

Media Update

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Press Release

Training programme on human rights announced for Pakistani and Afghan documentary makers

For the first time ever, documentary makers from Pakistan and Afghanistan will work together with professional trainers to produce state-of-the-art documentaries on human rights issues in a training programme to be held in July in Karachi.

The objective of this training programme is to provide a platform to Pakistani and Afghan documentary-makers to promote human rights and peacebuilding and to enhance dialogue among media professional of the two countries. Documentaries produced during this programme will be broadcast on radio and TV as well as documentary festivals across the world.

This is a joint initiative of Foundation Hironnelle, the Centre for Excellence in Journalism, International Film Festival and Forum of Human Rights and the United Nation Information Centre and is funded by the Embassy of Switzerland to Pakistan.

The two-week residential training will be held at the Centre for Excellence in Journalism, Karachi, from 17-28 July 2017. Transportation, lodging and training fees are covered so this is a highly competitive opportunity. Application forms can be downloaded from the website of the UN Information Centre, Islamabad. The deadline for applications in 26 May 2017.

Marc P. George, Ambassador of Switzerland in Pakistan said:

“The Swiss government is proud to offer this unique opportunity to enhance dialogue and professional relations between young Pakistani and Afghan



documentary makers by developing common projects with the support of professionals.”

Kamal Siddiqi, Director Centre for Excellence in Journalism said:

“We are happy to host such an exercise. It is our aim to make CEJ a regional Centre for excellence in Journalism and we are excited at the prospect of having journalists from Afghanistan and Pakistan come together and collaborate in this manner at our state-of-the-art facilities. Such an initiative will help build bridges of understanding between our two countries and we hope to conduct more such exercises in the future too.”

Caroline Vuillemin, CEO Fondation Hirondelle said:

“This training is an exciting opportunity to marry capacity building and production for the participants. The Fondation Hirondelle experts are confident that the mixed team will bring new angles and rich inputs to the stories for unique documentaries.”

Vittorio Cammarota, Director UN Information Centre said:

“It is a ground-breaking project which will empower documentary makers from Pakistan and Afghanistan to build peaceful relations while promoting human rights. Participants in the training will have an unprecedented opportunity to showcase their work in international platforms.”

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