



November 4, 2011

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union
Executive Admin Council
P.O. Box 12287
50772 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dear Members of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Executive Admin Council

I am looking forward to attending the upcoming General Assembly of the ABU in New Delhi, and to meeting the distinguished representatives of so many Asian broadcasting organizations. The ABU provides an important forum for promoting the collective interests of television and radio broadcasters, and encourages regional and international co-operation between broadcasters.

As an associate member of the ABU, the Voice of America wishes to advise you, the members of the ABU Administrative Council, of its growing concern over an important issue - evidence of deliberate interference with broadcasting signals, specifically satellite television signals by an ABU member state, the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We believe it may be appropriate for the ABU to take a position against such satellite uplink jamming, which disrupts communications and appears to be at odds with the goals of the ABU.

We note that IRIB enjoys worldwide distribution of its programs on a number of international satellites, without interference by others, and yet the programs of the Voice of America's Persian programming and those of other international broadcasters are frequently jammed. One satellite operator affected by this practice, Eutelsat, has used geo-locating devices to identify the origin of these signals, and has informed us that they originate from within Iran.

The VOA respectfully requests that the ABU Administrative Council consider this important issue. We stand ready to provide additional information if requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David B. Ensor'.

David Ensor
Director
Voice of America