



May 27, 2020

Rhonda Taylor

Chair, Society of Publishers in Asia
Unit 2503, 25/F, K Wah Centre,
191 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Dear Ms. Taylor,

We hope that you are safe and in good health.

It is undoubtedly a challenging time. We appreciate your stand alongside ABS-CBN after the National Telecommunications Commission issued the cease and desist order against our broadcast operations. We are grateful for your statement of support.

Despite the shutdown last May 5, we have found ways to deliver our news through our other platforms. We are also producing new shows to bring entertainment and inspiration to viewers via digital means. However, these shows do not reach many Filipinos, especially those living in remote areas of the Philippines, who rely on TV and radio for news, information, and entertainment.

Right now, our priority is for ABS-CBN to return on air as quickly as possible and serve the millions of Filipinos who find our programs meaningful to them. At the congressional hearings, we are determined to prove that we are deserving of a franchise renewal.

We hope for your continued support in our mission to serve the Filipino. Maraming salamat, Kapamilya!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carlo Katigbak".

CARLO L. KATIGBAK
President and CEO, ABS-CBN Corporation

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Lopez".

MARK L. LOPEZ
Chairman, ABS-CBN Corporation

Statement of support from Society of Publishers in Asia



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05.08.20 |

SOPA urges Philippine government to allow ABS-CBN back on air

The Society of Publishers in Asia condemns the Philippine National Telecommunications Commission's order forcing ABS-CBN off air.

ABS-CBN, one of the largest and most important media organizations in the Philippines, has reported extensively on human rights abuses committed by authorities as part of President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs.

Forcing ABS-CBN off air sends a chilling effect through the news media and a message to journalists that criticizing those in power will not be tolerated.

Free flow of information during the coronavirus pandemic is more important now than ever. Families supported by the income of ABS-CBN's 11,000+ employees are also at stake.

The Society of Publishers in Asia urges the Philippine government to renew ABS-CBN's license and allow it to begin broadcasting immediately, free from intimidation and political harassment.

<https://www.sopasia.com/2020/05/sopa-urges-philippine-government-to-allow-abs-cbn-back-on-air/>