

SAMSN Resolution: Solidarity for Kashmir media

Journalists, leaders and representatives of journalist unions and media rights organizations of South Asian countries, under the umbrella of the South Asia Media Solidarity Network (SAMSN) and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), convened in Kathmandu from September 8 to 10, 2017 expressed solidarity with media and journalists in Kashmir, India.

Condemning the attacks, arrests and restrictions on media reporting of the Kashmir conflict, the meeting also expressed serious concern over the frequent restrictions on the use of internet and mobile phones in the conflict-affected Kashmir Valley, which affects newsgathering and dissemination. It also impedes news reporting from the ground, thus affecting the public's right to know and freedom of expression of the people of Kashmir in particular and citizens of India in general. Journalists in Kashmir are at constant risk while covering clashes and military operations.

The meeting demanded adequate measures to provide safety for media and journalists; to ensure independent newsgathering and free flow of information in Kashmir, India.