

Journalists trained on reporting election, health

By <u>Victoria Saffa</u> 23 Oct 2012

An international media institution, Radar Media Development, has concluded a two-day training for journalists on reporting election issues, health and international news at the Leonard Cheshire LRC, Congo Cross.

Libby Powell, who trained the eight journalists from various press houses which include two health reporters, said the journalists' job is to pick up stories that people cannot see as the media can impact the society rapidly through various means of communication.

She stated that journalists should always avoid bias, blame and bribery, among other factors, in their reporting and noted that the electoral process is the greatest test of professionalism in journalism. She also stressed that during health crisis, the people need information about a particular disease outbreak in the country hence media practitioners ought not to forget that their first responsibility is to readers, the viewers and listeners who expect factual information from them.

"In reporting such issues, the journalists are the only way to save people's lives during an outbreak," she noted and urged media practitioners to try out all forms of news reports, interviews with politicians and the voters and strive to meet international reporting standard over the election period.

She further called on reporters to be responsible and make sure they do not spread rumours that could negatively impact the lives of people.

Source: allAfrica

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