

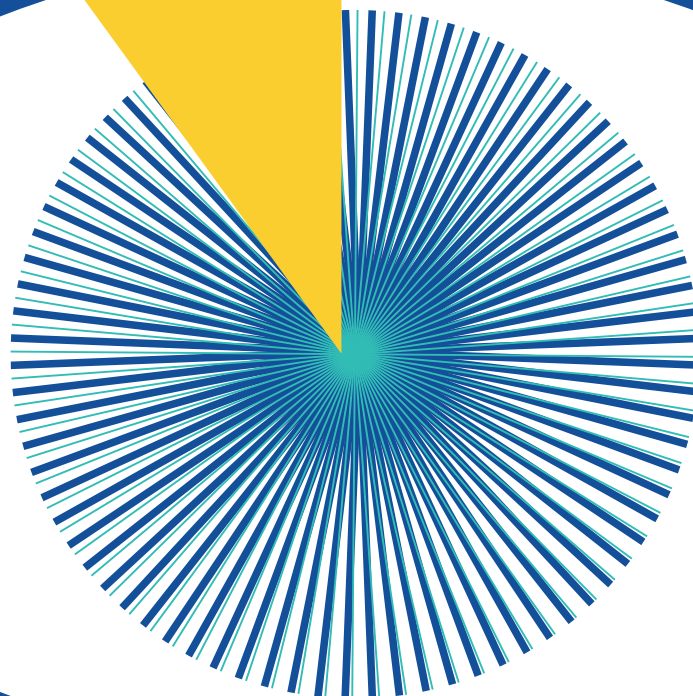


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# JOURNALISM UNDER DIGITAL SIEGE

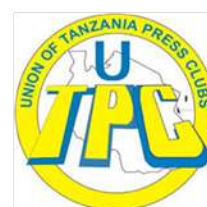
WORLD PRESS  
FREEDOM  
DAY **2022**

**MAY 3**



**#WorldPressFreedomDay**

# WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2022 PARTNERS AND SPONSORS



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# Abbreviations

ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AU	African Union
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CIPESA	Collaboration on International ICT Policy for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DoS/DDoS	Denial of Service/ Distributed Denial of Service
EAES	Eastern Africa Editors Society
EU	European Union
GEWE	Gender equality and women's empowerment
IMS	International Media Support
LSF	Legal Services Facility
MCT	Media Council of Tanzania
MISA	The Media Institute of Southern Africa
SAEF	Southern Africa Editors Forum
TAEF	The Africa Editors Forum
TAMISA	The Media Institute of Southern Africa, Tanzania
TBC	Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation
TEF	Tanzania Editors Forum
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UTPC	Union of Tanzania Press Clubs
WPFD	World Press Freedom Day





“....we are Africans, we have our culture, norms, and values that you as the media have a duty to respect and protect. The media forgets, what is right in Western Media, is not necessarily right in the African context”

H. E. President Samia Suluhu Hassan,  
*President of The United Republic of Tanzania*



# Background

Every year, 3 May is a date that celebrates the fundamental principles of press freedom, to evaluate press freedom around the world, to defend the media from attacks on their independence and to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of their profession. The UN General Assembly proclaimed World Press Freedom Day (WPFDD) in 1993 following a Recommendation adopted at the twenty-sixth session of UNESCO's General Conference in 1991, in response to a call by African journalists who in 1991 produced the landmark Windhoek Declaration on media pluralism and independence.

The Reporters without Borders (RSF) 2020 World Press Freedom Index shows that almost 50% (21 out of 54) African countries rank in the red or black zones, painting a grim picture the continent's journalism experiences. Authoritarian regimes and wars or internal violent conflicts including coups have almost criminalized journalism. Cyber-censorship, cyber-surveillance and cyber-attacks have also become the norm with journalists being targets of coordinated and systemic attacks with little safeguards where they exist, or accountability.

In Africa, World Press Freedom Day remains a critical platform for results-oriented policy dialogue, gathering public and private partners and civil society to discuss pertinent issues of concern and identify areas of collaboration. It is a unique, credible, systematic effort for strategy and advocacy towards an improved environment and operational framework for press freedom. In Tanzania, UNESCO works with the responsible Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology and diverse actors in the media sector celebrate World Press Freedom Day in line with the global theme, adapted to topics that are most relevant to the national and regional context.

World Press Freedom Day serves as an occasion to inform citizens of violations of press freedom - a reminder that in dozens of countries around the world, publications are censored, fined, suspended and closed down, while journalists, editors and publishers are harassed, attacked, detained and even murdered.

## About the Africa Media Convention

The hosting of the continent-wide event in Tanzania was a result of the country's significant progress made in advancing press freedom, freedom of expression and access to information. As a result, the country has become a growing model of progress in Africa, after recently lifting the bans on four newspapers, converging state agency functions for strengthened support to information, communication including the media and ensuring the integration of targeted outcomes for the promotion of public access to information as a fundamental right. These actions are illustrative of the expanding space for press freedom as H.E President Samia Suluhu Hassan continues to demonstrate Tanzania's willingness to open the media space.

The African events' sessions' crossover into the global event in Uruguay through consultation and knowledge sharing to ensure that African media stakeholders contribute to the discussions and deliberations at the regional and global level.

This year's theme lit the spotlight on the complex results of recent developments in surveillance, as well as big data collection and artificial intelligence (AI), impact journalism, freedom of expression and privacy in Africa. Also under the spotlight are the associated challenges to gender equality in media, media viability in digital times, and threats to public trust that arise from surveillance and digitally-mediated attacks on journalists, legal and policy reform process and the consequences of all this on public trust in digital communications. This year also celebrated the 10th anniversary of the UN Plan of Action for Safety of Journalists, providing an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities of its implementation.

The convention was hosted in the hope that the continent will rally on building solidarity amidst digital threats to journalism, based on the fact there is need for the African continent to unite and speak on reclaiming data privacy and ownership, and ensuring transparency of digital platforms as part of the solution to state and non-state digital surveillance, weakened media sustainability, and decline in public trust.



# Official Opening Session

## Contextualizing press freedom on the continent

The session was moderated by Mr. Pius Katunzi (Executive Member - Uganda Editors Guild) - who led 12 key media stakeholders in shaping the conversation on 'Journalism Under Digital Siege'.



### Stakeholder Remarks:

- Deodatus Balile – Chairperson, Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF)
- Prof. George Nyabuga – Representative, East Africa Editors Society (EAES)
- Churchill Otieno – President, Kenyan Editors Guild
- Fitihawok Kifle - Ethiopia Editors Guild
- Kajubi Mukajanga – Executive Secretary, Media Council of Tanzania (MCT)
- Salome Kitomari – Chairperson, The Media Institute of Southern Africa, Tanzania (TAMISA)
- Amb. Manfredo Fanti - Head of the EU Delegation to Tanzania and to the East African Community
- Muthoki Mumo - Committee to Protect Journalists
- Dr. Ayoub Rioba - Director General, Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC)
- Wynne Musabayana - Head of Communications, African Union (AU)
- Alex Atuhaire - Uganda Editor Guild

### Key takeaways:

- Tanzania was designated the host of the first continental convention due to the recent positive trajectory in press freedom
- In one year, Tanzania has witnessed a change in the government's attitude towards the media by lifting its ban on 4 newspapers, multiple online outlets, while engaging media stakeholders in the review of the various laws and regulations affecting the media space.
- In addition, the government offered its full cooperation in preparation of the African Convention on the World Press Freedom Day 2022 in Arusha, Tanzania
- The Ethiopia Editors Guild urged the importance of collaboration and exchange of best practices in navigating environments hostile to media
- The growth in digital media and rising number of citizen journalists has largely affected the way content is developed, with the audience demanding a quicker response to developing news and traditional media houses needing time to adhere to editorial standards
- The spread of dis information other challenges resulting from the proliferation of citizen journalists has been enabled by the increase in accessibility of digital devices and reach of social media
- The development in digital technology has resulted in ease of surveillance and invasion of privacy of journalists through their digital devices that can be vulnerable to hacking. This creates a challenge in the ability to protect sources anonymity - a cornerstone to journalism
- Threats towards journalists are now increasingly emanating from both state and non-state actor
- While journalists continue to play a vital role as truth seekers and truth defenders citizen journalists do not necessarily subscribe to the same creed
- The regional media played a vital part in the continent's ability to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, however more private media houses were forced to downsize or shut down operations due to financial constraints
- Women journalists are experiencing harassment both in their workplaces and online – exacerbating digital exclusion
- African governments have increasingly continued to shut down or throttle the internet during elections
- Governments should constantly engage journalists in dialogue as a substitute to censorship and over regulation
- The media should work with other sectors and use their platform to stimulate national and continental development
- Media must take the lead in observing professionalism, bettering skills, and improving the environment for journalism
- There needs to be deliberate efforts in ensuring media environments are safe for women
- Media practitioners must foster cooperation and learn from compatriots across the continent

## Recommendations:

- Media need to foster collective efforts from various stakeholder groups to enable swift and sustainable reforms of the sector
- The African Union is undertaking programs in conjunction with editors' forums to ensure that the media is capacitated to play its rightful role.
- Media practitioners have to advocate and push for laws that will enable expression of speech and media freedom

## Opening Address

The opening address of the World Press Freedom Day 2022 convention was made by Gerson Msigwa, Director of Information Services and Chief Government Spokesperson for the United Republic of Tanzania.



## Key takeaways:

- The government of Tanzania is committed to working with journalists and media stakeholders in ensuring the media overcomes its challenges through dialogue and reforms
- Journalism like other sectors in Tanzania, and other countries, experience challenges. This should not stop journalists from performing their responsibilities
- The Office of the Director of Information Services plays a key role. The Office is a in constant dialogue with media practitioners in ensuring challenges experienced by journalists are resolved
- It is possible for the media industry to compete alongside other sectors in contributing to national revenue.
- Tanzania is in the process of making Swahili an official language of the United Nations

## Recommendations:

- The media should work with other sectors and join efforts in the purpose of national building to the advantage of the continent's interest.
- The Convention should come up with resolutions that commit journalists to dedicate their work to national development



## Keynote address: Putting the theme Journalism under Digital Siege into perspective

The session was prepared by UNESCO, where Guilherme Canela De Souza Godoi (UNESCO) virtually delivered the convention through key ideas to help guide the discussions in sessions to follow. The presentation touched on data found in the World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development<sup>1</sup>, why 'Journalism under Digital Siege' was selected as the theme for this year's commemoration. In the presentation it was noted that, for just over 30 years from when the Windhoek Declaration was drafted, stakeholders have been working to develop tools, international normative, and multilateral, regional and national policies, to guarantee media independence, freedom and pluralism were in place.

### Key takeaways:

- In 2021, in Windhoek, it was agreed that the three concepts for press freedom were no longer enough to understand the challenges the media was facing and therefore needed to be updated at the Windhoek at 30 conference, where the concepts of:
  - The empowerment of demand for quality information through media and information literacy
  - The fostering and enhancing of the supply of quality, accurate and reliable information targeting improved media viability, and
  - The use of transparency to tackle problems, were updated to the three concepts of media freedom i.e. independence, freedom, and pluralism
- A common trend is that journalists are under a "digital siege"
- Media stakeholders need to acknowledge old and new challenges to journalism and think around how we can safeguard against them
- Advertising resources are moving from traditional media channels to online channels; with a 50% drop in global advertising revenues to traditional media outlets.
- Countries are trying to regulate the digital ecosystem and thwart freedom of expression, with laws that are not in line with international standards for freedom of expression, and human rights laws
- There has been an increase in threats to journalist, but more - so to women journalists
- There have been orchestrated attacks on journalists' and news integrity by accusing them of being 'fake news' and not in the interest of the people
- Digital challenges are new to the 'UN call for Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity' making the findings of the conference important to updating and phrasing the plan for relevance over the next ten years
- The rise of number of journalists in prison as a result of defamation laws is clear evidence of the attack on freedom of expression
- Though the number has decreased, journalists are still getting killed across the world
- A lapse in strategic litigation against public participation has led to the use of the judicial system to threaten journalism and get the sector to self-censor.
- There has been an increase in cyberattacks and surveillance against journalists
- UNESCO has launched its Journalism is a public good: World trends in freedom of expression and media development; Global report 2021/2022

### Recommendations:

- To assess the digital threats to journalism
- To look at how the digital space is threatening the financial viability of media
- UNESCO is publishing a series of tools including policy briefs with complete recommendations on how to address the issue of media viability while taking note of the online environment
- Think about how governments and stakeholders can support the economic viability of the media sector while guaranteeing editorial independence
- Look at how to regulate the sector in line with human rights standards and further stimulate the transparency of the internet companies in order to have necessary evidence to produce policy at different levels

<sup>1</sup> Journalism is a public good: World trends in freedom of expression and media development; Global report 2021/2022

## Breakout session: Legal threats to press freedoms: Lessons from Kenya Media Stakeholders Working Group

The session was organized by the Kenya Media Stakeholders Working Group. The panellists were Martin Masai (Kenyan Editors Guild), William Oloo, Kenya Union of Journalist and Sara Wesonga, Article 19. The session mainly focused on the experiences of the media players in Kenya, looking at the legal and policy framework and its impact on press freedom. The session also broadly reviewed the media operations in Kenya and how the landscape can be improved for better performance of journalists and media houses, and uphold editorial independence.



### Key takeaways:

- The constitution of Kenya is progressive and provides for the protection of journalist and the media sector however deferent laws restrict the journalists from performing their duties
- When enacting laws, the parliament in most cases will consider and protect the interest of politicians and not the public and journalists
- The government sometimes evoke an instance as a threat to national security to prohibit journalists from doing their job
- The government is not executing court orders to repeal bad laws that have been successfully challenged in the court in a timely manner.
- Payment and remuneration of journalist is very low compared to other professions
- The issue of brown envelopes and corruption in the media houses affect the editorial independence
- Sexual harassment in the media houses is a continuing issue and there needs to be more serious enforcing of sexual harassment policies in term of reporting the conduct and action taken towards the perpetrators
- Media ownership has impact on the editorial independency in both private and public media houses

### Recommendations:

- There is a need for further and close engagement on legal and policy making to make sure the interest of the media houses, journalist and public are protected, and freedom of press is ensured
- There is a need to establish remuneration standards for journalist to make sure they don't get easily tempted by corruption
- The media houses should have safeguarding policies and improve mechanism on how they handle sexual harassment cases. The reporting channels and steps should protect the victim and remove the perpetrators from handling cases they are accused of
- Media owners should allow editorial independence regardless of their vested interest or political inclination

## Breakout session: Social-political environment as a threat to press freedom

The session was led by presentations made by Willie Mponda (Chairperson, Southern Africa Editors Forum) and Dr. Waigara Wakabi (Collaboration on International ICT Policy for Eastern and Southern Africa (CIPESA)) who described socio-political issues that influence media house operations. Financial constraints were highlighted as a major factor for socio-political pressures on the independence of media houses in the region. Additionally, the weaponization of laws to criminalise journalists critical to governments was discussed as an issue.

The discussion brought up testimonials which had effective approaches adopted by journalists and that were effective in engaging with authorities and led to positive results.

### Key takeaways:

- Advertisements are the major source of revenue for media house operations and some entities take advantage of the situation to threaten the editorial independence of the media outlets
- The COVID-19 restrictions affected media operations on how journalists could move and how they could access information
- The impact of the pandemic has led to some media houses closing and laying off journalists
- The donor community and governments supported media campaigns during the COVID-19 pandemic but have not provided enough support to save media houses from collapse due to financial constraints
- There has been an observed trend of politicians owning media houses and using them as outlets that influence content in favour of their ideologies. This has affected the credibility of content and inhibited the state of editorial room freedoms
- It has been observed that the vibrancy of the media in most African countries is determined by the ruler's attitude rather than constitutional proceedings
- Laws enacted to counter misinformation and disinformation in the region have been weaponized to silence journalists who are critical to the government
- The growing use of digitisation has led to a rise in misinformation and disinformation which threatens the credibility of the media.
- Digitisation has enhanced the democratisation of information by enabling people to develop and disseminate content online. Information is no longer monopolised by media houses
- Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have been at the forefront chasing media freedoms and condemning injustices towards journalists

### Recommendations:

- Journalists should work with CSOs and tell their own stories rather than only being included in reports
- Intra-regional forums like MISA, EAES should be encouraged to collaborate when seeking governments to change national laws that enhance media freedoms
- Journalists are encouraged to set up press clubs and start conversations on issues that affect them rather than leaving the agenda to CSOs
- The government should hold media houses to account through court proceedings rather than shutting down or suspending media outlets
- The media freedoms agenda should be achieved by enabling durable and sustainable freedoms that are not determined just by regime preferences
- The media needs to set the agenda by providing the audience with what they need and not what they want
- Media should be encouraged to develop relationships with the government and engage them on issues rather than constantly using the activist approach
- There should be more advocacy in setting up community radios due to their resilient and proximity nature
- In the time of political pressures, the media should remain apolitical and perform their function as information providers
- National media forums should be encouraged to set up relief funds to assist media houses during economic crises



## Breakout session: Digital threats to press freedoms: unmasking the aggressors

The session began under the moderation of Dr. Allen Munoriyarwa (University of Johannesburg) highlighting that digital technology is starting to redefine journalism as we know it. He went on to note that Journalists have attained a new following as a result of the use of digital channels to share information, in addition to the evolution of journalism from the classical sense for which it had been known. However, there is a need to assess accountability and the negative side of digital technology, and its impact on journalism.

The panel consisted of Maxence Melo (Jamii Forums), Brenda Zulu (Africa Interactive Media) and Nompilo Simanje (MISA).

### Key takeaways:

- There has been a decline in sales of print newspapers, and this is not unique to a single country
- Contrary to popular belief citizen journalists (online) and traditional journalists face the same challenges
- There is not enough education around what digital journalism is, and this has led to poor understanding of what its principles are
- There is fear around the use of the digital space
- Citizen journalism was considered tabloid but has now played a major role around advocating for swift policy change
- Citizen journalism has bypassed gatekeeping in traditional media and led to the dissemination of otherwise sensitive news to the public
- Traditional Media are at a disadvantage where they are not able to assess themselves as swiftly as digital media, leading to a divide due to failure to timely adapt content to audience needs and current trends
- Women have been left behind in the digital revolution
- The proper use of digital opportunities can transform the 'digital siege' into 'digital opportunities; with the next billionaires expected to emerge from the digital space
- Little thought has been put into how governments own and protect data whilst using foreign tech and contractors to process and store sensitive data<sup>2</sup>

### Negative trends to digital journalism currently experienced in the region discussed during the discussion were:

- Most Cybersecurity laws were not aimed at media censorship but have been misused by authorities seeking to avoid accountability
- Governments are still catching up to the development of cybercrimes and cyber security legislation, but some provisions of the law are aimed at stifling freedom of expressions and smuggling back criminal defamation through self-censorship – limiting the digital space
- Little or no stakeholder engagement in the drafting of regulatory framework to sneak in provisions aimed to muzzle free speech
- The executive and not the judiciary overseeing the issuing of warrants for the interception of communications, leaving the media at risk with no provisions for user notification
- The increase in harassment and trolling of female journalists
- Broad use of the terms – irresponsible use of social media and social media abuse have been used as a threat to media freedom where expression not favourable to certain stakeholders is considered social media abuse or irresponsible use of social media
- The increase in mis<sup>3</sup> and dis<sup>4</sup> information
- The unlawful interference with media data and data storage due to the sensitive data collected by investigative journalists
- Internet throttling and shutdown
- Surveillance using spyware – with about seven countries in the region implicated in using the Pegasus spyware, where most countries do not have laws as to when such spyware should be procured, for what purposes, who should deploy them, under what circumstances and what procedures should be followed
- Use of human intelligence in social media monitoring to track dissident voices
- Arrests due to online expression of interest

<sup>2</sup> The case of the Zambian government data center being fully implemented by Huawei

<sup>3</sup> Misinformation is sharing false where a person genuinely thinks the information is true

<sup>4</sup> Disinformation is sharing false information while knowing the information is false

- Media need to invest in digital and information security and safety tools, processes, and software
- Governments should develop key legislative frameworks aimed at digital protection with the help of media stakeholders
- There is a need to push governments to ratify international regulatory frameworks with regards to cyber security, privacy of information and data protection standards
- The session was moderated by a member from the Africa Women Journalists Project, while the panel consisted of Maxence Melo, Jamii Forums, Dr. Allen Munoriyarwa, University of Johannesburg and Allen Ochieng, Standard Group Editor, who discussed the approaches and strategies in ensuring journalists are safe online as a way of curbing digital surveillance.
- There has been a growing threat of digital surveillance and cyber security legislation, used by governments and other actors to track and monitor journalists in their efforts to regulate, weaken or censor journalists from carrying out their duties
- Digital surveillance has expanded the notion of journalist's security beyond the news room, to protection of digital devices and sources
- There has been a rise in attacks targeting online tracking of online media practitioners by both state and non-state actors
- Journalists capacity to protect their personal digital devices needs to be improved, with an understanding of how these devices could be vulnerable to attacks and how to defend against them
- The rise of citizen journalists has not eliminated the trust and influence held by western journalists by the public
- Citizen journalists have been one of the major sources of mis and dis information
- JamiiForums, CIPESA and other organisations have been conducting digital security training to different groups on the continent.

### Recommendations:

- More effort needs to be put into advocating and supporting initiatives focused on digital security and personal data protection, empowering the right to privacy and protection of women online
- Journalists need to use their platform to detest and decry digital surveillance, while advocating for governments to enact laws that guarantee privacy and judicial oversight over state surveillance
- Journalists should borrow advocacy methods from countries where advocacy has worked and collaborate in improving approaches in engaging governments through clear and measurable indicators

## Keynote address: Strategies and advocacy approaches to combating digital surveillance, journalists under digital siege

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- Journalists should borrow advocacy methods from countries where advocacy has worked and collaborate in improving approaches in engaging governments through clear and measurable indicators

## Keynote address: Reflections on building African solidarity: How can Africa build solidarity movements to entrench media freedoms and freedoms of expression

The session began under the moderation of Fitihawok Kifle (Ethiopia Editors Guild), with the panel consisted of Lydia Gachungi (UNESCO), Wynne Musabayana (AU), Reyhana Masters (MISA), International Federation of Journalists, Fumbuka Ng'wanakilala (MISA Tanzania).



## Key takeaways:

- Addressing the issues of freedom of expression in Africa, media freedom, access to information, and safety of journalists is a multifaceted challenge and does not depend on funding, human resources, or networks one has, but what every stakeholder contributes to the collective effort
- Media practitioners need to build solidarity between development partners, agencies, donors, CSOs and public authorities to enhance a more robust cooperation, coherence, and efficiency amongst partners and ultimately avoid duplicating efforts
- Solidarity needs to start at the national level before thinking about regional coalition
- The panel also delved into the frameworks, policies and mechanisms that are available on the continent
- The African Peer Review Mechanism has added indicators for freedom of expression to the National Program of Action i.e., access to information and safety of journalists, in its assessment and the data is used in the development of the African Governance report.
- When media stakeholders come together, they create greater leverage
- Media needs to navigate how they negotiate with government whose goal is to remain in power and more often than not come down hard on those who hold them to account i.e. media
- Reporting of violations against media lack details and are poorly articulated, limiting stakeholders' ability to advocate on their behalf
- More attacks on media are originating from non-state actors
- To defend its principles media needs to be conversant on the principles
- How can media survive with all the new challenges emerging? If the media can survive, what will it do to survive?

## Key questions UNESCO considers important in building solidarity are:

- What is working, and what can be strengthened?
- What has worked elsewhere, and what can be borrowed?
- What does the other partner contribute?
- What can you learn from other partners that have done the same thing?



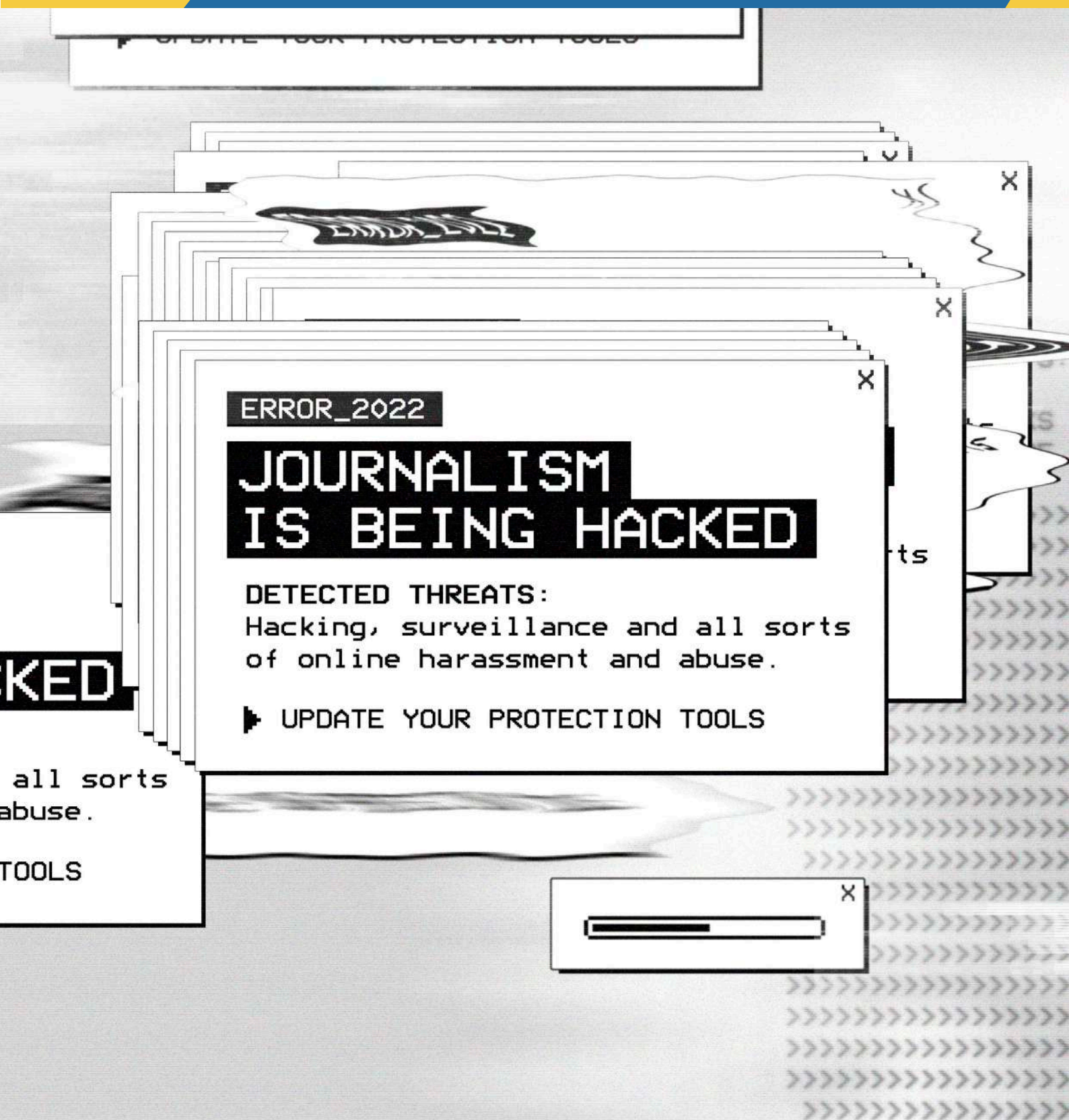
- A question arose as to how governments can be held to account on international treaties even if they assent to said treaties
- Women journalists are assigned stories with little impact, and this leads to them not being considered for promotions
- The advancement of digital technology has changed the way media works but the media is finding it difficult to accept that there is a change in structures in which they had previously and are currently working in and as a result media needs to change its strategies in order to be able to cope with the digital challenges
- The COVID 19 pandemic has exposed how fragile the media is: with media houses folding within two months of the pandemic due to the reduced revenue. Media needs to learn from this.
- There is a huge division between journalist unions and editors, and journalists and editors and their respective media councils in the African media landscape
- Journalist often make the mistake that freedom of expression only belongs to journalists
- Africa needs to counter the negative perception of the continent reported by foreign media.

## Recommendations:

- Media need to be familiar with the documents, instruments, and mechanisms available to them at national and regional level to know how to react to issues of infringement of press freedom and impunity by use of strategic litigation that would lead to changes in laws and practice
- Media need to use Election Monitoring reports encompassing regional and national frameworks, as a source of information and baselines to help them review the performance of various indicators and compare the data to different electoral cycles
- Media need to clearly articulate the context of challenges and violations they are facing in order to help see the pattern
- Journalists need to collaborate in efforts to reach an ideal working environment by taking a leaf out of best practices across the continent and creating a code of conduct that works for journalists across the continent and that will hold all media practitioners – foreign and domestic, to the same ethical standards
- When building solidarity, it is important to let local organisations drive the process since they better understand the operating terrain and are likely to be left to deal with the consequences after
- International organisations need to give local organisations recognition to build their reputation in the local communities
- It is important to anchor principles in documents national governments respect, value and are party to i.e., ACHPR Principles of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information 2019<sup>5</sup> and Windhoek +30 Declaration: information as a public good, World Press Freedom Day 2021<sup>6</sup> - since the documents were born on the continent, developed by Africans and with Africans.
- Media needs to quickly look inwards and find ways to mend bridges between journalists, editors and media councils
- Media needs to build coalitions and alliances with organisations working in the promotion and protection of freedom of expression
- In the battle for freedom of expression, journalists need to engage national lawyer and Bar associations and subsequently build associations with female lawyer associations across the continent, to offer protection to female journalists
- Media organisations need to record and upload relevant information on violations to the Digital Platform on Journalist protection

<sup>5</sup>[ACHPR Principles of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information 2019](#)

<sup>6</sup>[Windhoek +30](#)



Journalists are under a digital siege which obstructs their work and puts their lives at risk. It is time to find the tools to protect them. Because when journalism is hacked, freedom is hacked.

#WorldPressFreedomDay



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# Day 2

## Opening Session

The opening session of the second day of the convention was facilitated by Taji Liundi and Anna Mwasyoke where seven stakeholders made remarks.



### Stakeholder Remarks:

- Dr. Rose Reuben – Executive Director Tanzania Media Women Association
- Hon. Said Mtanda – Arusha District Commission
- Amb. Manfredo Fanti – Head of the EU Delegation to Tanzania and to the EAC
- Wynne Musabayana – Head of Communications African Union
- Prof. Hubert Gijzen – UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa
- Deodatus Balile – Tanzania Editors Forum
- Hon. Dr. Jim Yonazi – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, United Republic of Tanzania

### Key takeaways:

- The convention should assess how digital technology development affects journalism, the direction of certain legislation targeted towards journalism, the poor remuneration paid to journalists, and challenges faced by women journalists in newsrooms
- Ensuring freedom of the media and safety of journalist is a universal challenge
- Threats against journalists take on different forms, but amongst them, digital attacks and abusive court proceedings against journalists are increasingly being used
- There is a decline in the respect for journalism as a profession
- The EU is preparing a European Media Freedom Act which will provide common rules and safeguards to protect independence and pluralism
- In 2021, the EU issued recommendations on safety of journalist, including measures for defence against digital attacks, in which they urge EU member countries to aid journalist to determine whether their digital devices have been subject to attacks
- The EU has a 'Protect Defenders' programme that aids human rights defenders and journalists globally
- The AU is working hard to ensure the voice of Africa is heard in the global arena
- It is up to the media to inform citizens and those looking at Africa that Africa is taking charge of her destiny and is determined to move into the future she has determined under agenda 2063
- The AU has put in place tools and frameworks that make the work of the media easier
- The AU recognises the critical role the media plays in development, and that journalist are a key medium and bridge between development institutions and the people in conveying the message with accuracy and fidelity
- The AU has drafted and adopted the ACHPR, where article 19 stipulates the right to freedom of expression and the right to expression of opinion
- The AU has archives, but these resources are not being utilised by African journalists
- The advances of the internet and social media have exposed society to mis and dis information as well as hate speech. This poses a serious threat
- Mis and dis information spread faster than the virus during the COVID 19 Pandemic
- Digital surveillance tools are being used by different actors in violation of the rights to privacy and freedom of expression, and have provided tools to those looking to silence free expression, descent, and investigation into wrongdoing
- There has been an increase in Digital attacks especially among women journalists
- UNESCO will launch its 'Media for SDGs' program to raise public awareness, debate, and civic engagement



in the SDGs through media reporting and interactive dialogue

- There has been wide stakeholder engagement in during the review of the Media Services and Access to Information Acts
- The media sector has continued to make an important contribution to the development of countries and the world

- The Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology of the United Republic of Tanzania is looking at opportunities emanating from digital advancements, and is looking at the sector as one of the important sectors contributing to the national economy

### Recommendations:

- Recommendation should be realistic and implementable, with workable technological and regulatory solutions put forward so that journalists can exercise their professions safely, their sources be protected, and the collective right to freedom of expression and privacy is preserved
- Journalists need to evolve and report to influence development and change

## Opening Address

The exhibition and second day of the convention was opened by the Minister, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology of the United Republic of Tanzania, Nape Nnauye.



### Key takeaways:

- The convention will offer inputs to improve the ongoing review of Tanzania's Media Services and Access to Information laws and regulations
- The Speaker of the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania has urged the Minister to table amendments to the Media Services and Access to Information Acts as soon as stakeholder consultations are completed in order to ensure the media sector develops at its intended rate
- Africa has a lot of challenges, and the media has the responsibility to address the challenges we have
- The government of the United Republic of Tanzania commits to improving the environment to allow the press to hold the government accountable for resources and facilitate development
- The media needs to help communities to see opportunities in the advancements in information technology by assessing the pros and cons, and advising how society should go about these advancements

### Recommendations:

- The convention should look for opportunities in the challenges it finds, and build a foundation to exploiting them for the development of the media sector
- The convention should come up with best practices to withstand and address the challenges that it identifies
- The convention should look at how the media can defend and develop sovereignty, natural resources, and the cultural heritage of African countries, while also looking at the wider interests of their countries and the continent at large

## Keynote address: State of the Press: Africa Continental and Sub-Regional Press Freedom Reports

The session was moderated by Lulu Ng'wanakilala, Legal Services Facility (LSF), with the panel consisting of Misako Ito, Regional Advisor for Communication and Information (UNESCO), Paul Kimumwe, CIPESA, Maxence Melo, Jamii Forums, Kajubi Mukajanga, Executive Secretary Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) and Prof. Geroge Nyabuga, Eastern Africa Editors Society (EAES)



### Key takeaways:

- Survey shows 85 percent of the world's population experienced a decline in press freedom over the last five years due to new laws and policies restricting freedom of expression online, financial threats making newsrooms vulnerable to pressure and influence, mis and dis information leading to a decline in trust in media, and jailing of journalists
- The pandemic has worsened the trend since the measures that were used to fight the COVID 19 pandemic involved significant violations of press freedom where 96 out of 144 countries infringing press freedoms
- Governments requests to filter and censor content online has more than double, while there has also been an increase in internet shutdowns
- Newspaper circulation has declined by 13% between 2019 and 2020, while global newspaper advertisement revenues have declined by half over five years, with Google and Meta receiving half of all the digital advertisement spend globally
- Internet companies have enabled and accelerated the dissemination of mis and dis information
- Though the killing of journalists has declined over the years, the impunity rate remains the same over the last 10 years, while the jailing of journalists has reached a record high over the last 5 years and there has been growing online threats to women journalists and journalists representing minorities
- Technology has aided and enhanced how journalism is practiced, but also the expansion of different rights violations
- Governments have used different tools to limit freedom of expression, with laws legalising surveillance and interception of communication through provisions meant to enable state interference
- The laws also infringe on the right to privacy and anonymous communication, while it is a known fact that journalism thrives on the protection of sources and the ability to communicate without fear of communications being intercepted
- Media houses have increasingly become financially constrained
- In many African countries, encryption and provision of encryption services is restricted and the right to privacy is also restricted while hiding under the guise of combating terrorism and protection of national order and national security
- Governments want to have control over social media influencers, criminalising freedom of expression in the process
- There is a growth in criminalisation of false news using vague provisions that could be misused
- Journalists practice more self-censorship
- MCT gave a summary of the story of "distress and hope" faced by media in Tanzania – illustrating the deterioration of media freedoms by amendments to laws and regulations governing freedom of expression on certificates of urgency during the previous administration, to the recent unbanning of media outlets and the review of the same laws and regulations
- Challenges to the sector still exist in Tanzania with journalists recently ordered to submit curriculum vitae, copies of their national identification, tribal identity, details of their parents including place of birth, employment history, and the names, occupation, employment history and academic history of their spouses; with some journalists given as little as 24 hours to comply at the risk of dire consequences
- EAES has conducted research on media freedom in seven countries looking at legal framework, media pluralism and diversity, journalists' safety, security and protection,

media independence, internet access and affordability, media regulation, and privacy and confidentiality of online communication. The level of intolerance and impunity is on the rise, with increased legal restrictions causing hostile working environments, and journalists are at risk of being arrested, detained, held arbitrarily, maimed,

or killed. It is increasingly becoming bad for journalists because of technologies, while internet shutdowns and throttling have increasingly happened during elections, limiting freedom of expression, and resulting in journalists increasingly self-censoring themselves

## Breakout session: Google Training on use of technology to safeguard freedom of the media in Africa

During the session the convention heard from Ken Kiunga of the Google News Initiative and Mattia Peretti from Journalism AI, London School of Economics and Political Science on resources available to media in relations to the safe use of the internet and artificial intelligence (AI).

### Key takeaways:

- Journalism AI published a report in 2019 titled “New powers, new responsibilities<sup>7</sup>” which was a global survey of journalism and AI, to understand how news organisations were using AI, what they were learning, what the use cases were, how they interacted with the technology, what benefits it provided to them; as well as concerns from an editorial, ethical and business point of view
- The report found news organisations are approaching AI to save time, automate tasks, and better reach audience
- The survey showed there is an understanding that although AI could save cost, it is not there to replace human resources but rather empower them to do their jobs better and in a more creative and efficient way
- There are sets of trainings available through journalismai.info on AI
- The session also touched on how to generate and manage passwords and tools available to do so
- The current risk is that AI could open and enhance inequality between resource rich media houses and smaller newsrooms, where the richer newsrooms could build their own in-house data science department and technologies and make the most of AI, and the smaller newsrooms would struggle to understand how to go about AI
- The session touched on how journalists can protect themselves against cyberattacks such as; Phishing, malware attacks and DoS/DDoS attacks
- The convention was told about the Google News Initiative that is a free training program<sup>8</sup>, and can be offered to any organisation. The program offers training on news gathering, data and visualisation, elections, introduction to machine learning, business reporting, environmental journalism, data journalism and investigative reporting.

## Breakout session: Realities of a practical and inclusive African Legal Framework for Press Freedom

The session was organized by Tanzania Editor’s Forum and the panellists Alphonse Bura -Legal and Human Rights Centre, James Malenga- Media Institute of Southern Africa, Kajubi Mukajanga Media Council of Tanzania and Mohamed -TAMWA Zanibar. The session started by opening remarks from the USAID representative who underscored the importance of free media in democracy and country development.

TAMWA Zanzibar presented their experience and achievement under Boresha Habari project which is funded by USAID aiming at an open, inclusive environment in which media and civil society provide accurate and impartial information that promotes participation, inclusion, and accountability.

### Key takeaways:

- The government of Zanzibar is changing its perception towards the media sector, while the government is more engaging now and considers the media as an important partner performing its duties
- The president of Zanzibar has agreed to have the laws governing the media sector reviewed concurrently with those on Tanzania mainland
- The Editors Forum have prepared and submitted their proposal to the law review commission and the Ministry of information - a commitment has been made to review the law
- The government of Tanzania has lifted the stay on live coverage for parliamentary proceedings
- A good journalist must possess integrity, courage and analytical skills and solid knowledge of media laws
- The power to ban media houses should have been placed under a board with broader representation, as opposed to a single government official. Our laws still give too much power to state organs over media houses
- There is considerably low understanding of laws governing the media sector and implications to press freedom among some elected leaders

<sup>7</sup> [New powers, new responsibilities. A global survey of journalism and artificial intelligence | Polis \(lse.ac.uk\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Google News Initiative](#)



## Recommendations:

- There is a need for further advocacy campaigns and awareness raising about laws so that different stakeholders understand how media freedom is infringed upon and help to increase voices against these laws
- Elected leaders are the important stakeholders in policy making and law making. Its imperative to increase their awareness on the implication of these laws to the media sector
- It's important to build the capacity of government technocrats who prepare these laws so that they have a good understanding of the international standards and how to adopt those standards to our context and reflect them in our laws/policies
- Media houses should invest in making their journalist understand the laws and policies guiding the media sector in the country and region

## Breakout session: Innovation and research - accelerators of an informed citizenry for sustainable development

The session was organised by JamiiForums with Annastazia Rugaba, JamiiForums, Maxence Mello, JamiiForums and Nuzulack Dausen, NUKTA Africa who presented and engaged the audience on the subject.

### Key takeaways:

- TWaweza's periodical research in its programme 'Sauti za Wananchi' in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya gauged citizens' perspectives on digital freedoms and digital media. Findings revealed that citizens acknowledge access to information as their right, they are in support of media freedoms and usually rely on digital information during elections and the Covid-19 pandemic than the government sources
- Citizens acknowledge the media's role in strengthening democracy and believe press freedoms would enhance development in their countries
- Social media use in the East African region rose from 6% in 2004 to 15% in 2020. People use social media to seek the right information
- Youth, elite and men are more active on social media and noting that less women actively use social media
- Digital innovation is changing the media landscape and forcing journalists to go digital
- Despite the wide use of digital media, research has shown that citizens rely on television and radios for credible information. However, TVs and radios have also registered on social media accounts to have a presence

## Recommendations

- Media practitioners need to constantly invest in research and focus on the evolution of digital technology
- Journalists have to take the lead in shaping the digital transformation agenda in journalism and learn how to exploit the technology creatively to gather and disseminate information, and not just entertainment
- Journalists should look for opportunities to co-exist and work with citizen journalists to create high quality news rather than perceive them as threats
- Journalists should engage with authorities and be a part of the ongoing evolution of content regulations and cybercrime acts
- There needs to be collective effort by governments, media practitioners and journalists in getting women to use digital media to create and engage with digital information

## Breakout session: Sustaining Fundamental Freedoms: Launch of a Working Group to address Violence against Women, online and offline, including safe reporting in humanitarian situations

The session that was prepared by Fondation Hironnelle and the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology discussed the challenges of independent journalism in areas facing humanitarian, security, social, and political crisis. It was moderated by Nicolas Boissez, Fondation Hironnelle, with the panel consisting of Brice Landry, Radio Ndeke Luka - Central African Republic, Tsanta Haingombaliha Studio Sifaka – Madagascar, Dr. Emma Heywood, University of Sheffield and Hyacinthe Sanou, Studio Yafa - Burkina Faso.



### Key takeaways:

- In contexts of crises, citizens rely on media to inform them on safety protocols and how to avoid risk. Civilians use media information to inform decisions depending on how the crisis unfolds in the affected areas.
- Radios have been found to be effective and trusted in areas of crisis, as they are considered an important survival tool by information, hope and lines of communication between governments, International Development Partners (IDPs) and local communities

### Recommendations:

- Support should be provided to community media close to populations in crisis while ensuring the use of local languages
- Solution-oriented programmes showcasing local initiatives should be created, using dialogue to share positive experiences amongst affected communities. When the voices of local people are heard by the community, the authorities and humanitarian actors, it helps the process of rebuilding trust
- Gendered programming needs to be promoted while having the vulnerable position of women and girls in crisis situations in mind

## Breakout session: Safe? 10 years on, the UN Plan of Action for Safety of Journalists

The session began with a presentation by Lydia Gachungi (UNESCO) highlighting that since the UN Plan for Action of Action for Safety of Journalist and the Issue of Impunity focuses on the four areas of awareness raising, standard setting and policy making, monitoring and reporting, capacity building, academic research, and coalition building; media need to assess the relevance of these areas to the African context and help in the updating of the Plan ten years after its inception. The discussion also consisted of presentation and experiences by the UN High Commission on Human Rights, Nompilo Simanje representing IMS/ MISA, and Victor Kepha representing UTPC.

### Key takeaways:

- The session reviewed elements of the UN plan of action for safety of journalists
- The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Africa together with UNESCO are planning consultations to review the UN Plan of Action, with UNESCO holding the first consultation during the convention, with the consultations expected to spill over into 4 sub-regional (East, West, Central and Southern Africa) consultations
- The digital platform for the safety of journalists was launched in 2021
- Following a call for Africa to come up with its own indicators to use to assess the safety of journalists and press freedom on the continent, UNESCO has worked with CIPESA in identifying the indicators for press freedom. These indicators will now be incorporated into the 10-year review of the UN Plan of Action and allow for legitimacy and recognition in the eyes of African governments by taking the continent's context into account
- UNESCO expect to hold a continental wide convention on the International Day to End Impunity, and launch the 1st African Press Freedom and Safety of Journalists report
- The UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights gave a brief of its functions, while a representative from MISA spoke about assistance IMS and MISA offers journalist
- There appears to be a knowledge gap between parliamentarians with respect to laws related to journalist safety and security
- The culture of impunity is still ongoing in cases related to journalists
- Engagements with stakeholders have been focussed on high level stakeholders and therefore uptake by other stakeholders is limited since the narrative is detached from the base
- There needs to be a focus on journalist protection, and Prevention and Prosecution of attacks against journalism
- Some journalists have become impartial and bear political allegiances that create risks to their own safety
- UNESCO has a framework for national coordination mechanisms for the safety of journalists; highlighting various stakeholders' roles that need to be contextualised to a national context

### Recommendations:

- Journalists and stakeholders need to build the capacity of parliamentarians to allow for meaningful debate of laws affecting journalist freedom and security
- Journalists need constant training, coaching, and mentoring to understand how to keep themselves safe, but there also needs to be coordination between stakeholders to prevent duplication of efforts
- It is important to mainstream gender, human rights and protection of journalists while working with national human rights organisations in trying to address issues of gender disparity and journalists' safety
- Threats to journalists are moving online, and there is a need for psychosocial support being available to journalists
- Media need to understand the stakeholder environment and engage stakeholders to buy into the whole process, while fully participating and embracing the outcomes of the national coordination mechanism of the UN plan of action for safety of journalists for Africa
- UNESCO should take the lead in coordinating the various groups working in the safety for journalists



## Breakout session: Health and the COVID-19 pandemic as a panacea to infringing press freedoms

The session was organized by the African CDC and the federation of African journalist, and it had three panellists: Sara Wesonga -Article 19, Fitihawok Kifle - Ethiopia Editors Guild and Alex Atuhaire - Uganda Editors Guild. The focus of the session was experience sharing among journalists on how the pandemic was used by different governments to restrict press freedom across the continent.

The discussion brought out data and experience on arbitrary arrest, detention, and restriction of information to journalist by different state actors, which denied the public of timely, objective and verified information.

### Key takeaways:

- State agents in Kenya, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe subjected journalists reporting on COVID-19 to physical attacks, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and/or verbal threats
- Law-enforcement officers used restrictions brought in to combat COVID-19 as an excuse for these violations, even when journalists were exempt from the restrictions
- The authorities failed to investigate all but one of these violations, no perpetrator is known to have been held accountable, and no journalist is known to have received any effective remedies for the violation of their rights, deepening an already concerning culture of impunity for attacks against journalists
- Laws criminalizing 'false information' were used to arrest and charge journalists reporting on COVID-19 in most of the countries monitored, despite such laws violating international human rights standards
- Licensing schemes – which are considered a breach of the right to freedom of expression under international law – were used to suspend or fine journalists and media houses for reporting on the pandemic
- Different countries came up with emergency legislations and policies to restrict freedom of movement and freedom of information
- In Ethiopia Some media houses ceased operations due to internet cost being too high as a result of COVID restrictions and the state of emergence which forced the journalist to mostly rely on the internet for information gathering and sharing
- Etherification of the media in Ethiopia affected how the media covered the pandemic
- In Uganda Journalists were considered essential staff however the permits were given to few and sometimes sold to journalist
- During the pandemic working from home worked for many other professions but not for journalists as journalism requires physical sourcing of information
- The government made the flow of information one way where there was no room to question and verify information coming from the government

### Recommendations

- The government can better coordinate emergency responses such as that offered during the pandemic if it works closely with media and considers the media as partners
- The laws and policies guiding government responses in times of emergency should acknowledge the role of media in informing public about different actions the government is taking
- Media houses should put in place mechanism that facilitate their journalists' operation and protection when covering emergencies such as the COVID pandemic
- Journalists should innovate ways of collecting information in the times of emergencies and government restrictions so that they do their job and do not subject themselves to danger

ERROR\_2022

# JOURNALISM IS BEING BLOCKED

## DETECTED THREATS:

Hacking, surveillance and all sorts  
of online harassment and abuse.

▶ UPDATE YOUR PROTECTION TOOLS

Journalists are under a digital siege which  
obstructs their work and puts their lives at risk.  
It is time to find the tools to protect them.  
Because when journalism is blocked, freedom is blocked.

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# Closing Session

## Joint Declaration of the Africa Media Convention

The joint declaration can be found in [Appendix 1](#)

### Keynote address: Media Freedom in Africa in the Digital World: What is our Critical Role?

The keynote address was presented by the Director General of the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation, Dr. Ayub Rioba Chacha who made an academic presentation challenging media to think around its role in the digital age, whether threats to editorial independence only comes from governments, and how they evolve.



#### Key takeaways:

- By 1993 almost all countries on the continent were already undertaking 'liberal' democratic reforms resulting in the proliferation of private media, freedom in criticising government, growth in unethical journalism, increase in efforts to self-regulate, freedom of expression finding a wider space and fewer casualties amongst journalists
- Additionally, threats to journalists not only emerged from government, media began to ignore national interests, local content increasingly got replaced by foreign content, private media became the opposition, CSOs multiplied, private media struggle financially in the beginning, and more journalism schools were established
- The presentation noted the critical role media in Africa has played in exposing corruption, providing space for dialogue, mobilising civic issues, pluralism, economic development and inclusivity, defending rule of law and ensuring natural resources benefit the citizenry and country
- The presentation further noted four considerations affecting the new media environment i.e. politics<sup>9</sup>, economics<sup>10</sup>, culture<sup>11</sup> and technology<sup>12</sup>, and that the emergence of digital devices, digital platforms, and the internet, has changed the way communities and audiences communicate, while further enabling free expression
- It was noted that advancements in ICT have been a double-edged sword to the media; improving speed of information sharing, and reducing the power of gate keepers, while accuracy, objectivity, impartiality, fairness and comprehensiveness of news have not been cardinal rules of digital journalism
- Digital media was also found to have a dark side. This included the 'murder' of cultural and community values, the posing of an existential threat to national unity and security, and character assassinations
- On the extreme spectrum, terrorist use digital media to learn and teach others terror, while disinformation has become mainstream.
- Dr. Rioba noted that in the past, the problem was lack of information, but now, too much information on digital platforms is becoming problematic, albeit confusing to audiences – while digital media is under the mercy of influencers

<sup>9</sup> Competing political interest's versus national interests in the context of neo liberalism where media want freedom and politics has vested interests

<sup>10</sup> How the free-market economy and monopoly of capital played out vis a vis the need for 'independent media' to play watchdog roles effectively

<sup>11</sup> With neo liberal political and economic indulgence came questions of cultural wellbeing of society and how the media could deal with globalisation of western culture

<sup>12</sup> How technology was increasingly becoming a crucial factor in the functioning of media



- The presentation noted that digital media must be embraced through convergence, with training of media practitioners being key to traversing the digital terrain
- Additionally, while borrowing from civil society it has been found that advocacy yields better results than confrontation, while engaging African governments
- In conclusion, Dr. Rioba noted the critical role of media can only be successfully executed if media practitioners choose to be intellectually inclined, ideologically aware (patriotic), culturally rooted, professionally equipped, technologically ready, and financially savvy/creative business minded

### Questions posed to media as it looks to redefine its role

- How do we teach journalism in our colleges and universities in ways that respond to the lessons learned?
- How do we ensure survival of independent media?
  - Do we still believe that only governments must be watched?
  - Should we watch foreign or corporate powers that are often, more restrictive to media freedoms than governments?
- How do we reorganise our newsroom hierarchy and procedures to best meet new demands for fast and captivating news?
  - Why can't we make "Dog Bites Man" an interesting news for our audiences?
- How do we report the news in today's context, rather than stick to the old definition of WHAT is news?
  - How do we change formats of our broadcast material into variety of interesting short packages that may capture the attention of audiences who are always in a rush?
  - How do we utilise storytelling to attract audiences?
- How long should it take to gather, process, send, edit make editorial decisions on news priority, and then share the same to cynical publics who are already, instantly, consuming raw information from the field?
- Since credibility and reliability are still lacking in many digital platforms run by non-journalists, how do we make that our niche in our news and analyses?
- How do we, as media, make our African culture, cultural stories and narratives relevant and sexier in the context of an avalanche of foreign ones flowing onto Africa?
  - Are we making enough critical interrogation of foreign paradigms that have rendered our own intelligence irrelevant and obnoxious to a point of absurdity?
- How do we regulate all media to enhance professionalism?
- How do we ensure the protection of women and children from bullying, racism, hate speech and bias?
- How do we develop new ideas to help traditional media survive financially?
- What aspect of freedom are we here to discuss or demand? Freedom from some(body) or freedom to do something?



### Stakeholder Remarks

- Hon. John Mongella - Arusha Regional Commissioner
- Hon. Dr. Jim Yonaz - Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology
- Amb. Anders Sjöberg - Ambassador of Sweden
- Amb. David Concar - British High Commissioner
- Hon. Eng. Steven D. Mlote - Deputy Secretary General of East Africa Community (EAC)
- Wynne Musabayana - Head of Communication of African Union (AU)
- Zlatan Milisic - UN Resident Coordinator
- Prof. Hubert Gijzen - UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa
- Salome Kitomari - Chairperson of MISA Tanzania
- Jovial Rantao - The African Editors Forum (TAEF)
- Churchill Otieno - East Africa Editors Society (EAES)
- Deodatus Balile - the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF)

### Key takeaways:

- The AU has adopted the following frameworks and initiatives to support the work of the media:
- The Model Law on Access to Information for Africa of 2013 that guides national legislation in converting legislature provisions to allow for effective national system for accessing information held primarily by state and private entities performing public functions
- The Guidelines on Access to Information and Elections in Africa of 2017 that provide guidance that enable free, fair and credible elections by ensuring the electorate has access to accurate, credible and reliable information about a broad range of issues concerning elections
- The African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection that provides a credible framework for cybersecurity in Africa through organisation of electronic transactions, protection of personal data, promotion of cybersecurity, e-governance and combating cybercrime, and
- The African Digital Transformation Strategy that aims to ensure that states are harnessing digital technologies and innovation to transform African Societies and economies and ensure Africa's ownership of modern tools of digital management
- The AU called media stakeholders to begin utilising the AUs rich analytic catalogues and digitised historic documents as an effort to tell the African story.
- African media has to adopt new technologies and increase its reach because African people rely on media for diversified, evidence-based content on what happens on other parts of the continent
- African media actors are concerned with the safety of journalists who are being censored, attacked and harassed; the sustainability of independent media and laws being weaponised to criminalise journalism.

- Women journalists are being disproportionately targeted
- 55 journalists and media workers were killed in 2021, while the number of journalists jailed for their work was on a global high
- African journalists have been in the frontline during crisis, providing accurate public information on Covid-19, and reporting and covering environmental pollution
- Research has shown that press freedom has developmental benefits and a seminal study that was conducted found that countries with an independent media are less prone to crisis such as famine because populations are alerted, and governments take early action to avert it
- The UK has worked with Canada to co-chair a new initiative called 'Media Coalition' advocating for protection of media freedom. Also with UNESCO, the initiative has established the Global Media Defence Fund

## UNESCO Closing Remarks

UNESCO remarks and the official message of UNESCO on World Press Freedom Day 2022 at the African Media Convention was given by Prof. Hubert Gijzen - UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa.

“

**Journalism is a public good which must be defended and supported as such.**

- Prof. Hubert Gijzen  
UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa

”

### Key takeaways:

- Hosting the World Press Freedom Day celebration in Tanzania was an excellent choice as the country has made significant progress in advancing press freedoms, freedom of expression and access to information
- Journalists play an essential role in disseminating information and facts which are investigated to ensure people are making informed decisions
- The United Nations marks its 10th Anniversary of its Plan of Action on The Safety of Journalists and The Issue of Impunity which UNESCO leads.
- The News World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development shows that:
  - More than five in six people around the world live in a country that has experienced a decline in press freedoms over the last five years
  - 400 journalists were killed during the same periods for doing their jobs
- Digital technologies are further revolutionising the media landscape by permitting unprecedented exchange of information supporting journalism across borders.

### Challenges to media in the digital age:

- Online platforms have challenged the economic viability of media pluralism by forcing traditional media to review their business models
- The digital era has put media workers and their sources at greater risk of being targeted, harassed, and attacked due to data invasion, spyware and digital surveillance
- There has been a spiral of hate speech towards women journalists in particular.
- UNESCO's research shows more than 7 out of 10 women reporters have experienced online abuse.
- A few of these technologies are regulated with transparency and accountability, leading to perpetrators of abuse to operate with impunity, often without leaving a trace



## Actions taken by UNESCO:

- UNESCO supported the adoption of the New Windhoek Declaration for Information as a Public Good in The Digital Age during the World Press Freedom Day in 2021 in Namibia
- UNESCO has been implementing the Windhoek declaration by promoting new transparency principles for online platforms
- UNESCO has participated in undertaking research into sustainable media business models
- UNESCO has been putting a new focus on media and information literacy in education systems

## Recommendations:

- Technological advances need to be underpinned to respectful freedom, privacy, and safety of journalists
- Social media must especially do more to tackle rampant disinformation and hate speech while protecting freedom of expression

## Ministerial Key Address

The ministerial address was made by Hon. Nape Nnauye - Minister of Information, Communication and ICT of Tanzania in which he assured that Tanzania would continue its positive trajectory in relation to media freedoms, but also committed to having a consultative process.

### Key takeaways:

- The commemoration of African World Press Freedom Day 2022 in Tanzania is a sign of the continent's appreciation of the major policy reforms made over the past year since President Samia S. Hassan came to power
- The convention has convened journalists and media practitioners at the time of major digital media advancements that are forcing journalists to develop their skills and ways of working in order to stay relevant
- During these critical times, Africans have a duty to ensure the natural resources are a unifying factor rather than a cause for instability
- The government of Tanzania is firmly committed to enhancing media freedom, freedom of expression and acknowledge the media's key role in enabling national development
- Over the past year, President Samia S. Hassan has held various engagements with journalists and media practitioners to discuss issues facing the media sector
- The reforms made by government over the past year include:
  - Lifting bans on media outlets, newspapers, and online platforms
  - Ongoing reviews of existing media policies, laws, and regulations while incorporating stakeholder recommendations
  - Introduction of a dedicated Ministry of Information, Communication and ICT.
- The review of the Media Services Act (2016) will also aim to make journalism an independent professional field, ensuring individual journalists are held to account for their reporting, and that journalist's welfare is improved.
- The media reforms initiated over the past year have not repealed the existing laws and regulations, and therefore journalists should respect the laws and regulations as they continue to be reviewed



## Recommendations:

- There is a need to create public awareness on the opportunities presented by global digital advancements
- It is important for journalists to form independent forums that discuss issues faced by the media sector, advocate for journalists' rights and defend them when they have been infringed
- Journalists should be the drivers of their agendas instead of depending on donors' imposing agendas on their behalf

## Closing Address from the Guest of Honour – H. E. President Samia Suluhu Hassan

President Samia Suluhu Hassan was the Guest of Honour for the convention and gave the closing address, in which she highlighted that the underlying factor for the changes observed in the Tanzanian media sector is the political will and noting that African journalist had the duty to promote and uphold positive traditions, cultures and norms on the continent, and not always feel that the western way is best.



“....It cannot be denied that social media has been a crucial component of our daily lives”

H. E. President Samia Suluhu Hassan,  
President of The United Republic of Tanzania

### Key takeaways:

- The African Media Convention is an indicator that media on the continent is consolidated and united and is an opportunity to exchange expertise amongst journalists and media practitioners in playing their role in production of content that contributes to national development
- Over the years, there has been a decrease in the number of journalists who are harassed, and there are lesser incidents in Tanzania of journalists who face violence
- The observed changes in the Tanzanian media sector which include the lifted bans on newspapers, media houses and online media outlets are a result of a combination of political will, favourable laws for media pluralism and the advancement of technology.
- The Tanzanian media sectors has had an impressive development since independence.
  - At independence in 1961, Tanzania had 10 newspapers, 1 radio station and no television stations
  - In 2022, these numbers have grown to 275 newspapers, 200 radio stations and 53 television stations.
  - While the advancements in information technology have led to the inception of 476 online televisions, 95 blogs and not less than 10 digital channels in the country
- Digital media and social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Facebook, Reddit, LinkedIn, have become a crucial part of society and has contributed to an increase in freedom of expression
- This freedom should however journalistic ethical considerations, ensuring balanced information that adheres to regulations is reported
- Social media platforms are not as 'social' as perceived offline. They are increasingly used to defame, sexually harass and commit online crimes
- African journalists have a duty to preserve African norms, culture and values. Content that does not observe African traditions and culture will lead to societal divisions and conflict. However, it is also important for journalists to advocate against cultural norms that are not true to the African way
- African correspondents have contributed to the negative perception towards the continent. Correspondents need to overcome the desire for short-term gain and understand the impact of the stories they are sharing with news agencies who do not understand the full context – ultimately exaggerating situations and tarnishing the continent. African journalists need to have interests of the continent at heart

## Recommendations:

- Journalists must take the lead in shaping the African narrative by ensuring they produce and disseminate quality content without the influence of foreign agendas
- Media has the responsibility to build public awareness on the responsible use of digital spaces and opportunities that come from the technology
- Journalists have to individually take responsibility for their safety, regardless of protections provided by governments, international laws and international organisations. They need to personally weigh the risk of each story they put out, against the risk they are under for publishing it, and not get pressured into publishing anything they feel will compromise their safety
- There is a need to establish a union of African Journalists to protect and defend the African continent by creating and disseminating the right narrative
- Other African leaders should work together with journalists in ensuring “no one is left behind”
- International organisations have to provide sustainable training to journalists and not only targeting certain periods like elections



DETECTED THREATS:  
Hacking, surveillance and all sorts of online harassment and abuse.

ERROR\_2022

# JOURNALISM IS BEING HARASSED

DETECTED THREATS:

Hacking, surveillance and all sorts of online harassment and abuse.

► UPDATE YOUR PROTECTION TOOLS



Journalists are under a digital siege which obstructs their work and puts their lives at risk. It is time to find the tools to protect them. Because when journalism is harassed, freedom is harassed.

#WorldPressFreedomDay



unesco

## Appendixes:

### Appendix 1: Arusha Declaration World Press Freedom Day 2022

**JOURNALISM  
UNDER  
DIGITAL SIEGE** **WORLD PRESS  
FREEDOM DAY 2022**  
**MAY 3**

#WorldPressFreedomDay

### Arusha Declaration World Press Freedom Day 2022

#### **AFRICA MEDIA CONVENTION: JOURNALISM UNDER DIGITAL SIEGE**

We, the participants at the Africa Media Convention - World Press Freedom Day, held in Arusha Tanzania, 1-3 May 2022 stakeholders as follows:

**Appreciate** the focus of WPF2022 theme on the complex and restrictive impact of digital siege on journalists and human rights defenders;

**Acknowledge** that journalists are often the soft targets of surveillance, as big data collection and the negative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the work of the media, which erodes the rights to freedom of expression and opinion, access to information, assembly and association and to political participation;

**Recognise** the urgent need for enhanced collaboration between the media in Africa, governments, internet intermediaries, private and public sectors, civil society, national and regional human right bodies and researchers to mitigate against the effects of the digital siege on journalism and the media, and

**Resolve** to collectively deliberate on and submit multistakeholder solutions to the challenges facing the media in Africa;

**Recall** the content of the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa, 2019 that affirm the principles for anchoring the rights to freedom of expression and access to information in conformance with Article 9 of the African Charter, which guarantees individuals the right to receive information as well as the right to express and disseminate information;

**Reaffirm** support to Aspiration 3 of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, which envisions “an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law”;

**Commit** to the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 16.10 which calls on States to “ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements”;

**Appreciate** that all Member States of the United Nations have further recognised the importance of safety of journalists by including the issue as a global indicator to assess progress of SDG target 16.10 “Public access to information and fundamental freedoms in accordance with national legislation and international agreements”;

**Recognise** that respect of fundamental freedoms, including the right to freedom of expression, including press freedom, is a necessary element to a safe, inclusive and conducive environment for electoral participation; Reaffirm the central importance of freedom of expression, a free, independent, pluralistic and safe media, and respect for democratic principles, to promoting peace and reconciliation, including in societies suffering from conflict;

**Note** that although numbers have decreased in comparison with the previous five-year period, the risk of violence, and even murder, remain persistent threat.

**However, the media stakeholders attending the African Media Convention in Arusha are deeply concerned that:**

1. Governments in some African countries have initiated restrictive several measures, including the enactment of laws and policies aimed at controlling and regulating the use of ICT, enabling the surveillance and interception of communication, registering and licensing online content producers, and limiting the use of encryption with a negative impact on the practice of journalism and the safety of journalists in Africa.
2. Several African countries have enacted laws and adopted policies that adversely impact privacy, particularly those that facilitate surveillance and the collection of biometric data, as well as those that prohibit the use of encryption. Many of the laws contain retrogressive provisions that leave scope for intrusion, including enabling state surveillance with limited safeguards.

3. Criminalisation of free speech online notably through laws that purportedly aim to fight “fake news” and “false news”, requirements for digital media and independent content creators to be licenced and to pay annual fees, coupled with the intimidation, arrests and prosecution of journalists and online content creators, present key concerns.
4. In many African countries, the laws passed to address the phenomenon generally known as “false news” or “fake news” are broadly worded and to date have solely been used to clamp down on the legitimate expression and operations of political dissenters, journalists and independent content producers.
5. With the growth of online communities, many countries in Africa have reacted by enacting laws, policies and directives that require the registration and licensing of online content producers. The registration and licensing requirements stipulate fees for both registration and renewal of the licenses and provide punitive measures for non-compliance.
6. Across the continent, several journalists and online content creators have been arrested, detained and some prosecuted for their online activities. The authorities have largely relied on the retrogressive provisions within the enacted cyber laws and or penal codes.
7. In many Sub-Saharan African countries, persecution of journalists has ascended to digital platforms and online harassment has become a new way for governments to attack and censor journalists who are targeted using trolls and fake accounts.
8. These attacks take on menacing forms when women journalists are specifically targeted as the online attacks take the form of gendered and sexualized attacks and often involves body shaming. While this threat is widespread and is hindering press freedom, it is rarely acknowledged.
9. Several African countries in a bid to regulate online communication have enacted laws and policies that require journalists to reveal their sources. Not only do these weaken whistle-blower protection policies but the fact that law enforcement agencies can legally monitor and intercept private communication between journalists and sources with no oversight mechanisms contravenes constitutional guarantees. These supposedly legitimized but unjust actions has negatively hindered the work of journalists in cultivating strong sources has forced some sources to develop cold feet when dealing with journalists.
10. The impact of covid-19 on journalism and journalists in Africa has exacerbated the difficulties faced by the media. These includes challenges of media viability and sustainability, the loss of income for journalists from COVID-enforced layoffs and downsizing and the dwindling of resources for production of quality news and information.
11. What is of concern has been the lack of protective equipment and professional capacitation for the media, especially under-resourced media communities in Africa to safely and competently cover the impact of corona virus in Africa,

## Recommendations to the Media in Africa

1. To coordinate with all the African media stakeholders and organise the Africa Media Convention as an annual event in commemoration of the WPF to be hosted in an African regional location on a rotational basis.
2. Develop a framework for an effective media coalition to enhance collaborative efforts among journalists, media, professional organizations and CSOs to enhance relationships and promote professionalism, media freedom, safety and security of journalists in Africa.
3. In coordination with all the African media stakeholders, to jointly carry out an annual independent press freedom and safety of journalists assessment based on indicators agreed on, with flexibility of additional focus on emerging issues.
4. The media in Africa should put in place a joint campaign strategy for the revision of repugnant laws in parts of Africa, including criminal defamation and advocate for more self-regulation or co-regulation.
5. To strengthen the African media networks and actively engage in global media programs with a view to exchanging good practices from the different actors.
6. Taking note that the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and End to Impunity envisages and encourages the creation of national safety mechanisms following the “three Ps (Prevention, Protection, and Prosecution)”, to establish multistakeholder national and sub-regional coordination mechanisms by creating strategic alliances with all the different for the safety and security of journalists.
7. Take specific and target for women journalists to safely enter the journalism professional, facilitate their rise up the structural ladder and ensure their meaningful and equitable representation at the annual Africa Media Convention and other media related workshops, conferences and conventions.
8. Partner with and support the strengthening of the digital platform for the safety of journalists in Africa.
9. Prioritise capacity building of journalists including mentorship to ensure those joining the profession possess the right skills that are key to the professionalization of journalism. Special attention to strengthening the capacity and use of community radio, embrace new media business modules, media innovation and new skills for content development.
10. In reporting the covid pandemic and other health related matters, media houses to address the difficulties journalists in Africa face in (a) accessing verified health information and (b) distinguishing misinformation from verifiable facts quickly to prevent further disseminating and legitimising false stories (c) Prioritise journalists safety as front line workers through protection equipment and understanding of the safety protocols in reporting pandemics.
11. Furthermore capacity building of Journalists in required in areas such as:- Innovative reporting techniques (such as the use of WhatsApp, YouTube, and newer entrants such as TikTok), health related data analysis skills, health information interpretation, source verification among others



**Recommendation to the civil society**

1. Advocate against laws and practices that hamper the ability of journalists to operate safely and freely including in the digital domain.
2. Monitor, report and hold states accountable for their violations of the rights of journalists and independent content creators.
3. Engage in capacity building activities for media and independent content creators.
4. Engage in strategic public interest litigation through collaborative efforts to challenge laws, measures and acts that violate media freedom and safety of journalists.
5. Regularly publish privacy policies and transparency reports and inform users about the collection, use, handling, sharing and retention of their data that may affect their right to privacy.
6. Coordinate with the media stakeholders and engage with legal practitioners to analyse laws and regulations that need judicial interpretation through public interest litigation. This allows for testing the application of the law and constitutional guarantees on the right to participation. The judicial interpretation should focus on specific provisions of the law to show how they affect the right to participation as provided under the Constitution.

**Recommendations to the African Union and its Bodies and Regional Economic Communities**

1. Popularize the existing mechanism by the African Commission for Human and People's Rights (the Commission) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa for regularly gathering the reports on freedom of expression and freedom of the media violations
2. Popularize the mechanism by the African Court to allow individuals, therein the journalists, to file cases on violations of media freedoms.
3. Establish a mechanism for the African Media stakeholders to address the AU Security Council on matters related to journalists safety and violations of the freedoms as presented in national, regional and international legal instruments;
4. Strengthen the engagement between the African media networks and the AU bodies mandated to support and defend freedom of expression, press freedom, access to information and the safety of journalists.
5. Recommend a joint and holistic capacity media programme between the African Union, the African Media Stakeholders, UNESCO and other media development partners, within the framework of Agenda 2063 and 2030 (Media for Agenda 2063 and 2030)

**Recommendations to the African Governments**

1. Repeal, amend or review existing laws, policies and practices on surveillance, interception of communication and biometric data collection, and limitation on the use of encryption to ensure compliance with the established international minimum standards on human rights.
2. Establish legal actions to prevent and prosecute illegal surveillance of journalists, both by public and private parties, while there should be strengthened legal protection for journalists to keep their sources confidential.
3. Take decisive measures to check surveillance and monitoring of journalists' communications over their legitimate work; and amend national laws and practices on surveillance to ensure compliance with international human rights minimum standards.
4. Support the national, sub regional and continent-wide annual assessments by the African Media stakeholders on press freedom and safety of journalists in Africa for the improvement of policy and operational environment for press freedom.
5. Appoint a focal person within the three arms of the Government as the liaison between the Government and media stakeholders on matters related for safety of journalists

**Recommendations to the Media Development Partners**

1. Create an African media fund to finance and support media viability given the financial challenges facing most media organizations in the continent. This is necessary to protect the media from political and economic pressures and thus consolidate freedom of the media in Africa.
2. Strengthen the UN Plan of Action for the safety of journalists by ensuring the active engagement of the duty bears at all levels
3. Support long term programmes aimed at strengthening the capacity of African journalists as key partners in the achievement of Agenda 2063 and 2030
4. Support the extend the last-mile AU communication project to the whole of the African Union Communications

**Recommendations to Technology Companies**

1. Strengthen privacy standards in regard to threats to the right to privacy by digital technologies and practices such as data retention, artificial intelligence, spyware, and arbitrary surveillance.
2. Take strong steps to prevent and eliminate online attacks against journalists, orchestrated campaigns of harassment and intimidation.
3. Intensified measures need to be taken to protect women journalists, who are especially violently targeted online and offline, such as by increasing responsiveness to their situation and developing tools to identify and fight online violence.
4. Strengthen knowledge and capabilities of media in Africa on the role of data-driven journalism and the transparency of digital platforms as catalysts for citizens' fundamental rights.
5. Social media platforms should increase transparency about any actions to stop the spread of disinformation and to promote trustworthy information instead.

6. Put in place measures and systems to enhance fact-checking and information verification and join efforts by government and other sectors to combat disinformation and hate speech
7. Provide digital security training for journalists and invest in boosting the digital resilience of their infrastructure and operations.
8. Big Tech in the media ecosystem who benefit commercially by distributing content from media organisations, to also share in paying for journalism noting that quality journalism is expensive to produce and those who profit from the value created in the news production process to share its cost.

## APPENDIX 2 EVENT PHOTOS





# APPENDIX 3: SPEECHES

## HOTUBA YA MHESHIMIWA SAMIA SULUHU HASSAN, RAIS WA JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA, KWA AJILI YA MAADHIMISHO YA SIKU YA UHURU WA VYOMBO VYA HABARI DUNIANI JIJINI ARUSHA TAREHE 03 MEI, 2022

**Mheshimiwa Nape Moses Nnauye**, Waziri wa Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari;  
**Mheshimiwa John Mongela**, Mkuu wa Mkoa wa Arusha;

**Mheshimiwa Moussa Faki**, Mwenyekiti wa Kamisheni ya Umoja wa Afrika;

**Dkt. Jim Yonaz**, Katibu Mkuu wa Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari;

**Ndugu Deodatus Balile**, Mwenyekiti wa Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania (TEF);

**Dkt. Zlatan Milistic**, Mratibu Mkazi wa Umoja wa Mataifa;

**Profesa Hubert Gijzen**, Mkurugenzi wa UNESCO Kanda ya Afrika Mashariki;

**Dkt. Churchil Otieno**, Mwenyekiti wa Jumuiya ya Wahariri Afrika Mashariki;

**Ndugu Gerson Msigwa**, Mkurugenzi wa Idara ya Habari Maelezo na Msemaji Mkuu wa Serikali;

Viongozi wote wa Serikali na Taasisi za Habari Tanzania; Wahariri na Waandishi wa Habari kutoka Tanzania, Afrika Mashariki na Afrika kwa Ujumla;

Viongozi wa Dini;

Wageni Waalikwa, Mabibi na Mabwana:

### **Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania!**

Niungane na wazungumzaji walionitangulia kumshukuru Mola wetu Mtukufu na Mwingi wa Rehema kwa kutujalia siha njema na kutuwezesha kukutana hapa kwa ajili ya Maadhimisho ya Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani. Vile vile, nitumie fursa hii kumshukuru Mheshimiwa Waziri wa Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari pamoja na Uongozi wa Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania (TEF) kwa kunipa heshima ya kuwa Mgeni Rasmi katika Maadhimisho haya. Kusema kweli, nilipopokea mwaliko huu, wala sikusita na nikajisemea moyoni hata kama itaangukia kwenye Siku ya Eid, sitakubali kukosa mwaliko huu. Sababu kubwa ni kwamba mimi ni muumini wa uhuru wa vyombo vya habari lakini, (Kwa namna moja ama nyingine, mimi pia ni mdau wa habari kwani, sisi kama familia, tunaendesha Kituo cha Redio kule Zanzibar).

Aidha, ninafahamu kuwa hii ni mara ya kwanza kwa Bara la Afrika kufanya Maadhimisho kama haya hapa nchini. Hivyo, nitumie fursa hii kuwashukuru wadau wote waliohusika katika kufanya uamuzi huu ambao umeipa heshima kubwa nchi yetu. Kwa namna ya pekee, nimefurahi sana kumwona kaka yangu Moussa Faki, Mwenyekiti wa Kamisheni ya Umoja wa Afrika Miongoni mwetu (Nous vous souhaitons la bienvenue cher frère). Nimefurahi pia kuwaona ndugu zetu wote kutoka nchi mbalimbali za Afrika. Karibuni sana na mjisikie mpo nyumbani. Na kwa sababu mpo kwenye Mkoa wa kitalii wa Arusha, nawasili mtenge walau siku chache za kutembelea vivutio vyetu. Nilikuwa napitia programu yenu nimeona mmetenga masaa machache kwenye siku yenu ya mwisho kwa ajili kutembelea vivutio vya utalii lakini mimi naona masaa hayo hayatoshi, ikilinganishwa na uwingi wa vivutio tulivyonavyo. Mnahitaji walau wiki moja. (Lakini “who knows” mwaweza pia kujipatia wachumba hapa tukaweza kujenga udugu na kuharakisha mtangamano wa Afrika).

### **Wahesimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Wanahabari;**

Nilipojulishwa kuwa Maadhimisho haya ni ya Bara la Afrika, nilijiuliza sababu ya kuichagua Tanzania katika Bara lenye nchi 54 lakini sikupata jibu, kwani sikuwa miongoni mwa waliofanya maamuzi haya. Hata hivyo, nafahamu jambo moja – kwamba Serikali ya Tanzania inathamini na kuheshimu sana uhuru wa vyombo vya habari na uhuru huo umeendelea kukua siku hadi siku. Na hapa, ninaomba mniruhusu ninukuu takwimu chache kuthibitisha hoja hii.

Mathalan, baada ya uhuru wa Tanganyika, kulikuwa na magazeti 10 na hivi sasa, kuna magazeti 285. Vilevile, tulikuwa na Kituo kimoja cha Redio cha Tanganyika Broadcasting Service lakini sasa tuna Vituo vya Redio 210. Halikadhalika, hakukuwa na kituo cha Televisheni hata kimoja lakini sasa tunavyo 55. Aidha, Televisheni Mtandao (Online TVs) zimeendelea kuongezeka kwa kasi ambapo, kwa sasa, mefikia 476. Hatukuwa na blogs wala majukwaa ya mtandaoni lakini sasa tuna blogs 95 na majukwaa ya mtandaoni 10.

Ni kweli kwamba kuongezeka kwa idadi ya vyombo vya habari kumechangiwa kwa sehemu kubwa na kukua kwa teknolojia ya habari na mawasiliano lakini ni ukweli usiopingika kuwa Sheria, Kanuni na Taratibu zetu ndizo zinaruhusu uanzishwaji wa vyombo hivi. Na bila shaka, uwingi wa vyombo vya habari unaongeza uhuru wa kujieleza na uhuru wa kusambaza habari. Nimetaja takwimu hizi na wala sikutaka kufanya ulinganifu na nchi zingine kwani hilo ni jukumu lenu kufanya tathmini linganifu.

Aidha, katika jitihada za hivi karibuni za kukuza uhuru wa vyombo vya habari, Serikali ninayoiongoza iliamua kuvifungulia vyombo vya habari vilivyokuwa vimefungiwa kwa kukiuka masharti ya utendaji kazi. Vyombo hivyo ni pamoja na Kwanza

TV, Wasafi TV, Mwananchi Newspaper Online, Mwanahalisi, Mawio na Tanzania Daima. Halikadhalika, tumezifanyia marekebisha baadhi ya kanuni zetu ili kuongeza uhuru wa vyombo vya habari. Na katika hili, nimefarijika sana kuona wenzetu “Waandishi Wasio na Mipaka” (Reporters Without Borders) wameanza kutambua jitihada zinazofanywa na Serikali katika kukuza uhuru wa vyombo vya habari.

#### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Wanahabari:**

Serikali ya Tanzania inatambua na kuthamani jukumu kubwa la vyombo vya habari pamoja na mchango wao katika maendeleo ya Taifa letu. Kupitia vyombo vya habari, tumeweza kuwahabarisha wananchi kuhusu shughuli na mipango ya Serikali, na kuhamasisha ushiriki na ushirikishwaji wa wananchi katika shughuli na mipango hiyo. Aidha, kupitia vyombo vya habari, imekuwa ni rahisi kutoa elimu kwa wananchi, siyo tu elimu ya kitaaluma lakini pia elimu ya uzalishaji na ujasiriamali. Muhimu zaidi, baadhi ya vyombo vya habari vimechangia sana katika kulinda na kudumisha amani, umoja na mshikamano wa kitaifa. Halikadhalika, vyombo vya habari vimekuwa na nafasi kubwa katika kuitangaza nchi yetu pamoja na kujengea taswira chanya kimataifa.

Ninafahamu pia jitihada ambazo zimekuwa zikifanywa na vyombo vya habari katika kufichua vitendo vya kihalifu ambavyo, katika kipindi cha nyuma, vilikuwa haviripotiwi. Vitendo hivi ni pamoja na unyanyasaji wa kijinsia, mauaji ya vikongwe na albino, lakini pia mila potofu za kuwaficha watoto wenye ulemavu. Ufichuaji wa vitendo hivi umechangia kwa sehemu kubwa katika kuchukua hatua za kisheria ili hatimaye kuvikomesha kabisa na kujenga jamii iliyo bora.

Zaidi ya yote, kwa sisi wanasiasa, vyombo vya habari vimekuwa vikitusaidia sana katika kuwaeleza wananchi kuhusu sera na mitazamo yetu kuhusu Tanzania tunayotaka kujenga; na kuwahimiza wananchi kushiriki katika michakato ya kisiasa na chaguzi na hivyo kukuza demokrasia nchini.

Hivyo, nitumie hadhara hii kuwashukuru na kuwapongeza wanahabari wote wa Tanzania kwa mchango wenu mkubwa katika ujenzi wa Taifa letu. Lakini natambua kwamba wanahabari wote mliopo hapa kutoka nchi za nje mmekuwa mkitekeleza majukumu kama haya katika nchi zenu. Hivyo, nawapongeza sana.

#### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Wanahabari:**

Vyombo vya habari vinaweza kutoa mchango chanya endapo ninyi waandishi wa habari mtazingatia uzalendo, weledi na maadili ya taaluma yenu. Kinyume chake, tasnia yenu inaweza kuffisha maendeleo na hata kuhatarisha amani umoja na mshikamano wa kitaifa. Ninyi ni mashuhuda wa madhara makubwa ambayo baadhi ya nchi za Afrika zimekumbana nayo baada ya waandishi wa habari kushindwa kufuata misingi ya taaluma yao na kuingia kwenye propaganda za kichochezi ambazo zimekuwa chanzo cha machafuko. Halikadhalika, uandishi usiofuata maadili unaweza kuwa chanzo cha kuporomoka kwa tamaduni, mila na desturi zetu. Na hii ndiyo sababu ya kuwepo kwa vyombo vya usimamizi wa taaluma hii.

Kwa mantiki hiyo, pamoja na kwamba leo tunaadhimisha Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani, lazima tutambue kuwa hakuna uhuru usio na mipaka, wala hakuna uhuru bila wajibu. Na wengine husema, “unapoishia uhuru wako ndipo unapoanzia uhuru wa mwengine”.

Ninayasema haya siyo kwa ajili kubeza umuhimu wa Siku hii lakini nataka tunaposherekea Siku hii, tusheherekee pia uzalendo na Uafrika wetu.

#### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Washiriki:**

Ni jambo la kujivunia kwamba historia ya Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani ilianzia katika Bara la Afrika mnamo mwaka 1991. Na hii ni ishara nzuri kuwa Afrika inayo mambo mazuri ambayo dunia inaweza kujifunza, ingawa kwa bahati mbaya, mambo mazuri ya Afrika huwa hayazungumzwi wala kutangazwa. Hivyo, ni jukumu lenu wanahabari wa Afrika kuyatangaza mambo mazuri ya Afrika.

Aidha, natambua hapo awali kulikuwa na wazo la kuanzisha Shirika la Habari ambalo lingejulikana kama Sauti ya Afrika (Voice of Africa – VoA). Hata hivyo, sifahamu wazo hili liliishia wapi lakini, ninaamini, endapo lingepewa msukumo na hasa kwa kutumia mitandao ya kijamii na teknolojia ya kidijiti, lingeweza kubadili taswira ya Afrika mbele ya uso wa dunia. Hivyo, nawarushia changamoto hii ili muangalie uwezekano wa kulifua na kulitekeleza wazo hili.

#### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Washiriki:**

Maadhimisho haya yanabeba Kaulimbiu inayosema “Uandishi wa Habari na Changamoto za Kidijiti”, yaani ‘Journalism Under Digital Siege’. Hii ni Kaulimbiu muafaka kabisa na inasawiri vilivyo mazingira ya sasa ya uandishi wa habari, hususan kutokana na kukua kwa teknolojia ya kidijiti ambayo inaambatana na changamoto lukuki. Hivyo, ni jukumu lenu kuitumia vyema ili iwe na matokeo chanya katika taaluma yenu na kuwa mkombozi wa kweli wa uhuru wa vyombo vya habari.

Kwa hapa nchini, nimefurahi kuona jitihada zinafanywa na Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari katika kukuza uhuru wa vyombo vya habari. Ninawapongeza sana kwa jitihada zenu na ninawasihi mwendelee katika mwelekeo huo lakini msiache kuvisimamia vyombo vya habari ili vitekeleze majukumu yao kwa kuzingatia Sheria, Kanuni na Taratibu tulizojiwekeke.

### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Washiriki:**

Nitumie fursa hii kuwashukuru kwa pongezi mlizotupa kuhusu utekelezaji wa miradi mikubwa na ya kimkakati. Na hapa niseme kwamba hizi ndizo habari ambazo tunapaswa kuzitangaza ili kuionesha dunia kuwa Afrika inatoka kwenye migogoro na umasikini kuelekea kwenye mafanikio. Tanzania inaweza katika miradi mikubwa ya kimkakati kama vile Bwawa la Mwalimu Nyerere litakalozalisha Megawati 2115, Reli ya Kisasa (Standard Gauge Railway) kwenye Ushoroba wa Kati inayotarajiwa kuunganishwa na mtandao wa reli ya kisasa wa Afrika ambao ni sehemu ya Ajenda 2063. Mtandao huo unakusudiwa kuunganisha nchi zote za Afrika. Zaidi ya hayo, tunaendelea na ujenzi wa barabara mijini na vijijini, tunajenga viwanja vya ndege, tunanunua ndege na kujenga bandari kwenye Bahari ya Hindi na Maziwa Makuu.

Zaidi ya hayo, tumejizatiti kuitangaza nchi yetu, ikiwemo vivutio vya utalii na fursa za uwekezaji. Bila shaka, mnafahamu jitihada tunazofanya kupitia Filamu ya "The Royal Tour" ambayo tumeizindua hivi karibuni kama sehemu ya kuitambulisha na kuitangaza Tanzania katika anga za kimataifa. Na hapa nataka kusisitiza na kutoa wito kwa viongozi wenzangu wa Afrika kuwa ukombozi wa kiuchumi wa mataifa yetu utatokana na matumizi bora ya rasilimali zetu na siyo vinginevyo. Tunazo rasilimali vitu na rasilimali watu za kutosha kabisa kuleta mageuzi ya kiuchumi Barani Afrika.

### **Waheshimiwa Viongozi; Ndugu Washiriki:**

Sikusudii kutoa hotuba ndefu katika hadhara hii, kwani natambua masuala mengi mmeshayajadili katika majopo yenu mbalimbali tangu jana. Hata hivyo, kabla ya kuhitimisha hotuba yangu fupi, naomba nitoe wito kama ifuatavyo:

Kwanza, kwa vyombo vya habari wa Afrika kulisemea na kulitetea Bara letu kwa wivu na uzalendo mkubwa ili kujenga taswira chanya. Mtambue kuwa mkikaa kimya, hakuna mtu atakayelisemea Bara hili. Hivyo, wakati wengine wakizungumzia migogoro, zungumzieni amani; wakizungumzia umasikini, zungumzieni maendeleo; wakidharau mila na utamaduni wetu, ninyi muwe watetezi wa utamaduni, mila na desturi zetu. Ninyi mna nafasi kubwa katika kuibadili taswira ya Bara la Afrika katika uso wa dunia;

Pili, kwa viongozi wa Afrika, tufanye jitihada za kushirikiana na vyombo vya habari na kukuza uhuru wao ili waweze kuchangia kikamilifu katika kuleta mageuzi ya kijamii na kiuchumi;

Tatu, kama mnavyofahamu, tarehe 23 Agosti, 2022, nchi yetu itafanya zoezi la Sensa ya Watu na Makazi. Hivyo, nitoe wito kwa Vyombo vya Habari vya Tanzania kuisaidia Serikali katika kazi ya uhamasishaji na uelimishaji wa wananchi mijini na vijijini ili zoezi hili lifanyike kwa mafanikio.

Wakati nikihitimisha hotuba yangu, nimelipokea ombi lenu la kuondoa ushuru wa forodha na Kodi ya Ongezeko la Thamani (VAT) kwenye karatasi na wino. Nadhani hili ni suala linalozungumzika na, bila shaka, Waziri wa Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari amelisikia. Basi akazungumze na Waziri mwenzake wa Fedha na Mipango ili waone namna bora ya kushughulikia suala hili.

Nihitamishe kwa kuwashukuru UNESCO kwa kuendelea kuwa mfadhili kiongozi katika Maadhimisho ya Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani kwa miaka 31 bila kuchoka, tangu mwaka 1991 walipofadhili semina ya Wahariri wa Magazeti iliyofanyika Windhoek (Namibia) na kuja na pendekezo la kuanzisha Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani.

Nimefurahi pia kusikia 'Google' nao wamekuwa miongoni mwa wafadhili wa maadhimisho haya na wametoa mafunzo katika eneo la Akili Tarakilishi au Akili Bandia (Artificial Intelligence). Hili ni eneo muhimu lisiloepukika katika zama hizi. Na Serikali yangu inawaahidi ushirikiano wa kutosha katika kukuza teknolojia ya kidijiti ili kuharakisha maendeleo.

Halikadhalika, niwapongeze Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania (TEF) kwa kuwa mstari wa mbele katika maandalizi ya Maadhimisho haya muhimu yanayotoa fursa kwa wanahabari kujitathimini na kujadiliana kwa kina kuhusu mazingira ya kazi zenu na maboresho yanayohitajika.

Baada ya kusema hayo, niwatakie nyote Eid Mubarak! na kila la kheri katika utekelezaji wa majukumu yenu. Ni matumaini yangu mtafurahia safari mtakazofanya kesho kwenye vivutio vyetu vya utalii.

**Mungu Ibariki Afrika!**

**Mungu Ibariki Tanzania!**

**Ahsanteni kwa kunisikiliza.**

**Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania.**



# MAELEZO YA MHE. NAPE NNAUYE (MB) WAZIRI WA HABARI, MAWASILIANO NA TEKNOLOGIA YA HABARI KUMKARIBISHA MGENI RASMI KWENYE MAADHIMISHO YA SIKU YA UHURU WA VYOMBO VYA HABARI DUNIANI, TAREHE 3 MEI, 2022 - GRAN MELIA- ARUSHA

**Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan**, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania;

**Mhe. John Mongela**, Mkuu wa Mkoa wa Arusha;

**Dkt. Damas Ndumbaro (Mb.)**, Waziri wa Katiba na Sheria;

**Moussa Faki**, Mtendaji Mkuu wa Umoja wa Afrika (AU),

**Dkt. Jim Yonazi**, Katibu Mkuu wa Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari;

**Zlatan Milisic**, Mratibu Mkaazi wa Umoja wa Mataifa (UN),

**Prof. Hubert Gijzen**, Mkurugenzi wa UNESCO Kanda ya Afrika Mashariki,

**Jovial Rantao**, Rais wa Jukwaa la Wahariri Africa,

**Ndugu Deodatus Balile**, Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kitaifa ya Maadhimisho haya

**Churchill Otieno**, Mwenyekiti wa Jumuiya ya Wahariri Afrika Mashariki,

**Ndugu Gerson Msigwa**, Mkurugenzi wa Idara ya Habari na Msemaji Mkuu wa Serikali;

**Wahariri kutoka nchi mbalimbali za Afrika na Tanzania;**

**Waandishi wa habari;**

**Wageni waalikwa;**

**Mabibi na Mabwana,**

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Kwanza kabisa napenda kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kwa neema na rehema zake kwa kutujalia afya njema sisi sote tuliopo mahali hapa leo.

Kipekee kabisa naomba kukushukuru wewe kwa kukubali kuwa Mgeni Rasmi katika Maadhimisho ya Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani 2022 (World Press Freedom Day 2022).

Nafahamu kuwa una ratiba nyingi ambazo ungeweza kuendelea nazo lakini kwa kuthamini tasnia hii na kazi inayofanywa na Wanahabari, ukaamua kuahirisha ratiba zingine na kujumuika nasi hapa. Hakika umetuheshimisha sana sisi wanahabari. Tunakushukuru sana.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Pia nitumie fursa hii kuwakaribisha wageni wetu kutoka nchi mbalimbali hapa Afrika. Nasema karibuni sana Tanzania, nchi ya amani na utulivu, lakini nchi yenye uwepo wa vivutio mbalimbali ambavyo vitawafanya nyakati zote muikumbuke Tanzania.

Kama ambavyo havi karibuni Dunia imeshuhudia filamu ya Royal Tour ambapo Mheshimiwa Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania alitumia filamu hiyo kuelezea maeneo mbalimbali ya Utalii kwetu ikiwa na pamoja na fursa za uwekezaji. Naamini mtatumia uwepo wenu hapa kushuhudia uzuri huo wa nchi yetu na tumieni nafasi zenu kuitangaza filamu hiyo duniani.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Maadhimisho haya ya siku ya Uhuru wa vyombo vya habari Duniani ya mwaka 2022 kwa Tanzania yalianza toka tarehe 01/5/2022 na leo tunafikia kilele chake.

Katika kipindi cha siku mbili za mwanzo kulikuwa na maonyesho na mijadala iliyotokana na mada kadhaa zilizowasilishwa na kujadiliwa. Mada kuu na ambayo ndio kauli mbiu ya maadhimisho ya mwaka huu ni Uandishi wa Habari na Changamoto za kidigiti.

Wanahabari kutoka sehemu mbalimbali za Bara la Afrika wamekuwa na muda mzuri wa kujadili kwa kina na kujifunza ikiwa ni pamoja na kubadilishana uzoefu katika mambo kadhaa.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Kufanyika kwa maadhimisho haya Tanzania kwa sura ya Bara zima la Afrika sio bahati mbaya. Ni matokeo ya kazi nzuri uliyofanya Mheshimiwa Rais katika kipindi kifupi cha mwaka mmoja ambao umekuwa madarakani.

Hatua ulizochukua za kuboresha, kutanua na kuimarisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari nchini, mwangwi wake umevuka mipaka ya nchi na kusambaa bara zima la Afrika na ndio maana hawakusita kuja kuadhimisha siku hii muhimu hapa nchini kwetu.

Itakumbukwa ni hivi karibuni tumeazimisha miaka 100 toka azaliwe Baba wa Taifa letu, mtoto halisi wa Afrika, Mzalendo, mwana demokrasia na muumini thabiti wa uhuru wa kutoa mawazo na kusikiliza hata wale wenye mawazo tofauti na yake Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere.

Hivyo basi uamuzi wa kuja kuadhimishia siku hii muhimu kwa uhuru wa habari hapa nchini kwetu ni sahihi na umefanyika kwa wakati sahihi.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Wanahabari na wadau wa habari kutoka kila kona ya Afrika wanakutana hapa Tanzania wakati dunia ikishuhudia mabadiliko makubwa ya sayansi na teknolojia kiasi cha kulazimisha tasnia ya habari pia kubadilika ili ikidhi mahitaji ya wakati na mazingira.

Wanahabari wa Afrika wanakutana nchini wakati ambao tasnia ya habari katika bara la Afrika ina wajibu wa kusimama imara kuhakikisha rasilimali za bara hili zinakuwa baraka kwa bara hili na si chanzo cha machafuko na mateso katika bara letu.

Wanahabari wa Afrika wanakutana leo hapa nchini wakati ambao haja ya kulinda utamaduni wetu na Uhuru wetu kwa ujumla inaongezeka kila kukicha. Katika Dunia ya utandawazi vyombo vya habari haviwezi kukwepa jukumu la kulinda utajiri wa utamaduni wa bara hili, maliasili zake na urithi waje kwa jumla.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Tunakutana kuadhimisha siku ya uhuru wa vyombo vya habari duniani huku haja ya kuelimisha jamii juu ya fursa zilizomo kwenye maendeleo ya kidigiti nchini na duniani ikiongezeka sana.

Wanahabari wa Afrika tunakutana hapa leo huku kukiwa na haja kubwa ya watetezi wa haki za wanahabari na vyama vya wanahabari katika bara hili na nchini kwetu kuwa na ajenda zao, zinazotokona na wao na mazingira yao na sio zitokanazo na msukumo wa wafadhili.

Umoja na mshikamano ulioonyeshwa hapa katika siku hizi mbili za maonyesho na kongamano ni ushahidi tosha kuwa tasnia ya habari katika bara la Afrika iko tayari kutimiza wajibu wake kwa nchi moja moja na kwa bara zima la Afrika. Inawezekana ; ikiwa kila mmoja atatimiza wajibu wake.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Kama nchi, Tanzania inaadhimisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari duniani IKIWA tumeshuhudia hatua kadhaa za kisera na kiutendaji zikichukuliwa na serikali ya awamu ya sita unayoiongoza katika kuboresha na kuimarisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari nchini na uhuru wa kutoa mawazo.

Hatua kadhaa ulizochukua Mheshimiwa Rais katika kuboresha na kuimarisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari nchini sio tu ni faraja kwa wanahabari na afya kwa maendeleo ya nchi yetu bali pia zimeonyesha uumini wako wa dhati katika uhuru wa kujieleza au kutoa mawazo lakini ukomavu wako katika uongozi, na hili limeweka alama nzuri nchini, barani Afrika na duniani kwa ujumla.

**Mheshimiwa RAIS,**

Kuzitaja hatua kadhaa za kiutendaji ambazo umezichukua ni pamoja na kuhakikisha kwamba kila mara milango yako iko wazi pale wanahabari wa ndani na nje ya nchi wanapohitaji kukuona, { katika kipindi kifupi umefanya interviews nyingi sana na wanahabari kupata kutokea katika historia}, uliagiza vyombo vyote vya habari ambavyo vilikuwa vimefungiwa huko nyuma vifunguliwe {Na hapa katika uongozi wako vyombo kadhaa vya habari vimefunguliwa na kuruhusiwa kuendelea na kazi eg Magazeti, online platforms nk}.

Lakini uamuzi wako wa leo kuamua kuja kushiriki na wana habari katika siku yao kuadhimisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari duniani umevunja rekodi kupata kutokea katika historia ya uhuru wa nchi yetu.

**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Zipo hatua kadhaa umechukua za kisera katika kuboresha na kuimarisha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari nchini katika kipindi kifupi ulichoongoza nchi yetu, nazo zimeacha alama kubwa sana kwenye sekta ya Habari.

Hatua hizo ni pamoja na kuundwa kwa Wizara Maalum ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari(muundo huu ulikuwa kilio cha wanahabari nchini kwa muda mrefu). Lakini mara tu ulipoingia madarakani uliagiza bila kumumunya maneno kuwa Sera, sheria, na kanuni zote zinazopigiwa kelele zipitiwe upya ili kuiwezesha tasnia ya habari kukua na kutimiza majukumu yake bila shida.{ Mpaka sasa kanuni kadhaa zimepitwa na kubadilishwa na mabadiliko hayo yamesaidia sana afya ya tasnia ya

habari na kuwa faraja kubwa kwa wanahabari}.

Kwa maelekezo yako Mheshimiwa Rais tunaendelea na mchakato wa kupitia upya Sera na sheria kadhaa za Habari nchini na nyingi zipo katika hatua nzuri katika kukamilisha mashauriano na wadau ili zifanyiwe marekebisha.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Hatua hizi ulizochukua si jambo dogo hata kidogo, zilihitaji uzalendo mkubwa, ukomavu mkubwa wa kisiasa lakini ujasiri mkubwa wa kiuongozi kiasi kwamba huku kwenye tasnia ya habari umepewa jina unaitwa Simba jike, kwa ujasiri wako wa kukabiliana na hali na kuchukua hatua za kuibadilisha tasnia ya habari nchini. Tunakushukuru na kukupongeza sana.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Tunatambua kuwa katika uongozi na usimamizi kuna Katiba, Sheria, Kanuni na taratibu mbalimbali za kufuata lakini pia kuna busara. Ndio maana katika usimamizi wa tasnia ya habari nchini tuliamua kwa makusudi kuwa katika kipindi hichi cha mpito wakati tukipitia upya Sera, Sheria na Kanuni mbalimbali tutumie zaidi busara.

Lakini Mheshimiwa Rais ningependa kuwakumbusha wanahabari nchini kuwa matumizi ya busara hayamaanishi kuwa sheria zilizopo zimefutwa au kusimamishwa la hasha maana haiwezi kubaki na ombwe, sheria hizi bado zipo na kwasasa ni halali mpaka zitakapo badilishwa.

Hivyo ni busara kujiepusha kuujaribu uvumilivu wa busara inayotumika kusimamia tasnia yetu. Ninawaomba sana msinitie majaribuni lakini nisaidieni tuendeshe salama sekta yetu katika kipindi hiki.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Hapa ningependa kuwasihi wanahabari wenzangu, tutumie weledi na busara katika kutimiza majukumu yetu kwa kulinda masilahi mapana ya jamii yetu na nchi yetu. Tuisahau hakuna uhuru usio na mipaka na ni muhimu kila mara kukumbuka uhuru wako unaishia pale uhuru wa mwingine unapozia.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Mapitio ya Sheria ya Huduma za Habari ya mwaka 2016 (The Media Services ACT, 2016) kama ilivyo maelekezo yako yamelenga kuboresha na kuimarisha zaidi tasnia ya habari nchini. Tunapitia huku tukizingatia misingi mikuu ya sheria hii ambayo ililenga kuifanya tasnia ya habari kuwa taaluma inayojitegemea na kuheshimika na hivyo pamoja na mambo mengine kama taaluma itasaidia katika kuboresha masilahi ya wanahabari kwa maana ya ajira zao na mapato yao.

Msingi mwingine mkuu na wa muhimu kwenye sheria hii ni dhana nzima ya kuhakikisha sheria ina jenga mfumo wa wanahabari kujisimamia wenyewe kwa wajibu wa kitaaluma kama ilivyo kwenye taaluma zingine nchini kama wanasheria na madaktari.

Lakini sheria hii pia ililenga kuhakikisha kwamba kila mwana taaluma wa habari anawajibika kwa makosa yake mwenyewe badala ya chombo kizima cha habari kuwajibika kwa makosa ya mwanahabari mmoja ndani ya chombo hicho.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Msingi mwingine wa muhimu katika sheria hii ya Huduma za Habari ya Mwaka 2016, ni pamoja na umuhimu wa elimu kwa wanahabari ili kuongeza weledi katika kutimiza majukumu yao kwa jamii, nchi na Bara letu kwa ujumla.

Hivyo Mheshimiwa Rais wakati tukifanya mapitio YA sheria hii na zingine za Habari nchini tutazingatia misingi ya sheria hizi na malengo yake makuu, bila kuathiri umuhimu wa kuwa na namna bora zaidi ya kutekeleza misingi hii ukilinganisha na njia zilizopo sasa kwenye sheria hizi.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais**

Katika kufanya mapitio ya Sheria hii tutahakikisha maoni ya wadau wote yanazingatiwa ili kulinda maslahi ya wote na kulinda maslahi ya Taifa.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Kama nilivyosema kaulimbiu ya Maadhimisho ya mwaka huu inasema Uandishi wa Habari na Changamoto za Kidijiti au Journalism Under Digital Siege. Sisi kama Wizara yenye dhamana ya kusimamia masuala ya Teknolojia ya Habari na Mawasiliano (TEHAMA) tunaichukua Kaulimbiu hii kama fursa ya kuitumia kukuza sekta ya habari kwa kuhamasisha matumizi ya TEHAMA katika masuala ya habari ili Teknolojia hii irahisishwe na kuwa chachu ya upatikanaji wa habari, kukuza uchumi wa vyombo vya habari na waandishi wa habari na pia kuifanya sekta ya habari kuwa na mchango mkubwa katika uchumi wa Tanzania.

#### **Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Nipende tena kukuhakikishia kuwa Wizara ninayoiongoza itaendelea kuimarisha ushirikiano na vyombo vya habari na wadau wa habari hapa nchini na nje ya nchi, kusimamia maslahi ya wanahabari na kuifanya sekta hii kukua na kuwa na mchango mkubwa kwa Taifa.



**Mheshimiwa Rais,**

Baada ya kusema hayo mengi, napenda kukukaribisha ili uweze kuongea na hadhara hii katika Maadhimisho ya Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani kwa mwaka 2022.

**Mungu ibariki Afrika, Mungu Ibariki Tanzania, Mungu ibariki Tasmania ya Habari.**

**Mheshimiwa Rais karibu sana**

# SALAAM ZA TAASISI ZA KIHABARI KATIKA SIKU YA UHURU WA VYOMBO VYA HABARI DUNIANI (WPFD) ILIYOADHIMISHWA NA BARA LA AFRIKA JIJINI ARUSHA, TANZANIA, MEI 3, 2022

(Imewasilishwa na Deodatus Balile - Mwenyekiti wa Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania)

**Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan**, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania;

**Mhe. Nape Nnauye**, Waziri wa Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari;

**Mhe. John Mongela**, Mkuu wa Mkoa wa Arusha;

**Dkt. Jim Yonaz**, Katibu Mkuu wa Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari;

**Manfredo Fanti**, Balozi wa EU Tanzania;

**Moussa Faki**, Mtendaji Mkuu wa Umoja wa Afrika (AU);

Mkuu wa Mawasiliano AU, **Winnie Musabayana**

**Zlatan Milisic**, Mratibu Mkaazi wa Umoja wa Mataifa (UN);

**Prof. Hubert Gijzen**, Mkurugenzi wa UNESCO Kanda ya Afrika Mashariki;

**Ndugu Gerson Msigwa**, Mkurugenzi wa Idara ya Habari na Msemaji Mkuu wa Serikali;

**Churchill Otieno**, Mwenyekiti wa Jumuiya ya Wahariri Afrika Mashariki,

**Willie Mponda**, Mwenyekiti wa Wahariri SADC na Mjumbe wa Jukwaa la Wahariri Afrika,

Mtendaji Mkuu wa Chama cha Wamiliki wa Vyombo vya Habari Tanzania (MOAT);

**Ndugu Kajubi Mukajanga**, Katibu Mtendaji wa Baraza la Habari Tanzania (MCT);

**Bi. Salome Kitomari** Mwenyekiti wa Taasisi ya Vyombo vya Habari Kusini mwa Afrika Tawi la Tanzania (MISA-Tan);

**Ndugu Deo Nsokolo**, Rais wa Umoja wa Club za Waandishi wa Habari Tanzania (UTPC);

**Bi. Joyce Shebe**, Mwenyekiti wa Chama Cha Waandishi wa Habari, Wanawake Tanzania (TAMWA); ila nimemuona pia Mkurugenzi wa TAMWA, **Dk. Rose Rubben**;

**Prosper Kwigize**, Mwenyekiti wa Mtandao wa Radio za Kijamii Tanzania (TADIO);

**Ndugu Kamanzi Dastan Kamanzi**, Mkurugenzi wa Wakfu wa Vyombo vya Habari Tanzania (TMF);

**Dk. Ayub Rioba**, Mkurugenzi Mkuu wa TBC, ambaye ametupa mada ya Royal Tour muda mfupi uliopita;

Wahariri kutoka nchi mbalimbali za Afrika;

Wahariri na waandishi wa habari wa Tanzania;

Wageni waalikwa;

Mabibi na Mabwana,

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Kwanza nichukue fursa hii kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kwa kuendelea kutujalia uhai sote tulioko hapa, na ni kwa neema zake kuwa leo tuko hapa kufanya shughuli hii muhimu ya kukumbushana utendaji wa vyombo vya habari nchini, Afrika na duniani kwa ujumla, ambapo hatimaye tutaimarisha ushirikiano kati ya dola, jamii na vyombo vya habari kwa masilahi mapana ya maendeleo ya taifa na bara letu la Afrika.

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Nakushukuru kwa kukubali mwaliko wetu, kwani kwa kufanya hivi Mhe. Rais, unadhihirisha kwa matendo nia yako ya kukuza ushirikiano kati ya Serikali yako na vyombo vya habari.

Mhe. Rais Eid Mubarak... Nafahamu umetupa heshima ya pekee leo, kwani kwa siku kuu hii, ulipaswa kujumuika na familia, ila ukachakua kujumuika na jumuiya pana, ambayo ni tasnia ya habari. Tunasema asante sana Mhe. Rais.

# UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

## World Press Freedom Day 2022

### Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege

#### 03 May, Gran Melia Hotel, Arusha

#### Opening remarks by Prof Hubert Gijzen, Regional Director and Representative

Your Excellency Madam Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania,

Hon Minister, senior government officials,

Excellencies, Ambassadors,

Distinguished journalists and media representatives

Dear colleagues and friends,

Mabibi na mabwana,

All protocols observed.

Asubuhi njema na karibuni wote. Ni furaha yangu kujumuika nawe leo.

I am pleased to join you in this beautiful city of Arusha on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day 2022. I am even more happy to join this celebrations today as we also celebrate Eid al-Fitr. Eid Mubarak Madam President, and to all of you present here, especially to our muslim brothers and sisters.

Let me also congratulate you Madam President, for hosting this first ever continental Africa celebration of World Press Freedom Day. The hosting of this event in Tanzania is an excellent choice as the country has made significant progress in advancing press freedom, freedom of expression and access to information.

With our specific mandate to promote “the free flow of ideas by word and image”, UNESCO has been a strong defender of freedom of expression and press freedom since its establishment in 1945. The world has dramatically changed since then, but this mandate is even more important today. Over the past five years, 85% of the world’s population have experienced a decline in press freedom in their countries. During the same period, 400 journalists have been killed while doing their job. These threats to the free exercise of journalism have been further intensified with the advent of the Internet and social media.

While these technologies allow us better access to news, they also expose us to mis- and dis-information as well as hate speech. The digital sphere raises new challenges to our privacy and freedom of expression. We have seen an increase in digital attacks targeting journalists, especially female journalists. Indeed, journalism is today ‘under digital siege’ – an issue so pressing that it has inspired the overall theme of this year’s World Press Freedom Day.

With these introductory remarks, allow me to now read the official message of UNESCO Director General, Ms Audrey Azoulay, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day 2022:

Whether in the context of COVID-19 or during war and conflict, reliable information is more than necessary: it is vital. Journalists play an essential role in providing this information. They assess, investigate and disseminate facts, ensuring people can make informed decisions. Journalism is therefore a public good, which we must defend and support as such. Yet even as the United Nations marks the 10th anniversary of its Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, which UNESCO is proud to lead, journalists are facing a fast-evolving environment. As our newest World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development report shows, more than five in six people around the world live in a country that experienced a decline in press freedom over the past five years. Some 400 journalists were killed during the same period just for doing their jobs. Digital technologies are further revolutionizing this landscape. They have permitted unprecedented exchanges of information, supporting journalism across borders. We can now see what happens in any corner of the world, at any time.

But these opportunities come with new challenges. The advent of online platforms has called into question the economic viability of independent and pluralistic media, upending existing value chains and business models. The digital era has also put media workers and their sources at greater risk of being targeted, harassed and attacked – for instance, due to data retention, spyware and digital surveillance. Expressions of hatred against journalists have spiralled, affecting women journalists in particular. Our research shows that more than seven out of ten women reporters surveyed have experienced online violence.

And as few of these technologies are regulated transparently and with accountability, perpetrators of violence operate with impunity, often without leaving a trace. This must end. Technological advances need to be underpinned by respect for the freedom, privacy and safety of journalists. Social media networks must especially do more to tackle rampant disinformation and



hate speech, while protecting freedom of expression. UNESCO is firmly committed to these goals. To rise to emerging challenges, UNESCO supported the adoption of a new Windhoek Declaration for Information as a Public Good in the digital age, thirty years after the first, at last year's World Press Freedom Conference in Namibia.

Since then, UNESCO has been implementing the Declaration by promoting new transparency principles for online platforms, undertaking research into sustainable media business models and putting a new focus on media and information literacy in education systems. But we all must do more to address the risks and seize the opportunities of the digital age. On this World Press Freedom Day, I invite Member States, technology companies, the media community, as well as the rest of civil society to come together to develop a new digital configuration – one that protects both journalism and journalists.

**End of the Official message from UNESCO.**

**Thank you,**

**Asanteni sana**

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Naona itapendeza ukifahamu ni kina nani tuko nao hapa ukumbini kwa siku muhimu na ya kihistoria ya leo, ambapo ni wadau wa vyombo vya habari na wawezeshaji wetu, ili angalau nawe ufahamu uwakilishi mpana ambao tunao hapa ukumbini. Nafahamu Mhe. Katibu Mkuu, Dk. Jim Yonaz atawatambulisha wageni wetu waliopo hapa, ila wale wa kitaaluma na wadau wetu, naomba niwatambulishe kwako Mhe. Rais. Naomba nikitaja makundi husika au mtu, asimame na kupunga mkono kwa haraka:-

1. The Africa Editors Forum (TAEF)
2. Eastern Africa Editors Society (EAES)
3. UNESCO
4. Office of the High Commission Human Rights
5. Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) Wahariri simameni
6. Ethiopia Editors Guild
7. Ethiopia Public Broadcasting Corporation
8. Article 19
9. Uganda Editors Guild
10. Kenya Editors Guild
11. Google
12. Africa Union Commission
13. Africa CDC
14. Tanzania Telecommunications Corporations (TTCL)
15. Foundation Hirondelle
16. Internews
17. Vodacom Tanzania
18. NMB
19. Legal and Human Rights Centre
20. NHIF
21. PSSSF, Hoseah Kashimba
22. WCF, Director John Mduma
23. Stamico. Dk. Mwashe
24. TPA, Erick Hamissi, Mkurugenzi Mkuu (Naambiwa amesafiri usiku kucha ili awepo hapa maana bandari ni lango la maendeleo ya taifa letu)
25. TCRA, Dk. Jabir Bakari, Mkurugenzi Mkuu,
26. TANAPA, Kamishna Mkuu, Mwakilema ila nimemwona,
27. Pascal Shelutete
28. TAWA, Kamishna Mkuu, Mabula
29. Brela, Mkurugenzi Mkuu, Godfrey Nyaisa
30. EWURA, Mkurugenzi Mkuu, Injinia Chibulunje
31. ASAS Group of Companies, Salim Abri
32. Tanzania Breweries Limited

33. Kaimu Posta Master Mkuu, Mbando
34. FES
35. MCT
36. Twaweza
37. LSF
38. TMF
39. Tanzania Development Information Organization
40. TAMWA
41. Elimika
42. Nukta Africa
43. MISA Tanzania
44. PRST
45. UTPC
46. EU
47. SDC
48. Jamii Forums
49. TBC
50. Google
51. EAES
52. TEF (Wahariri)
53. USAID
54. LHRC
55. TADIO

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Leo ni siku ya maadhimisho ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani. Siku hii inaadhimishwa kidunia nchini Uruguay. Kwa Afrika mwaka huu kwa mara ya kwanza siku hii inaadhimishwa hapa jijini Arusha, Tanzania. Hapa tuna Wahariri kutoka nchi 54 za Afrika, ambao wengi ni mara yao ya kwanza kufika Tanzania, na kwao nasema karibuni Tanzania, nyumbani kwa **Mlima Kili-manjaro, Serengeti na Visiwa vya Marashi ya Karafuu na Uchumi wa Buluu, Zanzibar...** Karibuni sana wageni wetu.

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Naomba kutumia fursa hii kuwapongeza waandishi wa habari wote Afrika wanaofanya kazi ya kukusanya, kuchakata na kuchapisha habari na taarifa kwa nia ya kuhabarisha, kuelimisha na kuburudisha. Hongereni sana kwa siku hii muhimu katika historia ya uandishi wa habari nchini, Afrika na duniani kwa ujumla. Kila Mei 3, waandishi wa habari duniani kote huadhimisha siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari tangu mwaka 1993. Siku hii inaadhimishwa kwa **nia ya kupitia kiwango cha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari duniani, kulinda uhuru wa vyombo vya habari na kutoa heshima kwa waandishi waliouawa wakiwa kazini.**

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Mwaka 1991, Wahariri wa Magazeti walikutana jijini Windhoek, Namibia wakapitisha azimio la kuwa na siku ya uhuru wa vyombo vya habari duniani. Mwaka 1992 Shirika la Elimu, Sayansi na Utamaduni la Umoja wa Mataifa (UNESCO), ambao walikuwa kati ya wafadhili wa mkutano wa Windhoek, waliamua kuirasimisha siku hii na wakaanzisha Taasisi ya Vyombo vya Habari Kusini mwa Afrika (MISA) na taasisi za aina hii sehemu mbalimbali duniani. Mwaka 1993 Mkutano Mkuu wa Umoja wa Mataifa (UNGA) ulipitisha Azimio la Siku ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari Duniani, kutokana na Mapendekezo ya Mkutano wa 26 wa UNESCO uliofanyika mwaka 1992.



**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Kaulimbiu ya mwaka huu katika maadhimisho ya Uhuru wa Vyombo vya

Habari ni **“Vyombo vya Habari na Changamoto ya Teknolojia ya Kidijiti” (Media Under Digital Siege)**. Kaulimbiu hii inatualika kutafakari iwapo mazingira yetu ya kikazi na uhusiano baina ya vyombo vya habari na serikali na jamii, yanawezesha kufikiwa kwa lengo hili muhimu; yaani **upatikanaji na upashanaji wa habari**.

Kama tulivyotaja hapo juu, kuna nchi nyingi ambazo waandishi wa habari wanawindwa kwa kutumia teknolojia. Mwaka huu tulioumaliza, takwimu za UNESCO zinaonyesha idadi ya waandishi waliouawa imepungua kutoka 65 ya mwaka juzi, hadi 55 kwa mwaka jana. Bado idadi hii ni kubwa na mauaji ya aina yoyote kwa waandishi wa habari, hayakubaliki. Tunaomba serikali zetu Afrika na duniani kwa ujumla, zilinde maisha ya waandishi wa habari wanapokuwa kazini, kwani inaumiza waandishi kupoteza maisha na bado watenda maovu asilimia 80 hawachukuliwi hatua ipasavyo.

Wakati tunapoadhimisha siku hii, tunauona umuhimu wa kuwapa kwa ushirikiano kati ya pande mbili; waandishi wa habari na serikali, kwa lengo la kuhakikisha kwamba utumishi wetu katika vyombo vya habari unakuwa wa thamani mbele ya umma tunaoutumikia, bila kuhatarisha maisha yetu kwa kuzingatia Sheria, Kanuni na Taratibu. Tunaziomba serikali za Afrika na wana-jamii, wawezeshe vyombo vya habari kufanya kazi zake kwa ufanisi.

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Kwa nyakati tofauti taasisi zetu za kihabari zimekutana mara kadhaa kujadili uhuru wa vyombo vya habari kwa dhana pana ya uhuru wa wananchi kutoa mawazo yao (freedom of expression). Mwelekeo wa Tanzania katika Uhuru wa Habari, tangu umeingia madarakani umekuwa wa kujivunia.

**Umefungulia magazeti yaliyokuwa yamefungiwa ya Mwanahalisi, Tanzania Daima, Mseto na Mawio. Umefungulia mitandao ya kijamii na TV za mtandaoni. Umeelekeza Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Tekonojia ya Habari ikutane na wadau wa vyombo vya habari na kujadili sheria zenye ukakasi na wamekutana na sisi.**

Pia, Waziri wa Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari, Mhe. Nape Nnauye, ametangaza ataunda **Kamati ya pamoja kati ya wadau wa Habari na Serikali kupitia sheria zote zinazolalamikiwa. Aamehidi ifikapo Septemba, 2022 sheria zinazolalamikiwa zitakuwa zimebadilishwa.**

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni rasmi,**

Serikali kupitia Wizara ya Habari Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari mebadili Kanuni za Maudhui Mtandaoni (2018) ambapo sasa zimeruhusu TV za ndani zinaonekane kwenye ving'amuzi vya kulipia kama DSTV, bei ya leseni ya mwaka ya televisheni imeshuka kutoka wastani wa Sh milioni 73 kwa mwaka hadi Sh milioni 32 na mengine mengi.

**Kwa kweli tunakushukuru sana na kukupongeza Mheshimiwa Rais.**

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni rasmi,**

Katika ngazi ya Kimataifa tukiangalia taarifa ya **“Waandishi Wasio na Mipaka” (Reporters Without Borders Report)** inaonyesha kwa miaka sita mfululilizo Tanzania ilikuwa na anguko la Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari, ila sasa hali inatia matumaini. Wakati Mwaka 2016 Tanzania ilikuwa nafasi ya 71 kati ya nchi 180 kwa Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari duniani, mwelekeo ulien-delea kuwa wa kushuka kuelekea kusiko **hadi ulipoingia madarakani na kusitisha mserereko huu**. Mwaka 2017, nchi yetu ilishuka na kuwa ya 83, mwaka 2018 ikawa ya 93, Mwaka 2019, ikawa ya 118, Mwaka 2020, ikawa ya 124 na mwaka 2021 nafasi hiyo hiyo ya 124. Hili ni anguko la nafasi 53, ambalo halikuwa la kujivunia. Mwaka huu kwa mageuzi makubwa uliyoyafanya Mhe. Rais, nina uhakika Ripoti ya mwaka 2022 itaiweka Tanzania katika nafasi nzuri.

**Tunakupongeza na kukushukuru sana Mhe. Rais kwa mwelekeo huu mpya na mzuri wa kukuza Uhuru wa Vyombo vya Habari nchini na Afrika kwa ujumla.**

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni rasmi,**

Matukio yaliyokuwa yanatuangusha na yanayoendelea kuziangusha nchi nyingi za Afrika ni pamoja na kufungia magazeti, waandishi kupigwa, redio kutozwa faini kiholela, mitandao ya kijamii kufungiwa, kesi zinazotokana na uchapishaji wa habari kufunguliwa kama jinai badala ya madai, watu kufikishwa mahakamani kwa kutoa maoni yao mtandaoni na mengine mengi ya namna hiyo.

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Wadau wa habari nchini tulipokea kwa bashasha kauli uliyoitwa katika mkutano wako na Wahariri wa vyombo vya Habari, Juni 28, 2021, ulipoiagiza Wizara yenye dhamana na masuala ya habari kukaa na wadau kurekebisha sheria za habari ziwe za kiwango cha kimataifa, lakini pia Septemba 13, 2021 tulifurahi zaidi ulipoihamisha Idara ya Habari, kutoka iliyokuwa Wizara ya Habari, Utamaduni, Sanaa na Michezo, kwenda Wizara ya Habari, Mawasiliano na Teknolojia ya Habari, kwa nia ya kuleta muunganiko ulio bora. **Tunasema asante sana Mhe. Rais.**

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Sambamba na mabadiliko uliyofanya, tunaomba kukufahamisha kuwa sheria tunazozilalamikia ni pamoja na 'Media Services Act 2016', 'Cyber Crimes Act 2015', 'Right to Information (RTI) 2016', 'Electronic and Postal Communications Act (2010)', 'Online Content Regulation (2018)' na sheria nyingine kadhaa ambazo kwa njia moja au nyingine zinamomonyoa uhuru wa habari au watu kutoa mawazo.

Sheria hizi tunazozilalamikia hapa, nyingi zinafanana neno kwa neno na sheria za nchi hizi 54 za Afrika, hivyo tunaomba utumie ushawishi wako kuwasiliana na wakuu wa nchi za Afrika wenzako, kuwashawishi nao wachukue mkondo uliouchagua wa kurejesha uhuru wa vyombo vya habari nchini, ambayo ni nguzo ya maendeleo endelevu kwa taifa lolote. Tunaomba sheria hizi zirekebishwe na kuondoa masharti yanayokandamizia uhuru wa Habari nchini, ikiwamo hili gumu la kutoa leseni kwa magazeti linalotumika kama fimbo ya kuwachapia baadhi ya wamiliki.

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Gharama za kuendesha vyombo vya habari zimepanda kwa kiwango cha kutisha. Bei ya karatasi duniani imepanda kutoka wastani wa dola 450 kwa tani kwa mwaka jana hadi dola 1,500 nilipoangalia leo asubuhi. Hili ni ongezeko la zaidi ya asimia 250. Tunakuomba wewe, na serikali nyingine za Afrika katika bajeti za mwaka huu muondoe kodi ya ushuru wa forodha na VAT kwenye karatasi za kuchapisha magazeti, kwani magazeti yanatumika kuelimisha jamii hivyo si vyema kuyaacha yakafa kutokana na gharama za uchapishaji.

**Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,** Mwisho lakini si kwa umuhimu, tunatambua na kupongeza juhudi za serikali za kusimamia misingi ya uwajibikaji, ujenzi wa madarasa 15,000 unaokuza elimu, vita dhidi ya rushwa na ufasidi, uandaaji na utoaji wa anwani za makazi, matumizi endelevu ya rasilimali za umma, ujenzi wa miundombinu kama vile reli ya kati kwa kiwango cha 'standard gauge', mradi mkubwa wa umeme wa Bwawa la Nyerere (Stiegler's Gorge), uimarishaji wa Shirika la Ndege (ATCL), Bandari na kuendeleza kasi ya makao makuu kuhamia Dodoma.

Tunatambua pia unaendeleza barabara za vijijini, umeme kwa wananchi na umeamua kufanya uwekezaji mkubwa katika kilimo, kuiwezesha TRA kuwa katika mwelekeo chanya ili kuboresha biashara za wazawa na kuvutia uwekezaji na mengine kadha wa kadha, ambayo ni vyanzo vya habari tunazozichapisha.

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

**Tunasisitiza kuwa maendeleo haya yataendelea kuwa na maana zaidi kwa taifa letu na kuwapa wananchi wetu fursa ya kuishi kwa amani - isiyotokana na hofu, kwa kuaminiana na kutumia uhuru wao wa kutoa mawazo bila kuwapo sheria kandamizi.**

**Na chini ya Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita, hili tunalionga likitokea. Mheshimiwa Rais, tunakutegemea.**

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Maadhimisho haya yameandaliwa kwa pamoja kati ya Serikali ya Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, Shirika la Elimu, Sayani na Utamaduni la Umoja wa Mataifa (UNESCO), MISA-Tanzania, Baraza la Habari Tanzania (MCT), Chama cha Waandishi wa Habari Wanawake Tanzania (TAMWA), Tanzania

Media Foundation (TMF), International Media Support (IMS), United Nations Tanzania, Jumuiya ya Wahariri ya Afrika Mashariki (EAES), Jamii Forums na Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania (TEF).

#### **Mheshimiwa Mgeni Rasmi,**

Mwisho, niruhusu niwatambue watu wawili; Katibu Mkuu wa Wizara ya Maliasili na Utalii, Dk. Francis Michael, ambaye kwa nguvu yake, kesho amewezesha Jukwaa la Wahariri Tanzania (TEF) na wadau wa vyombo vya habari, kuwaandalia wageni safari ya kwenda mbugani; Ngorongoro, Tarangire, Manyara na Arusha National Park. Asiwepo wa kupanga kukosa safari hii.

Wa pili katika kuelekea mwisho kabisa ni yule aliyenipa utulivu wakati wa maandalizi ya shughuli hii. Si mwingine, bali ni mke wangu mpendwa, Mwalimu Dafrosa Balile, ambaye ameamua kuungana nasi hapa ukumbini kwa nia ya kuniunga mkono. Asante sana mke wangu.

Nihitamishe kwa kuwajulisha kuwa leo jioni ambapo TEF kwa ushirikiano na TBL, tumeandaa mchapalo wa nguvu. Tutatangaziwa ukumbi baadaye, ila naomba tuandae makoo yetu.

**Mheshimiwa Rais, tunakushukuru sana.**

**NAWASILIMU KWA JINA LA JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA.....**

## EASTERN AFRICA EDITORS SOCIETY



### STATEMENT BY CHURCHILL OTIENO, CHAIRPERSON, EASTERN AFRICA EDITORS' SOCIETY ON THE OCCASION OF THE WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY AFRICA CELEBRATIONS MARKED IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA, ON MAY 3, 2022

- President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E **Samia Suluhu Hassan**
- Champions of media freedom here present, and those spread all over Africa
- Government officials, diplomats, international civil servants
- Distinguished journalists whose work we celebrate today, and to whom we shall always be indebted given the sacrifices they make daily
- Ladies and gentlemen

This is the third year when the Eastern Africa Editors Society is, working with many friends especially UNESCO and Google, is hosting the WPFDF. But is indeed our happiness that for the first time we can meet in a hybrid format, allowing many of us to share in the hospitality that Arusha and Tanzania provide.

EAES is the umbrella body that brings together professional editors in the region, through their national organisations. Currently the membership includes the Ethiopia Editors Guild, the Uganda Editors Guild, the Kenya Editors Guild, and our hosts today – the Tanzania Editors Forum.

It is time to take stock of our contribution – individually and collectively – to the progress, or the challenges, that manifest in the media in Africa. We have had tremendous collaboration between media institutions across Africa to make today happen. Today's celebrations are preceded by two days of incisive deliberations on how to grow and strengthen the media in Africa.

Three issues stand out for us as we mark this year's WPFDF, whose theme is "Journalism under digital siege". First, many governments in Africa still think they can achieve economic progress and political developments, including democracy, without a free media. But economic principles would hardly be sound without free flow of ideas and information. We must therefore help them see this reality. Free expression facilitates and enables economic growth.

Secondly, a lot of value created by the media on our content is exported outside Africa by Big Tech. We must find ways that allow Big Tech to participate in content distribution, but also in sharing the cost of creating that content. They have done this in parts of Europe and Asia and must not treat Africa any less.

The last issue, and probably the most important as we gather as a continent today, has to do with newsroom safety and media sustainability. We have seen tremendous gains. We must celebrate these achievements. However, there are still serious threats facing the media. EAES calls upon us all, as Africans and the international community, to work towards progress.

#### About the Eastern Africa Editors Society

The EAES is the umbrella body bringing together editor organisations in Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya.



## EASTERN AFRICA EDITORS SOCIETY



There are journalists around the world spending this World Press Freedom Day behind bars. We stand in solidarity with them.

Last year at least 28 journalists were killed while on the job or in retaliation for their work around the world according to research by the Committee to Protect Journalists, which continues to investigate the motives behind the killing of 17 other journalists slain last year. While this number was lower than the previous year, it is a stark reminder that journalism continues to be a dangerous job. We lost journalists in Somalia, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, DRC. Since January 2022, CPJ has confirmed that at least 16 Journalists have been killed in connection to their work globally.

In our region today, there are journalists detained including in Rwanda, Ethiopia, in Eritrea (most of them behind bars since 2001), and in Hargeisa. Lest we forget:

- Media regulation is going through new stress in Kenya, as the co-regulatory mechanism is tested in significant ways. We continue to engage and hope to find ways that keep the sanctity of the editorial space.
- In Ethiopia, Amir Aman Kiyaro of the Associated Press, and freelancer Thomas Engida have been held for months since being arrested in November 2021 without any formal charge although the police accused them of “promoting terrorism”.
- In Uganda, authorities arrested nine journalists in March this year for what they termed “involvement in offensive communication and promoting hate speech.” The journalists arrested from Alternative Digital are Mukose Arnold, Faridah Bikobere, Jeremiah Mukiibi, Tumusiime Kato, Tulyahabwe Roger, Nabukeera Teddy Teangle, Lillian Luwedde and Wabyona Jeje Jacob.
- Somali journalist Abdiaziz Mohamud Guled was killed in a suicide attack in November 2021. He worked for Radio Mogadishu. In April 2022, freelance cameraman Zakariye Mohamed Mohamud Moallim was killed in Mogadishu.

### Madam President, ladies and gentlemen.

These trends are also testament to how journalists on the front lines, keeping the public informed on conflict continue to pay the ultimate price. We must not forget:

- Last year, amid the war, was the first time since 1998 that the CPJ documented the killing of an Ethiopian journalist in connection to their work;
- On February 9, 2022, unidentified people in Chad shot and killed Evariste Djailoramdji, a reporter working for the local broadcaster Lotiko Radio, while he covered a conflict in the area;
- Somalia continues to be one of the most dangerous countries for journalists where those killed are often targeted by the al-Shabaab, the Somalia-based terrorist jihadist

#### About the Eastern Africa Editors Society

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## EASTERN AFRICA EDITORS SOCIETY



fundamentalist group;

- And we are all too aware of the terrible toll that the Ukrainian conflict is taking on the journalistic community.

We must also remember our colleagues who have disappeared over the years, and whose families continue to live without answers about their fate. For instance:

- Burundian journalist Jean Bigirimana who went missing in 2016 after going to meet a source;
- AFP's Acquitté Kisémbé who was last seen in the DRC in 2003;
- Investigative journalist Guy-André Kieffer who disappeared in the Ivory Coast after receiving threats;
- And here, our very own Azory Gwanda, who disappeared in 2017.

These colleagues are missing. Not forgotten. And we will continue to pursue answers about their whereabouts/fate.

There are journalists around the world spending this World Press Freedom Day behind bars. We stand in solidarity with them. In our region today there are journalists detained, including in Rwanda, Ethiopia, in Eritrea (most of them behind bars since 2001), and in Hargeisa.

### **Madam President, ladies and gentlemen.**

Journalists also operate in difficult legal frameworks. We have heard repeatedly during this conference about laws ostensibly meant to tackle cybercrime or disinformation or hate speech being turned against legitimate journalism. We are glad to hear that the government here is embarking on a review of media laws and hope that Tanzania will set the example for others by putting in place laws that protect and nurture the journalistic profession and the people's right to know.

I thank you.

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#### **About the Eastern Africa Editors Society**

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## African Union WPDF Statement by Wynne Musabayana

**Your Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan**, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, our guest of honour, who is also the only woman head of state and government in Africa

Honourable Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology

Your excellences the Ambassador of Sweden, and the British High Commissioner who is also representing the Development Partners Group (DPG)

The UN Resident Coordinator

The UNESCO Regional Director

Fellow communicators from the East Africa Community (EAC); the Africa Editors Forum (TAEF); the East Africa Editors Society (EAES); the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF), the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), and the Southern Africa Editors Forum (SAEF)

All colleagues from the media and other communication sectors

Ladies and gentlemen

At the outset, allow me to thank sincerely H.E President Suluhu Hassan of the United Republic of Tanzania, and the government and people of this great country, for the excellent preparations for the celebrations of World Press Freedom Day for 2022.

From the time of our arrival, we have experienced nothing but the best of the legendary Tanzanian hospitality, which has echoes from the pan Africanism that saw this country selflessly support many of our countries to defeat colonialism and apartheid.

On behalf of Director Mrs Leslie Richer, who was scheduled to attend this event but was called away at the last minute, I would like to express the African Union's gratitude to UNESCO, for holding this event on the African continent, simultaneously with the world wide celebrations happening in Uruguay.

I am also glad to note that this year's celebrations have been organized jointly with the East African Editors forum.

Excellences, ladies and gentlemen, the African Union's message on this World Press Freedom Day, is one of solidarity with African media, within the context of the theme "Journalism under Digital Siege". It is to congratulate African media for their untiring efforts to tell the African story, including during the COVID19 pandemic; their important role in the development of this continent, and to give the assurance that the AU will continue to ensure that media have access to the information they need to do their work.

As we celebrate this day, we cannot afford to forget, nor to negate, the price that many African journalists paid as they reported, either from the newsrooms or from the theatre of operation, about the COVID19 pandemic.

When the world came to a standstill, the media consistently provided life-saving information.

We heard from the Chairperson of the FAJ on Monday that some media houses could not last two months after the pandemic related institutions were imposed.

That meant many colleagues lost their jobs.

Some lost their lives in the line of duty.

There are three facts that we cannot deny on the path to development, and in terms of the place of the media in that trajectory

1. Our beloved continent is developing.
2. Reliable, evidence based, and timeous information is a critical resource for development. The United Nations aptly declared that information is a public good.
3. Journalists are central to providing that information to the public

Our value to the continent therefore lies in reaching as many people as possible with development news. In this regard, we do everything we can to support media.

Media are central to the achievement of the goals of Agenda 2063, which is Africa's 50-year development framework.

The narrative around Africa is changing. As the continent marches towards prosperity, peace and unity under Agenda 2063, African media are telling more and more of our own stories ourselves, no longer as much copy from far-away lands as before.

More than ever, there is need to stay the course, increase the pace, and take charge of our narrative. This means we need to bust those negative stereotypes about ourselves, to unearth and showcase Africa that is leveraging its potential to progressing, and dealing with the challenges that it faces. The honourable minister said we have a responsibility to help address the challenges.

Let us tell with pride, the stories of our forebears; and help the continent become proud of its rich cultures and heritage.

African people look to us for diversified, evidence based content and knowledge about what is happening in other parts of the continent. Let us adopt new technologies that enhance our work and increase our reach, and continue to shine the torch in dark spaces, sometimes even in our own newsrooms and our working conditions.

Excellences, ladies and gentlemen.

Your Union turns 20 this year. In that time, it has created an impressive ecosystem of frameworks and mechanisms to support the work of the media.

### **1. The first is on policy and strategy to provide guidance, consistency and clarity on the role of the media, freedoms and safety**

The Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa of 2019 is historic. It establishes or affirms the principles for anchoring the rights to freedom of expression and access to information in conformance with Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, which guarantees individuals the right to receive information as well as the right to express and disseminate information. It reaffirms the fundamental importance of freedom of expression and access to information as individual human rights, as cornerstones of democracy and as means of ensuring respect for other human rights. These rights are affirmed in many other frameworks of the AU.

The Union has further adopted soft law standards, such as the Model Law on Access to Information for Africa of 2013; and the Guidelines on Access to Information and Elections in Africa of 2017; as well as the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection.

There is also an African Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa to guide a common and coordinated response to reap the benefits of the fourth industrial revolution. Its tenets will help media frame the theme of this World Press Freedom Day gathering, from an African perspective.

I sincerely urge you to consult these homegrown documents, and others, as they have made for Africa by our experts, ministers and heads of state of government to spur development, human rights, integration and peace on our continent.

In order to support the work of the media the Union has mechanisms to **Supply content that the media needs**

We do this through e.g. connecting and networking with media to fully understand their requirements so that we can serve them better; creating content that is easy for media to use; co creating, co designing, and co distributing content; setting up systems and platforms to enable media to access verified; constantly adding to our basket of platforms through which we can reach new or underserved audiences.

We are refreshing and improving our media databases – fine tuning and disaggregating them so that we do not send you any and all information, but rather, only that you receive only the information that you need. It will be an interactive tool that will enable journalists to submit their own expectations.

We work with partners to build capacity of media through training. Over the last few years, this initiative has benefitted many women journalists, who have received funding to produce high quality reports on different Agenda 2063 thematic areas. Currently, we are processing hundreds of applications that have come through for the Africa Media Fellowship scheme. We are also sponsoring 4 journalists to this celebration of WPFDD. This will expose them to other professionals, increase their networks and give this event wide coverage, including in French speaking countries.

**Excellences, ladies and gentlemen. I spoke in the past few days, about information resources available to Africa to share knowledge on Africa's history.**

**The Union is investing in the preservation and sharing of the historic documents, images, audio and video under our knowledge management function, which includes library and archives services**

Our call to media colleagues in this regard, is for them to begin to utilize these rich catalogues, either as background or as actual content for news, current affairs, or for film and documentary making. Our analytics show that most of the users of our knowledge management platforms are from other continents. We are also digitizing our historic images and films; to put them in formats that will be useful for the 21<sup>st</sup> century broadcasting.

### **CONCLUSION**

Excellences, ladies and gentlemen, I will conclude my statement with a quote that I found on the internet by one Charles de Lint. I goes like this: "Don't forget that no one else sees the world the way you do, so no one can tell the stories that you have to tell".

I thank you .

## SPEECH BY THE HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY AFRICA MEDIA CONVENTION, 03 MAY 2022

**H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan**, President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Honourable Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology;

Regional Director of UNESCO;

I am very happy to be here for this conference celebrating the World Press Freedom Day.

I would like to share some reflections on the freedom of the media from the perspective of the EU experience.

Firstly, freedom of the media and safety of journalists is a universal challenge. Although political situations and legislation differ from country to country and from continent to continent, certain threats are the same everywhere. For instance, in 2021, in Europe we registered 439 physical and legal attacks against journalists and media.

**Threats against journalists take new forms**; among them, two are increasingly used: **the digital attacks and the abusive court proceedings**. Digital technology has provided new instruments to the media, but it has also originated difficulties for them. They are easily attacked, even with strongly insulting terms. People who pretend to be journalists spread disinformation jeopardising the work of the real professional journalists with the confusion they create. In the digital context, the disinformation campaigns are also a serious threat to the activity of the journalists. **The tragic events caused by the invasion of Ukraine provide us with both examples of disinformation and limitation of the freedom of the media.**

In this changing environment, we have also seen the **weakening of the recognition of journalists as respected professionals**. This has entailed a diminution of their protection and a threat to their independence.

The EU conducts different actions to improve the safety of journalists both on its territory and in the framework of its cooperation with the partner countries.

To respond to these challenges, the EU is preparing a **European Media Freedom Act**, which will provide common rules and safeguards to protect the independence and the pluralism of the media.

In 2021, the EU has also issued Recommendations on the safety of journalists including defence against digital attacks. In this sector, EU Member States are encouraged to promote the **cooperation between online platforms and organisations with expertise in tackling threats against journalists**, for instance by encouraging their potential role as trusted flaggers.

Relevant **national cybersecurity bodies should assist journalists who seek to determine whether their devices or online accounts have been compromised, in obtaining the services of cybersecurity forensic investigators**. Member States should also promote a **regular dialogue between such cybersecurity bodies, media and industry, in particular in view of fostering cyber-awareness and digital skills among journalists**.

As I mentioned earlier, a second increasing threat to journalist is originating from the growing use of **abusive court proceedings** against them. A draft EU legislation against this phenomenon is currently being discussed by the EU to introduce, for instance, early dismissal of clearly unfounded court proceedings, full compensation to victims and penalties for claimants.

In order to give concrete application to these principles, the EU is implementing programmes targeting media, the CSO, women, youth. The EU is ready to share its experience in this sector with governments, media and CSO from partner countries.

Moving to the external dimension of the EU policy to protect journalists, there are various actions undertaken by the EU. First of all the dialogue with the governments, media and CSO. Freedom of expression and of the media is always included in all political dialogue meetings with partner countries. In all partnership, association or cooperation agreements signed between the EU and third countries, there are clear provisions about respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The EU also funds projects aiming at consolidating the freedom of expression and of the media. For instance, here in Tanzania, there are currently two ongoing programmes involving journalists, the CSO and the authorities. Their objective is to support advocacy by journalists and CSO, to formulate concrete proposals concerning e.g. digital regulations, legal provisions and safety of journalists. One of this programme is specifically targeting women and youth.

A third kind of action is a programme named "Protect Defenders", which provides assistance, even in cases of urgency, to human rights defenders and that has so far assisted 550 journalists worldwide.

In conclusion, the EU is keen to share experiences and practices with the different stakeholders concerning freedom of the media. I wish you a fruitful continuation of this, so far very interesting conference and I thank you for your attention.



# Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege

Speech delivered by High Commissioner David Concar, 3/5/2022, Arusha

[YouTube](#)

Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania - **Mheshimiwa Samia Suluhu Hassan**

Waziri wa Habari, Utamaduni, Sanaa na Michezo - **Mheshimiwa Nape Moses Nnauye**

Mkuu wa Mkoa wa Arusha - **Mheshimiwa John Mongella**

Regional Director for UNESCO, **Professor Hubert Gijzen**

Officials from the Government of Tanzania

Members of the Diplomatic Corps

Representatives of civil society organisations

Religious Leaders

And more importantly of all, journalists, editors and assembled media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you this morning.

And I say that from my heart because I stand before you today as a diplomat, but I was once a journalist, I once did your work, therefore it is a special honour to be with you today to mark this World Press Freedom Day.

And incredibly that this is the inaugural Africa-wide meeting to mark that day, and it is a great privilege to be here.

And may I start by saying just how uplifting it is, Your Excellency Madam President, to see you here, celebrating this event, giving your personal support to this event and to the global cause of promoting press freedom.

Your Excellency, your presence is uplifting for many reasons, particularly as it is Eid, a very special day, thank you for that, but let me in the highlight a few of those reasons.

First, as we've been hearing, the indispensable role that a free and independent press plays in enabling countries to thrive economically and politically.

A seminal study some years ago found that countries with an independent media are less prone to famine because the populations are alerted to upcoming food shortages earlier, and because the governments of those countries take early action.

In other words, press freedom actually saves lives.

Research also shows that press freedom delivers many developmental benefits, including:

Increased political participation

Reduced corruption

More effective delivery of services

Enhanced subjective wellbeing

It's widely accepted that a population that is informed by a free and independent media is a population that is empowered to make use of new ideas, create opportunities and protect itself from disinformation and extremist perspectives.

So let me pay tribute now to the work of journalists, editors, and all those within media organisations, in this room today and all around the world. The work you do is not only essential to a functioning democracy; it is a foundation for prosperity and social well-being.

And yet. Despite the many self-evident benefits that a free and independent press brings to countries, media freedom globally is deteriorating.

Censorship, harassment and attacks on journalists are increasing.

A growing number of governments are using restrictive laws to stifle freedom of expression and curtail media independence.

Women journalists are being disproportionately targeted by harassment and sexist hate speech, much of it online.

And the symptoms of this malaise are all too common.

Media houses pressured into running only government-approved stories.

Independent news outlets shut down.

Journalists having to self-censor.

And, in the worst cases, media professionals paying for their commitment with their liberty or their lives. 55 journalists and media workers were killed last year worldwide, and the number of journalists jailed – this is shocking – for their work is at a global high.

So what can we do about these deeply concerning trends?

We can take a stand together and redouble efforts to protect media freedom, both in our own countries and internationally. And as we've heard from the African Union, the African Commission on Human Rights has established very clear, very solid standards through its declaration on principles on freedom of expression and access to information.

And there are many instruments here in Africa, agreed across Africa, that support press freedom, and we need to see more governments using these as their guiding lights in terms of regulation and the way they handle the media.

At a global level, for the past two years, the UK has, along with Canada, co-chaired a new initiative designed to protect media freedom. It is called the Media Freedom Coalition, and has grown quickly into a membership of over 50 countries working together to advocate for media freedom, protect journalists and hold to account those who harm journalists for doing their job.

As part of this initiative, the UK has worked very closely with UNESCO and Canada to establish the Global Media Defence Fund. This fund provides financial and legal support to journalists, their families and civil society, as well as training. The UK has committed £3 million (more than 10bl TZS) to the fund over a period of 5 years.

Another way the world can work to reverse the negative trends is to endorse, recognise and encourage countries to emulate those countries that are bucking that global trend and moving in a positive direction on media freedom.

In light of that it is fitting that this event is taking place here in Tanzania this year where under the leadership of Her Excellency the President we have recently seen some positive steps, including longstanding bans on media outlets being reversed and a review being initiated into media laws, including the Media Services Act.

It has been heartening too to see Tanzania accept some of the recommendations on media freedom in the recent UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review.

Your Excellency, development partners welcome these steps. Rest assured that we will not only support Tanzania on this journey, but be hoping other countries will follow the example you and your government are setting.

With that in mind, we note that it would offer inspiration and encouragement to others to see Tanzania consider the possibility of joining the Media Freedom Coalition, if not now then at some point in the not too distant future.

Over the past three days, we have seen the commitment and passion of those who work in the media on display at this event.

For their sake, and for the sake of citizens across Africa and the world, the UK is proud to join this platform on World Press Freedom Day, to renew our commitment to support the media freedom that is so essential to the all of the fundamental freedoms on which our collective success depends.

#UhuruWaHabari.

Eid Mubarak.

Asanteni sana kwa kunisikiliza.

Mungu ibariki Tanzania.

## **WORLD'S PRESS FREEDOM DAY SPEECH BY – Ambassador of Sweden in Tanzania DATE – 3.5.2022 IN ARUSHA,**

Tanzania and Sweden have a long history of working together to promote broader development goals nationally and internationally. We truly appreciate the Government of Tanzania's interest and commitment to engage in dialogue on important areas such as democracy and freedom of speech. This is indeed manifested in this three-day conference celebrating the World Press Freedom Day and its fundamental principles of pluralism and independence.

Journalists and media workers often find themselves exposed to challenging working conditions. As we gather for the World Press Freedom Day, we pay tribute to those journalists who paid the ultimate price in the exercise of their profession. Russia's illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine has now been going on for more than two months and at least 14 civilian journalists and media workers have been killed in the line of duty. Our thoughts are with their families and loved ones.

*Guest of Honor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,*

Tanzania is one of the fastest growing digital markets in Africa. Today 50% of the population is estimated to have access to internet. The emerging technologies allow citizens to directly access their leaders, organize public debates and thereby enabling more effective participation. For independent media to thrive, law and regulations must take account of the evolving needs of journalism in an era of rapid digital transformation.

Sweden welcomes Tanzania's commitment to the amendment of the Media Services Act of 2016 as expressed in response to the Universal Periodic Review of Tanzania's Human Rights record. Hopefully it could pave the way for a broader review of other related laws such as the Cybercrimes Act, the Access to Information Act, and the Online Content regulation – which are currently limiting media freedom and the citizens enjoyment of freedom of expression.

In the same vein, the Government's willingness to speed up the process related to a data protection bill should be lauded. Ensuring the protection of personal data and privacy rights is inevitable as more and more services and interactions are taking place in the digital space.

*Guest of Honor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,*

Sweden has been partnering with the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) to promote accountability within the media sector. We have also been supporting the United Press Clubs of Tanzania since its inception. There are 28 press clubs, one in each region, and more than 800 journalists are associated with the clubs. They are offered training on a variety of themes including digital journalism and digital security. Me and my Embassy team visit the clubs when we travel around the country and the following is what they share:

- Digitalisation offers many opportunities. For instance, the press club here in Arusha operates an on-line TV station. And most clubs have their own blogs.
- Members also appreciate that there is less self-censorship than before, and journalists can report more freely.
- One of the biggest challenges seem to be lack of resources and journalists have difficulties remaining competitive and adopt to the digital transformation. Most of the media workers we meet are freelancers and they say that their integrity is often compromised, as paid-for reporting has become the main source of income.
- Journalists are keen on doing more investigative stories and impact journalism on social issues in their communities but there is no viable business model or support structure.
- Journalists are also concerned about requirements of academic qualifications.

*Guest of Honor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,*

Democracy and its principles –including respect for the rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association –must be

continuously be nurtured and safeguarded. Media – often referred to as the fourth estate – is an absolutely crucial part of this equation, not only to report on current affairs, but to act as a watch dog pursuing accountability and transparency.

Let me end my remarks by congratulating all journalists and media workers on the World Press Freedom Day – Hongera Sana - keep up the good work and stay safe!

**Ashanteni sana kwa kuni sikiliza**



# Appendix 4: PROGRAMME

## Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege Gran Melia Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania Sunday 01 May 2022

Time	Activity		
08.00 – 9.00	Registration of all participants Venue: Gran Melia Main Conference Hall		
09.00 – 10.30	Opening ceremony Welcome remarks – Contextualizing press freedom on the continent Venue: Gran Melia Main Conference Hall Speakers: Tanzania Editor's Forum, East Africa Editor's Society, Africa Editor's Forum Moderator: Pius Katunzi, CEO – Observer newspaper in Uganda, Executive Member, Uganda Editors Guild		
10.30 – 11.00	Refreshments and break Press Freedoms in Africa – What are the dynamics of press freedoms on the continent?		
11.00 – 11.30	Putting the theme Journalism under Digital Siege into perspective, Guilherme Canela De Souza Godoi, UNESCO, Chief of Section, Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists		
11.30 – 1.00	<b>Parallel Session 1</b> Legal threats to press freedoms: Lessons from Kenya Media Stakeholders Working Group Venue: Main Conference Hall Organiser: Kenya Media Stakeholders Working Group Panellists: Kenya Editors Guild, Kenya Union of Journalists,	<b>Parallel Session 2</b> Social-political environment as a threat to press freedom Venue: Side Room 1 Organiser: The African Editors Forum Panellists: ICT Policy Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa (CIPE-SA), Southern Africa Editor's Forum	<b>Parallel Session 3</b> Digital threats to press freedoms: unmasking the aggressors Venue: Side Room 2 Organiser: Eastern Africa Editors Society Panellists: Google, Jamii Forums, Institute for the Management of Information Systems (IMIS), Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)
1.00 – 2.00	Refreshments and break		
2.00 – 3.30	Panel Discussions Strategies and advocacy approaches to combating digital surveillance, journalists under digital siege Presenters: Southern Africa Editors Forum (SAEF) Moderator: Africa Women Journalists Project		
3.30 – 4.00	Brief of Proceedings Q & A and plenary discussion		
4.00 – 5.30	Reflections on building African solidarity: How can Africa build solidarity movements to entrench media freedoms and freedom of expression Presenters: UNESCO, Federation of African journalists, Africa Editors Forum, Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) Moderator: Ethiopia Editors Guild		

## Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege

### Gran Melia Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania

### Monday 02 May 2022

Time	Activity		
08.30 – 9.30	Registration of all participants Venue: Gran Melia Hotel		
09.30 – 10.30	Opening Session Welcoming remarks from Arusha Regional Commissioner Statement from the Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to the United Republic of Tanzania, Ambassador Manfredo Fanti Statement by UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa, Prof. Hubert Gijzen in reflection of the theme Journalism under Digital Siege Remarks by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology Opening Statement by Guest of Honour, Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Hon. Nape Nnauye (MP)		
10.30 – 11.00	Opening Panel Discussion State of the Press: Africa Continental and Sub-Regional Press Freedom Reports Presenters: UNESCO, Jamii Forums, ICT Policy Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa (CIPESA), East Africa Editor's Society, Media Council of Tanzania Moderator: Lulu Ngwanakilala, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Legal Services Facility Q&A and plenary discussion		
11.00 – 11.30	Refreshments and break Tour of Exhibition and Legal Clinic for Journalists and Media Workers by Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Hon. Nape Nnauye (MP)		
11.30 – 1.00	<b>Parallel Session 1</b> Google Training on use of technology to safeguard freedom of the media in Africa Venue: Main Conference Hall Organisers: Google Panellists: Journalism AI, EAES Digital Growth Program	<b>Parallel Session 2</b> Realities of a practical and inclusive African Legal Framework for Press Freedom Venue: Side Room 1 Organisers: Tanzania Editors Forum Panellists: Legal and Human Rights Centre, Media Institute of Southern Africa, Media Council of Tanzania, Internews	<b>Parallel Session 3</b> Innovation and research-accelerators of an informed citizenry for sustainable development Venue: Side Room 2 Organisers: Jamii Forums Panellists: Nukta Africa, , TWaweza, TADIO-Community Media Network, The Chanzo
1.00 – 2.00	Refreshments and break		

2.00 – 4.30	<b>Parallel Session 4</b> Sustaining Fundamental Freedoms: Launch of a Working Group to address Violence against Women, online and offline, including safe reporting in humanitarian situations Venue: Main Conference Hall Organisers: Fondation Hirondelle, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Panellists: UNESCO, Africa Women in Media (AWIM), TAMWA	<b>Parallel Session 5</b> Safe? 10 years on, the UN Plan of Action for Safety of Journalists Venue: Side Room 1 Organisers: OHCHR, UNESCO, Panellists: European Union, Union of Tanzania Press Clubs, Austrian Embassy, TAMWA Zanzibar, IMS	<b>Parallel Session 6</b> Health and the COVID-19 pandemic as a panacea to infringing press freedoms Venue: Side Room 2 Organisers: Africa CDC, Federation of African Journalists (FAJ) Panellists: Ethiopia Editors Guild, Article 19, Uganda Editors Guild
4.30 – 5.00	Feedback from Group Presentations in Plenary Session: Digital platforms as catalysts for media development and building solidarity of journalists in Africa		
6.00 – 8.30	World Press Freedom Day Reception hosted by UNESCO and the United Republic of Tanzania Guest of Honour, Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Hon. Nape Nnauye (MP) Launch of 2021/2022 World Trends Report in Freedom of Expression and Media Development & the Africa community media information hub on COVID-19 and health – Addressing ‘disinfodemic’ <a href="http://www.eacomnet.org">www.eacomnet.org</a> by AU Africa CDC, EU, UNESCO, AMARC Africa and EACOMNET Venue: Gran Melia Hotel		

## Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege

### Gran Melia Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania

### Tuesday 03 May 2022

Time	Activity
6.00 – 8.00	Arrival of participants / Refreshments Venue: Gran Melia Hotel
8.00 – 8.40	Presentation on Media Freedom in Africa in the Digital World: Our Critical Role, by Dr. Ayub Rioba, Director General of Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC)
10.00 – 10.15	Arrival of the Guest of Honour Tour of Exhibition and Legal Clinic for Journalists and Media Workers by Guest of Honour, H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania
10.15 – 10.45	Opening ceremony National Anthem of the United Republic of Tanzania National Anthem of the East African Community (EAC) Prayers from Muslim and Christian religious leaders Joint Declaration of the Africa Media Convention Speakers: Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA Tanzania), Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA), African Women in Media (AWIM), Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)

10.45 – 12.30	<p>Welcoming Remarks from the Arusha Regional Commissioner</p> <p>Remarks from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology</p> <p>Remarks from the Ambassador of Sweden, Ambassador Anders Sjöberg</p> <p>Remarks from the British High Commissioner, Ambassador David Concar on behalf of the Development Partners Group (DPG)</p> <p>Remarks from the East Africa Community (EAC)</p> <p>Remarks from African Union (AU)</p> <p>Remarks from the UN Resident Coordinator</p> <p>Remarks from UNESCO Regional Director</p> <p>Remarks from Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)</p> <p>Remarks from Africa Editors Forum (TAEF)</p> <p>Remarks from East Africa Editors Society (EAES)</p> <p>Remarks from Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF)</p> <p>Statement from Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology</p> <p>Keynote Address and Presentation of 2022 World Press Freedom Awards by Guest of Honour: Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>Venue: Gran Melia Hotel, Main Conference Hall</p> <p>Directors of Ceremony: Taji Liundi and Anna Mwasyoke</p>
2.00	Group Photo/s
2.10	Departure of Guest of Honour
2.15	Recommendations and Way Forward
	Speaker: Rapporteur/s
2.30	Closing Remarks by the Media Council of Tanzania

## Africa Media Convention: Journalism under Digital Siege

### Gran Melia Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania

### Wednesday 04 May 2022

Time	Activity
05.00 – 6.00	<p>Tanzania Unforgettable Safari – Excursion to national parks and sights</p> <p>Meeting Point: Clock Tower Roundabout, adjacent to Four Points Hotel</p>



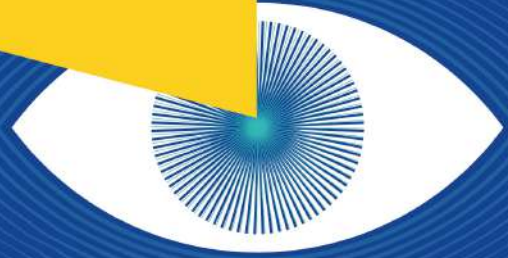
# WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2022

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# JOURNALISM UNDER DIGITAL SIEGE

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#WorldPressFreedomDay

The 2022 WPFDAfrica Media Convention, UNESCO, the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology and the National World Press Freedom Committee in the United Republic of Tanzania collaborated with the Eastern Africa Editors Society (EAES) and UNESCO offices and regional partners in Africa to host the African Media Convention, to mark the 2022 World Press Freedom Day (WPFDA) in Arusha, Tanzania.

The event provided an opportunity for the region and continent at large, to share, reflect and own the outcomes of the analyses, knowledge and lessons learnt through the multifaceted dialogue on the related sub-topics under the global theme Journalism under Digital Siege.)

