

IAWRT Afghanistan Chapter

Establishment Report 12 August 2017

Introduction

Afghanistan IAWRT chapter establishment inspired by IAWRT in 2016, is a group of women working in radio, television, and press determined to contribute their efforts as member of an initiative media outlet which ensure women's journalist views and values in Afghan vibrant media outlet.

Afghanistan's women media has a 100-years' history that began with a Ershad al-Nuswan in 1921 since than women media had experienced different stages of ups and downs but media in general effectively brought to a silence during the regime of Taliban in Afghanistan.

Afghan media flourished over the past 16 years. Recent survey reveals that around 2000 media outlets have been functioning in Afghanistan with an estimated 12,000 working journalists in media industry out of which 2,000 are women.

The new era brought free media and freedom of expression some of the greatest achievements of the past 16 years. Even so, media still face serious challenges. Many fewer Afghan women than men work as journalists, female Afghan reporters and editors are increasingly making their voices heard not just on traditionally "feminine" topics like education and health.

The IAWRT Afghanistan chapter will provide good opportunity for Afghan female journalists to exchange views and share experiences with the world's media professionals.

This report covers activities for a time span from 22 June, 2016 to 12 August, 2017. It represents the result achieved from the work undertaken by Board members

1 IAWRT Statutes, Afghanistan chapter.

Afghanistan's chapter statutes inspired and adapted from International Association of Women in Radio and Television, Statutes 2013. The statutes discussed among seven pioneer members of AIAWRT, translated into two local languages (Dari and Pashto) and submitted to Ministry of Justice for review. Apart from minor changes almost all articles were preserved. The update version is going to be used as official statutes of IAWRT Afghanistan chapter.

2 Afghanistan IAWRT Registration

In compliance with Afghanistan legal forms, IAWRT registered under Social organizations (communities and associations)" The Law on Social Organizations requires social organizations to pursue "social, cultural, educational, legal, artistic and vocational activities" which could include either mutual benefit or public benefit purposes (Law on SOs, Article 2(1)). The IAWRT Afghanistan chapter must be enacted in the light of Constitution and other laws of Afghanistan.

Registered under the number of 2742 date 7/3/1396(28/05/2017) with Ministry of Justices.

Challenges and solution during registration:

Registration of IAWRT Afghanistan chapter took some amount of time due to ambiguity existed in the principles of Ministry of Information and culture (MoIC) and Ministry of Justice. Application for registration initially submitted to MoIC and several meeting were held with authorities to secure the license. Board efforts were all absurd until the issue was discussed with minister of justice.

3 Board Member

Following registration, a meeting of 7 committed female journalists working in radio and TVs, who share the vision and interested in IAWRT mission interested in supporting its current and future needs, was held in Kabul.

A list of criteria that all participants agreed upon was developed and election for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary took place on 3 July, 2017. Ms. Najiba Ayubi as President, Humaira Saqib, Vice President, Kreshma Fakhri as General Secretary, Afsana Rahimi treasurer and 3 others (Makia Munir, Wajiha Sayar and Amena Mayar) were selected as members of board.

4 Establishment of Bank Account

On 21 August, 2017 an account maintained with Afghanistan International Bank (AIB), the most prestigious International commercial bank in Afghanistan. Activation process will take one week following application for opening of the account.