

1 June 2012

Dear Colleague,

**49TH ABU GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATED MEETINGS
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 11-17 October 2012**

By now you should have received the Convening Letter from the ABU President circulated in April.

It gives me a great pleasure as the ABU Secretary-General to invite you to attend the 49th ABU General Assembly and Associated Meetings in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 11-17 October 2012. They will be held in 63 Convention Center, located in Yeouido, Seoul.

I hope the attached schedule of meetings and agenda will help with the planning of your trip to Seoul.

The online registration will be opened on 1 June 2012 on the ABU website www.abu.org.my, where you will find updated information on the meetings schedule, choice of hotel and visa arrangements. Please advise us if you need further information.

I seek your cooperation in adhering to the GA registration and hotel booking deadlines to assist both the KBS and ABU Secretariats in organising the meetings. In particular, I would like to draw your attention to the **15 August 2012** deadline for hotel bookings as well as visa applications.

Here is a brief run-down of what this year's GA offers. The ABU General Assembly itself will be held on Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 October 2012 at the kind invitation of the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS). The Associated Meetings will start on 10 October with a two-day Forum on Gender in Broadcasting focusing on empowering women and girls through Information and Communications Technologies. This will be followed by the meetings of the Sports Group, Radio Working Party, Programme and Technical Committees and the ABU/FES Seminar. Our host has kindly arranged a full day excursion on 15 October to allow the GA delegates to view some landmarks of the beautiful and fast-developing city of Seoul.

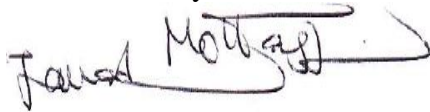
This year's ABU General Assembly will also see the launch of two flagship initiatives - the ABU Radio Song Festival and the ABU TV Song Festival. The programme schedule also includes the presentation of the ABU Prizes.

Other events to be held in Seoul are the Planning and Strategy Group meeting on 11 October and the ABU Administrative Council on 14 October. Both meetings are open only to members of the PSG and the Administrative Council.

Traditionally, the General Assembly also stages high-level sessions focusing on topics of importance to ABU members. This year they will include a Special Topic Session on the theme “Beyond the Digital Wave” and a Professional Discussion Session on “Journalism – News in the Smart Media Era” on 17 October 2012.

I look forward to a high level representation and contributions from your organisation, and the pleasure of meeting with you and your colleagues in Seoul.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Javad Mottaghi", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Javad Mottaghi
Secretary-General

Encl: Draft GA Agenda and schedule of meetings

c.c. ABU Liaison Officer
ABU Technical Liaison Officer