

Translation:

The Media Division at the Prime Minister's Office takes note of the request from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for member countries to submit national reports regarding the evaluation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.

Commented [MbHAM2]: Same comment as in Malay version.

The Media Division has the following views on this matter:

1. The content requested as in paragraph 2.2. of the Guidance Note can be prepared and reported by local media agencies. Media in Brunei Darussalam are given the opportunity to improve their skills through training and courses conducted both in the country as well as overseas. At ASEAN level, media development is one of the main priorities under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Pillar, and is also focused on by ASEAN Dialogue Partners. Both Government media agencies (Radio Televisyen Brunei and the Information Department) and local media agencies (including Borneo Bulletin, Media Permata and The Scoop) in Brunei Darussalam can participate in ASEAN courses related to broadcasting and information.
2. The Government also allocates budget for capacity building of journalists through overseas training including training of producers from Radio Televisyen Brunei (RTB) producers and the Information Department with internationally-renowned media agencies. Local media agencies are also welcomed to participate in such courses.
3. On *Enabling Environment*, Brunei Darussalam encourages creativity in the dissemination of information. Even though Brunei Darussalam has laws in place to manage and censor media material however in general these do not impede media freedom of expression so long as they respect the four priorities namely National, Security, Harmony and Religion. The related laws include Sedition Act, Undesirable Publications Act, Newspapers Act, Censorship of Films and Public Entertainment Act, Broadcasting Act and Internal Security Act. The Government of Brunei Darussalam has never prevented, threatened or put out harsh warnings to the media. Any advice or guidance is given privately and internally.

AGC Comments as per OHCHR Guidance Note

Evaluation of the Third Phase (2015 – 2019) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education National Actions AGC's comments	
(1) Strengthen implementation of human rights education in primary, secondary and higher education as well as human rights training for civil servants, including law enforcement officials and the military (first and second phase) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing implementation and consolidating the work done; • Providing human rights education and training for educators in formal and non-formal education and training; • Undertaking related research and mapping, sharing good practices and lessons learned, sharing information among all actors; • Applying and strengthening sound educational methodologies based on good practices and assessed through continuous evaluation; • Fostering dialogue, cooperation, networking and information-sharing among relevant stakeholders; • Furthering the integration of human rights education and training into school and training curricula. 	Not within AGC's purview.
(2) Promote human rights training for media professionals and journalists (third phase) in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and related implementation measures; • Training processes and tools; • An enabling environment. 	Not within AGC's purview.
Other information: Overall human rights education developments and other related information, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The adoption of national policies and/or strategic documents, such as a National Plan of Action for Human Rights Education or related law; 	For specific policies and strategic documents on human rights education developments are not within the purview of AGC. Brunei has legislations in place relating to human rights development and protection. <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Act • Compulsory Education Act

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compulsory Religious Education Act <p><u>Protection from harm and injustice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penal Code • Unlawful Carnal Knowledge • Women and Girls Protection Act • Children and Young Persons Act • Anti-Trafficking in Persons Order, 2019 • Prevention of People Smuggling Order, 2019 <p><u>Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules of Supreme Court, Supreme Court Act • Old Age and Disability Pensions • ‘Persons with Different Abilities Order, 2020’ is currently in the drafting stage. <p><u>Marriage and Family</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage Act • Chinese Marriage Act • Dissolution of Marriage Act • Married Women Act • Guardianship of Infants Act • Adoption of Children Act • Islamic Adoption of Children Act • Islamic Family Law Act <p><u>Media/cyber-related</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penal Code • Sedition Act • Public Order Act • Broadcasting Act • Internet Code of Practice Notification • Broadcasting (Code of Practice) Notification 1998 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defamation Act • Computer Misuse Act <p>However, Brunei has ratified/acceded to the following fundamental human rights treaties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) – 27th December 1995 • Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) – 14th April 2016 • Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) – 24th May 2006 • Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict – 17th May 2016 • Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography – 21st November 2006
<p>(2) Main challenges to advancing human rights education, both in the areas covered by the plan of action for the third phase and beyond, and opportunities for overcoming them;</p>	<p>Not within AGC's purview.</p>
<p>(3) Efforts undertaken to disseminate information on the World Programme for Human Rights Education in the country;</p>	<p>Not within AGC's purview.</p>
<p>(4) Any relevant supplementary documentation, including already-existing information reported to the United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms or to other intergovernmental organizations, which could be annexed to the report;</p>	<p>Not within AGC's purview.</p>
<p>(5) Information on the institution/department responsible for preparing the report, including contact details.</p>	<p>Not within AGC's purview.</p>