</td>
<td><strong>ACTIONS:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(UN participating bodies)</td>
<td><strong>1.1.1.</strong> To map the existing UN mechanisms, instruments, actions and activities related to freedom of expression, particularly the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity. [UNESCO] (UN agencies, programmes and funds)</td>
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<tr>
<td>/other organizations involved/</td>
<td><strong>1.1.2.</strong> To coordinate the UN focal points network in each of the UN agencies, funds and programmes involved related to the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity. This working group to be convened (virtually) at least twice a year. [UNESCO] (OHCHR, UNDP, UNODC, UNDPI, UNDPA, UNDPKO, OCHA, ILO, ITU, UNHCR, UNEP, UN WOMEN)</td>
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<td><strong>1.1.3.</strong> To make available crucial information on safety and impunity, including upcoming events where the issue can be included, to the focal points of UN agencies and to further publicize the information within each of the UN agencies. Such information could be disseminated or integrated into media briefings of each agency. [UNESCO] (UNDP, UNODC, OHCHR, UNDPI)</td>
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<td><strong>1.1.4.</strong> To organize regular international and regional inter-agency meetings on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity and to assess and follow-up on the implementation of the UN Plan, based upon contributions from the UN system, governments, NGOs, media and professional associations. [UNESCO,OHCHR,UNDP] /All stakeholders/</td>
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<td><strong>1.1.5.</strong> To develop a UN communication strategy to support the implementation of this Strategy and Work-Plan [UNESCO,UNDP,OHCHR]</td>
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<td><strong>1.1.6.</strong> To create a template to report on actions related to the implementation of this Strategy and Work-Plan [UNESCO]</td>
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<td><strong>1.1.7.</strong> To help ensure a gender-sensitive approach to the implementation of the UN Plan. [UNESCO] (UN WOMEN, OHCHR)</td>
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<tr>
<th>INTERNATIONAL and REGIONAL LEVEL</th>
<th>1.2. EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.2: UN normative work on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity is reinforced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[UN body with co-ordinating/reporting responsibility]</td>
<td><strong>ACTIONS:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(UN participating bodies)</td>
<td><strong>1.2.1.</strong> To contribute to the dissemination of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the General Comments of the Human Rights Committee, in particular General Comment No. 34 on Article 19 (adopted in July 2011), among others. [OHCHR] (UNESCO)</td>
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<td>/other organizations involved/</td>
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To support the various bodies that monitor implementation of the core international
human rights treaties, such as the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the
Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on
Enforced Disappearances (CED). [OHCHR] (UNESCO, UNHCR)

To follow-up on the UN Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/21/12 on the Safety
of Journalists adopted on 27 September 2012. [OHCHR,UNESCO]

To continue supporting the work and the cooperation with the Special Rapporteurs of
the Human Rights Council, such as the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and
protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the UN Special
Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the UN Special
Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on
violence against women, its causes and consequences, the UN Special Rapporteur on
the independence of judges and lawyers’ work, among others. [OHCHR]

To provide follow-up on the UN Security Council Resolution 1738 on the safety of
journalists in conflict situations, including the contribution to the UN Security Council
briefings on the protection of civilians and the specific paragraph to be included in the
Annual UN Secretary-General’s report on the matter. [OCHA]

To follow-up on the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on
the Rule of Law (A/RES/67/1) as it relates to the issue of the safety of journalists
[OHCHR] (UNDP, UNODC, UNDPKO, UNHCR)

To support the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on the issue of crime
and corruption, such as 67/189 on Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention
and Criminal Justice programme; in particular its technical cooperation capacity, as
well as 67/186 on Strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice
institutions, particularly in the areas related to the United Nations system-wide
approach to fighting transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and 61/179 on
International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping
and in providing assistance to victims. [UNODC]

To contribute to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) with information related to
freedom of expression, including the safety of journalists and impunity, including
recommendations on how to implement the UN Plan at national level. [UNESCO]
/NGOs, professional associations/

To ensure that, when relevant, information on freedom of expression, including the
issue of safety of journalists is included in the compilation of UN information and the
summary of stakeholders’ information prepared by OHCHR for the UPR [OHCHR]

To continue to monitor the safety of journalists as part of its mandate to protect and
promote human rights, including through field presences, and to raise related concerns
bilaterally with governments and the general public through press releases and
through statements and reports to the Human Rights Council and the General
Assembly. [OHCHR]

In line with Resolution 29 of the 29th General Conference of UNESCO in 1997,
continue the practice of the Director-General’s public condemnations of the killings of
journalists in the line of duty or targeted for murder because of their journalistic
activities. [UNESCO] (UNDPI)

In line with the Decision on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity,
approved by the UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Council of the International
Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) at its 28th session in 2012,
prepare the biennial UNESCO Director-General’s Report on The Safety of Journalists
and the Danger of Impunity, including information on the DG’s condemnations and the
judicial inquiries and the actions taken by Member States to bring perpetrators of
crimes against journalists to justice. (The report is followed by a debate within the
session of the intergovernmental council of the IPDC). [UNESCO] (UNDPI)
1.2.13 In line with Resolution 43 of the 36th UNESCO General Conference in 2011, prepare a report on the status of freedom of expression, including the issue of the safety of journalists, for the 37th General Conference in 2013. [UNESCO] *(UNDPI)*

**INTERNATIONAL and REGIONAL LEVEL**

[UN body with co-ordinating/reporting responsibility]

*(UN participating bodies)*

/other organizations involved/

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<th>1.3 EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.3:</th>
<th>The safety of journalists and impunity is integrated within the UN-system planned activities and the feasibility of creating new activities is studied and, where appropriate, put in place</th>
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**ACTIONS:**

1.3.1 To conduct widespread events worldwide to celebrate World Press Freedom Day (3 May), highlighting the safety of journalists as a key condition of press freedom, in cooperation with Member States, journalism education institutions, professional associations, media houses, NGOs, etc. [UNESCO] /All stakeholders/

1.3.2 To create a technical tool on good practices for fostering the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) as a framework for professional reporting on corruption (including safety issues) and to make it widely available (UNODC funded activity). A similar technical tool on reporting on crime (including safety issues) could also be envisaged. [UNODC] *(UNESCO, UNDPI, UNDP, WB)*

1.3.3 To include the safety of journalists within the following planned UN events /in cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations and NGOS/:

- 5th Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. Vienna, Austria. 27-28 February 2013. [UNAOC]
- The Human Rights Council Panel event in March 2013 on the 20th Anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which was adopted in 1993 and which called for promotion of the freedom of expression. [OHCHR]
- The Global Youth Summit on Child Online Protection in Costa Rica (9-11 September 2013) [ITU].
- The International Conference on Gender and Media organized by UNESCO. Paris, France. (projected: November 2013). [UNESCO]
- 22nd and 23rd sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and within the 13th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [UNODC]
- World Humanitarian Day. 21 August [OCHA]

1.3.4 To advocate for the inclusion of the issue of the right to freedom of expression, including press freedom and the safety of journalists and impunity issues, in the post-2015 UN Development Agenda (the revision of the Millennium Development Goals). [UNDP] *(UNESCO)*

1.3.5 To promote the inclusion of the issue of the right to freedom of expression, including press freedom and the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity in the Human Development Reports. [UNDP]

1.3.6 To discuss the feasibility of including a variable on freedom of expression, and
<table>
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<tr>
<th>NATIONAL LEVEL</th>
<th>1.4 EXPECTED OUTCOME 1.4: The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity is included within UN national strategies and internal coordination mechanisms</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[UN body with coordinating/reporting responsibility]</td>
<td>[UN participating bodies] /other organizations involved/</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.4.1 To include the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity within the existing UN working groups at national level. [Depending on the country: UNRC, UNESCO] (Other UN agencies, programmes and funds with presence in the country)</td>
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<td>1.4.2 To organize national consultations with the aim of designing national strategies for the implementation of the UN Plan and to schedule regular meetings to follow-up the national strategy with relevant UN agencies, funds and programmes on a regular basis, with participation of relevant governmental and statutory bodies, professional associations, NGOs and other stakeholders at country-level [Depending on the country: UNRC, UNESCO.] (Other UN agencies, programmes and funds with presence in the country) /Other organisations such as RSF, IFJ, CPJ/</td>
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<td>1.4.3 To include the results of national consultations within the Country Common Assessments, including relevant data and information such as that resulting from UNESCO Media Development Indicators studies where this is available. [UNRC, UNESCO]</td>
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<td>1.4.4 To include the issue of the safety of journalists and impunity in the UN Development Assessment Framework (UNDAF), including operational activities. [UNRC] (Other UN agencies, programmes and funds with presence in the country)</td>
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<td>1.4.5 To support the implementation of projects related to the safety of journalists with regular funds, where available, and if not via extrabudgetary resources [UNESCO] (ALL UN</td>
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</table>
1.4.6 To reinforce information sharing and cooperation on the issue of freedom of expression, including the safety of journalists, at national level among UN agencies [UNCTs]

1.4.7 To seek the reinforcement of the Human Rights Bureaux of local UN missions so that they are able to offer rapid, adequate protection to news providers who are under threat because of their activities. [OHCHR]
### UN PLAN OF ACTION LINE:
**COOPERATING WITH MEMBER STATES**

#### 2 EXPECTED RESULT 2:

Member States are advised on the implementation of existing international standards at national level, and on the development of journalist safety mechanisms, as well as supported in regard to the sharing of good practices and capacity-building among various actors, including the criminal justice chain, to promote a safe environment for journalists at national level.

#### INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS

[UN body with coordinating/reporting responsibility]

(UN participating bodies)

/other organizations involved/

## 2.1 EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.1: Member States are assisted to implement existing international standards and to share good practices

### ACTIONS:

2.1.1 To provide assistance to fully implement existing international norms and principles, particularly within the framework of the international human rights law, humanitarian law and criminal law. [OHCHR/OCHA/UNDP] (UNESCO, UNODC) /OAS, Article 19, INSI, IFJ, CFOM, among others/

2.1.2 To conduct mapping and follow-up on actions taken by Member States to promote the safety of journalists and to combat impunity. This information can be made available on the UNESCO website with a summary included in the UNESCO Director-General’s Report on The Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity. [UNESCO] (OHCHR, UNCT) /OAS, AUC, OSCE, CJA, and other NGOs and professional organizations/

2.1.3 In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution A/HRC/RES/21/12, to prepare in consultation with States and other relevant stakeholders, a compilation of good practices on the safety of journalists, the prevention of attacks and the fight against impunity to be presented in a report to the Human Rights Council at its 24th session. [OHCHR in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression. [OHCHR, UNESCO]

2.1.4 To support the above compilation of good practices and to encourage their adaptation and adoption among Member States to promote the safety of journalists and combat impunity, such as through publications [UNESCO, INSI] and workshops [UNESCO] (OHCHR, UNDOC) /OAS, IFJ, CPJ and other Intergovernmental and non-Governmental organizations/

2.1.5 To organize international and regional conferences among Member States to discuss and share information on the issue, for example during the biennial session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the development of Communication. (IPDC). [UNESCO]

## 2.2 EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.2: Member States are assisted to develop national legislation and mechanisms guaranteeing freedom of expression and press freedom, particularly regarding the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

### ACTIONS:

2.2.1 To assess the gaps that need to be addressed using the UNESCO Media Development Indicators, mostly in the case of emerging countries or countries in transition [UNESCO/UNDP] (UNCT, UNDPKO,)
| **2.2.2** | To support the development of appropriate national policy, legislative and institutional frameworks to increase safety for journalists, including steps to foster press freedom, to guarantee free access to information and the protection of confidential sources, and to decriminalize journalistic activities, including defamation and libel [UNESCO/OHCHR/UNDP] (UNDP, UNODC, UNCT) /OAS, ARTICLE 19, RSF, DCMF, IFJ/ |
| **2.2.3** | To support Member States to put in place measures to facilitate awareness of the relevant international standards among the judiciary, journalistic, security and civil society communities. [OHCHR, UNESCO] (UNDP) /Other IGO organizations such as OAS and other NGOs organizations such as RSF, DCMF, IFJ/ |
| **2.2.4** | To advocate that law enforcement agencies be given sufficient resources, expertise and training to develop practices that respect the legal rights of members of the media, including access to information during public protests or in cases of civil and public unrest [OHCHR/UNDP/UNESCO] UNODC, UNCT) /OAS, IFJ/ |
| **2.2.5** | To act preventively on reported incidents of threats against journalists and intervene with authorities in relation to individual cases in order to draw attention to the State’s primary responsibility to protect. [OHCHR] /IGO such as OAS and NGOs and professional organizations such as DCMF, Fondation Hirondelle, IFJ, PEN, IPI, RPT/ |
| **2.2.6** | To advise on the design of national protection programmes and their inclusion of journalists and, when possible, through field presences, participate as observers in protection programmes in order to follow-up on individual cases. [OHCHR] (UNDOC) /OAS, IFJ, RPT and other organizations/ |

### NATIONAL LEVEL

[UN body with coordinating/reporting responsibility]

(UN participating bodies)

/other organizations involved/

### 2.3 EXPECTED OUTCOME 2.3: National and local public institutions’ capacities are strengthened in relevant areas

#### ACTIONS:

**2.3.1** To facilitate capacity-building in state institutions dealing with journalists and with threats to journalists’ safety, such as police and prosecutorial services, law enforcement officers and military personnel. [UNDP] (UNCT, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNODC) /In cooperation with other NGOs and professional organizations/

**2.3.2** To facilitate, including through provision of training, the domestic criminal justice systems to function effectively and efficiently with respect to journalistic safety and impunity. [UNDP] (UNCT, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNODC) /OAS/

**2.3.3** To support the development of Training of Trainers (ToT) manuals targeting state institutions such as police and prosecutorial services and to adapt such manuals to local needs. [UNDP] (UNCT, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNODC) /IFJ/

**2.3.4** To compile documentation and user-friendly reference materials on emblematic cases of successful investigations to support actions aimed at ending impunity and those in favour of wider advocacy against impunity, particularly in the first-phase countries [UNESCO] /OAS, IMS, INSI, SEAPA, IFJ, CPJ, among others/

**2.3.5** To promote the inclusion of the issue of freedom of expression at secondary school and also at university level, including the issue of the safety of journalists, particularly at the journalism education institutions, based on the UNESCO Model Curricula and the UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Curriculum for Teachers. [UNESCO] (UNESCO Chairs) /Schools and universities and other organizations/
### UN PLAN OF ACTION LINE
**PARTNERING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS**

### 3 EXPECTED RESULT 3:
The work of Intergovernmental (IGO) institutions and other organizations such as NGOs, professional associations, academia and media houses reinforced and the harmonisation of their work on the issue of safety and impunity in cooperation within the UN Plan implementation

### REGIONAL LEVEL
[UN body with co-ordinating/reporting responsibility]
(UN participating bodies)
/other organizations involved/

### 3.1 EXPECTED OUTCOME 3.1: The work of regional intergovernmental organizations is reinforced and also harmonised with the UN system at regional level

### ACTIONS:

3.1.1 To identify and map the work of the intergovernmental international organizations relevant to journalistic safety and freedom of expression. [UNESCO] / OAS, AUC, OSCE, COE, CLS, INSI, CFOM/

3.1.2 To exchange information within regional intergovernmental organizations to avoid duplication of work, and to organize regional meetings, including online meetings. [UNESCO] / EACH REGIONAL ORGANISATION, OAS/

3.1.3 To cooperate with the Regional Special Rapporteurs within their 2013-2014 strategies, including to promote the preparation of regional reports on the safety of journalists, such as those undertaken by the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights [OHCHR] / Regional Rapporteurs, OAS, AUC, OSCE, IFJ, CFOM/

3.1.4 To further develop regional legal standards on States’ obligations to protect journalists and prevent impunity, as well as to identify where State policies may be improved in light of international human rights obligations, by bringing cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights [UNESCO liaison; Inter-American Commission on Human Rights].

3.1.5 To include elements on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity in the reports prepared for and after electoral observation missions. [OHCHR] / OSCE/EC/OAS/

3.1.6 To liaise on including the issue on the AUC Development Agenda [UNESCO] / AUC/

3.1.7 To liaise concerning with African parliaments and Pan-African Parliament (PAP) to increase safe working conditions for journalists by creating legislation that fosters conducive working environment for journalists by ensuring safe and unimpeded conditions for journalists to perform their professional duties [UNESCO] / FAJ, PAP, AUC/

3.1.8 To liaise concerning engagement with African Member States at the sessions of the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights, UN Human Rights Council and African Union Heads of State & Government summits to give their support to promoting safety of journalists and ending impunity [UNESCO] / FAJ, AUC/

3.1.9 To liaise concerning the proposed formation of Africa Media Safety Working Group in order to better coordinate regional actions on safety of journalists and ending impunity [UNESCO] / FAJ/

3.1.10 To promote the inclusion of the safety of journalists within the framework of the Council of Europe’s country-specific or regional cooperation activities [UNESCO] / Council of Europe, IFJ-EFJ/

3.1.11 To carry out a study and possibly draft a legal text on Member States’ positive obligations in respect of safety and protection of journalists/journalism, based on the European Convention on Human Rights and its case-law [UNESCO liaison], Council of Europe
3.1.12 To identify future events organized by IGOs at which the issue of the safety of journalists could be included. (UNESCO, OHCHR, UNDP, WB)

3.1.13 To include the issue of safety at the 2nd high-level workshop on the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) in 2013. [UNESCO] /FAJ/

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<td>/other organizations involved/</td>
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| 3.2 EXPECTED OUTCOME 3.2: The work of international non-governmental organizations, including professional organizations and media, is reinforced and also harmonised with the relevant UN system actions at international level |
| ACTIONS: |

3.2.1 To identify and map the work of non-governmental international organizations relevant to journalistic safety and freedom of expression. [UNESCO, INSI] /All NGOs and professional organizations/  
3.2.2 To promote transparency among media development initiatives by sharing and publicizing information, including on safety issues. [WB] (UNESCO) /Other stakeholders/  
3.2.3 To establish focal points at international level to coordinate actions with the UN System [UNESCO] /All NGOs and professional organizations/  
3.2.4 To exchange information within non-governmental international organizations to avoid duplication of work, and to organize regular consultations. [UNESCO]  
3.2.5 To cooperate with the Special Rapporteurs /All NGOs and professional organizations/  
3.2.6 To promote assessments based on the UNESCO Gender Sensitive Indicators among all stakeholders, particularly media houses, in order to ensure equal rights among men and women journalists within newsrooms and a safe environment for both. [UNESCO] /INSI, IWMF, IFJ, RPT/  
3.2.7 Encourage all stakeholders to be connected to alert mechanisms, in particular that of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange [UNESCO] /All NGOs and professional organizations/  
3.2.8 Increase and develop more training courses and Training-of-Trainers programmes on the issue of safety, thus building up a pool of trainers and training courses which could be deployed quickly at regional level. [UNESCO] /IFJ,INSI, PEN, DCMF,SEAPA, IREX, RPT and other specific safety training institutions/  
3.2.9 To liaise on mapping the existing courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level related to the safety of journalists in order to expand these studies. This information will be also included on the UN safety website. [UNESCO] (UNESCO Chairs) /CFOM and other journalism education institutions, IFJ, RTI, INSI/  
3.2.10 Partner with academic institutions and journalism programmes, including related UNESCO Chairs, to incorporate a module on the safety of journalists and impunity within the teaching curricula at under and post-graduate level. This module will be presented at the World Journalism Education Congress that will take place in Brussels in July 2013. [UNESCO] /Universidad Iberoamericana de Mexico, CFOM, University of Sheffield, INSI, PEN/  
3.2.11 To encourage journalism strategies that develop safety literacy in investigative journalism, including in data journalism [UNESCO].  
3.2.12 To liaise with news media houses and professional associations on engagement and participation in implementing the UN Plan; proposals to establish a representative cross-industry news media action group on UN Plan issues; awareness-raising and input to UN monitoring mechanisms and intra-industry actions to promote best practice on measures to improve safety, prevent targeted attacks and combat impunity. [UNESCO,UNDPI,UNDP]
To liaise with global organizations of legislators and lawyers to promote actions around the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity [UNESCO] (UN Special Rapporteurs, UNODC) /International Union of Lawyers, RSF, IFJ, IPI/

To liaise on identifying future international events at which the issue of the safety of journalists could be included. [UNESCO]. Examples are:

a) 2013 CPJ 2nd Impunity Summit. (Date to be confirmed). /CPJ/

b) International Conference on The Safety of Journalists. Date tbc. /Freedom House/Annual CFOM Lecture at /University of Sheffield/

c) Conference on Obstacles to Free Speech, 3 May 2013. /City Law school of City University London, relevant organizations,IMS,IFJ/ 

d) 2013 IFJ Congress, 4-7 June 2013, Dublin, Ireland

e) INSI 10TH Anniversary, May 2013.

f) International Journalists Festival, Perugia, April 2013

g) NewsXchange, global conference of broadcast media, November 2013

h) IPI World Congress 2013, Amman, Jordan, 19-21 May 2013

i) IPI World Congress 2014, South Africa, 2014

j) UK Association of Journalism Educators (AJE) workshop on safety and impunity issues, planned for June 2013/ CFOM-University of Sheffield and others

3.3 EXPECTED OUTCOME

3.3: The work of civil society, professional associations, media houses and academia is reinforced and harmonised with other national partners, including relevant actions of the UN system at country level

ACTIONS:

3.3.1 To map the work at national level of the NGOs, professional associations and all institutions related to the safety of journalists and the combating of impunity. [to be reported on by one UN agency in the given country, in collaboration with other stakeholders]

3.3.2 To identify and involve indirect stakeholders such as lawyers’ and bar associations,, magistrate associations, internet freedom NGOs, youth and women’s groups, environmental groups, etc. [to be reported on by one UN agency in the given country, in collaboration with other stakeholders]

3.3.3 To develop bilateral and multilateral partnership agreements that will optimise the sharing of information about international and regional developments (e.g. Resolutions of the Human Rights Committee, Pan-African Conference on the Safety of Journalists, etc). [UNESCO] (WB) /All NGOs, media houses and professional organizations/ other national stakeholders to be identified/

3.3.4 To support civil society engagement with the Special Rapporteurs through communications and prior, during and following country visits [Special Rapporteurs, OHCHR, UN Agencies, and NGOs] /All NGOs and professional organizations/ /other national stakeholders/ 

3.3.5 To share information in conjunction with country reviews by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism in relation to freedom of expression and press freedom, including cases of killings and other attacks on journalists, media workers, and bloggers with OHCHR (uprsubmissions@ohchr.org) [OHCHR] /Other organizations/ 

3.3.6 To encourage the submission of complaints to the UN Special Rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression: urgent-action@ohchr.org [OHCHR] /NGOs and professional organizations/ 

3.3.7 To develop partnerships with journalism schools and other possible centres of research to
| 3.3.8 | To assist governments and statutory agencies such as independent National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) through technical advice and training where required [OHCHR] |
| 3.3.9 | To liaise concerning comprehensive and continuous coverage, including follow-up, of safety issues by the media. [UNESCO] /Professional associations, unions, NGOs/ |
| 3.3.10 | To promote self-regulation and professionalism in order to reinforce a safe working environment for journalists [UNESCO] /All stakeholder/ |
| 3.3.11 | To liaise concerning institutional programmes that media houses offer for safety and self-protection for journalists and providing journalists with proper safety training and equipment. [UNESCO, UNDPI] /INSI, WAN-IFR, IFJ, IREX, IPI, RPT/ |
| 3.3.12 | To recognise and conduct research on journalists who are victims of trauma and other forms of extreme stress in the course of their duties [ILO, UNESCO] /Dart Center, IFJ, INSI, IREX, RPT/ |
| 3.3.13 | To liaise over encouraging State-owned media to use their status to secure public funds for safety training of their staff. [UNESCO] [UNESCO] /IFJ, RPT, among others/ |
| 3.3.14 | To liaise over creation and/or enhancement of programmes for supporting journalists’ families affected by violence against them [UNESCO] /IFJ, CPJ, RPT, among others/ |
### UN PLAN OF ACTION LINE

#### RAISING AWARENESS

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#### 4 Expected Result 4:

UN system, State institutions, governments, media houses and other key stakeholders have increased awareness of the importance of safety of journalists and combating impunity, and of ways to achieve these conditions

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<tr>
<th>4.1 EXPECTED OUTCOME 4.1: Increased awareness among the international community about the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity</th>
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#### ACTIONS:

4.1.1 To have a regularly updated website on the UN Plan, including activities, documents, reports, etc. [UNESCO]

4.1.2 To create and make widely available an online database of information, international human rights and humanitarian laws, conventions, recommendations, guide books, good practices, practical resources on the safety of journalists and impunity. [UNESCO] (OHCHR) /OAS, IFJ/

4.1.3 To distribute in various international languages, and encourage national and local translations, of the informational brochure on the UN Plan. [UNESCO]

4.1.4 To issue joint messages from UN agencies on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, for example on World Press Freedom Day (3 May). [UNESCO] (UNDP, OHCHR, UNDPI, ITU, ILO) /OAS and other stakeholders/

4.1.5 To ensure high visibility of World Press Freedom Day (3 May) [UNESCO, UNDPI] (/other stakeholders/)

4.1.6 To make widely available the UNESCO Director-General’s public condemnations of the killings of journalists in the line of duty or targeted for murder because of their journalistic activities as well as the DG’s Report on The Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity. [UNESCO] (UNDPI)

4.1.7 To share and to support the distribution of relevant information resources and materials published by any stakeholder, including the UNESCO/RSF Handbook for Journalists, IFJ Live News, IFJ’s Safety Manual for Journalists, and CPJ’s Journalist Security Guide [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/

4.1.8 To use a common hashtag for social media (tweets, etc.) that touch on the safety of journalists. i.e. #Journosafe [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/

4.1.9 To publicize and raise awareness of UN activities concerning the safety of journalists and impunity [UNDPI] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/

4.1.10 To increase visibility and awareness of existing journalist safety funds relevant to the UN Plan, such as the IFJ International Safety Fund, the PEN International Writer’s in Prison Committee, the International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN), CPJ Journalist Assistance Fund, RPT, among many others. [UNDPI] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/

4.1.11 To increase visibility and awareness of existing hotlines for journalists in distress, in particular the ICRC’s hotline (+41 79 217 32 85) and RSF’s SOS Presse (+33 1 47 77 74 14) [UNESCO] (ALL UN AGENCIES) /RSF,ICRC, IFJ, PEN, CJA, RPT/

4.1.12 To take advantage of international days and events such as World Radio Day (13 February), World Press Freedom Day (3 May), International Day Against Impunity (23 November), the International Anti-Corruption Day (9 December) to highlight the issues, the World Day Against Censorship (12 March), the World Day for Safety and Health at Work (28 April). [UNESCO] (UNODC, ILO and other agencies) /All stakeholders/
| 4.1.13 | To publicize media accountability mechanisms and experiences based on self-regulation mechanisms (e.g. press councils, adoption of codes of ethics, appointment of news ombudsmen), which promote safety by enhancing media accessibility, credibility and status in society. [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/ | 4.2 EXPECTED OUTCOME 4.2: Increased awareness among society at national level about the importance of the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity |
| 4.1.14 | To promote technical knowledge gained from ICT experts on the constantly evolving matters pertaining to digital security, which are essential in equipping journalists and bloggers to assess risks and protect themselves and their sources. [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/ |
| 4.1.15 | To mobilize UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize Laureates as regional Ambassadors for Freedom of Expression to speak on these issues at regional level. [UNESCO] |
| 4.1.16 | To consult the UNESCO Director-General on the possibility of nominating one to five UNESCO goodwill ambassadors on freedom of expression, (one international or one per region). [UNESCO] |
| 4.1.17 | To raise awareness on the need for promoting online safety for journalists, for example at the IGF forum or via campaigns such as the CPJ Internet Advocacy Programme. [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/ |
| 4.1.18 | To liaise on organizing regional sensitization campaigns in cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations such the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR), the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, among many others. [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/ |
| 4.1.19 | To actively highlight the issue of the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity during appropriate regional conferences [UNESCO] (All UN agencies) /All stakeholders/ |
| 4.1.20 | To prepare a series of articles on the issue to be published on the Global Experts Networks created by UNAOC [UNAOC] |
| 4.1.21 | To liaise on promoting legal knowledge on freedom of expression, and specifically on the safety of journalists, such as within Moot Courts at University law schools [UNESCO] /PCMLP/ |

### NATIONAL LEVEL

[UN body with coordinating/reporting responsibility]

(UN participating bodies) /other organizations involved/

| 4.2.1 | To promote national awareness of implementation strategies of the UN Plan at country level. [UNRC where agreed, UNDPI] /NGOs, Member States/ |
| 4.2.2 | To organize workshops and seminars for state legislative and criminal justice authorities on mechanisms for the protection of journalists and to encourage integration of good practices into respective policies. [UNRC where agreed] (Other UN bodies) /NGOs, Member States/ |
| 4.2.3 | UNESCO, and UN Agencies (especially where UNESCO is not represented in the country), to convene or co-convene national level consultative or informational meetings, working with UNCT and UNRC where-ever possible, with all relevant stakeholders to raise awareness of and publicize the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. [UNESCO] (UNCT, UNDP, OHCHR) |
| 4.2.4 | To liaise on the creation of a monument, the naming of a street or an auditorium, development of a prize, etc. in honour of journalists and press freedom. [UNESCO] /Member States and local authorities where agreed, diverse stakeholders/ |
| 4.2.5 | To raise awareness in schools and universities about journalistic safety and the importance of freedom of expression. [UNESCO] (UNESCO Chairs, CFOM, other universities) |
FOLLOW-UP, MONITORING AND EVALUATION MECHANISMS

1. At the beginning of the implementation, guidelines on establishing baselines, monitoring and follow-up will be prepared and disseminated among all stakeholders by UNESCO with the aim of facilitating a harmonised and systematized compilation of information and data.

2. Yearly review to be carried out by a group comprising UNESCO, OHCHR, UNDP and UNDPI, in association with the network of the UN Focal Points on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, and based upon contributions from the UN system, governments, NGOs, media and professional associations. First review will be carried out in January 2014.

3. An in-depth evaluation will be carried out at the end of the period of this strategy.
IV. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: UN TRACK RECORD ON SAFETY AND IMPUNITY ISSUES

The United Nations and its family of agencies have at their disposal tools and instruments which can be readily employed to address the issue of the safety of journalists and how to combat impunity. These instruments draw their strength from being internationally recognized as well as being a moral compass and obligation for States. These instruments include mostly international humanitarian law (IHL) and universal human rights law) as well as resolutions and declarations:

a. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights\(^2\) (UDHR, 10 December 1948). Specifically, article 19 which states that “everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers” and also article 3 which secures the “right to life, liberty and security of person”, articles 5 and 9 which affirm the right not to be subjected to “torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment” or "arbitrary arrest", and article 8 which maintains that we have the right to an effective remedy for violations of one's rights.

b. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights\(^3\) (ICCPR, 16 December 1966) which is the binding convention which clarifies that all States Parties must "undertake the necessary steps, in accordance with its constitutional processes and with the provisions of the present Covenant, to adopt such laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized" in the Covenant. In July 2011, article 19 was the subject of the General Comment 34 by the Human Rights Committee. Adopted by this human rights treaty body, it constitutes an authoritative clarification of the scope of States’ obligations, calling on them to adopt adequate laws and practices together with national enforcement mechanisms to protect the right to freedom of expression and opinion.

c. The UN Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/21/12 on the Safety of Journalists, adopted by consensus in September 2012. The Council condemned in the strongest terms all attacks and violence against journalists and expressed its concern that there was a growing threat to the safety of journalists posed by non-State actors. It stresses the need to ensure better cooperation and coordination at the international level with regard to ensuring the safety of journalists, and invites UN agencies, programmes and funds, other international and regional organizations, Member States and all relevant stakeholders to cooperate further in the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, elaborated by UNESCO and endorsed by the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in April 2012.

d. The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as mandated by the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/48/141 as having the principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities, continuously monitors, including through its field presences, the safety of journalists as part of its mandate to protect and promote human rights and raises related concerns bilaterally with governments and in public through press releases and through statements and reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly. The High Commissioner also provides information to the Security Council (OHCHR).

e. The Human Rights Council’s Special Procedures mechanisms play an important role in monitoring, raising awareness and giving advice on human rights issues. In 2012, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions submitted reports to the 20\(^{th}\) session of the Human Rights Council with thematic focus on of the protection of journalists and combatting impunity; both reports contain recommendations to combat impunity for attacks against journalists. In 2011, the Special Rapporteur on the


\(^3\) ICCPR available at http://www.hrweb.org/legal/cpr.html
situation of human rights defenders also included a specific chapter on journalists and media workers in her report to the Human Rights Council.

f. The UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1738 (2006) to condemn attacks against journalists in conflict situations. It emphasizes “the responsibility of States to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law” and that “journalists, media professionals and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered civilians, to be respected and protected as such”.

g. The Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocol I which concerns the treatment of civilians, including journalists, and of persons not or no longer taking direct part in hostilities. Article 79 of Protocol I specifically states that “journalists engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians” and thus be protected as such under the Conventions. AP II is also relevant although it does not mention journalists specifically- they are however covered by the provisions on civilians.

h. There are also UN conventions related to the issue of the safety of journalists such as The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), which article 23 requires States parties to criminalize conduct involving the obstruction of justice. States parties are to adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences. In addition to the UNTOC, UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice also provide a legal basis for action on some aspects of the Action plan especially concerning the criminal and corruption related elements.

i. There are also many regional instruments such as the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights and the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa adopted in 2002; the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and the American Convention of Human Rights; the Arab Charter on Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights. It is also important to mention the role played by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information of the African Union Commission (AUC), the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Representative on Freedom of the Media of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, among others.

j. A large number of international, regional and national declarations have been also issued by many stakeholders, as for example the Windhoek Declaration on Freedom of Expression and Press Freedom. http://www.unesco.org/webworld/fed/temp/communication_democracy/windhoek.htm

UNESCO is the United Nations specialized agency with a mandate to defend freedom of expression and press freedom, which has meant that the Organization has had a long-standing commitment to foster the safety of journalists. UNESCO’s Constitution explicitly states that the Organization’s mission is “to promote the free flow of ideas by word and image”. Over the years UNESCO has led, within the UN system, the implementation of a comprehensive strategy aiming at protection and promotion of safety of journalists and fighting impunity of perpetrators of crimes against journalists. This work has been based on the following resolutions and decisions of Member States:

a. Resolution 29 adopted by the 29th UNESCO General Conference in 1997 which condemns violence against journalists and calls on its Member States to uphold their obligation to prevent, investigate, and punish crimes against journalists. Since then, the Director-General has publicly condemned each killing of a journalist or media worker and now also social media producers. The full text of the UNESCO Resolution 29 is at the following link:

4 See http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/681/60/PDF/N0668160.pdf?OpenElement
b. Decisions on the Safety of Journalist and the Issue of Impunity adopted by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) at its 26th, 27th and 28th sessions in 2008, 2010 and 2012 respectively. These Decisions urged Member States “to inform the Director-General of UNESCO, on a voluntary basis, of the actions taken to prevent the impunity of the perpetrators and to notify her/him of the status of the judicial inquiries conducted on each of the killings condemned by UNESCO”. These Decisions also requested the Director-General to provide an analytical report on the basis of her condemnations and the responses received from Member States concerned. Therefore, since 2008 the Director-General presents every two years the Report on The Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity, available at the following link: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/intergovernmental-programmes/ipdc/special-initiatives/safety-of-journalists/

Furthermore, many of the declarations issued within the framework of the UNESCO’s World Press Freedom Day, has put the focus on the issue of journalists’ safety, such as the following:

a. The Belgrade Declaration on Assistance to media in Conflict Areas and Countries in Transition (2004) affirmed that “assuring the safety of both local and international journalists should be given the highest priority. There should be an end to a culture of impunity over killings and other attacks on journalists and there should be independent investigations into such killings and attacks”. http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/world-press-freedom-day/previous-celebrations/worldpressfreedomday2009000000/belgrade-declaration/

b. The Medellin Declaration (2007) on Securing the Safety of Journalists and Combating Impunity reiterated the call upon Member States to focus on preventing and securing the safety of journalists and combating impunity in both conflict and non-conflict situations. Full text can be read at the following link: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/world-press-freedom-day/previous-celebrations/worldpressfreedomday20090000/medellin-declaration/

c. The Carthage Declaration (2012) called upon all stakeholders “to create a free and safe environment for journalists, media workers and social media producers to produce information through traditional or new media, and to support implementation of the UN Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity”. Full text is available via the following link: http://www.unesco.org/pv_obj_cache/pv_obj_id_E473CFC4DB067667EE5A786DFF53C990D09E0300/filename/carthage_declaration_2012_en.pdf
APPENDIX 2: BASIC TEXTS

1. **International Human Rights Laws**
   - *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948)
   - *OHCHR 1976 -The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*
   - *General comment 34 on the article 19* of the above ICCPR (2011)
   - *UN Security Council 2006 -Resolution S/RES/1738*

2. **Regional Instruments of Human Rights Laws**

3. **International Humanitarian Law**
   - *The Geneva Conventions of 1949* and their Additional Protocols

4. **Measures specific to the Safety of Journalists**

5. **National Statements and Declarations resulted of National Consultations on the UN Plan of Action**
   - *Islamabad Declaration on Safety of Journalists and Impunity Issues, November 2012.*
   - *The London Statement* by members of the global media community on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, October 2012

UN AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

1. The International Labour Organization (ILO). John Myers, Industry specialist - Media, culture, graphical; Postal & telecommunications services; Temporary agency employment and Team leader - Public and Private Services Team Sectoral Activities Department. myers@ilo.org
2. International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Patricia Lusweti. Editor-in-Chief, ITU News. Patricia.lusweti@itu.int
3. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Jane Connors, Chief of Special Procedures Branch. jconnors@ohchr.org; Nathalie Prouvez, Chief, Rule of Law Section. nprouvez@ohchr.org
4. United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). Stéphanie Durand, Strategic Media Partnerships Manager. stephanied@unops.org
6. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Sylvie Coudray, Chief of Freedom of Expression Section, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development. s.coudray@unesco.org
7. United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI). Deborah Seward, Director of the Strategic Communications Division. seward@un.org
9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Adam Rogers, Senior Advisor and Head of Unit, Strategic Communication Coordinator, World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty. adam.rogers@undp.org
10. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Adrian Edwards. Head of News. edwards@unhcr.org
11. United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA). Jared Kotler, Senior Officer Strategic Communications and Public Affairs. kotler@un.org
13. United Nations Women. Nanette Braun, Chief, Communications and Advocacy. nanette.braun@unwomen.org
14. United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Sandra Carvao, Communications Manager. scarvao@unwto.org
15. UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)
16. United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Pakistan
17. United Nations Country Team (UNCT) South Sudan. Liam McDowall. mcdowalll@un.org
19. UN Department for Peace Keeping Operations (UNDPKO). Kieran Dwyer, Chief of Public Affairs Section. dwyer@un.org
20. World Food Programme (WFP)
21. World Bank Institute (WB). Craig Hammer. chammer@worldbank.org

SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS

1. UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression. Frank La Rue. Libert.expresion@gmail.com
2. UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. Irina Tabirta, Associate Human Rights Officer, itabirta@ohchr.org
4. Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression, Organization of the American States (OAS). Catalina Botero. cbotero@oas.org. Lisl Brunner. Staff Attorney. labrunner@oas.org
5. Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa (AUC). Pansy Tlakula. tlikulap@elections.org.za
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. African Union Commission (AUC). Habiba Mejri-Cheikh, Director of Information and Communication. HabibaM@africa-union.org
2. Council of Europe (CoE). Janson Björn, Head of Media Division. Bjorn.janson@coe.int
3. Pan-African Parliament Committee on Justice and Human Rights. Onyango Kakoba, Chairperson. okakoba@parliament.go.ug

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. African Union of Broadcasting (ABU)
2. Arabic Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI). Gamal Eid, gamaleid@anhri.net
3. Article 19. Barbara Bukovská, Senior Director for Law and Policy. barbara@article19.org
4. Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM). William Horsley, International Director. wh@williamhorsley.com
5. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). Gypsy Guillen Kaiser CPJ Communication & Advocacy Director (New York) ggkaiser@cpj.org; Jean-Paul Marthoz Senior Advisor (Brussels) jpmarthoz@cpj.org; Elisabeth Witchel Impunity Campaign Consultant (United Kingdom) ewitchel@cpj.org
6. Commonwealth Journalists Association. Rita Payne, President. ritapayne@hotmail.com, Patricia Perkel, Executive Director. pat.perkel@gmail.com; Ehsan Sehar, ehsan.sehar@gmail.com
8. Doha Centre for Media Freedom (DCMF). Omar Makhfi. Omar.makhfi@dc4mf.org
9. Federation of African Journalists (FAJ). Sadibou Marong, Program Officer. sadibou.marong@ifjafrique.org
10. Freedom House. Sheryl Mendez, Senior Programme Officer, Mendez@freedomhouse.org; Dario Fritz, Programme Officer, Mexico Office, fritz@freedomhouse.org
11. Free Press Unlimited. Turan Ali, Team Leader for Journalism Initiatives. turan@freepressunlimited.org
12. Global Journalist Security. Matt Hansen, Associate Manager. matt@journalistsecurity.net
13. Index on Censorship. Michael Harris. Head of Advocacy. mike@indexoncensorship.org
14. Inter-American Press Association (SIP-IAPA). Julio Muñoz, Executive Director. jmunoz@sipiapa.org
15. Intermedia Pakistan. Adnan Rehnat, Executive Director. adnan@intermedia.org.pk
16. International Federation of Journalists (IFJ). Beth Costa, Secretary General, beth.costa@ifj.org; Ernest Sagaga, Human Rights and Communications Officer, ernest.sagaga@ifj.org; Adrien Collin, Project Officer. adrien.collin@ifj.org
17. International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX). Heather Orrange, Campaign and Advocacy Specialist, horang@ifex.org
18. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Dorothea Krimitsas, Focal point for Hotline and Journalists in Dangerous Assignments. dkrimitsas@icrc.org
19. International Media Support (IMS). Jesper Hojberg, Executive Director. jh@i-m-s.dk; Robertshaw, rs@i-m-s.dk and Martin Landi, ml@i-m-s.dk
20. International News Safety Institute (INSI). Hannah Storm, Director. hannah.storm@newssafety.org
21. International Press Institute (IPI). Barbara Trionfi. Press Freedom Manager, trionfi@freemedia.at; Anthony Mills, Deputy Director. amills@freemedia.at
22. IREX. Dru Menaker, Director, Community of Practices, dmenaker@irex.org
23. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. pending
24. Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA). Kwame Karikari. karikari.kwame@gmail.com
25. Media Legal Defence Initiative. Jonh Baker, Chief Operating Officer, john.barker@mediadefence.org
26. Open Society Foundations – Media Program. Edward Pittman, Programme Coordinator, Edward.pittman@opensocietyfoundations.org
27. ORBICOM. Yves Theoret, Secretary-General. theoret.yves@uqam.ca
28. PEN International. Sarah Clarke, Policy Officer. Sarah.clarke@pen-international.org
29. Press Emblem Campaign. Hedayat Abdelnabi, Director. Hedayat.abdelnabi@gmail.com
30. Reporters without Borders. Prisca Orsonneau, justice@rsf.org; Martial Tourneur, assistance@rsf.org
31. Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA). Gayathri Venkiteswaran, Director, gayathri@seapa.org
32. South-East Europe Media Organization (SEEMO). Oliver Vujovic, Secretary General. vujovic@seemo.org
33. Syrian Journalists Association
34. The Impunity Initiative. Carmen Draghici. Carmen.Draghici.1@city.ac.uk
35. The Rory Preck Trust. Elisabet Cantenys, Head of Programmes, elisabet@ryorypecktrust.org
36. World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC). Emmanuel Boutterin, Boutterin@hotmail.fr
37. World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA). Rodrigo Bonilla. Rodrigo.bonilla@wan.ifra.org
38. World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC). Ronald Koven, European Representative, kovenronald@aol.com

REPRESENTATIVES OF UNESCO MEMBER STATES

1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
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32. Saudi Arabia
33. Sweden
34. Turkey
35. United Kingdom
36. United States of America
37. Zimbabwe
APPENDIX 4: ACRONYMS

1. **AMARC**: World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC)
2. **AUC**: African Union Commission
3. **CED**: Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED)
4. **CEDAW**: Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
5. **CFOM**: Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM)
6. **CJA**: Commonwealth Journalists Association
7. **CLJJ**: Centre for Law, Justice & Journalism
8. **CoE**: Council of Europe (CoE)
9. **CPJ**: Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)
10. **DCMF**: Doha Centre for Media Freedom (DCMF)
11. **FAJ**: Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)
12. **FH**: Freedom House
13. **FPU**: Free Press Unlimited
14. **IC**: Index on Censorship
15. **ICRC**: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
16. **IGO**: Intergovernmental organization
17. **IFEX**: International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX)
18. **IFJ**: International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)
19. **ILO**: International Labour Organization (ILO)
20. **IMS**: International Media Support (IMS)
21. **INSI**: International News Safety Institute (INSI)
22. **IPDC**: International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC)
23. **IPI**: International Press Institute (IPI)
24. **ITU**: International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
25. **KAS**: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)
26. **MFWA**: Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA)
27. **MLDI**: Media Legal Defence Initiative
28. **NGO**: Non Governmental Organization
29. **OHCHR**: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
30. **UN**: United Nations
31. **UNESCO**: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
32. **UNDP**: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
33. **UNHCR**: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
34. **UNDA**: United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDA)
35. **OAS**: Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression, Organization of the American States (OAS)
36. **OCHA**: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
37. **OSCE**: Representative for Freedom of the Media, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
38. **OSF**: Open Society Foundations (OSF)
39. **PAP**: Pan-African Parliament Committee on Justice and Human Rights
40. **PEC**: Press Emblem Campaign (PEC)
41. **PEN**: PEN International
42. **RBM**: Results-Based Management
43. **RPT**: Rory Peck Trust
44. **RSF**: Reporters without Borders
45. **SIP-IAPA**: Inter-American Press Association (SIP-IAPA)
46. **SEAPA**: Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA)
47. **SEEMO**: South-East Europe Media Organization (SEEMO)
48. **SMART**: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound (SMART)
49. **ToT**: Training of Trainers
50. **UN Women**: United Nations Women
51. **UNAOC**: UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
52. **UNAMI**: UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)
54. **UNCAC**: United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
55. **UNCG**: United Nations Communication Group (UNCG)
56. **UNCT**: United Nations Country Team (UNCT)
57. **UNDAF**: UN Development Assessment Framework (UNDAF)
58. **UNGIS**: UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)
59. **UNTAD**: UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
60. **UNEP**: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
61. **UNDPKO**: UN Department for Peace Keeping Operations (UNDPKO)
62. **UNWTO**: United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
63. **UPR**: Universal Periodic Review (UPR)
64. **WAN-IFRA**: World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA)
65. **WB**: World Bank Institute (WB)
66. **WFP**: World Food Programme (WFP)
67. **WPFC**: World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC)
68. **WPFD**: World Press Freedom Day

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For more information:

UNESCO Focal point:
Sylvie Coudray, Chief, Section for Freedom of Expression, UNESCO (s.coudray@unesco.org)
Ming-Kuok Lim, Programme Specialist, Section for Freedom of Expression, UNESCO (mk.lim@unesco.org)