Seminar:
Status and Role of Community Radio in the SAARC Region:
Community Radio Development For Social Justice and Local Development

(a follow up of the South Asian community radio Seminar held in Sept. 2013, Kathmandu)

Organized by:
SAARC Information Centre (SIC)
And World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC ASIA PACIFIC)

In co-ordination with:
Ministry of Information, Government of Bangladesh

In partnership with:
Commonwealth Educational Media Centre For Asia (CEMCA)
and Bangladesh NGOs Net. for Radio & Communication (BNNRC)

Date: 20-22 August, 2014
Venue: Hotel Ruposi Bangla, Dhaka, Bangladesh

DAY 1, AUGUST 20, WEDNESDAY

Time	Programme
10:00 - 10:30	Arrival & Registration
10:30 - 11:30	**Session 1: Inauguration** Session chair: Mr. Abul Hossain, Joint Secretary (Broadcast), Secretary, Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 1) Remarks by Mr. Laxmi Bilas Koirala, Director, SIC 2) Remarks by Ms. Maica Lagman, President, AMARC-AP 3) Remarks by Ms. Supriya Sahu, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India 4) Remarks by Mr. Abdul Motaleb Sarkar, Director General (SAARC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 5) Remarks: TBC 6) Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest, Mr. Mortuza Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 7) Remarks by Mr. Abul Hossain, Joint Secretary (Broadcast), Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 8) Vote of thanks: Mr. Suman Basnet, Regional Coordinator, AMARC-AP MC: TBC, Rapporteur: TBC
11:30 - 12:00	Refreshments break
12:00 – 13:30	**Session 2: Community Radio Policy Environment In South Asia** *(Updates since last consultation in September 2013, Kathmandu)* Session Chair: Ashish Sen, Immediate Past President of AMARC Asia Pacific Country presentations by member state representatives (7 minutes each; in alphabetical order):

	1) Afghanistan: TBC 2) Bangladesh: Ms. Reba Rani Saha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 3) Bhutan: Ms. Tshering Yangden, Chief of Division, MRD, DoIM, Royal Government of Bhutan 4) India: Ms. Supriya Sahu, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India 5) Maldives: TBC 6) Nepal: Mr. Narayan Pd. Adhikary, Officer, Ministry of Information and Communication. Govt. of Nepal 7) Pakistan: TBC 8) Sri Lanka: TBC Q&A Rapporteur: TBC

13:30 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 16:00	**Session 3: State Of Community Radio In South Asia - Status Reports By Sector Representatives** Session chair: Dr. Vinod Pavarala, UNESCO Chair for Community Media, University of Hyderabad, India Country papers (7 minutes each): 1) Bangladesh - Mr. AHM Bazlur Rahman, CEO, BNNRC 2) Bhutan: Mr. Karma Wangchuk, Programme Officer, Tarayana Foundation 3) India - Ms. Archana Kapoor, Director, Com. Radio Mewat and General Secretary, Community Radio Association, India 4) Nepal - Mr. Mohan Chapagain, President, ACORAB 5) Sri Lanka - Mr. MC Rasmin, Sri Lanka Development Journalist Forum Q&A Rapporteur: TBC
16: 00 - 16:30	Refreshment break
16:30 - 18:00	**Session 4: Tackling Climate Change With Community Radio** Session chair: S. M. Shameem Reza, Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Dhaka Presentation on 'Interfacing CR with Science for adapting to Climate Change' by Kanchan Dixit, Program manager, Institute for Social and Environmental Transition - Nepal Comments: 1) Bhutan: Mr. Choki Gyeltsen, Asst. Info & Media Officer, IMDD, DoIM (TBC) 2) India: Ms. Venu Arora, Director, Ideosync Media Combine 3) Nepal: Kishor J. Thapa, Senior VP, ACORAB Q&A Rapporteur: TBC

DAY 2, AUGUST 21, THURSDAY

Time	Programme
9:00 - 10:30	**Session 5: Community Radio Against Discrimination and Social Justice** Session Chair: Ms. Supriya Sahu, Jt. Secretary, MIB, Govt. of India Panelists: 1) Collectively working towards gender equality through community radio - by Ms. Nimmi Chauhan, AMARC-WIN (Women's International Network) Asia-Pacific Representative 2) Community broadcasting against caste based discrimination - by Mr. Rem Biswokarma, President, Jagaran Media Centre, Nepal 3) Bangladesh: Dr. Md. Zahangir Alam, Deputy Director (Mass Communication), Agriculture Information Service and Executive of Krishi Radio Q&A Rapporteur:
10.30- 11.00	Refreshment break
11:00-12:30	**Session 6: Promoting Safety of Media Workers in South Asia** Session Chair: TBC Panelists: 1) Effective practices to enhance safety of media workers? By Mr. Laxman Datt Pant, Project Coordinator, Increasing the Safety of Journalists, UNESCO Nepal 2) Dealing with threats as a community broadcaster by Ms. Archana Kapoor, India 3) Comments by Mr. Gopal Jha, President, Broadcasting Association of Nepal 4) Srilanka: TBC 5) Bangladesh: TBC Q&A Rapporteur:
12:30-14:00	**Lunch**
14:00-15:00	**Session 7: Promoting Regional Network For Community Radio Development** Session chair: Tshering Yangden, Chief of Division, MRD, DoIM, Royal Government of Bhutan (TBC) 1. Proposal for Developing Community Radio Online Forum - by SIC & AMARC-AP 2. Presentations & Comments: – Dr. Wijayananda Rupasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mass Communication, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka – Mr. Phuntsho Namgay, Bhutan Centre for Media & Democracy – Mr. AHM Bazlur Rahman, Bangladesh – Ms. Venu Arora, India – Mr. Mohan Chapagain, Nepal Rapporteur: TBC

15:00-16:30	**Session 8: Journey Ahead Towards a Robust Community Radio Sector**
	
	Session chair: Mr. Min Bahadur Shahi, Dy. President, AMARC Asia Pacific
	
	Panelists:
	1) Prof. Dr. Vinod Pavarala- CR-CIT and Peer Review in India
	2) Mr. AHM Bazlur Rahman- Peer Review in Bangladesh
	3) Ms. Venu Arora - Sustainability and Community Radio in South Asia
	4) Capacity Building for Community Women Broadcasters:
	   - Ms. Archana Kapoor, Director, Radio Mewat, India
	   - Mr. Rafiqul Islam Khokan, Executive Director, Rupantar, Bangladesh
	5) Mr. Ashish Sen - Looking back, looking ahead - CEMCA's work in community media
	
	Moderator - Dr. Ankuran Dutta, Program Officer, CEMCA
	
	Rapporteur: TBC

16:30 - 17:00	Refreshment break
16:30 - 17:00	Closing session: Chief guest: Kazi Akhter Uddin Ahmed, Director General, Bangladesh Betar Session chair: M. Haroon-or-Rashid, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 1) Presentation and endorsement of recommendations of the Dhaka Conference 2) Remarks by organizers: SAARC Information Centre and AMARC Asia-Pacific 3) Remarks by the Chief Guest 4) Closing remarks by Session Chair
19:30	Dinner hosted by BNNRC at Dhaka Club

Day 3, August 22, Friday

Field Trip to Bikrompur Radio 9:00   Depart from hotel 10:00 – 11:00 Presentation at the radio station 11:00 – 12:00 Tour of the station 12:00 – 1:00   Interaction with local community leaders 1:00 – 2:30   Lunch 2:30   Return to hotel and free time