IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR 2011

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INTRODUCTION

In terms of events that have shaken the world, and particularly those related to freedom of expression and access to information, 2011 has been exceptional: the Arab Spring in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and the global protests (and repression) it generated, the release of Aung San Sui Kyi, the cat and mouse game for control of the internet which saw, at its most extreme, complete black out of the internet, the continuing growth of religious conservatism, and its active vying for global political influence around the world, coupled with clear evidence of ultra-right wing growing presence in European democracies, the large number of debates about national security generated by the vast amount of confidential information released by Wikileaks, etc. All of these events taking place in a backdrop of severe financial and economic crisis, presaging the so-called euro-crisis of 2012, and the 10 year anniversary of 9/11. This was a year of Tsunamis, real and tragic in Japan, and metaphorical too. The vast amount of confidential information the site released into the public domain sent shockwaves around the world, generated sharp debates about national security and the benefits of an open regime of information. In 2011,

It is in this volatile and unpredictable world that ARTICLE 19 has worked to advance its. This shifting external landscape has generated both significant opportunities and serious challenges for the organisation, including constantly appraising its policies and positions, and developing new policies and responses to a fast changing environment.

Strong national projects have been implemented, including in response to the Arab Spring, to contribute to strengthening nascent democracies, and ensure that the most vulnerable are able to receive and impart information. Particularly noteworthy are the successes of the project on women journalists in Bangladesh and the initiation of a new project on the rights of internally displaced people to information in Kenya. One important area of work in 2011 has been ICT: ARTICLE 19 has delivered some 10 worked to ensure that broadband and mobile communications are recognized as a universal right, and as such is provided to all, at reasonable costs and to minimum quality requirements.

ARTICLE 19 continued to exert influence on the United Nations and other intergovernmental and regional bodies with some significant policy success on elements of Freedom of Expression (FOE) including Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Right to Information (RTI) and the protection of journalists.

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 also strengthened its well-respected brand and increased its high international standing. ARTICLE19 was elected to the board of International Freedom of Expression eXchange network (IFEX) and nominated on the United Kingdom Ministry of Foreign Affairs human rights advisory group. Result Based Management was significantly strengthened: ARTICLE 19 devoted to it substantial amounts of funding including for training purposes. In 2011, ARTICLE 19 produced an overall Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework, collected baseline data and recruited a Monitoring and Evaluation Senior Advisor.
Still, there were many challenges, both in terms of impact and organisationally and 2011 also included experiences linked to growing pains. The organisation is still evolving its change management approach, striving for sustainable solutions and an organisational structure to match the needs of its growth agenda and keep pace with its strategic transformation. To respond to these challenges, ARTICLE 19 initiated a number of large projects on its global structure and human resources, which will be completed in 2012.

ARTICLE 19 continued to experience growth in our financial resources. Most significant are the relatively high number of multi-year and core support grants awarded in 2011 that enabled the organisation to plan and budget more strategically. While strong, our programmatic spend in 2011 was lower than originally anticipated due to delays in project start-ups; this is due to a combination of slower than anticipated recruitment and delays in grant award payments throughout the year.
IMPACT AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2011

Impact on international standard setting (all goals):

- **General Comment No 34 of the Human Rights Committee:** ARTICLE 19 made a significant contribution – arguably the most significant NGO contribution – to the development of General Comment No 34 of the Human Rights Committee, which was adopted in July 2011. The General Comment is the Committee’s authoritative interpretation of ARTICLE 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on freedom of expression. In January 2011 ARTICLE 19 submitted a highly detailed analysis of the draft General Comment. Notably, ARTICLE 19’s recommended that the draft should include more detailed provisions on the right to information, relevant principles concerning ICTs and the protection of journalist sources. Although many of ARTICLE 19’s recommendations were reflected in the subsequent drafts of the General Comment, these failed to assert a clear and unequivocal position against all laws prohibiting blasphemy or “defamation of religions”, one of ARTICLE 19’s major criticisms. ARTICLE 19 was spurred to undertake a “mini-campaign” to persuade the committee to modify the relevant paragraphs of the General Comment. Our letter to the Human Rights Committee in July 2011 prompted letters by other organisations, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. ARTICLE 19 also attended the discussions on the final draft of the General Comment in July 2011 and was consulted by members of the Committee, including the Rapporteur of the General Comment, on the formulation of the final wording of the relevant paragraph which was changed to state: “Prohibitions of displays of lack of respect for a religion or other belief system, including blasphemy laws, are incompatible with the Covenant, except in the specific circumstances envisaged in article 20, paragraph 2, of the Covenant” (final para 48). We welcome the final version of the General Comment as a success since it strengthens the protection of international law on freedom of expression and provides authoritative guidance to state actors, including courts, on the development of policies and adjudication of matters affecting this right.

Impact on international policy setting (all goals):

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 responded to 3 requests emanating from international and regional inter-governmental bodies for its legal and policy expertise and initiated its own policy development processes:

- **Joint Declaration of the four Special Rapporteurs on freedom of expression/information for the United Nations, the OAS, the OSCE and the AU:** Upon request from the special rapporteurs, and in collaboration with one partner NGO, ARTICLE 19 drafted and released the Joint Declaration on freedom of expression on-line, released on 1 June 2011 through a press
conference. The Joint Declaration highlights the need to protect and promote the Internet and the limitations on the State in the regulation of the Internet. It is a document, which is widely cited in international fora and is influencing policy-making in a number of countries.

- **Limits to FoE/I: Threshold on Incitement under Article 20 of the ICCPR:** ARTICLE 19 was invited by the United Nations to develop a legal framework and test regarding the relationship between freedom of expression/Information (FoE/I) and the right to equality and incitement to hatred. ARTICLE 19 proposed test and papers received positive and generous feedback from the participants of all meetings and the UN itself, which has incorporated ARTICLE 19 recommendations into its official reports. Further work will take place in 2012 with the ultimate final UN conference on the topic, during which ARTICLE 19 (the only NGO invited to date as an expert) will submit a revised legal framework.

- **The United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances** made an official visit to Mexico from 18-31 March 2011 during which they requested meetings with, and input from ARTICLE 19. For this purpose, ARTICLE 19 submitted a shadow report and met with the delegation to highlight the cases of disappeared journalists. The Working Group’s report reiterates a number of ARTICLE 19’s key concerns, especially in relation to the ongoing disappearance of journalists.

- **Rio+20 Outcome Document:** ARTICLE 19 has progressed significantly although the ultimate outcome of the international policy upon which ARTICLE 19 focused its efforts (Rio+20 outcome document) will not be known before June 2012. This activity is necessarily reactive and dependent on the policy agenda of IGOs. The international policy on environment sustainability will be discussed by member states at the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012 and will be subject to discussion and further amendment (http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/index.html). Still, ARTICLE 19’s, partners’ and other actors’ recommended principles on transparency and participation are reflected in the current version of the outcome document. The May 22 Chair’s policy document includes: 22 references to transparency; 3 to access to information; 2 to public participation; 38 to participation; and 14 to civil society. The references are far greater than in previous documents but ARTICLE 19 remain concerned that they are still too weak. ARTICLE 19 and its partners have contributed throughout the year to the development of the Rio+20 outcome document through its participation in pre conference activities and preparatory events, the organisation of side events and the drafting of a large number of joint statements and letters.

- **The Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA):** Upon request from partners working on ICT, ARTICLE 19 produced in November 2011 an analysis of ACTA. ARTICLE 19 was the first global international organization that issued a position against ACTA (other organizations at the time were mainly online activists). Its work has received very positive feedback from partners and general readership (e.g. comments such as this was “most rational, convincing and informative article” on the subject).

**Impact on progressive freedom of expression jurisprudence (all goals):**
In 2011, ARTICLE 19 intervened in the following cases:

1. Malaysia Supreme Court: Amicus brief in Asahi Kosei vs. Charles Hector Fernandez (August 2011) – defamation of blogger case
2. Supreme court of Rwanda: In October 2011, ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief to the Supreme Court of Rwanda in the case of two journalists, Agnès Uwimana Nkusi and Saïdati Mukabibi – criminal prosecution of journalists
3. Inter-American Court: Amicus brief in Fontevecchia and D'Amico vs. Argentina (September 2011) – case concerning balance between FOE and privacy in cases of defamation of public figures
4. Inter-American Court: Amicus brief in Uzcátegui et al vs. Venezuela – case concerning criminal defamation
5. European Court of Human Rights: Mouvement Raelien vs. Switzerland (November 2011) – case concerning ICT protection
6. Inter-American Court: Amicus brief in Luis Gonzálo ‘Richard’ Vélez Restrepo vs. Colombia (March 2012) – case concerning death threats and violence against journalist
7. Bangkok criminal court: Amicus brief in Mr Somyot Pruksakasemsuk vs Public Prosecutor, Office of the Attorney General (OAG) – case concerning defamation and lesse majeste laws
8. Mexico: ARTICLE 19 intervened in 43 cases in 2011, with at least 60 beneficiaries. Interventions ranged from the provision of immediate legal advice to full legal representation and support to legal cases through amicus briefs.

More specific examples of ARTICLE 19 legal support work includes:

- ARTICLE 19 contributed an amicus brief to Inter-American Court in the case of Fontevecchia vs. Argentina: in September 2011: this case was important because it was the first case ever in which the Inter-American Court considered the relationship of privacy and free expression. The Court ruled in December 2011 that there had been a violation of the freedom of expression rights of the journalists. The decision largely followed the arguments set out in our submission.
- Mexico: ARTICLE 19 is leading on several cases related to discrimination in the allocation of public advertising.
- In October 2011, ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief to the Supreme Court of Rwanda in the case of two journalists, Agnès Uwimana Nkusi and Saïdati Mukabibi, who were convicted in February 2011 for threatening national security, genocide denial, creating divisionist ideas, incitement to divisionism and defamation of public officials under the Penal Code of Rwanda through articles they had written between 2009 and 2010. The case is still pending with the Supreme Court, but our submission has been widely covered in the media.
- Inter-American Court: Amicus brief in Uzcátegui et al vs. Venezuela – in November 2011: the case involved the criminal case against Luis Uzcátegui on the grounds that he publicly revealed the complaints he had filed with the Venezuelan state authorities in connection with extrajudicial executions which were presumed to have been carried out by death squads in Falcón state and
his belief that those killings were led by two public officials, specifically two law enforcement commanders.

- The Guardian case in Iraq: in January 2011, ARTICLE 19 celebrated a victory in the high profile case Baghdad Appeal Court (Iraq) for which the organisation submitted an amicus brief in 2010. The Appeal Court accepted ARTICLE 19 arguments and stated that the first instance court “disregarded well-established international law which guarantees the rights of the media to critically evaluate the activities of governments and their elected leaders”.

- **Success in Kungurov v Uzbekistan at the Human Rights Committee: in November 2011, A19 celebrated a victory in the case at the UN Human Rights Committee concerning the procedure in Uzbekistan for registering the non-governmental organisation ‘Democracy and Rights’. The decision was also the first time the Committee has decided that there has been a violation of freedom of association in conjunction with freedom of expression in a case concerning NGO registration**

**Impact on legal and policy reforms related to the Right to Information (goal 4):**

2011 witnessed a number of positive legal reforms for which ARTICLE 19 has played a role. Legal reforms are complex processes involving a range of actors over long period of time, on average 8 to 10 years. For instance, ARTICLE 19 started working on access to information in Mongolia in 2003. The reforms or progresses towards reforms identified below can be linked to ARTICLE 19’s work (legal analysis, legal advocacy, coalition-building and trainings), jointly with others, including in the first place national partner organisations.

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 produced 10 submissions on national RTI legislation, including:

- Rwanda: Analysis of the Draft Law on Access to Information;
- Bolivia: Analysis of the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information;
- Rwanda: Analysis of the Draft Law relating to the Protection of Whistleblowers;
- Cambodia: Analysis of the Draft Law on Right to Information;
- Botswana: Analysis of the Draft Freedom of Information Bill;
- Tunisia: Access to the Administrative Documents;
- Egypt: Analysis of the Draft Freedom of Information Law, (drafted by the civil society);
- Kenya: Analysis of the Data Protection Law;
- Kenya: Draft Data Protection Bill critically limited;
- Uganda: Publication of regulations for 2005 Access to Information Act;

These outputs were supported by consultation with national stakeholders prior to their submission.

Some of the achievements in 2011 included:

- Brazil, El Salvador, Mongolia, Nigeria and Ukraine adopted an access to information law in 2011
- In Uganda, the government finally published the long awaited regulations operationalising the Access to Information Act, 2005 (April 2011)
In Ethiopia, the government operationalised the Proclamation on Access to Information, 2008 (Dec 2011).

In Mexico, ARTICLE 19 Index of the Right of Access to Information catalysed review of, and reform to, transparency laws in the Federal District and the state of Puebla.

In Kenya, Article 19 organised 4 open meetings to consult stakeholders on the draft bills on the Right to Information and Data Protection. These activities contributed to a progressive draft RTI law which includes ARTICLE 19 recommendations and a Freedom of Information network reinvigorated and engaged in transparency activities. In Kenya, the Independent Communications of Kenya Bill, 2010 and the Independent Media Council Bill, 2010 were initiated for public debate and stakeholders input.

Impact on legal and policy reforms related to ICT (Goal 2):
In this reporting year ARTICLE 19 produced 5 analyses of freedom of expression and ICTs.

- Mexico: comprehensive analysis of the protection of Twitter users under the FOE framework - September 2011;
- Kenya: comprehensive analysis of the decision of the Kenya Communication Commission on “counterfeit” mobile phones and the FOE implications – October 2011
- Iran: Analysis of the Cybercrimes Law – November 2011 (released by the Iran programme as a publication in January 2012);

In Kenya, ARTICLE 19 policy paper sought to address the question of regulation of the mobile telephony in Kenya from a free speech perspective. ARTICLE 19 attracted considerable attention to the issue in the local and regional press and was the only NGO that was invited to the consultations on the topic by the Kenya Communication Commission (CCK), alongside four major mobile phone providers), ARTICLE 19 also managed to obtain from the CCK that it defers its decision to disconnect “counterfeit” phones from the network.

Impact on legal and policy reforms related to freedom of expression, including freedom of the press (Goal 3):
In this reporting year ARTICLE 19 produced 12 analyses of freedom of expression and ICTs.

- Kenya: Analysis of the Media Bill 2010 - February 2011;
- Tanzania: Analysis of the Stakeholders’ Proposal on Media Services Bill – October 2011;
- Tajikistan: Analysis of the Draft Media law of Tajikistan – May 2011;
Some of the achievements in 2011 include:

- In Mexico, ARTICLE 19 welcomed the constitutional reform, which ARTICLE 19 has been advocating for since 2008, giving the federal authorities power to investigate and judge crimes against journalists, subject to approval from at least 17 state congresses. Another key achievement in 2011 was the decriminalisation of defamation in the state of Puebla.
- In Tunisia, ARTICLE 19 contributed to three laws that were subsequently adopted in May and November 2011, including the Press Code and a Broadcasting law establishing an independent regulatory body.
- In Rwanda, ARTICLE 19 campaign played a key role in ensuring the President did not sign into law a regressive penal code.
- In Brazil, ARTICLE 19 was formally invited to join a meeting to organize a special non-partisan parliamentary commission called “Parliamentary Front for freedom of expression and right to communicate”. This commission is an important step towards legislative reviews in broadcasting and could serve as an example to other countries in the region as many have debated similar revisions to their broadcasting regulations.

Successful advocacy at the United Nations as part of the UPR process (Goal 1):
The majority of ARTICLE 19 recommendations on freedom of expression and information in Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Burma, Nepal, Thailand were incorporated in the final reports produced by member states reviewing the state of human rights protection in these countries.

- Uganda received 171 recommendations, 29 of which were drawn from ARTICLE 19 and focused on freedom of expression and information; Tanzania received 153, 11 of which were drawn from ARTICLE 19; Rwanda: 73 and 25 respectively.
- The Summary of Stakeholders reports for Tanzania and Uganda cite ARTICLE 19 as follow: 11 times in the Tanzania report while partner organisation (Misa-Tanzania) recommendations are cited another 10 times; 8 times in the Uganda report.
- Advance questions shared with the governments of Canada, Latvia, Sweden, UK and Netherlands were asked verbatim for the three countries.
• ARTICLE 19’s advocacy on the UPR for Burma, Nepal, and Thailand were successful: ARTICLE 19 lobbied delegates of the UN HRC in Geneva and raised key messages in local and international media during the reviews of Thailand, Burma and Nepal. All key messages outlined by ARTICLE 19 were raised by country delegates during the reviews and included in the OHCHR report. Both Burma and Nepal faced strong questions and recommendations on freedom of expressions issues raised in ARTICLE 19 submissions. FOE concerns on Thailand were voiced by 6 of the 9 countries that ARTICLE 19 had met with prior to the review, and after the UPR the Thai government acknowledged negative aspects of the lese-majeste law.

Impact on the establishment of comprehensive mechanisms against violence against journalists (Goal 3)

• Mexico: ARTICLE 19 intervened in 16 legal cases with a total of 23 beneficiaries. 6 of these cases are still under our supervision. We conducted 1 evacuation procedure and 4 risk assessments for media outlets and 1 risk assessment for a human rights organisation. Some of the achievements in 2011 included:
  • More effective investigations into crimes against freedom of expression by the Special Prosecutor’s Office for Crimes against Freedom of Expression (FEADLE). Although there is still a gap, FEADLE brought charges on 27 cases before local and federal judges.
  • Protection measures: Following ARTICLE 19 repeated advocacy, FEADLE now grants protection measures to those journalists who request them. The Ministry of the Interior have reimbursed ARTICLE 19’s expenses to protect Lydia Cacho. This was the first time the State compensated an NGO for measures that should been implemented by the State.
  • As a result of ARTICLE 19 interventions on behalf of journalist Lydia Cacho, FEADLE, together with the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Women, adopted new processes for proceedings, i.e. secure facilities from which victims and witnesses give testimony through closed circuit TV. This helps ensure victims are not re-victimized during the proceedings.

• In East Africa, ARTICLE 19 identified 40 journalists under threat in the region for which it negotiated support with a number of organisations, including Front Line Defenders, Reporters without Borders (RSF), Rory Peck Trust, etc. In addition, ARTICLE 19 began advocacy at the ACHPR for a resolution on safety of journalists in Somalia (resolution was finally adopted in April 2012.)

• In West Africa, ARTICLE 19 focused its efforts to combat violence against journalists in the Gambia through: regular monitoring on FoE violations; provision of 3 trainings on international FoE standards, safety and security for journalists, and online security training to prepare journalists to mitigate violence and abuses; formal partnership with TANGO, an umbrella civil society organisations in the Gambia, and the Bar Association; moderation of an e-platform to share information; consultation and sensitisation meetings with the American Bar Association to raise the profile of the situation of FoE and
human rights in the Gambia and provide support for fund raising for the judiciary library; provided legal support to the association of women journalists to revise their status and to develop their plans.

**Impact in protecting women journalists (Goal 3)**

- **Women Journalists in Bangladesh:** ARTICLE 19 project on women’s participation in the media has found evidence of significant levels of gender-based discrimination and censorship of women journalists. Many cases recorded during the project by journalists themselves has established that women journalists are victims of discrimination such as unfair treatment by employers, poor attitude of male colleagues, sexual harassment, lack of actions by employers against perpetrators and poor remuneration and that such “gender discrimination is often used as a tool for censorship”. One of the key successes of the project has been to secure the acceptance and endorsement of media leadership on the status of women journalists and issues concerning their lack of rights and protection and the need to take action. The project has also taken a pioneering role in providing a safe space for journalists to talk about this issue amongst themselves and in raising it to their leadership. “ARTICLE 19 Bangladesh with its programme of support for women journalists has successfully created a critical mass, both women and men who strongly believe in enhancing the rights of women journalists in Bangladesh”.

**Impact in protecting the universality of freedom of expression (goal 3):**

- “Defamation of Religions” defeated at the UN Human Rights Council: In March 2011, the Human Rights Council adopted on Thursday, 24 March, a resolution on “Combating Discrimination and Violence” against persons on the basis of religion and belief. This marks a key turning point in a decade long debate over “defamation of religions” at the UN. The resolution stresses the importance of an “open public debate of ideas, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue [which are] among the best protections against religious intolerance.” Significantly, this new resolution was presented to the UN Human Rights Council by the OIC, and with unanimous support of its member states. As such, its language and approach may become an important tool for civil society and political reformists within OIC countries to challenge and reform national blasphemy laws. It is hoped that the General Assembly and other UN bodies, notably the Ad Hoc Committee on Complementary Standards, will reject the language of “defamation of religions” as the Human Rights Council. ARTICLE 19 has campaigned for a number of years against UN bodies’ resolutions on “defamation of religions” and national blasphemy laws. ARTICLE 19 will continue to advocate this position to ensure there is no regression on “defamation of religions” at the international level.

**Influence over international policies and standards on transparency and accountability in international policies and standards related to MDGs (Goal 4)**

ARTICLE 19 has progressed considerably in this milestone by focusing on the Rio + 20 process on sustainable development and on the right to health. Two policy outputs related to MDGs 5 and 7 and the right to water were produced including:
Policy position paper with partner The Access Initiative (TAI) on access to information entitled “Moving from Principles to Rights: Ensuring Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice for Everyone”. The paper reviews the developments since the 1992 Rio Summit on the subject and makes proposals to the United Nations and to member states towards a strong integration of transparency into the new Rio Declaration. It has been translated into Spanish and Portuguese. The release of the paper led to an extensive debate on the importance of access to information in protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development. It also contributed to an emerging consensus at the UN and in many countries including Brazil, that the Summit Outcome Document should include a call for a new global convention on access to environmental information.

Detailed policy brief on the policy implications of states’ international human rights obligations on the right to information and the right to health. The policy brief sets out the relationship between the right to information and the right to health, specifically examining how the right to information is relevant to the right to health, before recognising the international legal frameworks on the right to information and the right to health respectively. The brief, to be launched in Year 2 in Kenya, has been reviewed and discussed with partners on the ground.

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 produced a total of 15 statements and press releases related to the implementation of the right to health, sustainable environment and water. These included: 3 statements and press release linking the right to health with transparency and freedom of expression; 1 statement on the importance of freedom of information and transparency to disaster presentation and mitigation; 9 statements or press releases on the environment, sustainable development and transparency and 2 statements linking the realisation of the right to water through freedom of expression and access to information.

Impact in strengthening the capacity of CSOs representing poor men and women in target countries to test the RTI framework and system (Goal 4)

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 also facilitated some 160 requests for information:

- **Brazil:** The Brazilian Law on Violence against Women (also known as Maria da Penha Law) requires the creation of a nationwide databank on violence against women coordinated by the Ministry for Justice with data collected by each of the 27 Public Prosecutor's Offices in each of the states of the Brazilian Federation. However, six years after the adoption of Law Maria da Penha there is still no access to such databank and no figures are available on the total of cases of aggression, abuse and threats suffered each year by Brazilian women. To address this major failure, and contribute to the implementation of the Law on Violence against Women, ARTICLE 19 and its partners presented 3 information requests each to all 27 Public Prosecutor's Offices demanding the total number (Total 81) of legal procedures for which the law has been applied, the types of aggression and ensuing key legal developments. Only 11 offices replied to the request, and the vast majority did not respect the legal deadlines.
• **Mexico:** ARTICLE 19 submitted 35 information requests to the 32 local governments and the federal level through the Women’s Institute and General Attorneys in order to identify; 1) The number of alerts gender emergency 2) The activities and budget of the different Ministers to comply with the National System in order to respond, punish and eradicate violence against women 3) Monitoring the status of the National Data Bank about Violence cases against women. 4) Identify for each state; the public resources, the disseminate message, the channels of communication and the centers of denounce.

• **Kenya:** ARTICLE 19 sought to improve RTI and Parliamentary accessibility through a series of activities, which included 4 trainings of 57 information requesters (23 women and 34 men) from 32 constituencies. ARTICLE 19 submitted 51 requests for information to MPs. 72% never received a response despite repeated attempts.

**2011 IN REVIEW**

The last 12 months will be remembered first and foremost for the Arab Spring – probably the biggest true surprise of the year. The Tunisian revolution started early in the year. The uprising in Egypt came next to be followed quickly by uprisings around the Arab world (and beyond). Much has been written about how the world, including, to a large extent, Arab governments themselves, got the aspirations of the Arab people very wrong. There are few ready to pronounce on the outcome of the Arab spring: it
was long in development and has long to run. For instance, the initial enthusiasm in Egypt has given way to deep pessimism because of the very real possibility that country is moving back in time, retreating from the Tahir square demands to the stability aspirations of the Military regime.

The Arab spring has influenced many actors and discussions on its effects in other regions have been frequent. Governments have been faced with more demands to hold free and fair elections and to account to their citizens and provide a conducive framework to enable them find work, enterprise and express their views and be heard. Many have responded to these demands by dismissing them, along with the importance of the Arab revolts and its possible consequences in the region. Others (from China to Azerbaijan, including Saudi Arabia or the Gulf Countries) have strengthened repression to prevent the Arab Spring contagion.

Still Aung San Sui Kyi was released on 13 November 2010, after years of house arrest, solitude and humiliation, but to a large extent Burma remains a closed society. Again, the process of transformation will not be smooth or linear. It no doubt will take many more years and many reverses and about-turns lie ahead before democracy sees the light of day in Burma. In the meantime, Indian and Chinese economic interests will very much determine the course of the political negotiations over the present and future of Burma.

In 2011, the world remembered 9/11 and reflected on its legacy. Human rights abuses, the sidelining of human rights standards, the introduction of myriad security-related laws and policies, restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom imposed in the name of the war on terror: these are the human rights inheritance of the last decade.

2011 will also be remembered for the rise and fall of Wikileaks or, at least, of its founders. The vast amount of confidential information the site released into the public domain sent shockwaves around the world, generated sharp debates about national security and the benefits of an open regime of information. Interestingly, a number of human rights activists did not greet the phenomena as an advance for freedom, highlighting instead concerns about privacy, and possible retribution against those quoted in the leaked diplomatic cables. As is the case for many of the events of the last 12 months, there will be no fixed outcome or impact from Wikileaks. As we have all discovered, it is not a zero sum game but rather an open game whose rules and game plan are still being written as we “play” along. The identity of the players themselves can be surprising. For instance, democratic governments that have very actively and openly supported internet freedom, in this year called for, and implemented, very punitive measures against those responsible for leaking information into the public domain.

In 2011, the cat and mouse game for control of the internet saw other governments pursue the “just-in-time” blocking of online content and social media applications during periods of unrest. Malawi’s government, for example, blocked access to news websites, Facebook, and Twitter in July as part of its clampdown on mass protests.
Access to the internet was cut off entirely in Egypt amidst the January 2011 mass protests.

Throughout the year, many debates about the internet were dominated by issues related to intellectual property rights (IPR) and on-line content, even though not conducted properly, publicly or openly. IPR has become the best known “secret” topic of negotiation and a major issue in behind the scene discussions on internet freedoms. The latest report from the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression presented at the Human Rights Council in June 2011 was not endorsed by a number of European countries (including the UK or France) because of its position on IPR.

The growth of religious conservatism, and its active vying for global political influence, has generated significant tensions for free expression around the world, including in Western democracies. The draft bills and debates on full-face veils in France, Belgium and the Netherlands are some standout examples of this. Still, one place where these debates cooled during 2011 is at the UN, largely due to the US diplomatic skills and NGOs’ advocacy. But the struggle is far from over yet, just one of its latest expressions.

An interesting development of the last 12 months has been the number of initiatives to address violence against journalists and impunity. While not a new phenomena and while neither 2011 nor 2010 are the worse years on record, civil society, a number of governments and international agencies have prioritised the issue. Most recently, the UNESCO has organised a UN inter-agency meeting to agree a plan of action, while Austria, which just joined the Human Rights Council, has decided to make it a priority of its engagement at UN level.

Another issue which has gained momentum at international level is that of repression against civil society and legal threats against charities around the world. The US government has made this one of their key priorities (along with internet freedoms), as reflected in the number of political statements on the matter by the highest level officials, and the large increase of grants to protect civil society activists. ARTICLE 19 has been an active participant to both developments, advising the various governments leading on these matters and participating to joint actions with other civil society organisation, such as the forthcoming Impunity Day.

Some Regional Trends:

“Poverty in Africa has made people cynical about human rights and democracy,” said Faith Pansy Tlakula, the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information, the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights. However, there is an inherent connection between media freedom and achievement of the eight anti-poverty benchmarks-Millennium Development Goals- that world leaders in 2000 committed to ensure they are fulfilled by 2015, she noted in reaction to the cynics. “It is hardly possible to address MDGs without citizen participation, freedom of expression, and information,” she reiterated.
In East Africa, several serving leaders did not hesitate to unduly restrict freedom of expression, assembly and association (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda), to misappropriate state resources to grant themselves privileged access to state owned media for their personal campaigns (Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania), to silence dissenting voices (Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Rwanda), to tighten media restrictions in anticipation of the elections (Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda) or to change the constitution to enable them to run for another term in office in order to perpetuate their regime (Djibouti). Others continued to govern with a clenched fist without even considering the organisation of elections or rule of law (Eritrea). Furthermore, attacks against journalists and human rights defenders monitoring or covering elections tended to increase in the run-up to the elections as well as during and after the voting (Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda). Similarly, journalists and human rights defenders continued to be under attack in Somalia ostensibly for putting a spotlight on impunity.

The West African region was marked by political instability and increasing social malaise. Despite the economic growth witnessed over the past years and the end of major bloody conflicts, the fundamental rights of citizens remain largely constantly negated, while corruption, over priced and deteriorated public services are major obstacles to sustain progress. The democratisation process in the region has been slow and uneven: some countries have made significant progress in the transformation of their political systems to allow reasonable changes in leadership and better governance (Ghana, Nigeria, Cap Vert, Mali), but in many other countries political contestations have been recurrent, due mainly to leaders’ lack of respect for the will of the people especially when it comes to term limit for the presidency (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Gambia among others). This includes countries that had made significant progress on the democratisation front in the past but which have been faced with leadership challenges (with Senegal a case in point, and Benin).

In South East Asia, the most notable political trend was an overwhelming increase of online advocacy, and in turn, crackdowns on freedom of expression over the internet and other forms of communication technology. This can be attributed to the fact that internet usage has increased substantially throughout Asia, with China having twice the figure of internet users than the US in 2011, coupled with the fear of governments on how this new frontier will reshape deeply entrenched power structures and forms of governance. For example, in 2011 Thailand had the highest number of charges under the lèse-majesté law and Computer Crimes Act in the history of both legislations while in January 2011, an executive decree was issued in Vietnam, which gave the government greater powers to penalise journalists, editors, and bloggers who report on issues sensitive to national security, and by November, there were more than 20 detained journalists, bloggers, and human rights defenders in the country. The next trend in the region for 2011 has been the narrowing of space for public dissent, with governments (Cambodia in the lead) putting forth legislation that would greatly limit the peoples’ ability to peacefully assemble, or to maintain NGOs or civil society bodies.

In Latin America, 2011 has witnessed a continuing deterioration in the situation of freedom of expression in Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia and Argentina. The challenges
seen do not refer to the traditional types of physical violence against journalists and media outlets. In these countries, what we have observed is the use of regulations and lawsuits to silence oppositional views, and the strong use of an “official discourse” against the mass media, classifying media outlets and their owners (as well as, many types, their journalists) as enemies, traitors and manipulators (the jargons “media corrupta” and “media golpista” have become daily words in the mouths of President Correa and President Chavez).

Using as a justification the need to “democratize the communications”, many countries in the region have reviewed or are discussing the revision of their broadcasting legislation. It is true that most of them suffer from a concentrated private sector, fragile community sector and a public sector that is non-existent or that is actually composed of State media outlets engaged in party or personal propaganda. However, most proposals fail to ensure the independence of regulators and set up disproportionally restrictive norms.

GOAL ONE: PROTECTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND INFORMATION IN A MULTI-POLAR WORLD

Our overall objectives under this goal are to contribute to halting freedom of expression setbacks, engage with the emerging, powerful, global powerful economies (including Malaysia, Turkey, India and Brazil) and re-enforce the regional and international policy architecture for human rights protection and the fight against poverty through a focus on freedom of the press, transparency and the free flow of information. In 2011, we contribute to these objectives through the following activities.

In particular, ARTICLE 19 has identified three key outcomes:

• Outcome One: Emerging global powers support ARTICLE 19 positions and take progressive stands on Freedom of Expression and Human Rights;
• Outcome Two: Emerging influential regional instruments support ARTICLE 19 position and take progressive stands in Freedom of Expression
• Outcome Three: National legal reforms reflect ARTICLE 19 and international standards of Freedom of Expression in target countries

Engaging with the United Nations to promote freedom of expression/information

ARTICLE 19 has prioritised the United Nations Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process as a key mechanism to strengthen Freedom of Expression and Freedom of
Information (FOE and FOI) in a multi-polar world. The approach taken (equivalent to peer review and constructive engagement) appears to have some impact and should thus continue to be a focus of ARTICLE 19 interventions.

In 2011, the organisation undertook the following activities

**Africa:**
- ARTICLE 19 conducted six capacity buildings meetings on the UPR process and effective lobbying and advocacy strategies for 80 people from civil society organisations (CSOs) from Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda;
- Prepared and developed three advocacy charters and disseminated to 60 state delegations to inform their reviews;
- Presented lessons learnt from the ARTICLE 19 engagement in UPR process to delegates from 16 countries in the Great Lakes and Central Africa Region (7-8thNov 2011) and to 40 CSO delegates from Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda in sub-regional meeting;
- Prepared shadow reports for the countries under review;
- Following the UPR of Kenya in May 2010, ARTICLE 19 monitored the implementation of the UPR FOE recommendations report by conducting and sharing a review of implementation process in 6 meetings with the Kenya-UPR coalition steering committee.

**Asia:**
- Advocacy: ARTICLE 19 attended the review of the UPR of Burma, Cambodia, Thailand, Singapore (represented by Singaporean activist Braema Mathi);
- Submission: ARTICLE 19 submitted a shadow report on Thailand with a focus on government use of emergency powers to suppress freedom of expression; restrictions on the right to freedom of expression on the internet; use of defamation and lèse-majesté laws to silence critics; failure of the government to effectively implement the Official Information Act; control of media by the military and government;
- **Submission on the Philippines,** written by ARTICLE 19, in partnership with the Southeast Asian Press Alliance, Media Defence Southeast Asia, the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, and the Center for International Law, focused on Violence against individuals exercising free speech, and the culture of impunity; the absence of a right to information law; and the use of criminal defamation laws to silence critics;
- **Submission on Indonesia,** written by ARTICLE 19, and in partnership with the Southeast Asian Press Alliance, Media Defence Southeast Asia, Aliansi Jurnalis Independen, and Institut Studi Arus Informasi, focused on The State Intelligence Law and its potential to violate freedom of expression; discrimination against minority religious groups, particularly the Ahmadiyah; restricted access to West Papua and prevention of pro-independence activities; violence against journalists; control of the media by the government; the use of criminal defamation laws to silence critics; ineffective implementation of the Law on Public Information Disclosure.
The impact of ARTICLE 19 intervention included

In Africa:
- Increased capacity of CSOs and the Media to engage with UN mechanisms, as demonstrated by the number of shadow reports they produced for the UPR review and the number of media articles on the topic;
- Enhanced legitimacy of ARTICLE 19 as one of the key regional actors engaging with UPR;
- Impact of ARTICLE 19 recommendations as demonstrated by the inclusion of our recommendations in the final report;
- We received additional funding from delegations that we had targeted in our advocacy strategy to assist with the implementation of recommendations from reports following the UPR. For example, ARTICLE 19 is implementing a project on media strengthening which is funded by the Swiss embassy;
- Increased coverage of FOE and FOI issues in the media in Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda following the events organised around the UPR and the subsequent press releases. This is evidenced through press clipping and broadcast monitoring which revealed that over 15 stories were carried in print and 7 aired broadcasts.

In Asia:
- ARTICLE 19’s key messages for the UPR of Thailand - which includes RTI and online FOE - were raised by country delegates during the reviews and included in the OHCHR report. International awareness and pressure has increased upon the Thai government to address its draconian lese-majeste laws and the computer crimes act.
- Establishment of strong partnership with the co-writers of the submissions, including iLaw, Thai Netizens, Forum-Asia and the People’s Empowerment Foundation, the Southeast Asian Press Alliance, Media Defence Southeast Asia, the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, and the Center for International Law, etc.

Engaging with regional inter-governmental organisations to promote freedom of expression/information

In Africa, ARTICLE 19 worked closely with the African Commission for People’s and Human Rights throughout the year, the continuation of many years of engagement. In 2011, ARTICLE 19 spearheaded the campaign to renew the terms of office of the Special Rapporteur on FOE threatened by repressive countries unhappy with her reports. In particular, ARTICLE 19:
- Mobilised African journalists and FOE organisations to support and sign petition to support the renewal of the SR;
- Established partnership with key FOE organisations in the region and special Rapporteur for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Declaration of Principles on FOoE in Africa spearheaded adopted in 2002;
• Attended the 30th anniversary of the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights and took part in the NGOs forum, public sessions, take part in the review of 3 country human rights reviews, met with government representatives (Nigeria, Togo and Burundi) and issue statements;
• Provided ad hoc advise to SR on FOE/I in Africa and strengthen partnership;
• Joined the coalition on the African Court of Human Rights to strengthen human rights mechanisms against impunity

In addition, ARTICLE 19 took the lead in advocating for a change to the APRM questionnaire so that it includes a focus on the protection of FOE/I. For this purpose, ARTICLE 19 attended expert meeting on the review of the APRM questionnaire and on the revival of APRM in francophone countries. ARTICLE 19 also contributed to drafting road map on APRM in Senegal.

The impact of our work included:
• ARTICLE 19 was selected to join advocacy group on the implementation of decisions of the ACHPR;
• FOE/I is included in the APRM new draft questionnaire, which is to be adopted by the heads of states.

In Asia, ARTICLE 19 initiated a new strategy of engagement with the ASEAN. Our key focus included:
• ARTICLE 19 successfully influenced the outcome document of the ASEAN Civil Society Conference to include a number of recommendations on the end of censorship, freedom of expression, public access to health information, and calling for AICHR to be more transparent.

Halting freedom of expression/information legal setbacks

In Africa, ARTICLE 19 concentrated its efforts on Rwanda where we led a successful set of actions around key legal reforms, including on RTI, the Media Bill and the decriminalisation of defamation. ARTICLE 19 analysed the provisions of the penal code on defamation, advocated for decriminalization of defamation through lobbying state officials and parliamentarians and reviewed the journalists’ code of conduct. The impact of our interventions included:
• ARTICLE 19 built a broad consensus on the need for a reviewed media policy and legal framework in Rwanda;
• Incorporation of many ARTICLE 19 recommendations incorporated in the RTI Bill and the Media Bill;
• Some of our views influenced the reviewed Penal Code leading to reduction in sentences but not total decriminalization.

In Asia, ARTICLE 19 focused its efforts on China, Vietnam and Cambodia:
• ARTICLE 19 organised a roundtable in London on media development and regulation for a delegation from China, consisting of media academics and judges. They were invited by Great Britain China Centre to the UK as part of the centre’s Promoting legal protection of the media in China project;
• ARTICLE 19 gave advice to the Chinese environmental NGO (Friends of Nature), one of the participating organisations of our China project, on a request for information case which had been refused;

• In Cambodia, ARTICLE 19 and the Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) raised concerns about the deteriorating freedom of expression situation in Cambodia, and called for an investigation into the independence of the courts and the systematic use of criminal legislation to silence voices critical of the government and the ruling party. Both organisations also urged the Cambodian government to comply with its international obligations to promote and protect the right to freedom of expression. ARTICLE 19 becomes an active member of a coalition of international and national NGOs for the campaign against the proposed Law on NGO and Associations (LANGO). ARTICLE 19's lobbying, in collaboration with other Cambodian and international NGOs, has resulted in the incorporation of our concerns in a report made by UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Cambodia Surya Subedi;

• In Indonesia, ARTICLE 19 contributed to a Joint amicus brief on the Playboy case: in the opinion of the amici, the criminal conviction and imprisonment of Erwin Arnada, as Editor in Chief of Playboy Indonesia, for publishing and selling to adults a news and entertainment magazine that contained no visual depictions of sexual activity or nudity, put Indonesia at odds with fundamental international law and legal principles that protect such non-obscene speech. These are principles that other Asian democracies uphold and that the Constitution of Indonesia appears to enshrine.

In Latin America, ARTICLE 19 focused its efforts on Bolivia, Venezuela and Ecuador, where the situation has clearly deteriorated.

• In relation to Ecuador, we collected significant information and established partnerships and contacts with local CSOs, reviewed the Broadcasting Bill under discussion within Asemblea Nacional (and released a legal analysis in early 2012). During 2011 ARTICLE 19 also researched and wrote a report on the overall situation of FOE and FOI in Ecuador to be presented to the UN Human Rights Council on the occasion of the revision of Ecuador under the UPR.

• ARTICLE 19 carried out a mission to Caracas and some other province capitals to collect information on the situation of FOE and FOI in the country. As a result, in addition to establishing contacts with local organizations and individuals, we collected around 30 video testimonies. These were used to produce a video that was screened in a parallel event on FOE and Democracy in South America during the October 2011 session of the Human Rights Council. We also presented, in association with IFEX-ALC, a report on the state of FOE and FOI in Venezuela for consideration under the review of Venezuela by the UPR mechanism. We also undertook an extensive advocacy mission in Geneva.

Engaging with emerging global actors
In 2011, ARTICLE 19 initiated a number of activities which seek to lay the ground for a stronger engagement with a number of new global actors with whom ARTICLE 19 has had limited experience to date. The key objective is to convince them to adopt stronger positions defending human rights in general, freedom of expression in particular, as part of their foreign policy and in international and regional setting.

ARTICLE 19 developed the terms of reference for a governmental lobbyist/advocate in Brazil, which will be recruited in 2012, along with a consultant to assist us in determining how best to work and engage with the government of India.

In the meantime, work on strengthening Brazil domestic freedom of expression records has continued and registered a number of successes.

One of the key activities is the launch in 2011 of ARTICLE 19 legal reference Center which should play a key role in strengthening legal protection and respect for the right to FOE/I. In 2011, the Centre key activities and achievements included:

- A series of researches on domestic legislation and case law and the initiation of a databank of relevant legislation and case law, to be launched in 2012;
- A specific study on the operation of community radios;
- A mapping of all pending cases at the Supreme Court involving FOE and FOI issues and is preparing legal opinions in relation to the most relevant cases, to be presented as amicus curiae;
- Amicus curiae in the case of the Belo Monte power plant, an extensive dam built with no proper consultation and access to information to indigenous peoples and other traditional communities living in the impacted areas;
- An opinion in the constitutionality lawsuit filed against the Law on the Classification of Public Documents, which was later repealed by the new Right to Information law;
- An amicus in the lawsuit questioning the constitutionality of the Content Rating System set up by the Ministry for Justice for audiovisual materials;
- Research on the use of hate speech provisions in Brazil and a report for the regional consultation on the topic organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. A number of information requests have been presented to verify the enforcement of the Brazilian Law against Racial Discrimination and the Statute for Racial Equality. A final report will be released after compilation of the information received. We are also planning a number of activities with CSOs representing the rights of Afro-Descendants to follow up on the discussions on the complementarities between FoE and Equality.

The Centre is still in its initial phase. We have learned that the demand for legal knowledge and provisions of services on FOE and FOI in Brazil is enormous and the Centre could not respond to all cases taken to its consideration. 2011 was also a year to define strategies and criteria for our work. In 2012, we will engage in direct litigation and increase our work with the Inter-American system.
GOAL TWO: DEFENDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN A NETWORKED WORLD

Under this goal, ARTICLE 19 seeks to establish, promote and/or strengthen standards and policies protecting and defending internet rights and media diversity. This goal has four five key components:

• Outcome One: States develop and improve national policies on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to respect freedom of expression in policy and practice;
• Outcome Two: International bodies develop ICT standards and policies which recognise and encourage freedom of expression;
• Outcome Three: Proper legislative and policy frameworks are adopted that ensure that underrepresented regions and groups are provided ICT access and training;
• Outcome Four: Media diversity and pluralism are protected through adequate legal/policy framework and greater transparency;
• Outcome Five: There is progressive jurisprudence at national, regional and international level protecting on-line freedom and media diversity.

Contribution to progressive national ICT laws and policies

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 produced 5 analyses of laws and draft laws related to freedom of expression and ICTs:

• Mexico: comprehensive analysis of the protection of Twitter users under the FOE framework - September 2011;
• Kenya: comprehensive analysis of the decision of the Kenya Communication Commission on “counterfeit” mobile phones and the FOE implications – October 2011
• Iraq: Analysis of the Draft Informatics Crime Law – October 2011;
• Iran: Analysis of the Cybercrimes Law – November 2011 (released by the Iran programme as a publication in January 2012);
• Venezuela: Analysis of the Law on Social Responsibility of Radio, Television and Electronic Media - November 2011

In addition, ARTICLE 19 contributions to the UPR process (see goal One) included a focus on the protection of on-line freedom in the countries under review.
Contribution to progressive international policies

In December 2011, ARTICLE 19 analysed the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) from the freedom of expression perspective – December 2011. ARTICLE 19 analysis of ACTA received very positive feedback from the partners and general readership. One comment stated that it was “most rational, convincing and informative article” on the subject. ARTICLE 19 was the first global, international organization to issue a position paper against ACTA. Other commentaries at the time came mainly from online activists). Our position was appreciated for both supporting and giving the legitimacy to those opposing ACTA thus far.

ARTICLE 19 also co-drafted the Joint Declaration of four Special Rapporteurs on freedom of expression – of Americas, Europe, Africa, and the UN - released on 1 June 2011. The Joint Declaration highlights the need to protect and promote the Internet and identifies limitations on the State in the regulation of the Internet. It is also a document, which is widely cited in international fora. It helps influence policy-making in this area in various countries.

Contribution to progressive jurisprudence on ICT issues

ARTICLE 19 submitted three amicus briefs/case intervention in important cases related to ICT rights.

- **UK**: Intervention in UK High Court case with Consumer Focus on Digital Economy Act; ARTICLE 19, with the assistance of Doughty Street Chambers, submitted an Amicus brief to the UK High Court in the legal challenge brought by BT and Talk Talk against the Digital Economy Act. The Act allows for a “graduated response” regime to require that ISPs kick off users who are accused by IP rights holders of violation of copyright. It does not require the intervention of a court prior to their exclusion. It also allows for orders to block websites accused of IP violates. The brief and evidence focused on freedom of expression and proportionality of Act - March 2011;

- **Malaysia**: In June 2011, ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief to the High Court of Malaysia in the case of Charles Hector, concerning the rights of bloggers and defamation and how the defences available in defamation cases to traditional media should apply to blogs. This case was important because there are limited opportunities to put pressure on Malaysia due to its poor record on ratification of international human rights standards. In this brief ARTICLE 19 argued why bloggers should be treated as a journalist in terms of available defences and why they should benefit from the privilege of reasonable publication granted in the Defamation Act of Malaysia. The lawyers used parts of the brief in their own arguments. At the end, the case was settled without decision, so unfortunately, ARTICLE 19 could not assess the impact of its position on the final decision. However, the brief is available on the website and the argument can be replicated by interested parties in other jurisdictions.

- **European Court**: In November 2011, ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief in Mouvement Raelien Suisse v Switzerland, pending at the Grand Chamber of
the European Court. The case concerns their refusal by the Swiss authorities to allow a public billboard campaign by the Raeliens (a religious group based in Switzerland that believes mankind was created by extra-terrestrials said by the authorities to engage in “immoral activities” contrary to public order). In justifying the refusal, the Swiss authorities alleged that the Raeliens promote human cloning and “geniocracy”, “theoretically” advocate for paedophilia (via the practice of “sensual meditation”), and contain members that are the subjects of criminal complaints of sexual practices concerning children. On 13 January 2011, the First Section of the European Court of Human Rights held that the advert displayed a large invitation to visit their website and that the website’s content therefore needed to be assessed. The website itself however, contained no mention of “geniocracy”, cloning, or “sensual meditation”. Instead, the decision focussed on material that was accessible via hyperlinks on the website. In its submission, ARTICLE 19 argues that imposing liability on one website for the content of another website to which it has hyperlinks will have a significant effect on the right of freedom of information. ARTICLE 19 also asked the European Court to recognise both the importance of the internet as a medium for sharing and disseminating ideas and the role hyperlinks play in facilitating this process (the case is pending).

- **Mexico:** On 25 August, Maria de Jesus Bravo Pagola and Gilberto Martinez Vera were arrested and charged with terrorism for disseminating false information on their Twitter accounts in the state of Veracruz. ARTICLE 19 undertook several legal actions to convince the law enforcement authorities to immediately drop all charges against the twitter users. We provided legal arguments based on international standards to the twitter users legal defence, maintained direct contact with the counsellor and filed an amicus brief. ARTICLE 19 also released a statement based on legal arguments and international standards proving these charges to be in clear breach of international law standards on the protection of freedom of expression. In less than a month, the local Executive withdrew the accusation mainly based on ARTICLE 19’s legal arguments. This accusation seriously effected journalists and social network users who have expressed they are no longer willing to post information fearing being accused of a felony. In addition, ARTICLE 19 is now advocating against a reform to the Local Criminal Code to criminalize the dissemination of false information. It was initiated by the Local Executive of Veracruz and passed by the Local Congress in less than a week. ARTICLE 19 has prepared an amicus brief to be filed to the Supreme Court. At the same time, the state of Tabasco has adopted a law that punishes those who provoke social chaos and insecurity through phone calls or online posting with a jail term of up to two years. Such laws are often excessively broadly drafted so that individuals may end up being prosecuted for engaging in perfectly legitimate behaviour and speeches.

**Contribution to the protection of Internet access**

**Kenya:** ARTICLE 19 policy work on mobile phone regulations in Kenya was the first of its kind that argued the problem from a free speech perspective. ARTICLE 19 managed to attract considerable attention to the issue in the local and regional.
Subsequently, ARTICLE 19 was the only NGO that was invited to the consultations on the topic by the Kenya Communication Commission (CCK), alongside four major mobile phone providers. ARTICLE 19 work managed to defer the decision of the CCK to disconnect “counterfeit” phones from the network, about 2.5 million allegedly counterfeit mobile telephones.

**FoE/I and Intellectual Property Rights:** ARTICLE 19 initiated in 2011 a key research on FOE and IPR, with the view of determining an appropriate balance between freedom of expression and intellectual property rights. The all day event was attended by world leaders on this topic who discussed such issues as the concept of intellectual property rights within the human rights framework, the concepts of ‘public domain’ and ‘fair use’, the use of criminal law to enforce intellectual property rights, especially in ACTA. All participants agreed that this was a very timely event and that a broader freedom of expression perspective was much needed in the current debates on intellectual property policy. It is expected that ARTICLE 19 will produce guiding principles on the proper balance between intellectual property rights and freedom of expression in 2012. This would establish ARTICLE 19 as a leader in the area of intellectual property policy from a human rights standpoint. In this regard, it is noteworthy that a number of other experts have expressed interest in contributing to ARTICLE 19’s work on IPR and FOE in future, such as Jan Malinowski from the Council of Europe and Ronald Lemos, Director of the Centre for Technology and Society at the Fundacao Getulia Vargas School of Law in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Furthermore, the meeting enabled important partnerships to be established, for example in coordinating action with La Quadrature du Net, an advocacy group defending rights and freedoms of citizens on the Internet against ACTA.

**Broadband Campaign in Brazil:** ARTICLE 19 is one of the funding member organizations of the Broadband Campaign in Brazil. The main purpose of the campaign is to guarantee that broadband internet is recognized as a universal right and, therefore, is provided to all, for reasonable costs and minimum quality requirements. In August, the campaign became a “trend topic” at Twitter, calling up internet users and others for a public demonstration. In June 2011, a decree established the conditions for the Broadband National Plan. Among other measures, the decree authorises ANATEL (Brazilian telecommunications agency) to develop standards for broadband, forecasts the progressive offer of the service to rural areas and free access to all public schools in rural areas. Civil society organizations have criticized the lack of commitment to universalize the service and the quality criteria, which were adopted later. In September and October, ARTICLE 19 acted as a member of the Mobilization Council of the I Brazilian Internet Forum, together with other 25 national civil society organizations. We took part in the discussion to define the program, the list of experts invited and we wrote several posts for the event site – the most rated and shared posts. The event was attended by more than 800 participants. ARTICLE 19 highlighted the importance of securing FoE on-line in all practices, policies and norms concerning internet use, governance and regulation in Brazil.
ARTICLE 19’s contribution and leadership were fundamental in guaranteeing the commitment of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee to access to information and transparency.

A new bill on internet rights was introduced in October 2011, following two years of consultations. The draft includes provisions on intermediary liability of ISPs and network neutrality. Brazilian Congress is also considering a bill on cybercrimes that would require computer providers to keep records on their user’s activities for 3 years. In 2012 we will launch analysis of these bills.

**Contribution to progressive laws and jurisprudence on Media Freedom**

ARTICLE 19 produced 12 legal analyses of adopted laws or draft laws dealing with issues such as media regulations.

2. **Kenya**: Analysis of the Media Bill 2010 - February 2011
4. **Tajikistan**: Analysis of the Draft Media law of Tajikistan – May 2011;
5. **Tunisia**: Analysis of the Draft Decree on Election of National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia – May 2011;
7. **Hungary**: Hungarian Media Laws – analysis of the current challenges in the Media Laws of Hungary in questions and answers format – September 2011
8. **Tanzania**: Analysis of the Stakeholders’ Proposal on Media Services Bill – October 2011
10. **Tunisia**: Analysis of two draft Media Regulations for the Constitutional Assembly Elections – October 2011
11. **Tunisia**: Three analyses of the draft Press and Publication Decree – November 2011;

In** **Kenya**, the Independent Communications of Kenya Bill, 2010 and the Independent Media Council Bill, 2010 were initiated for public debate and stakeholders input. In** **Rwanda**, ARTICLE 19 was the only international human rights organisation that engaged with the Rwanda government highlighting the issue in 3 national media dialogue sessions and holding meetings with the Senate committee on legal affairs chair, caretaker Minister of Information. The Penal Code was for the first time opened up for review with public input. The sentences for criminal defamation were equally reduced to a maximum of six months. While this is not what ARTICLE 19 had recommended, it nevertheless constitutes a progressive step, especially because defamation was moved from a felony to a misdemeanor (the President has not yet signed the code). In **Tunisia**, both the Press and Publication decrees were adopted by the Parliament in November 2011.
In Brazil, throughout 2011, ARTICLE 19 monitored developments with regard to the protection of Media Diversity in Brazil. The country has been discussing for many years the need to review its broadcasting regulations. ARTICLE 19 has many times expressed the view that national legislation in the area is confused, outdated and contradictory. In 2011, the Lower House (Chamber of Deputies) MPs created a special non-partisan parliamentary commission called “Parliamentary Front for freedom of expression and right to communicate”. ARTICLE 19 was formally invited to take part in a meeting to organize the Parliamentary Front. We consider that the organization of this commission is an important step to move forward the legislative reviews in the area of broadcasting in Brazil, something that has been in stalemate for many years. The commission serves as an example for other countries in the region, since many have been debating the similar revisions in their broadcasting regulations.

ARTICLE 19 took the lead in advocating to the Minister for Communications key recommendations in the areas of broadcasting, internet (broadband policy) and audiovisuals. Activities included negotiating a joint letter with a dozen organizations and presenting the recommendations to the government in the course of an official meeting. One positive outcome of this advocacy is that new administrative rules on community radios were issued in October 2011. The rule updates the administrative procedures to obtain a community radio license and regulates financial support to community broadcasters.

ARTICLE 19 collected information on case law referring to the operation of community radios in Brazil. We have reviewed all decisions by the Regional Federal Courts. The information was systematized and completed by data concerning the administrative procedures for licensing of community radios in Brazil. All this content is available through an online platform called Observatory of Community Communication (ObsComCom – Observatorio da Comunicacao Comunitaria) launched in February 2012 during a national seminar on broadcasting in Recife. ObsComCom is available at http://www.artigo19.org/obscomcom.

ARTICLE 19 contributed an amicus brief to Inter-American Court in the case of Fontevecchia vs. Argentina: in September 2011: this case was important because it was the first case ever in which the Inter-American Court considered the relationship of privacy and free expression. In the brief, ARTICLE 19 argued that the court should carefully balance the rights of privacy and freedom of expression, while examining the public interest in disclosure. We also urged the Inter-American Court to consider the diminished right of privacy in public figures. The Court ruled in December 2011 that there had been a violation of the freedom of expression rights of the journalists. The decision largely followed the arguments set out in our submission.
GOAL THREE: DEFENDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AGAINST NEW AGGRESSORS

The key objectives under this goal are to strengthen the role and effectiveness of institutions which are meant to safeguard accountability and ensuring that State and Non-State Actors are held accountable for abusing freedom of the press, freedom of expression and transparency standards; achieving real legal breakthrough in the fight against impunity. In addition, and under this goal, ARTICLE 19 seeks to establish or strengthen standards and policies on the universal value of freedom of expression.

In particular, ARTICLE 19 has identified four key outcomes:

• Outcome One: Concrete mechanisms in place to protect journalists and media workers in target countries, including through institutional reforms at governmental level;
• Outcome Two: The international, regional and domestic policy, legal and regulatory framework is reformed and/or put to use to substantially hold non-state actors (including organised crime groups) accountable by 2015;
• Outcome Three: ARTICLE 19 policies regarding the universality of freedom of expression are widely circulated, referenced and adopted by a range of stakeholders, thus contributing to protecting the right of all to freedom of expression;
• Outcome Four: “Defamation of religions” and blasphemy laws are repealed, reformed or ceased to be used.

Violence Against Journalists: Contribution to national progressive laws
ARTICLE 19 produced 7 legal analyses of adopted laws or draft laws related to such issues as protection of journalists and defamation.

13. **Yemen:** Freedom of Expression in Yemen: a Critical State of Affairs – a part of the joint study of international partners on situation in Yemen, to which we provided the legal section – February 2011
14. **Iraq:** Analysis of the Journalist Protection Law - April 2011
15. **Vietnam:** Analysis of the Decree No. 2 of 2011 of the Prime Minister of Vietnam on Administrative Responsibility for Press and Publication. This review was requested by the EU Delegation in Vietnam and released by ARTICLE 19 on the eve of the 86th Vietnamese Revolutionary Press Day - June 2011;
17. **Russia:** Analysis of the Defamation Legislation Reform – November 2011;
19. **Middle East**: Middle East and North Africa: Historic opportunity for freedom of expression – overview of legal developments in the MENA region in 2011, containing comments on various laws and draft laws adopted or discussed in the course of the year – December 2011.

**Violence Against Journalists: Contribution to progressive jurisprudence at all levels**

ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief to the Inter-American Court on Human Rights on legal threats against journalists and contributed to advocacy against a decision by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

- **Inter-American Court**: Amicus brief in *Uzcátegui et al vs. Venezuela* – in November 2011: the case involved a criminal case against Luis Uzcátegui on the grounds that he publicly revealed the complaints he had filed with the Venezuelan state authorities in connection with extrajudicial executions which were presumed to have been carried out by death squads in the Falcón state and his belief that those killings were led by two public officials, specifically two law enforcement commanders. The case is important because it highlights the chilling impact of the threat of criminal defamation on freedom of speech even in the absence of the prosecution. ARTICLE 19 argued that any law criminalising defamation is, in and of itself, a violation of freedom of expression and current defamation laws are outmoded and disproportionate to protect the reputation of others. ARTICLE 19 also argued that the Court should hold that the criminal defamation proceedings against Mr Uzcátegui are in violation of Article 13 of the American Convention on Human Rights and, in doing so, reinforce and build on its own progressive jurisprudence on the use of the criminal law to penalise individuals for statements made in the public interest.

- **Néstor José y Luis Uzcátegui y otros Vs. Venezuela**: ARTICLE 19 collected video interviews of journalists in Brazil who are facing more than a dozen lawsuits on defamation. Journalist Juca Kfouri, for example, told ARTICLE 19 that he “lost count” of the lawsuits. At least 50 such lawsuits were filed by the head of the Brazilian Football Confederation, Mr. Ricardo Teixeira, recently accused of corruption in relation to the preparation for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. ARTICLE 19’s interview with Juca Kfouri was included in the first amicus curie presentation made in the format of a video before the OAS. The amicus was a joint effort by ARTICLE 19 South America and *Alianza Regional por la Libre Expresión e Información*

- **ICTY**: In 2011, we continued support in the case of Florence Hartman, a French journalist who was sentenced for the contempt of the ICTY due to her attempts to improve the transparency of the ICTY. In 2011, the ICTY issued an arrest warrant against her. We issued two case analysis, as well as submitting letters to the French and Dutch authorities, requesting them not to act upon the arrest warrant.
• **Supreme court of Rwanda**: In October 2011, ARTICLE 19 submitted an amicus brief to the Supreme Court of Rwanda in the case of two journalists, Agnès Uwimana Nkusi and Saïdati Mukabibi, who were convicted in February 2011 of threatening national security, genocide denial, promulgating divisionist ideas, inciting to divisionism and defamation of public officials under the Penal Code of Rwanda, through articles they had written between 2009 and 2010. In the brief, ARTICLE 19 outlined international human rights law on freedom of expression and freedom of media that should guide the Supreme Court in its decision making on the case. This amicus reiterated ARTICLE 19’s position on the Genocide Ideology Law of Rwanda. The case is still pending with the Supreme Court, but our submission has been widely covered in the media. This is a high level case that has received a lot of attention in national, regional and international media and could result in the Genocide Ideology Law being declared unconstitutional. This is a law which we have previously and repeatedly criticized.

• **Mexico**: ARTICLE 19 is now litigating on a number of cases. In 2011, one of the cases which set new norms was that of the Magazine Contralinea. We analyzed the ruling for moral damages condemning the political magazine Contralinea to prior censorship and concluded that the decision violated the right to freedom of expression. ARTICLE 19 legal analysis was presented to the appeal judge who, on the basis of the strength of ARTICLE 19’s legal arguments, overturned the initial judgment and ruled in favor of Contralinea. The result of the case was presented by ARTICLE 19 in a press conference which was covered by various media stations.

• **Mexico**: ARTICLE 19 continued to represent journalist Lydia Cacho nationally and internationally. This included supporting the presentation of witness’ testimonies before the Fiscalía Especial para la Atención de Delitos Cometidos en contra de la Libertad de Expresión (FEADLE) or Office of the Special Prosecutor for Crime Committed against Freedom of Expression. As a result, the FEADLE, together with the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Women, have adopted new criteria to carry out proceedings, such as secured facilities in which victims and witnesses present testimonies, to ensure victims are not re-victimized during the proceedings. A year after ARTICLE 19 successfully advocated for protection measures for Cacho, including closed circuit television cameras, the Ministry of the Interior reimbursed the expenses to ARTICLE 19. This was first time that the State reimbursed an NGO for implementing measures that should been implemented by the State.

• **Mexico**: On 25 August, Maria de Jesus Bravo Pagola and Gilberto Martinez Vera were arrested and charged with terrorism for disseminating false information on their Twitter accounts in the state of Veracruz. This climate of fear and distrust of the authorities has led many Mexican citizens to become increasingly reliant on social media as a source of news. Hashtags have become an important sorting mechanism, and are even considered to be ad hoc news services. The reliance on social media is prevalent in the state of
Veracruz, which has a problematic record on protecting freedom of expression, including impunity for those who commit violence against journalists. ARTICLE 19 undertook several legal actions to push the law enforcement authorities to immediately drop all charges against the twitter users. We provided legal arguments based on international standards to the twitter users legal defence and maintain direct contact with the counsellor. We filed an amicus brief to the judge and released a statement based on legal arguments and international standards proving these charges to be in clear breach of international law standards on the protection of freedom of expression. In less than a month, the local Executive withdrew the accusation mainly based on ARTICLE 19’s legal arguments. This accusation caused a chilling effect as journalists and social network users have expressed they are no longer willing to post information for fear of being accused of a felony.

• Ethiopia: One of the lawyers trained by ARTICLE 19 as part of its legal interventions is now the lead counsel for two journalists who are standing trial accused under the anti-terrorism law which is still ongoing.

Violence Against Journalists: Contribution to international policy setting

• The United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances made an official visit to Mexico from 18-31 March 2011. ARTICLE 19 submitted a shadow report and met with the delegation to highlight the cases of disappeared journalists. Key concerns included the disappearance of human rights defenders and journalists, and the lack of a comprehensive public policy to assist the victims legally and psychologically. The impunity surrounding cases related to disappeared journalists has an impact on the right to freedom of expression, as it discourages these cases from being investigated and reported on, encourages self-censorship by media professionals and allows perpetrators to commit further violations. The Working Group’s report reiterates a number of ARTICLE 19’s key concerns, especially in relation to the ongoing disappearance of journalists. It also recognizes public security concerns related to combating organised crime as of utmost importance, insisting that it cannot be done at the expense of respect for human rights and that enforced disappearances should not be exclusively attributed to organised crime networks.

• Inter American Commission of Human Rights: In light of the worrying level of violence against journalists played out against a backdrop of impunity, ARTICLE 19 made a submission before the Inter American Commission of Human Rights 143 session, on October 27th 2011 where it highlighted the cycle of violence against journalists coupled with the failure of the government to provide journalists and media workers with minimum levels of protection - despite the introduction of the protection decree in 2010. The submission also argued that violent attacks against the press have a seriously negative effect on their work in several cities, especially those gripped by the ongoing public security crisis. ARTICLE 19 stressed that since February 2010, when the
Interior Ministry first called for a consultation on the creation of a protection mechanism for journalists, at least 15 journalists have been killed, 3 journalists disappeared and there have been 19 cases of attacks against media offices with explosives. At the hearing, ARTICLE 19 also listed the Mexican government’s unfulfilled commitments in relation to the creation of an effective mechanism to protect journalists. This protection mechanism - which excludes potential beneficiaries in the decision-making process - does not comply with the principles of urgency required by the present situation faced by the press. Therefore, ARTICLE 19 is litigating cases in which the State has failed to implement the protection measures in order to raise the decision of this obligation to a judicial level. ARTICLE 19 noted several deficiencies in the investigation of cases, including the complete absence of a rapid response protocol or a specific strategy aimed at investigating cases of disappeared journalists and a tendency to prejudge the motives and discredit journalists before the investigation even begins.

- **Human Rights Council:** In 2011, ARTICLE 19 conducted a mission to Venezuela, including in Caracas and 2 other provincial capitals to gather information on the situation of FOE and FOI in the country. We collected 30 testimonies and prepared a video that was screened in a parallel event on FOE and Democracy in South America during the 2011 session of the Human Rights Council

**Protecting Journalists in Mexico**

ARTICLE 19 has a vast programme of interventions in Mexico focusing on the physical and legal protection of journalists. The main components of this programme include:

- **Monitoring and documentation:** In 2011, ARTICLE 19 documented 8 journalists’ killings and 1 disappearance, following the methodology and protocols it developed 2 years ago. One of the key developments in 2011 has been the clear increase in cyber attacks as a new way of hindering free flow of information. Three digital newspapers in the state of Quintana Roo were temporarily forced offline, and personal information, contacts and reporters’ notes were stolen from the server. ARTICLE 19 has supported the newsweekly, Riodoce, in a law suit before the federal jurisdiction to call for the FEADLE to investigate the case, and to put in place protection measure. The State of Sinaloa is known for having a high presence of the organized crime. Riodoce’s facilities were attacked with grenades in 2009.

- **Direct intervention:** We successfully intervened in 16 cases with a total of 23 beneficiaries. 6 of these cases are still under the supervision of our programme. We conducted 6 documentation mission, 1 evacuation procedure and 4 risk assessment missions for media outlets and 1 risk assessment for a human rights organisation.

- **Launch of the Annual Report on Violence Against Journalist:** In 2011, ARTICLE 19 released the 2010 findings in a large public event which attracted much media and public attention.
• **Monitoring the performance of the official state-run Protection Mechanism for Journalists:** In 2011, ARTICLE 19 focused its critiques on the inefficiency of FEADLE and succeeded, jointly with the recommendations from the international community and other civil society organisations, in pushing for some more effective investigations were accomplished. Although there is still a gap on condemning those responsible of aggressions against journalists and tackling impunity, FEADLE has brought charges on 27 cases before local and federal judges. In addition, FEADLE now grants protection measures to those journalists who request them.

• **Comprehensive safety training:** In 2011, ARTICLE 19 delivered 6 such trainings, covering a range of issues, from personal safety to legal knowledge.

• **Prevention and protection measures:** ARTICLE 19 worked with reporters, editors and media owners of the largest regional media houses in the development of their security protocol and emergency plans in some of the most dangerous regions to exercise press freedom. These included: Chihuahua (Diario de Juárez, El Norte), Michoacán (Quadratín, Cambio de Michoacán), Guerrero (El Sur), Durango (Press Association of Durango), Sinaloa (Debate, Noroeste and Riodoce), Sonora (El Imparcial), Coahuila (Siglo de Torreón, Vanguardia), Zacatecas (Imagen de Zacatecas) and Veracruz (Notiver). ARTICLE 19 also worked with some of the largest national newspapers, such as El universal, Milenio, Televisa, Excelsior and with La Jornada in a yet early stage. Finally, ARTICLE 19 worked with EFE (Spain), Al Jazeera (Qatar), Telesur (Venezuela) and Le Figaro (France) to produce security protocol and emergency plans for specific assignments in high risk zone.

• **Litigation and other Legal intervention:** ARTICLE 19 intervened in 43 cases in 2011, with at least 60 beneficiaries. Interventions ranged from the provision of immediate legal advice to full legal representation and support to legal cases through amicus briefs. Several of the legal cases have been highlighted in this annual report. It is worth repeating two key achievements including: the approval by the Mexican Congress of a constitutional reform which ARTICLE 19 has been pushing for since 2008, giving the federal authorities power to investigate and judge crimes against journalists, (subject to approval from at least 17 state congresses.) and the decriminalisation of defamation in the state of Puebla.

In addition to the above, ARTICLE 19 strengthened its own internal security in 2012. Following a security assessment of the office, the organisation decided to move to a larger and safer venue. The decision was adopted in view of the following factors: significant increase in the number of cases; increase in ARTICLE 19’s media profile; the fact that the old office was occupied as well by other organisations that work on sensitive issues of the human rights agenda. ARTICLE 19 new office is located in a safe zone with an appropriate security infrastructure, such as CCTV, panic room, alarms and security doors.

**Protecting Journalists in East Africa**

Key activities under this objective included:

• Monitoring and documenting FoE violations and attacks on journalists in Djibouti, Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia captured as quarterly briefs.
• Training of 22 media lawyers on international human rights law and the African Human rights system
• Referral of cases of press freedom violations to media lawyers
• Advocacy at the ACHPR on Burundi and Sudan
• Organisation of a training on safety and protection for 40 journalists (17 women and 23 men) from Kenya, Burundi, Somalia, Rwanda, Uganda, Djibouti and Eritrea

Through these activities, ARTICLE 19 identified 40 journalists under threat in the region and negotiated support with a number of organisations, including Front Line Defenders, Reporters Sans Frontieres, Committee to Protect Journalists and Rory Peck Trust. Assistance provided varied from the purchase of a new camera broken by the police to support for relocation or to a widow.

In addition, ARTICLE 19 began advocacy at the ACHPR for a resolution on safety of journalists in Somalia (resolution was finally adopted in April 2012.)

Protecting freedom of expression in Iran
The main objective of the intervention is to develop an online platform and campaign against censorship, which will encourage, network, and build the vision of campaigners. It will provide space and opportunities for information and good practice sharing and host its own campaign initiatives.

Activities in 2011 included:
• Analysis of the computer crimes law. The document has received very positive comments. This legal analysis will also be printed in the form of booklets to be distributed among our target audience;
• A power-mapping study was conducted by an independent consultant to identify key actors/blockers and non-traditional actors in the field of free expression/information in Iran. It is with reference to this study, among other things, that ARTICLE 19 and other organisations can strategise their work in Iran, including from an advocacy viewpoint;
• A series of co-ordination meetings (roughly 30) held in London in order to coordinate advocacy initiatives and network for the setting up of a steering committee in Iran;
• A parallel Facebook page in Farsi and English managed in 2011 to complement our work on Azad Tribune enabling members to share campaign ideas, experiences, opinions and post articles and reports of violations. The pages now have 516 members;
• Based on the programme’s constant monitoring of developments in Iran, critical facts, articles, highlights and blogs regularly posted on the site with the aim of sharing knowledge on censorship issues;
• Introduction of anti-censorship software and tools on the website;
• Press releases, alerts, statements, and petitions condemning the ongoing violations of freedom of expression issued;

1 http://www.achpr.org/sessions/51st/resolutions/221/
Large event on ‘Censorship in Iran’ held in London on 18 August 2011;
The Iran Programme’s new website, in the form of a microsite under the recently launched and rebranded ARTICLE 19 website, also re-launched in the above event;

The key impact of this intervention included:
• A deeper, more diverse and more organised cross-sectoral network of organisations supporting and advocating for online freedom of expression in Iran, particularly for women and under-represented groups;
• New influential actors engage with ARTICLE 19’s recommendations for policies and practice that increase the protection of freedom of expression in Iran, eventually leading to a less restrictive environment, particularly for women and under-represented groups;
• A network of online activists and bloggers in and outside of Iran better able to safely use new media and social media to communicate and organise.

Protecting media freedom in West Africa
Key activities at regional level included:
• Established partnership with UN mission for West Africa (UNOWA) as resource on FoE and selected to draft a section on the role of the media to fight impunity.
• Negotiations were initiated in 2011 between ARTICLE 19 and the UNOWA to co-organize a regional conference on media and conflict in Ivory Coast and conduct other activities including writing guidelines for the media
• ARTICLE 19 produced an article on criminalisation of speech and lack of judicial remedies in Africa for a publication to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Windhoek Declaration and presented a paper on the role of media in promoting human rights and fighting impunity in West Africa

In Senegal ARTICLE 19 undertook the following activities to protect journalists against legal threats and actual charges:
• Established a platform for young journalists to explore new media, create a support network and build confidence on security protection issues
• Trial observation: ARTICLE 19 attended high profile defamation cases, monitored court decisions and issued protest against criminal defamation
• Supported legal defence of weekly investigative magazine and established linkage with media legal defence fund to assist them.
• Provided legal expertise to national working group on the new press code, critiqued the draft press code which kept sanctions for insult and false news among others

ARTICLE 19 focused its efforts to combat violence against journalists in the Gambia through:
• Regular monitoring and reports on FoE violations in the Gambia, including statements and press releases;
• The provision of Trainings on International FoE standards, safety and security for journalists, and online security training to prepare journalists to mitigate violence and abuses;
• Formal partnership with Technical Assistance to NGOs (TANGO), an umbrella civil society organisations in the Gambia, and the Bar Association;
• Moderation of an e-platform to share information;
• Consultation and sensitisation meetings with the American Bar Association to raise the profile of the situation of FoE and human rights in the Gambia and provide support for fund raising for the judiciary library;
• Provided legal support to the association of women journalists to revise their status and to develop their strategic plans
• Established partnerships with media houses who hosted three Gambian journalists and gave them mentoring.

The impact of the interventions in the Gambia included:
• Gambian journalists umbrella organization got observer status before the ACHPR;
• Trained journalists created blogs to mitigate censorships in their news rooms;
• The American Bar Association more open to work with civil society to mitigate the oppression they face when dealing with human rights cases and requested to work with ARTICLE 19
• 3 Gambian journalists provided in-depth media training and opportunity to work in top media houses in Dakar for weeks. One of them has been hired after the process to be the local correspondent of a regional news agency.

Protecting media freedom in Asia
• **Burma:** ARTICLE 19 issued a number of press releases, statements and tweets on the detention of political prisoners and Burma's restrictive environment on FOE. In 2011, the Burmese government allowed formerly banned media outlets to operate, and started releasing political prisoners in what the international community saw as the start of an ‘opening up’.
• **Thailand:** ARTICLE 19 focused on denouncing the lèse-majeste and Computer Crimes Act cases, which constitute the largest threats to media and freedom of expression in the country through a UPR submission and a variety of press releases and articles in the regional press. ARTICLE 19 established strong collaborative relations with regional/local organisations through the process of co-drafting UPR submissions, while ARTICLE 19’s key messages for the UPR were raised by country delegates during the reviews and included in the OHCHR report.
• **Vietnam:** ARTICLE 19 carried out research and advocacy on new media decree in Vietnam and issued two statements calling for release of bloggers
• **Philippines:** ARTICLE 19 submitted a shadow report to the UPR process focusing on violence against individuals exercising free speech, and the culture of impunity. As in the case of Thailand, ARTICLE 19 established strong collaborative relations with regional/local organisations through the process of co-drafting UPR submissions, while ARTICLE 19’s key messages for the UPR
were raised by country delegates during the reviews and included in the OHCHR report.

Women of expression:
Protecting women journalists in Bangladesh
Since the beginning of our operations in Bangladesh, ARTICLE 19 has been actively engaged in promoting the rights of women journalists and their freedom of expression. Our activities in previous years have included fellowships for over 36 women journalists on using the right to information for investigative reporting and capacity building on documenting and reporting of FoE violations. This experience led to a new project which focused on “Promoting and Enhancing Rights of Women Journalists in Bangladesh”.

Main activities in 2011 included:

• ARTICLE 19 facilitated 9 meetings with women journalists in the districts of Rajshahi, Rangpur, Bogra, Khulna, Barisal, Jessore, Chittagong, Cox's Bazaar and Sylhet covering all seven divisions of the country to establish women journalist networks.

• Development of a methodology for tracking and documenting incidents of discrimination and censorship attacks on women journalists, including formats, safety protocols and guidance notes, necessary for recording and reporting individual cases of violations and monitoring trends. A formal training workshop was organised on recording and documenting gender based censorship and discrimination in the media, in August 2011 with the participation of over 15 journalists, women and men who work with local and national print and electronic media.

• A study, “Women Journalists in Bangladesh: An Assessment of Challenges and Opportunities” was conducted in the early days of implementation mapping the status of women journalists in Bangladesh; key findings indicated low participation of women in the media as journalists, in particular in the print media and at the grassroots level. The reasons for non-participation identified by the study include unfair treatment by employers, poor attitude of male colleagues, poor capacity, inadequate family support, inadequate management support, poor remuneration and lack of security. The study recommends a stronger role to be played by journalists associations and the need for the creation of women journalists networks both at the national and local levels. It envisages a watch dog role for organisations like ARTICLE 19 for monitoring discrimination and censorship issues.

• Journalist focal points were established in 20 districts within 7 divisions of the country who documented a total number of 35 cases until the end of the fiscal year. Types of censorship include threats, abduction/confineement, obstruction to reporting and sexual harassment. Forms of gender discrimination include gender stereotyping, wage and age discrimination lack of family support, unsecure or no contracts.

ARTICLE 19’s project on women journalists has found evidence of significant levels of gender-based discrimination and censorship of women journalists. Many cases
recorded during the project by journalists themselves has established that women journalists are victims of discrimination such as unfair treatment by employers, poor attitude of male colleagues, sexual harassment, lack of actions by employers against perpetrators and poor remuneration and that such “gender discrimination is often used as a tool for censorship”. One of the key successes of the project has been to secure the acceptance and endorsement of media leadership on the status of women journalists and issues concerning their lack of rights and protection and the need to take action. The project has also taken a pioneering role in providing a safe space for journalists to talk about this issue amongst themselves and in raising it to their leadership. “ARTICLE 19 Bangladesh with its programme of support for women journalists has successfully created a critical mass, both women and men who strongly believe in enhancing the rights of women journalists in Bangladesh”.

Protecting women's freedom of expression in Latin America

• ARTICLE 19 launched a multimedia publication Women of Expression with the profiles of freedom of expression and information female activists. In 2011, ARTICLE 19 included a highlight profile of Aung San Suu Kyi. The stories of Argentina’s Eleonora Rabinovich, Colombian Glemis Mogollon and Brazilians Renata Mielli and Wânia Pasinato revealed their motivations and accomplishments, but also the need for greater access to information to achieve a more democratic and egalitarian society. Women of Expression will be published each year with new profiles and changing debates on FOE concerns in South America from a women’s perspective. The publication will be launched annually in a public debate, as it happened this year. It is available in Portuguese and Spanish at: http://artigo19.org/mujeresdeexpresion.

Protecting freedom of expression as universal right

• Standard-setting on Article 20 of the ICCPR and test on incitement: ARTICLE 19 was invited to participate at the OHCHR’s first regional expert meeting on Article 20 of the ICCPR. ARTICLE 19 had been invited to participate and contribute a paper on the threshold for incitement. The exercise greatly benefited from the work the organisation had done over the last few years on the topic, and the meeting at Columbia University last year. The paper is a work in progress, which we hope to review and finalise in early 2012. The document has already received positive feedback from two UN Special Rapporteurs (on freedom of belief and on freedom of expression) who congratulated ARTICLE 19 for its excellent, ground breaking work and contribution to the discussions.

• Reporting religion and ethnicity: ARTICLE 19 significantly contributed to a major project and report on Ethical Journalism in Europe. The study examines how journalists and editors in traditional and new media approach issues relating to racial and ethnic origin and religion. ARTICLE 19 trained the researchers of the study; produced materials for the researchers to draw upon during the research; formulated the methodology for the study in conjunction with the lead researcher and provided input into the various drafts of the study produced.
• **Defamation of religion campaign**: The conclusion of an advocacy campaign against resolutions on combating “defamation of religions” at the UN in 2011 signalled a change in course at the Human Rights Council and General Assembly. At the 16th session, the HRC set aside the language of “defamation of religions” against which ARTICLE 19 had campaigned and instead adopted resolution 16/18 on “Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence, and violence against persons based on religion or belief”. This breakthrough was a remarkable achievement after over a decade of resolutions on the subject of “defamation of religions” which had polarised debates on freedom of expression at the UN and stalled progress on a range of other human rights matters. It was welcomed by ARTICLE 19 and applauded by the wider community of NGOs. This achievement was consolidated in December 2011 when the General Assembly of the UN adopted a resolution in very similar terms to Resolution 16/18, General Assembly resolution 66/167. Together, these resolutions appear to signal a new era for the protection of freedom of expression at the UN and it is speculated that these bodies will not revert back to the old language.
GOAL FOUR: STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY IN AN ERA OF SCARCITY
(EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO GLOBAL DEMANDS FOR TRANSPARENCY)

Under this goal, ARTICLE 19 seeks to ensure that increasing demands for transparency are effectively met by governments and institutions around the world, including by integrating transparency and the free flow of information as a central principle of, and tool in, promoting MDGs implementation and good governance policies and practices. In particular, ARTICLE 19 has identified 4 outcomes:

• Outcome One: By 2015, transparent, effective and efficient legislative and policy framework and processes for access to information are established and fully implemented in target countries
• Outcome Two: By 2015, RTI broadly accepted and incorporated as an effective tool in securing fundamental human rights and alleviating poverty in target countries
• Outcome Three: By 2015, transparency and RTI will be a central tool in promoting development with a particular focus on sustainable development and environment, right to water and aid transparency
• Outcome Four: ARTICLE 19 is recognised as a legitimate actor in the fight against poverty

Contribution to legislative and policy framework for transparency

In 2011, we produced 8 analysis of RTI related laws and draft laws:

• Rwanda: Analysis of the Draft Law on Access to Information - February 2011;
• Bolivia: Analysis of the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information - March 2011;
• Rwanda: Analysis of the Draft Law relating to the Protection of Whistleblowers in Rwanda - April 2011;
• Cambodia: Analysis of the Draft Law on Right to Information – May 2011;
• Tunisia: Access to the Administrative Documents – July 2011;
• Egypt: Analysis of the Draft Freedom of Information Law, drafted by the civil society;

In Kenya, ARTICLE 19 contributed 2 analyses of the draft bills on Right to Information and Data protection Bill and organised 4 open stakeholders consultations. The impact of these activities include: A progressive draft RTI law which includes ARTICLE 19 recommendations and a Freedom of Information network in Kenya reinvigorated and engaging in transparency activities.

In Uganda, ARTICLE 19 and its partners initiated discussions to convince MPs to question the status of implementation of the access to information law in parliament.
This, in turn, triggered the publication of the long awaited regulations operationalising the Access to Information Act, 2005 (April 2011).

In Ethiopia, ARTICLE 19 invited the Director of Legal Affairs and the deputy Ombudsperson to attend the Eastern Africa sub-region consultative meeting on ratification of the African Union Convention on Democracy, Governance and Elections and the sharing of the Model Law. The Deputy Ombudsperson made the declaration and promise during the session that Ethiopia will begin implementation of the law before the end of the year. In December 2011, the government operationalised the Proclamation on Access to Information, 2008 (Dec 2011).

In Rwanda, A19 organised a public consultative meeting between CSOs and key government agencies expected to implement the RTI law of Rwanda when enacted.

In Senegal, ARTICLE 19 analysed the RTI law and shared it with range of actors, including the parliament, which endorsed the proposal and agreed to consider the draft bill once stakeholders consultation is completed. A19 organised 2 Seminars on RTI, created and managed an online forum for the national Committee in charge of reviewing the draft Law on Access to Information in Senegal and met with umbrella organisations of the private sector in Senegal to discuss collaboration on our work on RTI.

In Brazil, ARTICLE 19 continued its campaign for the adoption of an access to information law, a campaign which we initiated 3 years ago. It finally paid off when an Access to information law was finally sanctioned by President Rousseff on 18 November 2011.

Advocacy on Transparency and Development
The policy work focused mainly on the work related to the forthcoming UN Development Summit in Rio in 2012 and contributions to the transparency initiatives. It consisted of the following:

Campaign on Transparency and Access for Rio 2012:
Our campaign to ensure the integration of key transparency components in Rio+20 outcome document has included the following activities:

• Report with the Access Initiative (TAI) on access to information entitled “Moving from Principles to Rights: Ensuring Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice for Everyone”. The paper reviews the developments since the 1992 Rio Summit on the subject and makes proposals to the UN on how to ensure that access is ensured in the new Rio Declaration. It has been translated into Spanish and Portuguese. The release of the paper led to an extensive debate on the importance of access to information in protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development. It also contributed to an emerging consensus at the UN and in many countries including Brazil, that the Summit Outcome Document should include a call for a new global convention on access to information.

• In January, March and December 2011, ARTICLE 19 staff participated in the Prepcom 2 and 1st and 2nd inter-sessional meetings on Rio 2012 at UN Headquarters. ARTICLE 19 co-hosted an official side-event with TAI on access to
information at the Prepcom 2, met with delegations to discuss transparency and assisted in the drafting of the official statement of the civil society statement.

- In September, ARTICLE 19 co-sponsored a workshop at the UN/DPI meeting on access to information in Bonn. The workshop included the lead US official on the UN CSD Bureau. The UN/DPI meeting produced a civil society draft of the Zero Outcome Document, which included extensive references to RTI.
- ARTICLE 19 and TAI have also created the informal REDI group to coordinate civil society efforts to promote transparency in Rio. ARTICLE 19 has also joined working groups in both the UK and at the global level, and submitted comments through Stakeholder Forum to the UN questionnaire highlighting issues of the importance of transparency. A19 also joined the Global Campaign for Climate Action and the Eye on Earth Access for All (A4A) working group.
- A19 submitted comments to the UN CSD calling for transparency commitments based on the working paper.

**Campaign for improved protection of right to information in Africa:**

ARTICLE 19 was one of the partner organisations and member of the working group for the African Platform for Access to Information.

- ARTICLE 19 staff played a key role in developing the principles in working group meetings in Addis Ababa and Johannesburg and meetings with officials from UNESCO and African Union to discuss RTI and support for the Platform. The APAI sets out new standards relating to RTI in the context of crucial issues for African countries and sets an agenda for action by various important parties including the African Union, UNESCO and African nations. Set out new principles on access to information, with a focus on African-related issues including health, environment and aid.
- The principles were released in September 2011 at the Windhoek + 20 conference in Cape Town, South Africa. ARTICLE 19 brought together partners from East Africa and West Africa for training as part of the event, as well as staff from London, and the East Africa and West Africa Offices.
- The document has created a baseline used by CSOs in African to lobby the African Union and individual nations to improve their access and accountability and has been endorsed by the African Union Special Rapporteur and the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, as well as individual nations. The process cemented ARTICLE 19’s central role in Africa in promoting access to information.

In addition to its work for the APAI, ARTICLE 19 took part as a panellist in a regional conference on the African Charter on the values of Public service, contributed to the AU international day against corruption, chaired the session on open data at the UNDP Seminar “Africa Forum on Civil Society and Governance Assessments.” It was an opportunity to share our expertise and network with UN system and other regional and national organizations working on governance on Africa and increase our understanding on assessment tools.

**National Security and transparency:**

ARTICLE 19 is a partner in a global initiative to develop a new set of detailed principles on national security and access to information based on ARTICLE 19-
developed Johannesburg Principles on National Security, Freedom of Expression and Access to Information. ARTICLE 19 participated in meetings in London, Geneva, and Budapest in 2011 to develop and refine the principles, with a diverse group of other organisations and individuals.

Campaign for access to information in Brazil:
In 2011, A19 continued its campaigning efforts for the adoption of a RTI law. The campaign paid off! Activities included:
• Several workshops with CSO, journalists, vulnerable communities and public servants, focusing on the right to information
• Meetings with and letters to MPs, petitions, and mobilisation against changes on the bill promoted by conservative sectors
• In July, ARTICLE 19 co-organized with the Federal Comptroller’s Office and UNESCO an International Conference on the Implementation of the Right to Information which brought together more than 400 participants and a number of international experts
• Production of legal opinions, letters, blogs (http://artigo19.org/infoedireitoseu; http://abaixosigiloeterno.wordpress.com ), slogans (Informação é um direito seu!; Abaixo o sigilo eterno; Todo o direito à informação!), and other visual material.

As a result of these activities,
• An Access to information law was finally sanctioned by President Rousseff on 18 November 2011;
• Federal government began assessing the implementation of an access to information law even before its approval by Congress;
• CSOs, journalists, vulnerable communities are better equipped to exercise their right to information;

Contributing to progressive jurisprudence on access to information
• In Mexico, ARTICLE 19 is leading on several cases related to discrimination in the allocation of public advertising. We requested access to information regarding the public expenditures on advertising by the governor of Veracruz. Information was denied and on appeal the local tribunal maintained the denial of information on the ground of its lack of competence to rule on access to information requests as this right is recognized in the federal constitution and ruling by a local tribunal would mean invading the sphere of legal competence of the Federation. ARTICLE 19 considers this argument as absurd and we are now appealing it, committed to bringing it to the Supreme Court if needed. ARTICLE19 organised a roundtable "Setbacks on the right of access to information: the case of Veracruz" with FUNDAR, the Institute of Legal Research of the National University of Mexico (UNAM) - the most recognized Legal Institute in Mexico-, and the Accountability Network (RRC) in order to examine the effectiveness and appropriateness of state-level mechanisms to protect the Right to Information. The panel supported ARTICLE19's arguments on the ineffectiveness of the state-level process for information requests, the profound setback that the Veracruz court’s decision represents, and the need for the Supreme Court to rule and set progressive precedents on the right to access information. An added value is the opportunity for the Court to rule over the constitutional and conventional control.
In Kenya, ARTICLE 19 supported discreetly a first Constitutional Case testing the constitutional provisions on Access to Information (Art.35) and national security. The case was successful and the Ministry of Defence was ordered to share records of military staff.

Contribution to strengthening the use of RTI as an effective tool in securing fundamental human rights and alleviating poverty

Senegal:
ARTICLE 19 focused its 2011 work on RTI and access to water. A19 participated in national discussions on the right to water and the accessibility of water in Senegal and the danger of the lack of debate in the privatization of this important public service. A19 published a statement on the right to water and RTI, took part in public meeting to share our perspective and gave feedback on local partner research on governance of drinking water in Senegal. A19 was also invited to join the national coalition on the governance of mineral resources in Senegal.

Kenya:
ARTICLE 19 initiated its new project focusing on Internally Displaced Population (IDPs) and their right to information. Key activities during the year included:
- Consultation on IDPs and their needs
- Ongoing review of the proposed Internally Displaced Persons policy
- Protocols for request of information on IDPs
- Baseline survey on the information needs of IDPs
- Field monitoring visits to various IDP camps
- Attended and influenced the agenda of 8 of the protection Working Group meetings to focus on transparency and accountability issues

The impact over this first year intervention included:
- Progressive Draft IDP policy jointly developed by government and stakeholders
- Documentation of recurrence of gender based violence in Ndeffo and Mauche IDP camps in Rift Valley province
- IDPs in six camps that had not been formally recognised by government hence left out in all IDPs resettlement and reparation interventions have been increasingly recognised by government officials
- UN Special Repporteur on IDPs, Dr Chaloka Beyani, visited Kenya and his report on the mission cited many A19 recommendations
- A19 is increasingly being recognised as a player in the development sector

In Kenya as well, ARTICLE 19 sought to improve RTI and Parliamentary accessibility through a series of activities, which included 4 trainings of 57 information requesters (23 women and 34 men) from 32 constituencies, the analysis of laws, policies and standing orders to isolate opportunities and challenges to access to information and an accessibility survey across 32 constituencies. A19 also filed information requests and monitored the responses.

Indonesia:
ARTICLE 19 initiated a new project linking RTI with the right to education. In particular, the project seeks to strengthen information disclosure by local schools and
education authorities on the availability of School Operational Fund (BOS) programme and other educational programmes, and empower members of the public to hold the authorities accountable for the management of educational budget. Ultimately, the project seeks to increase transparency and accountability of educational governance. The project is conducted in two districts: Serang and Lebak, targeting the following groups: Parents of children aged 12–15; Members of school committees; Education service providers including principals and teachers in junior secondary schools and local education officials; Junior-high-school students.

Key activities in 2011 included:
- Meetings with local partner PATTIRO during field mission to Indonesia to discuss project activities, work plan, management structure and budget.
- Participation at the Regional Symposium on the Criminalization of Free Speech, Expression and Opinion in Asia held in Jakarta.
- Monitoring of FOE development.
- Base line study on RTI and education in the provinces of
- Six target schools for the project have also been identified, based on the results of the desk review of the existing information on BOS made available by schools. The review has shown that these schools do not sufficiently made available information on BOS to the public.

The base line study relied on primarily qualitative research methods - desk review, focus-group-discussions, in-depth Interviews and participant observation - to collect baseline data on the existing condition regarding information disclosure of BOS and information needs of parents in the project locations. Some of the key findings included:
- There is little awareness among the target groups, especially the parents, of the right to information and the benefits of exercising this right to obtain information on education and especially on the BOS programme. The parents seem to be contented with just knowing that the BOS fund is still being provided to schools. They are generally not concerned about monitoring the use of BOS fund by the schools.
- The disclosure of information on BOS by the schools and education agencies is very limited, both in terms of the content of the information made available and its reach. Most often, the only information accessible by the public are the activities and operational guidelines of BOS. In terms of information channels, the schools rely mainly on information boards and meetings with parents at the beginning of each school year to disseminate information on BOS. As for the district education agencies, they convey information on BOS during meetings with principals and school committees.
- There is low awareness and understanding of the FOI Law among principals, school committee members and parents. The publicity activities conducted by the government and Information Commission to promote the Law have yet to reach the general public.
- None of the district education agencies and schools surveyed has established a system for information service provision and procedures for handling information requests from the public as required by the FOI Law.
- In spite of the above, the principals, school committees and parents who participated in the baseline assessment have indicated a strong interest in learning more about the FOI Law and their rights under the Law. Schools have informed the
project team that they would like to get assistance in establishing an information service provision system and to respond to information requests. The project team believe that this could be an area to look into as follow-up after this current project.

China:
ARTICLE 19 completed a project on access to environmental information. The goal was to support the positive implementation of access to information legislation in China, in particular through the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) with a view to helping MEP become a role model government department for access to information. In 2011, A19 provided guidance to 7 local NGOs across the country to submit information requests to the local environmental protection bureaus and published 1 report and a book on access to environmental information. The bureaus are now providing most of the 17 types of information mandated by the government for proactive disclosure. Local environmental groups have pointed out that this is a big improvement from before. Throughout the project, MEP and its regional branches (Environmental Protection Bureaus) have participated actively to the activities. The training modules and the book on “Legislating and Implementing the Right to Environmental Information” serve as useful reference and guideline materials for the environmental officials.

Brazil:
ARTICLE 19 organised a number of interventions focusing on empowering vulnerable groups through RTI.

• Protecting freedom of expression and information around large development projects: In 2011 we carried out a pilot project to map and monitor FoE and FoI violations related to large development projects. For the pilot project we have chosen the power plants of Santo Antonio and Jirau. After considerable collection and review of background information, between 3-10 November, ARTICLE 19 carried out a fact-find mission to the Jirau and Santo Antonio regions. We talked to local inhabitants, affected people, indigenous communities, power plant workers and human rights defenders. The main findings were published in a statement released in Human Rights Day. Based in this experience we have drafted a methodology and are working on a protocol to carry out further research and other missions in 2012.
• Protecting information to and expression against the Belo Monte Dam: ARTICLE 19 invited Amazon indigenous leaders and the Brazilian RTI Community to a 2 day rights awareness workshop organised in an Amazon city due to be partially flooded by the Belo Monte dam. A19 and its partners prepared a rights awareness publication which was distributed to riverside communities and indigenous people as they usually negotiate with Belo Monte consortium representative without legal assistance or awareness of their right to fair and transparent negotiations, loss indemnification and right to information. They fear, for instance, to stand up to the dam and, in case they fail, be denied indemnification because of their stand. This and several other rumours are spreading around local communities and it has been jeopardising the free speech of those against the construction of the dam. The two-day workshop and the publication raised awareness of local people that the
consortium can’t oblige them to measure their own land or to fill in a registration, among other reported cases, and also raised all violations occurred during the licensing. We have learned that development projects implemented by the government usually hold public hearings only as a pro forma measure; people’s opinions and suggestions are hardly taken seriously into consideration.

Reaching out on RTI

• In Brazil, ARTICLE 19 has been actively involved in the organisation of transparency and accountability conferences, convened by the government, both at federal- and state-level. These conferences are discussing issues around public transparency and public control on the government and include preparatory, capacitation seminars. In March, ARTICLE 19 was elected to the governance committee of ABRACCI, a network working against corruption and impunity, which requested the government to convene a conference on the topic. ARTICLE 19 was invited by the Brazilian Federal Government to participate in the National Organising Committee of the Conference, and also in the São Paulo (state) Organising Committee. National conferences are important fora called by the government to discuss policy and legislative reviews needed to address key social challenges faced by Brazil. These conferences may have a significant impact on a number of issues covered by ARTICLE 19 in Brazil. Conferences will be convened by all Brazilian states and over 1,000 municipalities around the country. One of four axis of debate, that will guide the programme of each conference, is access to public information and data. State and municipal governments in general are not willing to discuss corruption, whilst some CSO may act against corruption and for transparency motivated by electoral, partisan interests. Participation in these events take considerable time and political skills that need to be improved within ARTICLE 19 office in Brazil.

• In Bangladesh, ARTICLE 19 initiated work on a global Right to Information Index. The consultation was organised at the beginning of November with the Chief Information Commissioner, Ambassador Muhammad Zamir, as the Chair and Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) and Professor Asif Nazrul as discussants. The consultation was attended by officials of the Ministry of Information, representatives from the government’s development partners such as the Asian Development Bank and British Council and key organisations working in this sector such as Manusher Jonno Foundation, MRDI, BRAC, Ain-O-Shalish Kendra etc. The consultation made a number of recommendations for improvement of the Index, they included that the indicators should be able to assess ground realities for application of the law, whether overall governance scenario is conducive to their application, assess the scope of proactive disclosure provisions within such legislations, extent to which such laws promote civil society participation in implementing the law, participation of civil society organisations in the formulation of the law and role of public officials in proactive disclosure, indicators should be able to test the enforcement of the legislation and strength and robustness of the information commission. The consultation also suggested that the Index should
be a tool that is easily accessible and simple to use given the level of awareness on RTI in most countries. The consultations showed great enthusiasm for the piloting of the Index in Bangladesh and the South Asia assessment.

**GOAL FIVE: A GLOBAL INTEGRATED ORGANISATION**

It is in a volatile and unpredictable world that we have worked to advance A19’s mission over the past 12 months. The shifting external landscape has generated both significant opportunities and serious challenges for us, including constantly appraising our policies and positions, and developing new policies and responses to a fast changing environment.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

Result Based Management has been strengthened this year thanks to the Dfid Programme Partnership Arrangement (PPA) grant, which has allowed the organisation to prioritise monitoring and evaluation and devote to it substantial amounts including for training purposes. In 2011, ARTICLE 19 produced an overall Monitoring and Evaluation (M and E) framework, collected base line studies and baseline data and recruited a senior M and E Officer. M&E is a key operational priority for 2012.

**Five year strategic plan**

An important benchmark of the last 12 months has been the formulation of A19’s five year strategic plan. Indeed, the fundraising success described below was largely based on the five year strategic plan which was developed during this period, on the back both of the regional and programmatic plans developed by A19 teams around the world, and several reviews of key regional and global trends. This new strategic plan has been hailed by at least two donors as being of exceptional quality.

However, the unexpected events early in 2011 pushed the organisation to review the plan far sooner than could have been imagined. In response to the Arab Spring, the decision was taken to re-prioritise engagement with the Middle East, through increasing our focus on Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. The Executive Director took the
lead on this change and initiated a new program of work to support the Arab Spring, including through fundraising. This allowed ARTICLE 19 to remain very relevant and to engage with strategic partners and governments over the fundamental international event of 2011.

**Fundraising**

In 2010, a number of ARTICLE 19 grants were coming to an end and, with the global financial situation, financial prospects for the coming years were very bleak. Addressing this became A19 number one priority. It has meant convincing existing donors that they should renew their general support to ARTICLE 19 and convincing new donors that our work was worth their financing. From October 2010 to March 2011, the organisation raised 1 million GBP in core grants for 2011 (renewable for three years), including winning a very competitive DfID PPA grant. The effort that it has taken to secure these funds over this short period of time (September-January) should not be underestimated.

Both the Kenya and Mexico offices of ARTICLE 19, along with the Law program have experienced major fund raising successes in 2011, allowing all to grow and recruit new staff (currently 5 in Kenya, 12 in Mexico and 6 for the law program, including 1 based in the Kenya office). ARTICLE 19 Brazil has also make substantive efforts towards this goal. There is little doubt that the two remaining regional offices (Senegal and Bangladesh) will experience similar successes next year when they are prioritised. In fact, the offices prepared for future growth by hiring a select number of contractors to work with them on specific projects and recruited volunteers and interns to broaden Article 19’s presence and influence in the relevant countries.

Fundraising successes have also continued throughout the year. Particularly noteworthy but by no means the only ones are: the renewal of a 2 year core grant by the Wellspring foundation, large grants from MacArthur and the USA Department of State for the Mexico office, a programmatic grant from the Adessium foundation (a new donor) to finance work on internet freedoms, and EC grants to fund protection work in East Africa and the Gambia.

Finally, A19 also won its charity 501c(3) status in the US, allowing the organisation to finally develop and implement a fundraising strategy based on the US. This should be initiated in 2012.

**Financial health**

ARTICLE 19 continued to experience growth in our financial resources. Most significant are the relatively high number of multi-year and core support grants awarded in 2011 that enabled the organisation to plan and budget more strategically. While strong, our programmatic spend in 2011 was lower than originally anticipated due to delays in project start-ups; this is due to a combination of slower than anticipated recruitment and delays in grant award payments throughout the year.

Initial results from ARTICLE 19’s audit indicate income for activities in 2011 was £2.2 million, with expenditure of £2.0 million. These results from the 2011 audit indicate that Article 19 will be in a position to increase our organisational reserves,
bringing us in line with our target of having 6 months of operating expenses in our reserves.

Our fundraising success translates into Article 19 securing 70% of our 2012 budget by the end of 2011. This places us in an incredibly strong position to fundraise in 2012 to support our work for that year and beyond.

As of the submission of this report, our 2011 audit has not yet been completed. We will send the finalised audited annual accounts as soon as they become available. Initial reports indicate significant progress has been made on our regional financial reporting, but increased diligence on complying with our established financial procedures is required. Additionally, the UK has adopted a new fraud and bribery law that requires Article 19 to increase our internal monitoring and develop a Board policy on fraud and bribery prevention. A draft policy has been done and will be adopted in 2012.

**A new brand and website**

In 2011, ARTICLE 19 was rebranded. With a new exceptional website - the culmination of 18 months of consultation and detailed effort - A19 now has a new, modern look and a website which is truly interactive and a great window into the organisation. The new website has gained a lot of attention with a high number of positive comments from high profile individuals both in person and via social media. By the end of 2011, some 5 months after its launch, the overall traffic has jumped by 49% over the previous year, with the number of new visitors increasing by 46.16% too. The length of time visitors stayed on the website also increased by 22.39%, demonstrating that they were finding more applicable information easier on the new site, and our measures for 'high value' and 'very high value' visitors increased by an additional 73% and 59% respectively. ARTICLE 19 also saw significant diversification of audience, with a doubling of visitor from East Africa, for example, up 97%, and an increase in Arabic-readers of an additional 147% (See also Annex One).

**Media Coverage**

2011 continued to see an increase in coverage of our concerns in broadcast media – notably international radio - coupled with an increase in UK print media coverage. This is based on UK journalists contacting ARTICLE 19 for a reaction on current affairs relating to the UK and featuring A19’s position, on top of pro-active ARTICLE 19 media pitching. ARTICLE 19 Mexico has achieved major media success during the period, notable securing coverage from the Economist, le Monde and le Figaro, none of which had not covered A19 before (to the best of our knowledge). In September 2011, ARTICLE 19 secured a major media partnership with Global Voices, the global blogging website and media (See also Annex Two).

Our regional offices, particularly in Mexico, Brazil and Bangladesh, continue to be lead innovators in attracting media attention. Mexico received international attention for their work on violence against journalists; Brazil launched an innovative website focusing on women’s voices; and Bangladesh used a variety of media to spread the
word in-country about the new Right to Information Law, including the use of wristbands and a song that gained airplay on national radio stations for several weeks.

**High level invitations and meetings**
In 2011, the Executive Director was invited to participate and deliver presentation in some 25 meetings, a number at ministerial level. Particularly noteworthy is A19's membership of the UK’s MFA human rights advisory group; and ARTICLE 19 election on the IFEX board. These well reflect ARTICLE 19 high standing.

**Challenges of Growth**
The transformation of ARTICLE 19 begun some 5 years ago and is still far from finished. The organisation is generating great success and impact beyond its size, with the regional offices carving out important spaces for themselves as lead advocates and defenders for freedom of expression. The change process is on-going and intensifying as A19 grows.

The vision and the philosophy behind the change process is the transformation of ARTICLE 19’s centre of gravity to the “front line” for human rights work. This frontline may be in London, Brussels or Geneva, but importantly it is most definitely in Senegal, Kenya, Mexico, Brazil, Bangladesh, Tunisia, Indonesia, Iran, etc.

This shift requires an understanding that competencies and skills are shared across all members of the organisation and that increasingly, the regional offices will also be leading the programmatic, strategic and policy development of the organisation. This shift asks of all a commitment to building equal and reciprocal relationships which in turn requires a (re)distribution of power and responsibilities across the organisation. This also demands an understanding that resources must be equally shared and equitably distributed, including as far as salaries and benefits are concerned, taking into account, of course, national specificities.

Exciting opportunities for ARTICLE 19 now and in the future have been made possible by the change process. However, this transformation has also been challenging. With continued change come continued organisational challenges. In 2011, A19 has sought to evolve its change management approach, striving for sustainable solutions and an organisational culture and structure to match the needs of the growth agenda and keep pace with the strategic transformation. This process will be on-going in 2012.

Key activities in 2011 have included:

- **Initiation of the Global Integration Project**: ARTICLE 19 initiated a new project with the assistance of a consultant to better understand the respective functions and expectations of the International and regional offices and put in place the necessary changes in terms of positions, policies and systems, as well as culture. The first phase of this project was achieved in 2011 and included in-depth discussions with managers and staff across the organisation, so as to better capture needs and suggestions. This process should result, in 2012, in a set of proposals regarding a new re-organisation of the international
and regional offices and working methods, systems and tools appropriate to an international organisation operating across all five continents.

• **Financial Management:** While significant progress has been made in upgrading financial reporting and monitoring systems, the audit this year highlighted the need to increase diligence with regards to ensuring internal compliance with our procedures. Progresses made in 2011 include more timely and accurate regional returns, the production of management accounts and holding meetings to review the account information with program leaders on a quarterly basis. Other investments include the purchasing of the Quickbooks accounting software in Mexico and Kenya to facilitate financial reporting, and the recruitment of additional bookkeeping and finance assistance in Kenya, Bangladesh, Brazil and Mexico.

• **A Human Resources Work Plan for the International Office:** Following a human resources audit of the international office, the senior management team and the staff have developed and agreed a work plan to strengthen the management practices within the International Office, including around performance, workload, stress, etc. More resources have been set aside for staff training and development in 2012 as a result of the human resources audit.

• **Regional Staff Terms and Conditions (STC) and Human Resources (HR)** Unfortunately, we have not been able to push the development of STC as far and as fast as we had planned to at the beginning of the year. The development of an appropriate and fair STC for the regional staff must be the key priority for the organisation. The consultation mentioned above will include a focus on HR expectations amongst regional staff, and a review of options and of course of ARTICLE 19 financial situation. ARTICLE 19 is committed to ensure that its staff should receive equitable treatment, and that their voices and experiences should be considered equally, independently of where they are based.

• **Regional Office Investment in Their Own Capacities:** 2011 was a growth year for our regional presence. A number of our offices invested in their own organisational operational capacities. For example, our Kenya, Bangladesh and Brazil offices recruited financial officers and our office in Senegal recruited an office and program assistant. The Mexico office recruited an additional financial assistant and completed a stand-alone audit. The Brazil office added an officer with specific communication and media responsibilities, as well.
ANNEX ONE: ARTICLE 19 EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

ARTICLE 19 launched its new visual identity, website and online presence in July 2011. This report examines both annual data and, where appropriate, compares pre-launch data with post-launch data.

Communications outputs

ARTICLE 19 published 194 press releases and statements in 2011, 19 less than in 2010. This number does not include the new types of communications outputs for 2011, such as updates, events, legal analyses, videos and photos.

2011 saw an increase in statements as a percentage of communications outputs. Almost 45% of outputs were statements in the second half of 2011.
Trends in output quantity from different programmes continues as established in 2010. 2011 saw a large growth in the production of communications outputs led by the law programme, and some growth in advocacy outputs (those originated by comms and the executive director). Africa and Asia outputs remain constant while MENA, Europe and Americas output dropped.

**Audience size**

The website audience has continued to grow, and its rate of growth is increasing. The number of unique visitors was 394,778 in 2011, and they visited 1.66 million times. The mailing list grew by 400, we increased from one Twitter account to 10, and added a presence on Google+ and LinkedIn.
Audience segmentation

Website audiences have increased across all locations with the largest additional increase of 97% from East Africa. The smallest increase is in Central America, which has grown by 5%.

The website’s French, Portuguese and Arabic-language audiences have grown, with Arabic-language visitors growing by an additional 147% over the previous year.
Although the majority of the website's audience use computers, there is substantial growth in those using alternative devices such as tablets and mobile phones.

Our audience segmentation by profession is improving – we have now mapped 54% of our audience. 2011 saw the largest increase in those self-declared as NGO workers, media workers and journalists. The percentage share of government and IGO workers slightly dipped.
**Relationship building**

2011 saw a strong increase in audiences considered high and very-high value (as judged by their repeated visits to the website).
The launch of a new mailing list system has led to a large boost in audiences driven from newsletters/updates to the website.

The new mailing list system, which enables subscribers to switch between products, has revealed the majority of our audience is interested in information in a digest format. A good-sized proportion 16% remains interested in immediate information.
Popular outputs – the top 10

The most-read mailouts in 2011 were almost all newsletters.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 most-read mailouts in 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The week in free expression, 15/09</td>
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<td>2. The week in free expression, 8/12</td>
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<td>3. The week in free expression, 8/9</td>
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<td>4. ARTICLE 19 Unveils New Look &amp; Website</td>
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<td>5. International Day to End Impunity</td>
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<td>6. The week in free expression, 17/11</td>
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<td>7. The week in free expression, 27/10</td>
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<td>8. The week in free expression, 24/11</td>
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<td>9. The week in free expression, 23/9</td>
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<td>10. The week in free expression, 15/12</td>
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The most influential mailouts (judged on post-readership factors) were an interesting mix of statements and press releases. Common trends were Europe, ICTs, and IGOs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 most-influential mailouts in 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. PR: Russia: Half a Decade, Half an Inquiry</td>
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<td>2. STATEMENT: ICTY: Hartmann arrest warrant undermines tribunal’s moral authority</td>
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<td>3. STATEMENT: Switzerland: Hyperlink liability disproportionately infringes on free expression</td>
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<td>4. PR: UN: ARTICLE 19 calls for global access to the internet</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. LEGAL ANALYSIS: Middle East and North Africa: Historic opportunity for freedom of expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. PR: Ukraine: How to know who owns your media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. PR: Media freedom under threat in Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. STATEMENT: OSCE Should Adopt Draft Declaration on Fundamental</td>
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</table>
**Freedoms in the Digital Age**

9. PR: Nepal: Government expels UN human rights watchdog
10. STATEMENT: World Television Day: Satellite jamming and freedom of expression

The most-read webpages were a mix of press releases and statements, with a trend in ICTs.

### Top 10 most-read webpages in 2011

1. PR: Landmark digital free speech ruling at European Court of Justice
2. PR: Thailand: Grandfather sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for anti-monarchy text messages
3. LEGAL ANAL: Iraq: Draft Law on Expression, Assembly, and Protest
4. STATEMENT: Pakistan: Ban on internet encryption a violation of freedom of expression
5. STATEMENT: Hungary: KlubRadio case shows recent media laws censoring
6. PR: Brazil: Access To Information Bill At Risk
7. STATEMENT: ICTY: Hartmann arrest warrant undermines tribunals moral authority
8. STATEMENT: England and Wales: blocking website sets bad international precedent
9. POLICY BRIEF: Rio 2012: Moving from principles to rights
10. STATEMENT: Sierra Leone: Blanket ban on political rallies and public meetings illegal

For the first year ever, Twitter and Facebook were the largest sources of links to our website. Balatarin (Farsi-language) also entered the top 10 sources.

### Top 10 links to ARTICLE 19 in 2011

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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Twitter</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>IFEX</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Ethiomedia</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Balatarin</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>[Brazil gov website]</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Index on Censorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Euro-jobbing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Flashback [Sweden]</td>
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Our Klout review regards us as a ‘Networker’, adding: ‘You know how to connect to the right people and share what's important to your audience. You generously share your network to help your followers. You have a high level of engagement and an influential audience.’ Our three most influential topics are: journalism, Burma, Mexico. Our most influential Tweets (those that have got the most views and clicks) include a number of job adverts and several ICT-related issues.
Top 10 most influential Tweets in 2011

1. RT @opensesociety: RT @evgenymorozov: Burma's government bans CDs and USB drives in Internet cafes http://ow.ly/4VsEK
2. Read @article19org submission to #UK highcourt on #freespeech and digital economy act http://ow.ly/4ma56 #DEAct #DEAjr ^OS
3. Read our critique of #g8 declaration on the internet - fails to respect #humanrights & #freespeech http://ow.ly/54DSQ ^OS
5. @article19org is recruiting! need 2 lawyers, 1xICT 1xMedia, +2officers, #rti & #development. Based in London/Africa http://ow.ly/3T9YY ^OS
6. @article19org is looking for a freelance editor http://ow.ly/86IWz #jobs #charityjobs #global #freespeech ^OS
7. Our website is *ancient*. Our logo *roman* numerals (not great in China, Bangladesh or Iran!). Read more: http://ow.ly/5uDSA ^OS
8. Oops! Georgian woman accidentally (digging with a spade) cuts off internet for Georgia and Armenia http://ow.ly/4v2bb ^OS
9. @article19org is recruiting a #middleeast & north africa programme manager, see http://ow.ly/5K0Ny #jobs ^OS
10. 30,000 protest in #Turkey against government's proposed internet filters http://ow.ly/4VqoE ^OS

We have Twitter followers spread worldwide, but the majority are in Western countries, with the exception of Mexico.
## Top 10 locations for Twitter followers in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>European Union EU</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Income received in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIDA</td>
<td>389,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway MFA</td>
<td>137,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPSF Canada</td>
<td>50,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFJ</td>
<td>42687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>57,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam-Novib</td>
<td>50185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law consultancies</td>
<td>22289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMS</td>
<td>43314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCO</td>
<td>65,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSI</td>
<td>178,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aus Aid</td>
<td>6,849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>407,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baring/Ellerman Foundations</td>
<td>108,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adessium Foundation</td>
<td>101,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>206,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDRC</td>
<td>10,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IREX</td>
<td>13,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian High Commission</td>
<td>2,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>8,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Foundation</td>
<td>89,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFEX</td>
<td>4,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIE</td>
<td>4,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACC</td>
<td>5,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDEF</td>
<td>45,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch MFA</td>
<td>84,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fritt Ord</td>
<td>80000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cappelen Damm</td>
<td>12,928</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL Income received 2011**  2,228,659
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>278,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East &amp; South East Asia</td>
<td>34,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>47,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>277,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>100,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East &amp; North Africa</td>
<td>87,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>117,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>111,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global projects</td>
<td>126,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional office dev't</td>
<td>67,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic support</td>
<td>74,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>35,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic support</td>
<td>379,663</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** 1,929,837