**Saturday 30 August 2014**

**10h15—12h15 Breakout Session 1**

**BBC Debate on Media Coverage of Migrants, Migration-related Stories**

The purpose of the session is to look at how some of the world’s most respected media cover the difficult, complex, often misunderstood and sometimes incendiary issue of migrants and migration-related stories. This panel will explore (rather than answer) questions around “best practice”—­ how to give greater context, how to increase the number and quality of voices heard, and how to engage audiences in more meaningful dialogue around the topic.

**KEY QUESTIONS**

1. How do we define a migrant or migration-related story? Are there guidelines we should be using? Example: If a story involves a person who immigrated to your country 20 years ago, is it relevant to talk about that person as an immigrant (or migrant)? Why or why not? How do you decide what constitutes a migration story?
2. How do you educate audiences (if at all) as to the different classifications for migrants – refugees, people seeking political asylum, foreign workers, undocumented workers, etc.?
3. How do you achieve balance and objectivity in a story without resorting to either such political correctness that NOTHING is said or without doing a he said/she said?
4. What are the biggest challenges journalists and editors face in covering migration-related stories?
5. Is there any difference in covering stories for domestic audiences vs. for international audiences? Or, same type of question, what about domestic stories vs. international stories? In other words, when the issue is closer to home, are there certain types of practices and when the story is far away are there other types of journalistic practices?
6. How are younger audiences learning about and engaging in meaningful discussion about their genuinely diverse world?
7. How do you work with journalists to train them in covering migrant or migration-related stories?
8. What should people in this room take away in order to improve their approach to these very complicated stories?

**DEBATE PARTICIPANTS**

Moderator

* **Amy Selwyn,** Storytegic, USA

Panelists

* **Mohamed Al Arif,** Indonesia Diaspora Network, Indonesia
* **Marc Easton**, Home News Editor at BBC, United Kingdom
* **Francesca Unsworth**, Deputy Director of News at BBC, United Kingdom

Participant

* **Cornelis Jacobs,** Storytegic, USA