

11 JULY 2023 – KUCHING, SARAWAK

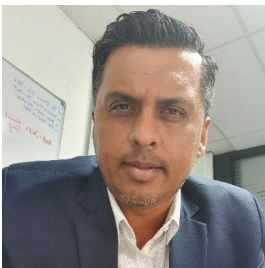


Ahmed Nadeem is the seventh Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. He began his term in 1st of April 2023. Prior to his appointment as Secretary-General, he has been with ABU Technology Department since 2008, and has served as the ABU Director of Technology and Innovation from May 2018 – March 2023. He is a skilled electronic and information technology engineer with over 25 years of experience in broadcasting and telecommunications.

He was the Head of Engineering at Television Maldives from 1996 to 2007, and from 2007 to 2008, he worked as a Project Engineer for LSV Enterprises in Singapore. He has a BTEC HND in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Nottingham Trent University in the United Kingdom and an Honours Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom.



Deborah Steele is Director of News at the ABU. She is a former ABC news executive, editor and journalist and a strategic communications specialist. She led the ABC's Asia – Pacific newsroom from 2009-2017 and established Australia's first 24/7 multiplatform newsroom producing content for digital, television and radio for the ABC's domestic and international services. She has extensive experience in identifying and developing strategic opportunities, strengthening stakeholder relationships and building Asia-Pacific partnerships.



Indra Singh has been in the media industry for 23 years, starting off in 2000 as a sports reporter in the newspaper industry. He has over the years worked his way up the ranks having taken on leadership roles such as senior editor, online editor and sports editor. He has worked in Fiji's newspaper industry with The Daily Post and the Fiji Times, along with Fiji Television and now is with the FBC, which has six radio stations and three free to air TV stations, where he is currently the head of news and sports. Indra has also worked in the public relations field, where he was the PR and Sponsorship manager for Digicel Fiji. He has covered a number of local and international events. Indra has a Bachelor's degree in English and Geography and a Masters in Business Administration.



Rizal Zulkapli is the Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Media Group (SMG), a government-linked company responsible for managing Malaysia's first state-owned TV channel and Sarawak state TV station, TVS. In his role as CEO, Rizal oversees the comprehensive day-to-day operations of TVS, which includes content development, production, marketing, finance, human resources, and other key aspects. His primary focus is elevating the channel to become Malaysia's leading news and entertainment source. With a wealth of experience spanning over 15 years in broadcasting, Rizal has dedicated a significant portion of his career to Astro AWANI, where he held positions such as Content Lead (Morning), senior anchor, producer, and senior editor. He initiated several programs during his tenure, including Niaga AWANI, Rizal's ASEAN, and AWANI Global. Moreover, Rizal had the privilege of conducting interviews with prominent world leaders, including President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, Foreign Minister Javad Zarif of Iran, and Senator Alan Cayetano, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines. Before joining SMG in April 2022, Rizal served as the Vice President of Strategic Communications and Media at Khazanah Nasional Berhad.

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Ömer Faruk Tanrıverdi, is Deputy Director General in charge of International Broadcasting at Turkish Radio Television Corporation (TRT). Prior to his appointment to TRT in December 2021, Mr Tanrıverdi was a foreign strategic communication advisor to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs for nearly five years and Head of Public Diplomacy Department at the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye Directorate of Communications for three years. At TRT, Mr. Tanrıverdi has restructured the organization to boost news and content production in two TV channels (TRT World and TRT Arabi) and four digital channels (TRT World Digital, TRT Arabi Digital, TRT Deutsch, TRT Russian). He also launched TRT Français in April 2022, TRT Balkan in June 2022 and TRT Afrika in March 2023. Mr. Tanrıverdi graduated from the Department of International Relations at Bilkent University and received an MA in International Politics from City, University of London.



Chevaan Daniel is Group Director of CMG, one of Sri Lanka's most diversified companies. He heads the groups Media Network, which is Sri Lanka's largest. He is also the leader of 'Gamamdda', an award-winning Grassroots Movement that touches the lives of millions of Sri Lankans. Chevaan is a Fulbright Scholar, an Eisenhower Global Fellow, a UTC Fellow, and an Asia 21 Fellow. His work experience includes stints with NBC & MSNBC in New York. Chevaan is an internationally certified Swift Water Rescuer and a Global Ambassador for The Sri Lanka Life Saving Association. His passions include ancient Sri Lankan history and rock climbing.



Rachel Cheang is a Singaporean youth advocate involved in climate advocacy and environmental education initiatives. She designs and leads workshops with Singapore Youth for Climate Action (SYCA) and volunteers at Ground-Up Initiative (GUI) as an environmental educator on the farm. Rachel also co-founded Energy CoLab, an initiative that recognises the power of youth in driving change towards a just, equitable, green-powered future and seeks to reduce the barriers that Southeast Asian youths face in engaging with and contributing solutions to energy issues. Previously, during her time in Vancouver, she produced open-access learning modules for food justice educators and advocated for universities in British Columbia to divest from fossil fuels and reinvest in their communities.



Andrew Prah (PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison) is an Assistant Professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication & Information at Nanyang Technological University. Andrew's research investigates the effects of disruptive technologies on mass communication, interpersonal communication, and society. Some of his recent work looks at the issues of humans being replaced by automation in the workplace, what AI means for the practice of public relations, and how generative AI technologies are redefining human creativity. He also investigates how workers both collectively and individually redefine their roles and professional identities when AI is assigned greater responsibilities in their workflows.

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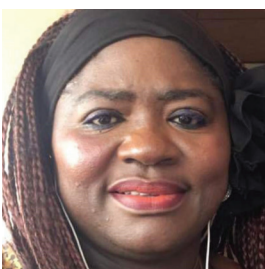
Suhaimi Sulaiman is the Director General of Broadcasting at Radio Television Malaysia (RTM), which has more than 4,400 employees. He is also author of “I Hate Reading the Teleprompter”, and is one of Malaysia’s top media personalities. With more than 32 years of experience as producer, broadcast journalist, anchorman, media consultant and content strategist, Suhaimi practices a hands-on approach in leadership. Before joining RTM, he was the Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Media Group’s TVS, which was launched in less than 3 months, on October 10, 2020. In 2007, Suhaimi helped set up a 24/7 television news channel, Astro AWANI, and went on to become its Chief Executive Officer and Editor-in-Chief. His leadership helped steer AWANI to the forefront of thought leadership with compelling content. The annual REUTERS Institute Digital News Report 2018 found Astro AWANI was the most trusted Malaysian news source. Suhaimi was awarded the MPI-PETRONAS Special Jury Award for Leadership in Journalism by the Malaysian Press Institute in April 2019. Suhaimi started his career in journalism in 1990, anchoring news bulletins on TV3. He received a degree in business administration from Portland State University, Oregon, USA (1984) and MBA from City University, Bellevue, Washington, USA (1986).



Thepchai Yong is currently the Executive Advisor of the Thai Public Broadcasting Service (Thai PBS), Thailand’s first public broadcaster. In his 30 years in the media, Thepchai has held several key editorial positions, including news director of ITV, Thailand’s first independent broadcaster, editor-in-chief of the Nation Multi-Media Group, and director general of Thai PBS. He was recipient of the Press Freedom Award from the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists in 1992 and the Media Leadership Award from the US-based Internews in 2009. He was also president of the Confederation of ASEAN Journalists and Thai Broadcast Journalists Association.



Francis Toral Head of Integrated News - ABS-CBN Corporation. Francis Toral has been a journalist since 1998 and is currently the Head of the Integrated News Division of ABS-CBN Corporation, one of the Philippines’ leading media organizations. She is responsible for the overall strategic direction and news agenda of the company’s various TV and digital programs and platforms, including TV PATROL, one of the longest-running and most watched newscasts in the country. On the digital sphere, ABSCBNnews.com is currently one of the top news websites in the Philippines and among the biggest Facebook publishers in the world. Its YouTube channel has over 14.5 million subscribers and almost 10 billion views, while its Twitter account has 8.8 million followers. She was previously Head of News Production, and has been spearheading coverage of national elections and presidential debates. She also led the News Desk, and Docu Central, the documentary unit of ABS-CBN News. This group produced several award-winning documentaries, including “Di Ka Pasisil”, a documentary on the War in Marawi, which won a Gold in the New York Festival in 2018.



Gisèle Salomé Nnemi Ngah is the deputy as Director and Editor-in-chief of the African Union of Broadcasters Content Exchange Centre in Algiers. Prior to this, she was worked at Cameroon Radio Television and held various roles including Head of Information Services and Deputy Director of Interactive Applications for national television. In 2020, she completed a Masters in Development Cooperation from the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon.

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Ishan Kukreti is an award-winning environmental journalist based in India. He has written extensively on environmental and developmental issues ranging from forest governance to energy, using the framework of political ecology and climate justice. His reporting adds a human lens to the broader debates around environmental policies and problems. His stories have been used as evidence in court cases and been used to raise questions in the Indian Parliament. He also takes environment reportage and communication training sessions for journalists and researchers.



Willy Tan is a Lead, AI Strategy & Solutions, Mediacorp News at Mediacorp. He has been working on harnessing AI to better newsroom capabilities and improve workflow for the past 2+ years. Prior to this, he led Mediacorp's Digital News team in product managing its suite of digital news offerings in four languages, including CNA's award-winning website and app. Will (as his friends call him) graduated from Nanyang Technological University with a Bachelor of Communication Studies (Honours).



Takahiro Mochizuki, Senior Research Engineer, NHK Japan. Takahiro Mochizuki started his career as a broadcast engineer at NHK Outside Broadcasting Technical Division in 1996. Since 1998, he has been working on image processing and recognition with NHK Science and Technology Research Laboratories. He received the Ph.D. degree in engineering from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in 2010. One of his past achievements is the development of a similar image retrieval technology installed in a video retrieval system for footage of the Great East Japan Earthquake, which was put to a practical use in some NHK broadcast stations. His current research focuses on research & development of practical video summarization technologies.



Masayuki Miyazaki joined NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.) where he worked on the creation of News programs right after graduating from Sophia University in 1994. In 2000, he moved to the technical management section in NHK and became responsible for planning of Program Production Facilities and Technology Development, focusing on dispatched production facilities such as OBVAN. He deployed the world's first 8K OBVAN practically used for UHD live production of Rio Olympics and Pyeongchang Olympics as a senior manager at the Engineering Administration Department. He had also collaborated with Fraunhofer and into PIX to develop the 8K JPEG-XS codec that enables massive 8K transmission over IP at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. From 2022, he belongs to the media planning section and has been involved in NHK's digital contents productions and the development of their efficient workflows.

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Ahmad Shafiq Mirza Bin Mansor is a Professional Technologist recognized by the Malaysia Board of Technologies Malaysia (MBOT) and a Graduate Engineer of the Board of Engineering (BEM) Malaysia since 2008. He commenced his professional career in 2005 at Telekom Malaysia Berhad and joined the Broadcast Department of Malaysia in 2007 in the Implementation Coordination Unit, Prime Minister Department (ICU JPM). He was a Broadcast Engineer for four years and then in the TV Outside Broadcast Department for six years. Since 2017 Ahmad has been in service with Technical Facilities, News, and Current Affairs. Throughout his professional service, he has seen a lot of exposure to the organization of domestic and international events, especially Sports Events and International Conferences.



Boris Gorlov is the head of RT's Video Promotion department. Under his management, RT broke new ground in promotional video content bringing creative excellence to its social media engagement and across specialty international campaigns for its news channels. This has included a provocative "Blame it on us" video campaign, which debuted across Russia's international airports during the Confederations Cup 2017. Boris was among the first in the TV news promo industry to implement revolutionary 360-degree (panoramic) video, as well deep-fake video technologies, which appeared in RT's viral "They're crazy about us" promo 'featuring' world leaders. Boris' projects have won numerous international awards for promotional and television design, including Promax BDA, the New York Festivals TV and Film Awards, The Clio Entertainment Awards, and more.



Ali Khalid is the Managing Director of Public Service Media, the state media of the Maldives based in Male' Maldives. With 15 years of service and engagement in the media, Mr. Khalid started his service at PSM in 2018 till present and was previously with Television Maldives. He has profound expertise in management, broadcasting, blogging, and writing. Before his current assignment, he was the Strategic communication head in President's office, he has lead Television Maldives, Chaired a State Enterprise, and private businesses as well. A national of the Republic of The Maldives, Mr. Ali Khalid is skilled in leading and managing business. He holds a Master's in Business Administration.



Natasha Meleisea is the CEO of Pacific Cooperation Broadcasting Limited (PCBL). She embeds an inclusive approach to all aspects of how she operates in business. Of Samoan heritage she weaves cultural diversity into her management style and embraces difference as a strength. Natasha brings more than 25 years of business management and marketing experience to the organisation with 20 years specifically in broadcast media and advertising; including senior executive roles in both commercial and not-for-profit media organisations with a focus on building indigenous media performance, capacity, and capability. She was integral in the establishment of PCBL - Pasifika TV in 2015 and later became its first CEO with the aspiration to strengthen the broadcasting collective of indigenous broadcasters across the Pacific.

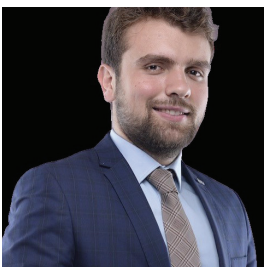
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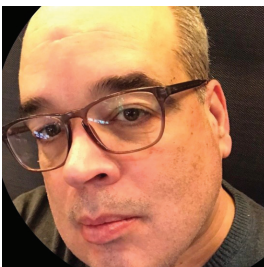
James Hollis is Head of Sustainability at Mediacorp and Senior Vice President, Production Services, Channel NewsAsia. Previous roles include Head of Operations at BSkyB in London and at Bloomberg in both London and Tokyo. He's worked in news, entertainment and sport, and is skilled in project management, technical development, team development, change management and studio production.



Aoun Abbas Sahi is an award-winning journalist, researcher, and media trainer based in Islamabad. With over 20 years of experience, he has worked for various local and international media outlets, both private and state-owned, as well as development sector organizations. Currently, he serves as the Director of Current Affairs at Pakistan Television (PTV) News. Sahi's achievements include sharing The Los Angeles Times' Pulitzer Prize for breaking news in 2016 and receiving the "Pride of Journalism Award" from the National Press Club Islamabad in 2017. He has also worked with renowned media houses such as The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, and Time Magazine.



Mevlüt Selman Tecim is Deputy Director of TRT's Digital News Directorate. He holds a Bachelor's degree and has completed his Master's education at the London University SOAS. Currently, he is pursuing a doctoral degree in Media and Security at the National Defense University. With 8 years of extensive experience at TRT World, Tecim has worked in various departments and actively contributed to numerous projects and news production processes on a global scale. Presently, he serves as the Deputy Director responsible for TRT International Digital News Platforms.



Emilio San Pedro heads the EBU's Eurovision News Exchange, delivering over 120 news items daily to 70+ global members. He manages a team of 25 journalists, ensuring editorial integrity and overseeing content from EBU's bureaus in Moscow, Rome, Washington, and New York. Previously, Emilio had a 20-year career at the BBC in London, serving as Americas Editor for BBC World Service and playing a key role in launching BBCBreaking on Twitter. He also worked at BBC Monitoring, setting up the Miami-based Latin American media team. Emilio began his broadcasting journey in Miami, working for WLRN and contributing to NPR.

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Raine Melissa Rimán is a PhD Researcher in Media Anthropology at Swinburne University of Technology. She recently co-founded Socially.Organically, a media-based research collective. Notably, Raine co-curated the EAT Conference 2022, which delved into Southeast Asia's food politics. She was also a speaker at the British Library's Food Season exchange and the Ideasfest at NTU Singapore. Raine's work extends to social media strategy and content production, playing a pivotal role in shaping What About Kuching, Malaysia's largest open-access art festival and is developing contents for the UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy for Kuching City. Embracing the intersection of industry and academia, she is dedicated to advocating for knowledge sharing and transfer, reflected in her role teaching the Bachelor of Media and Communications program at Swinburne University of Technology.



Matt O'Sullivan is Managing Editor of the ABC's Asia Pacific newsroom in Melbourne, Australia. APN provides TV, radio and digital news services to both local and international audiences, with a firm focus on the Asia Pacific region. Output includes breaking international news for the ABC News website and app; in-depth digital features providing context and understanding around key issues; in-language websites in Chinese, Bahasa Indonesian, and Tok Pisin; The World on the ABC News channel/ABC Australia; and current affairs programs Pacific Beat, Wantok and Pacific Review on Radio Australia. More recently APN has launched a weekly news and current affairs program, The Pacific, and is developing the Pacific Local Journalism Network, employing in-country journalists across the Pacific to report for ABC platforms. Matt has worked across newspapers, radio, TV and online in a career spanning three decades and has a long history of editorial leadership and management.



Manupriya is a civil servant. After graduating in Commerce from Delhi University, she was selected for the Indian Information Service. In addition to other managerial responsibilities, she has served as Editor-in-Chief in DD News and on important projects like DD Conclaves and Start-up Champions Show. She also looks after liaison with AVN. Manupriya has also worked on the organisation of prestigious film events like the International Film Festival of India & National Film Awards.



Prasad Kaushalya Dodangodage, a Senior Journalist currently working as the Assistant Director – Foreign News and Head of English&Foreign News at Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (SLRC). He joined SLRC in 1993 as a casual employee, having previously worked as a junior news editor at Independent Television Network (ITN-Sri Lanka). With a BA in Media from the University of Sri Jayawardanepura (2005) and a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Colombo (2016), he has received professional training, including the CNN International Professional Program (2002) and Asiavision Attachment Scheme (1998). He serves as a visiting lecturer and media trainer, overseeing various responsibilities at SLRC, such as news coverage, personnel management, and quality control. He has also represented SLRC at international summits and contributed to media operations. Throughout his career, he has received numerous accolades and played a pivotal role in the development of SLRC and the Asiavision news network.