MEDIA ADVISORY

FORUM ON THE STATE OF JOURNALISTS’ SAFETY IN GHANA


The Forum is in commemoration of the first ever United Nations International Day to End Impunity and Crimes against Journalists. A paper on the topic will be presented by the Executive Director of Media Foundation for West Africa, Sulemana Braimah and the discussions will be moderated by a Member of the National Media Commission, Kwasi Gyan-Apenteng.

The Forum, is expected to be attended by journalists, media groups, students, Members of the security services, representatives from the public and private sectors, and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

Date: Monday, November 3, 2014
Venue: Civil Service Conference Room (adjacent to the Ministry of Communications)
Time: 10:00 a.m. PROMPT

Background:

In a Resolution, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity at its 68th Session on 18 December 2013, Member States were urged by the United Nations “…to do their utmost to prevent violence against journalists and media workers, to ensure accountability through the conduct of impartial, speedy and effective investigations into all alleged violence against journalists and media workers falling within their jurisdiction and to bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice and ensure that victims have access to appropriate remedies…”
The UN General Assembly subsequently declared 2\textsuperscript{nd} November to be commemorated annually as the International Day to End Impunity and Crimes against Journalists with the key objective to create more awareness and advocacy around the fact that safety of journalists is crucial for freedom of expression to take root and democracies to be sustainable.

More than 600 journalists have been killed in the last ten years and many more have suffered other non-fatal attacks while the rate of conviction of the perpetrators of these crimes is extremely low.

\textbf{Media contact:}
Ms. Cynthia Prah, National Information Officer
UNIC Accra
Email: Cynthia.prah@unic.org; prah@un.org