

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Buenos Aires, 1985

The International Association of Broadcasting (IAB) **DECLARES:**

- 1) That the existence of free private broadcasting operating as a medium of free expression to ensure a variety of information, constitutes an essential element for the existence of a free society.
- 2) That the free access to information of the individual, and hence of the communication media, must be ensured and strengthened.
- 3) That inasmuch as the practice of journalism is the exercise of an individual right, it may not be subject to any restriction in its coverage of news and that the same rights apply to the print media as well as all electronic media.
- 4) That it is the sole responsibility of those in the communication media to establish principles of ethics ruling their own activity.
- 5) That commercial broadcasting should be privately owned and competitively operated as an activity in the public interest.
- 6) In respect of the frequencies assigned to broadcasters, governments should limit their authority to distribution and administration of the broadcast spectrum.