**IFJ Calls for Investigation into Murder of Pakistan Journalists Shan Odhor**

The International Federation of Journalists has called on authorities in Pakistan to carry out an immediate investigation into the murder of journalist Shan Odhor in the Badha area of the country’s Larkana district last Tuesday night, 31 December.

According to reports, Odhor, a senior report for the Aaab Tak News Channel, was shot dead by unidentified assailants on his way home. He was taken to hospital with critical injuries and passed away in the early hours of New Year’s Day. Following Odhor’s death, a series of protests led by IFJ affiliate, the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), have been held by journalists across Pakistan to call for the government to step up its efforts to protect the safety of journalists in the country.

“We express our deepest sympathies with the family and colleagues of the highly respected journalist Shan Odhor,” said IFJ President Jim Boumelha. “We call for Pakistani authorities to carry out an immediate and thorough investigation into his murder and to take every step necessary to ensure that the perpetrators of this horrific crime face the full weight of justice.”

On 31 December, the IFJ released its annual list of journalists and media staff killed in 2013 which showed that Pakistan remains one of the deadliest countries in the world for media workers, with 10 journalists and media staff killed in the country this year.

In response to the continued violence and brutality against journalists, in October this year the IFJ launched its *End Impunity* campaign which is calling on the governments of Pakistan, Iraq and Russia to investigate killings of journalists and bring their perpetrators to justice.

“Our End Impunity campaign is calling for an end to violence against journalists in Pakistan which has recorded some of the highest journalists' death tools in recent years,” said Boumelha. "We believe that the lack of accountability for acts of violence against journalists in Pakistan reinforces the culture of impunity and is the main reason why journalists in the country remain in the firing line.

"Pakistani authorities in Iraq must take the action required to ensure that the perpetrators of such extreme acts of violence against journalists answer for their crimes.”