

AMARC International Charter of Community Radios

Drafted and ratified by participant community radio broadcasters members of AMARC during its 8th General Assembly in Kathmandu, Nepal, February 26, 2003

We call upon AMARC International and AMARC members to strengthen all efforts in the following areas:

- Exercise the human right to communication and facilitate the full and equal access of all social sectors to radio and television, and other media, including new information & communication technologies (ICTs).
- Share to mission to democratise communications in order to guarantee freedom of expression and to contribute to equitable and sustainable development.
- Express the aspirations of civil society, especially those excluded from decision making, by age, gender and from the economic arena.
- Promote socio-cultural and linguistic heritage, independent from commercial and governmental interests, partisan political and religious proselytise.
- Represent the interests of all communities.
- Assist them to define themselves as non-profit civic organisations and to seek sufficient diversity in their financing, to prevent the compromise of their objectives.
- Offer quality programming services that is informative, educational, entertaining and are subject to community participation and evaluation.
- Operate as a platform for citizen's participation, where their voices and perspectives can be heard and where diversity is encouraged.
- Defend fundamental human rights, gender equality, resist discrimination and promote the spirit of peace and mutual understanding.
- Maximise the use of available technologies by community media centres to enhance the capabilities of their participants.
- Practice participative democratic governance and transparent administration, respecting the rights of both their personnel and the community being serviced, including persons with disabilities as well as women and children.
- Guarantee participation of women at all levels, including those of decision-making.
- Act to promote harmony, co-operation and communication within our heterogeneous membership.
- Recognise the power of community radio and work to ensure that our members use it responsibly, particularly in conflict.