

PCC and CPU to Launch New Report on Commonwealth Self-Regulation

"IMPERFECT FREEDOM"

PCC AND CPU TO LAUNCH NEW REPORT ON COMMONWEALTH SELF-REGULATION

The Commonwealth Press Union and the Press Complaints Commission will launch a new report on Tuesday 26th November at 5.15pm at the Foreign Press Association, 11 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.

The report, "Imperfect Freedom", is the culmination of an unprecedented 18-month initiative to promote, throughout the Commonwealth, press freedom through self-regulation of the press. Seminars - held in Kenya, Ghana, the Caribbean, Malta, Sri Lanka and South Africa - were sponsored by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and have been responsible for some surprising achievements. Self-regulation of the press is widely seen as a manifestation of freedom of expression and the fascinating story of how both have been promoted throughout the Commonwealth over the last 18 months is the subject of this new report.

The launch will include brief contributions from speakers including Lindsay Ross, the Director of the CPU, and Professor Robert Pinker, Acting Chairman of the PCC, as well as leading media representatives from around the Commonwealth such as Harold Hoyte (Barbados), Sinha Ratnatunga (Sri Lanka) and Akin Fatoyinbo (Nigeria). There will be time for questions and the press conference will be followed by a drinks and canapes reception at 6pm which will be attended by senior figures from the British and Commonwealth press, diplomats, politicians and civil servants.

If you can attend the launch of the report then please let us know by e-mailing William Gore at will.gore@pcc.org.uk, phone him on 020 7353 1248 or send a fax to 020 7353 8355.

ENDS

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