

Press release

PREPARATION FOR WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Kigali, Rwanda 5th April 2014: 3rd May will be World Press Freedom day marked worldwide as date celebrates the fundamental principles of press freedom. It was proclaimed World Press Freedom Day by the UN General Assembly in 1993 following a recommendation adopted at the twenty-sixth session of UNESCO's General Conference in 1991.

The Media fraternity in Rwanda represented by the Rwanda Media Commission [Media Self regulatory Body] and the Rwanda Journalists Association [ARJ] in partnership with the Government of Rwanda and One UN is organizing activities to celebrate this day.

This year's celebration will be held under the theme; *Free and Professional Media: A driver for development and Good Governance*, this reflecting a time the Rwanda media environment continues to experience changes as journalists and citizens strive for greater press freedom.

Among the activities prepared is Media stakeholders' forum/Debate on 3rd May at Lemigo Hotel in Kigali, documentary on media in Rwanda, a sporting activity and a media awareness campaign. The day will see the Rwanda Media Commission present the State of the Media report and the Rwanda Governance Board will launch the Media Barometer which will form the basis for discussions.

The day will provide an opportunity for stakeholders in press freedom particularly media practitioners, policy makers and development partners to openly discuss and debate the state of press freedom.

Therefore, the media fraternity and the public in general is called to engage fully in events marking this important day.

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