

National Consultation for a Malaysia Media Council

Impiana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
4 – 5 March 2019

PROGRAMME

Summary of Objectives:

- To take stock of, document, consolidate and align the current initiatives by the media industry and civil society organisations to establish the Malaysia Media Council.
- To develop a “Malaysia Media Council Roadmap” (MMCR) to assist the Government of Malaysia in its efforts to reform the relevant laws and to establish the Malaysia Media Council.

Day One - 4 March

Session 1: Opening & Framework of Consultation

- 0830 Registration
- 0900 Welcome Remarks:
- Sonia Randhawa, Director, Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ)
- Mazni Ibrahim, Chief Executive Officer (Interim), Malaysian Centre for Constitutionalism & Human Rights (MCCHR)
- 0930 Opening Speech and Launch:
Datuk A. Kadir Jasin, Media and Communications Adviser to the Prime Minister of Malaysia
- 1015 Break & Press Conference

Session 2: Roles, Functions & Modalities of A "Media Council"

- 1115 Plenary: "Regional Good Practices and Media Councils in Southeast Asia"
- *Tessa Bacalla, Executive Director, Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA)*
 - *Ahmad Djauhar, Indonesian Press Council*
 - *Dabet Castenada, National Union of Journalists, Philippines*
 - *Dr. Lim Ming-Kuok, Advisor for Communication and Information, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)*
- Moderator: Fahri Azzat, Director, MCCHR

1240 Lunch

Session 3: The Proposed "Malaysia Media Council"

- 1340 Fishbowl Discussion: "Initiatives regarding Malaysia's Media Council & Proposed Models"

Explanatory Note

The format of this discussion will be as follows:

- (a) Four discussants will start the session and share their views on the topic.*
- (b) After the four presentations, participants who wish to intervene may present themselves to the Moderator and replace the discussants to present their views.*

Starting discussants:

- *YBhg Dato' Dr. Mohd Ali Mohammad Nor, Secretary General, Ministry of Communications & Multimedia Malaysia*
- *Gayathry Venkiteswaran, University of Nottingham Malaysia*
- *Rozana Isa, Sisters In Islam (SIS)*
- *Premesh Chandran, Malaysiakini.com*

Moderator: Sharmila Sekarajasekaran, Director, MCCHR

1500 Un-Consultation Group Discussion: "What does Malaysia need to have an acceptable and effective Media Council?"

Explanatory note

Participants will break into three groups. Each group will decide on the issues and concerns to be discussed to answer the question. Areas may include the Council's modality, laws and policies to be drafted, amended or repealed, funding, public participation and strategies. Each group will appoint its own Focal Point Person and Rapporteur; and the FPP will brief the meeting at the following session.

1600 Plenary: Briefing by the Un-Consultation groups

1700 Summary of Discussions

1815 Close

Day Two – 5 March

Session 4: The Proposed "Code of Ethics"

0900 Plenary: "The Media's Code of Ethics"

- *Datuk Yong See Heong, former Chief Executive Officer, Bernama*

- *Tehmina Kaoosji, Institute of Journalists*

- *Qishin Tariq, National Union of Journalists Malaysia (Star Branch)*

Moderator: Prof. Ahmad Murad Merican, Universiti Sains Malaysia

1000 Discussion on Consultation's Points of Consensus & Divergence and Elements for the "Malaysia Media Council Roadmap" (MMCR)

Moderator: Ding Jo-Ann, CIJ

1045 Break

Session 5: Malaysia Media Council Roadmap (MMCR)

- 1100 Groups to develop the MMCR
- 1200 Lunch
- 1300 Presentations by the groups on the draft MMCR
- 1430 Break
- 1445 Groups to refine the draft MMCR
- 1545 Presentations by the groups on the 2nd draft MMCR
- 1645 Plenary session: Adoption of the MMCR and Future Steps

Moderator: Edmund Bon, Director, MCCHR
- 1730 Close & Press Conference