





Warm reception by hosts

A highlight of the meetings in Tokyo was a reception hosted by TBS-Japan on 17 October. Its Chairman, Hiroshi Inoue, and other top executives were on hand to welcome delegates.

One of Japan's leading broadcasters, TBS has been an ABU member since 1989. Together with its 28 TV and 34 radio affiliates, its programmes are available throughout Japan. It has 13 overseas bureaux.

Another host was the National Association of Commercial Broadcasters in Japan (NAB), which provided lunch for delegates on 19 October, the first day of the General Assembly.

An ABU member since 1969, NAB represents the interests of the country's commercial broadcasters.





From left: Takeshi Doki, Tatsuya Nakamura, Yuichi Itamiya, Clara Choi, Borhanuddin Osman and Parni Hadi.

Planning for the year ahead

New activities were reported at the meeting of the Programme Committee in Tokyo on October 15-16. Participants also discussed a wide range of other activities, both radio and TV, in the meeting chaired by Clara Choi, Executive Producer, RTHK-Hong Kong.

Kim Yeong Seon, KBS-Korea Producer, reported that KBS had initiated a co-production project in conjunction with the United Nations called CARE – Change Asia Rescue Earth. Under the project, 17 ABU member organisations would each submit a 10-minute video on the theme 'Millennium Development Goals', and in return, have access to the resulting 90-minute special programme.

KBS-Korea also reported that it would host the next annual ABU documentary screening and exchange meeting in July 2011. The new event is named ABU Doc and involves Japan's

NHK and TBS, Korea's KBS and EBS, RTM-Malaysia and TRT-Turkey.

The first meeting of the ABU TV Documentary Working Party (ADWP) was held in June 2010 during the TV documentary and exchange meeting in Seoul.

NHK reported on the Programme Committee's newest activity, ABU Digista teens, which would start next year. The aim was for young people in Asia to exchange ideas and understand each other through digital artwork and to raise programme production skills through international co-production.

A pilot TV programme entitled *ABU Digista teens* had been recorded at NHK's studios in Tokyo in September 2010 with participation from NHK-Japan, KBS-Korea, NBT-Thailand, RTHK-Hong Kong and RTM-Malaysia. Each organisation that participates in next year's



The Programme Committee's newest activity, ABU Digista teens, starts next year. The project aims to get young artists in Asia to exchange ideas through digital artwork.

event will hold a workshop, select competitors who would create digital artwork, and broadcast the event in its country.

According to the draft schedule, the organising committee would meet in February, the workshops would take place from April to September while the contest itself would be held

in November-December.

Metro TV and the YCAB Foundation of Indonesia, invited ABU members to participate in its Life Awards 2011. The awards are organised by Yayasan Cinta Anak Bangsa (YCAB) in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and Metro TV. It honours radio,



Participants of the Programme Committee sessions.

television, print or online journalists who have helped to curb drug abuse with their reports. The reports must be published either in print or online or broadcast on radio or television between 1 January and 1 March 2011. The deadline for entries is 15 March and winners will be announced on 26 June 2011.

KBS-Korea reported on Input 2011, which has been themed 'Dare the Future'. A screening of innovative TV content from all over the world, it will take place in Seoul on 9 to 12 May 2011, and will be hosted by KBS and MBC. Input was founded in Italy in 1977 and encourages the development of public service broadcasting by screening and debating the most outstanding programmes from around the world. The deadline for submitting programmes for screening is 7 January 2011.

Among the radio activities, Radio Republik Indonesia and TBS-Japan reported on RRI's Green Radio campaign, including the jubilee held in Sulawesi, Indonesia, in March 2010, which included tree-planting activities.

RRI President Director

Parni Hadi said the Green Radio campaign included tree-planting programmes in 62 places in Indonesia, specifically where there was a local RRI station. He called for more ABU members to become involved in green campaigns.

Jun Ogawa, TBS' Director International Affairs and Strategy, praised RRI's initiative, which he said not only planted trees but also ideas in people's minds – especially young people – on protecting the environment. He said TBS had reported on RRI's campaign, to give the Japanese an understanding of how Indonesia was tackling environmental issues. Participants expressed their support for ongoing projects such as Green Radio and the Lights Off project.

Before closing the meeting, elections of chairperson and vice-chairperson were conducted. Borhanuddin Osman of AAN-Malaysia was elected Chairperson while Yuichi Itamiya of NHK-Japan was elected Vice-Chairperson. Niken Widiastuti of RRI-Indonesia was re-elected as Vice-Chairperson. Their terms of office will be from January 1 2011, until the



Kim Kyung Hee of KBS-Korea briefing the Programme Committee on Input 2011, a screening of innovative TV content from around the world, to be hosted in Seoul by KBS and MBC next May.



A greener ABU

Radio Republik Indonesia's outgoing President Director, Parni Hadi (right) presented a tree to the ABU President, Yoshinori Imai, during the Programme Committee meeting in Tokyo. "It is a tree symbolising love and cooperation," Mr Parni said.

Earlier, the meeting had discussed the ABU's green activities.

end of 2012.

The meeting closed with words of thanks from the outgoing ABU Programme Director Tatsuya Nakamura.

He said he would continue to support the ABU enthusiastically and expressed full confidence that his successor, Takeshi Doki, would do an excellent job.

Technical Committee breaks new ground

The ABU Technical Committee meeting in Tokyo broke new ground on two fronts.

For the first time, it featured a CTO Forum, at which the technology chiefs of 10 members addressed key issues and their solutions – particularly the transition to digital broadcasting services.

And it included a session held at the renowned NHK Science and Technology Laboratories, with presentations on 3DTV, Super Hi Vision and other cutting-edge technologies.

The meeting began with an address by Dr Kazuyoshi Shogen, Chairman of the Committee, followed by addresses from the ABU Secretary-General, Javad Mottaghi, the Executive Director-General of Engineering of NHK, Kenji Nagai, and an ABU Vice-President, Manuel Gonçalves.

Mr Mottaghi highlighted some of the major activities of the Technical Department and identified some upcoming initiatives to enhance the members' engagement.

Another important event was the announcement of the Technical Awards (see sidebar). The Distinguished Service Award was conferred on Mr Nagai of NHK for his contributions to the transition to DTTB services, his work on mobile receivers and his pioneering role in the development of satellite broadcasting.

The meeting received the annual report of the



From left:
Committee Chairman
Kazuyoshi Shogen
and Kenji Nagai.

Director of the Technical Department. Sharad Sadhu highlighted the activities carried out in the last one year, including roadshows on ICTs and disaster warning broadcasting which travelled to 12 countries. A total of 1,500 people attended the department's 22 events.

The Members' Facilitated Sessions were moderated by MediaCorp-Singapore's Yeo Kim Pow and Asaad Sameer Bagharib. Members spoke about key developments and challenges.

The CTO Forum, a new initiative, was moderated by John Bigeni of DVB. The panel of experts underlined many crucial issues that the industry is facing. The most dominant of these was the transition to digital broadcasting services and the challenges associated with it.

ABU members offered five technical information workshops on topics such as visual radio, 3DTV and mobile trials, Super Hi-Vision compact cameras and enhancements in

DVB-T2 technology.

The ABU Digital Radio and Developing Broadcasters' Forums completed their annual meetings, identifying the main issues that the Forums need to address next year. Asaad of MediaCorp-Singapore, and Lim Soh Kwang, RTB-Brunei, presided over the meetings.

The Technical Committee received reports from the chairperson's of five topic areas, highlighting their studies and the recommendations and decisions that came out of them. The Committee has set up more than 40 studies on various issues of broadcasting technology. These cover production and transmission technologies, training and frequency spectrum issues, HDTV, and next generation broadcasting.

The committee also received reports from the four ABU Forums – the Digital Radio Forum, Developing Broadcasters' Forum, ICT Forum and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Industry Forum.

The meeting featured keynote presentations by Kiyoshi Imai, Chief Technology Officer at Panasonic, and Masayuki Takada, NHK STRL.

A highlight of the meeting was the election of the new office bearers of the Technical Committee for two-year terms. Yeo Kim Pow of MediaCorp-Singapore was elected as the new Chairman of the Technical Committee and Abu Bakar Ab Raheem of RTM, Masakazu Iwaki of NHK and Du Baichuan of RTPRC were elected as the three Vice-Chairmen. Including them, 15 members of the Technical Bureau were elected. Five Topic Area Chairs were also appointed.

A new feature was a meeting between ABU Technical Liaison Officers and the Technical Department. The aim was to enhance engagement and communication between the members and the Department.

The Special Topic Session at the NHK Science and Technology Laboratories

ABU Technical Awards 2010

The 2010 ABU Technical Awards were given away at the awards ceremony of the 47th ABU General Assembly in Tokyo, Japan.



Abdolali Aliaskary

The **ABU Broadcast Engineering Excellence** was awarded to Abdolali Aliaskary, Vice President, Development and Media Technology Division of IRIB, Iran. Apart from his extensive R&D contributions, Dr Aliaskari has extended the coverage of IRIB radio and TV programmes internationally, initiated the digitalisation of IRIB's production facilities for Radio and TV. His most important contribution has been the introduction of digital terrestrial broadcasting in Iran.

The **ABU Engineering Industry Excellence Award** was awarded to Zhang Jianping, Vice-President of the Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation, RTPRC, China. Mr Zhang is a member of the TV Professional Committee of the State Administration of Radio, Film and TV



Zhang Jianping

(SARFT) of China.

Mr Zhang contributed greatly to the development of IBC system used for 2008 Beijing Olympics, based on his work at China's national games.

He participated in the trials leading to establishment of DTMB and CMMB system standards of China. He invented the 'Anti-interference System of Satellite Broadcasting Station' which can automatically detect the irregular interference and fading during satellite transmission. The system has been widely used in China.

Mr Zhang was responsible for the compilation of many industrial standards and his white paper on *Strategic Guide of Synchronised Broadcasting of HD and SD TV Programmes* was issued by SARFT as the official technology policy.

Each year, three articles contributed by members and published in the *ABU Technical Review* are selected

and awarded the ABU Technical Review Prize, one for the Best Article Award and two for Commended Article Award. These awards provide an incentive to ABU members to submit contributions to the *Technical Review*.

This year the **Best Article Prize**

was awarded to Kazuyoshi Shogen, Executive Research Engineer, NHK Science and Technology Research Laboratories,



Kazuyoshi Shogen

Japan, for his article *Current Status of the UHDTV (Super-High Vision) Delivery*. The article appeared in the Oct-Dec 2009 issue of the *Technical Review*.

The first Commended Article Prize was awarded to Linden Clark and Steve White of Radio New Zealand, for their article *DRM Transmitters and Technologies*. The article appeared in the April-June 2010 issue of the *Review*.

The second Commended Article Prize was awarded to V Jeeva of IPPTAR, Radio Television Malaysia, for his article on *DVB S2 Matlab Simulation Model* which appeared in the April-June 2010 issue of the *Review*.



saw two key presentations on new technologies – HybridCast, Super Hi-Vision and Integral 3DTV. The presenters were Hisakazu Katou and Eisuke Nakasu of the laboratories.

The tour of the laboratories was a memorable opportunity for delegates to see demonstrations on advanced broadcasting technologies. Among these were Super Hi-Vision TV, the HybridCast platform, Integral 3DTV and the advanced ISDB-T system.

NHK Laboratories is a premier research institution on broadcast engineering and audience issues.

Ulrich Messerschmidt of Germany briefed the committee on strategies for the future development of TV images through digital broadcasting. A short presentation on the upcoming 7th Winter Asian Games 2011 in Kazakhstan was made by Kanat Sakharivanov of Khabar Agency.

The committee adopted

two new recommendations and three decisions on issues ranging from emergency warning broadcasting systems to content protection.

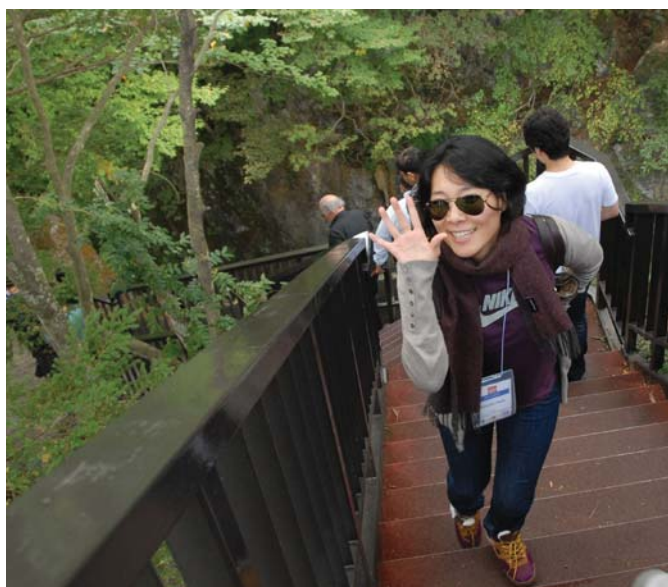
Two presentations were made by Philip Laven, Chairman of DVB Project, covering the DTV scene in Europe, and by Mike McClusky, CEO of Radio Australia, on the uptake of digital radio broadcasting in Australia.

R K Jain, Chief Engineer of

DDI-India, was appointed the Honorary Vice-Chairman, representing the host organisation for the 2011 General Assembly in New Delhi.

At the end of the meeting, in a farewell to Dr Shogen, the committee members recalled his services to the committee over the last 11 years, from his role as project manager to his time as committee Chairman. He was presented with a memento highlighting his substantial contributions.

Taking in the sig



Participants in the ABU's annual meetings had the opportunity to visit Nikko, a historic World Heritage site outside Tokyo.

About 180 delegates joined an NHK excursion to explore the area's shrines and temples on 18 October, the day before the General Assembly opened.

The complex of shrines and temples at Nikko, consisting of the Toshogu Shrine, Rinnoji Temple and Futarasan Shrin, was registered as a World Heritage site by Unesco in 1999.

Initially built in 1617, the Toshugu Shrine is the mausoleum of Shogun Tokugawa



hts of Nikko

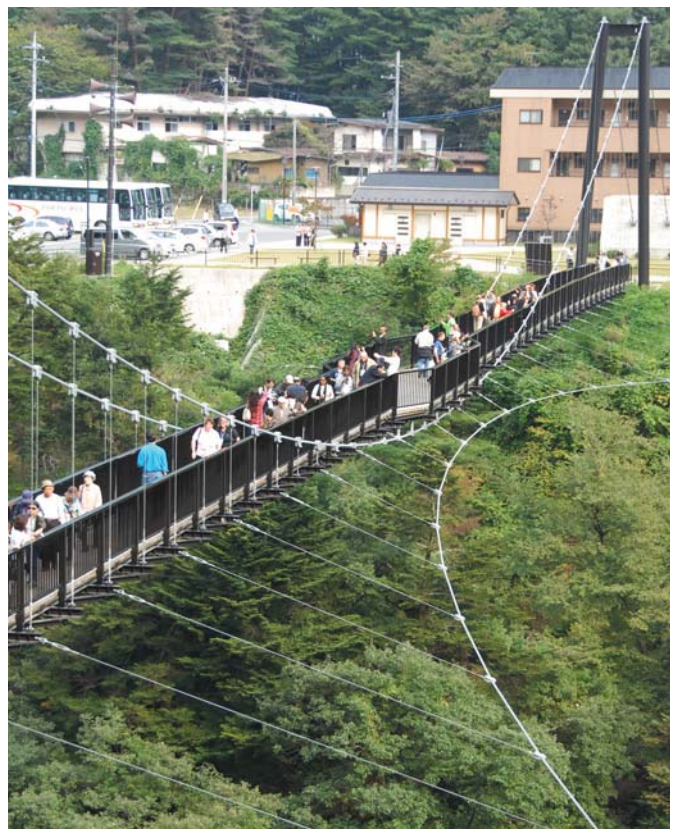


Ieyasu, founder of a military regime that ruled Japan from 1603 to 1867.

Bridge. Some even tried Japanese-style hot spring bathing.

After the visit to Toshogu, the delegates moved to the Kinugawa Spa area, where they enjoyed lunch, shopping, and the view of the scenic river valley gorge from the Kinudateiwa Suspension

Delegates enjoyed walking around the historic area, taking photographs and taking in the sights before boarding their buses for the journey back to Tokyo. All in all, it was an outing they will long remember.



Outgoing ABU Programme Department Director, Tatsuya Nakamura, looks back on his tenure at the headquarters.

What would you rate as the Programme Department's biggest achievements during your four years with the Secretariat?

Every project that I have been involved in during my tenure at the Programme Department has been significant.

What I have been trying to do, as Director, has been to raise the profile of the ABU as a whole through quality content production and exchange.

I cannot judge to what extent I have been able to achieve progress for the ABU. But I firmly believe that the programming activities should be conducted based on mutual understanding, mutual respect and friendship. And "unity in diversity" expresses the spirit of the ABU.

If you had to single out one highlight, what would it be?

This is really a hard question to answer. But if I were to mention one, I would say that the ABU Voyage to the Future (VTF) was an unforgettable event.

The VTF was aimed at re-evaluating the importance of our natural environment. Students from Asian countries visited rain-forests on Borneo island, Malaysia, in 2005, Mongolian grasslands in 2007 and Philippine oceans in 2009 to learn how to protect nature.

I, myself, had the chance to accompany those students visiting the Mongolian steppes and the sea of the Philippines. I

Raising the profile of ABU's programmes



was deeply impressed with the beauty of nature, but at the same time, I witnessed the reality of the situation, which was deterioration of the nature.

It prompted me to think seriously of what human beings could do for the preservation of the natural environment.

What kind of programme activities do you see the ABU becoming involved in over the next few years?

Next year will be exciting one for the Programme Department because a new project called ABU Digista teens will be officially launched. This

is a TV co-production covering the whole process of digital art creation by the youth of the Asia-Pacific.

'Digista' is an abbreviation of 'Digital Stadium', where people aged between 10-19 get together to create digital arts. It is also an online studio show connecting the host and participating broadcasters.

It is not a competition of digital arts, but a forum to promote the exchange of unique digital content among ABU members and to nurture young talent in the far-reaching digital era. I believe this new project will be as attractive as the ABU Robocon.

How can the ABU encourage more members to take part in its programme projects?

Take ABU Children's Drama Co-production for example. The principle of this project is "make one, take all".

If a participating broadcaster produces one episode, this organisation can bring back all the other episodes produced by other broadcasters.

In addition, the co-production meeting provides the participating producers with opportunities to get acquainted each other to nurture friendship.

I would like to emphasise that ABU members should not miss out on the opportunities offered by the ABU and its programme activities.

Now that you are back with NHK, what are your new job responsibilities?

Looking back over my career at NHK, it has been always related to international affairs.

My experience at the ABU will definitely enrich my future career. Luckily, I will be continuing the same type of job, which has to do with international activities at NHK.

My new responsibilities will be acquisition of foreign TV content for NHK and/or selling NHK TV content in the international markets. But of course, I would be very happy if I could be of any help to the ABU as well.

Asiavision monthly award winners

SLRC-Sri Lanka, CCTV-China and CTN-Cambodia won the Asiavision Award for the months of September, August and July respectively, for their news exchange contributions.

The September award went to SLRC for its coverage of an accidental blast in Batticaloa, in eastern Sri Lanka. The 17 September incident claimed the lives of 25 policemen and injured 52 people.

SLRC made the visuals



available on the same day of the incident and followed it up with an update.

CCTV won the award in August for its coverage of a series of floods, mudslides and landslides

that hit China during that month.

CCTV made efforts to provide Asiavision members with same-day coverage of the calamities as they unfolded and up-

to-date follow-up reports on the rescue and aid relief operations.

The July award went to CTN for its coverage of the verdict of a United Nations-backed tribunal in Cambodia on a former Khmer Rouge chief jailer.

CTN rose to the challenge by making available visuals of the much-awaited verdict on the same day it was handed down, on 26 July.

Duch, whose real name is Kaing Guek Eav, had previously admitted to overseeing the torture and killing of thousands of Cambodians during the Khmer Rouge regime. He was sentenced to 35 years in prison.

IRIB wins top Asiavision award



Seyed Mohammad Hosseini (left) accepting the award on behalf of IRIB from ABU Secretary-General Javad Mottaghi.

Iran's national broadcaster, IRIB, has won the 2010 award for the best news coverage by a member of Asiavision.

It received the Dennis Anthony Memorial Award on 19 October for its coverage of twin car bombings in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, in October 2009. The attacks left more than 150 people dead.

The award was named after a former ABU Senior Officer who died in 1996.

The winner was chosen by a panel of three judges representing CNN, the Arab States Broadcasting Union and the European Broadcasting Union.

Each year, the winner is selected from among Asiavision monthly award winners for best news story.

Asiavision reports growth on 3 fronts

Asiavision has seen three important developments over the past year, the ABU General Assembly heard: a growth in membership, the launch of a file transfer system and a big increase in training activities.

The News Group Chairperson, Prattana Nuntaratpun of MCOT-Thailand, said Saba TV of Afghanistan and Cambodian Television Network had joined the news exchange during the year.

Asiavision's new file transfer system had got off to a good start, she said. Three members were using it to contribute news items regularly, and others on an occasional basis.

This year had also seen a big increase in funded training courses for Asiavision members. In-house training was proving particularly popular, with six courses so far this year.

VTV-Vietnam joins AVN

Vietnam Television, the country's national broadcaster, has become a member of Asiavision. VTV joined on 1 December, bringing AVN's membership to 21.

Established in 1970, VTV has seven free-to-air channels and a range of cable channels. Its headquarters are in Hanoi and it operates eight regional broadcast centres. It also runs three print magazines and an online service: www.vtv.vn



Visit to NHK labs a highlight

For many delegates, a highlight of the annual meetings was a visit to the NHK Science and Technology Research Laboratories for a look at the latest broadcasting technologies.

More than 100 delegates from both the Technical and Programme Committees visited the laboratories on 17 October.

Among the technologies on show were 3DTV and Super Hi-Vision, NHK's ultra-high definition television format.

While at the laboratories, the Technical Committee held a Special Topic session featuring presentations by two of the laboratories' senior researchers.

