

Tajik Media Council

- ▶ Chairperson TMC Shahlo Akobirova
- ▶ 7 November 2018

History of TMC (Tajik Media Council)

Founded in 2010
TMC members are 81 legal entities and individuals

58 state-owned and independent electronic, printed, online media

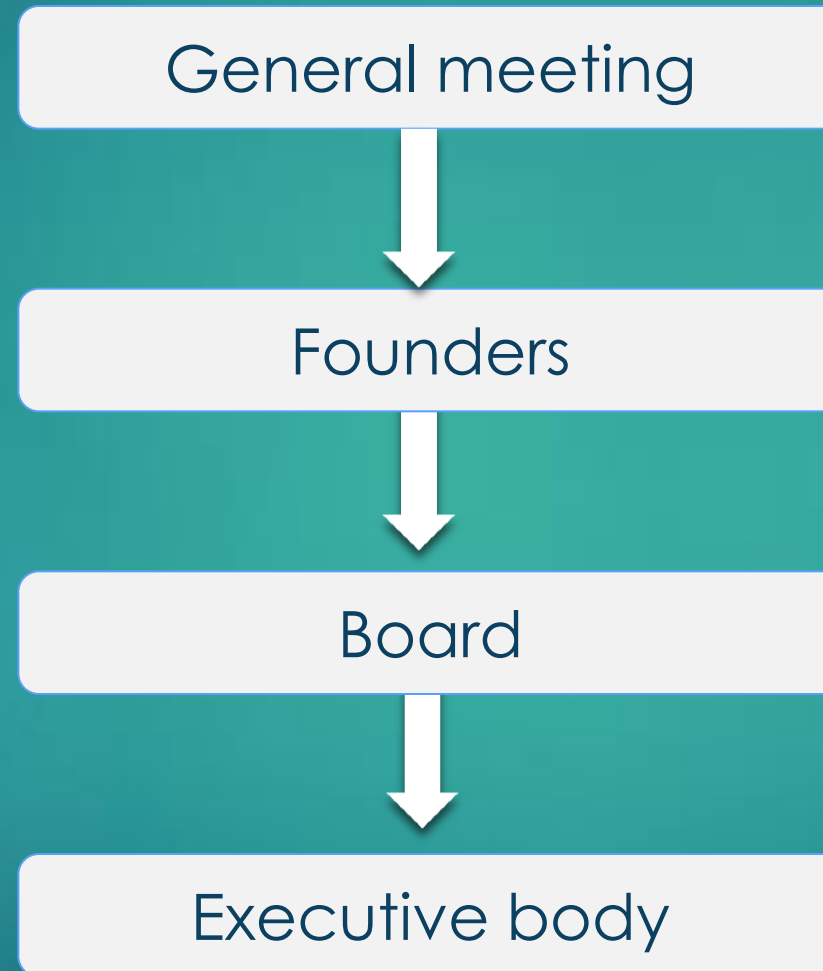
9 media organization

14 well-known journalists, media experts

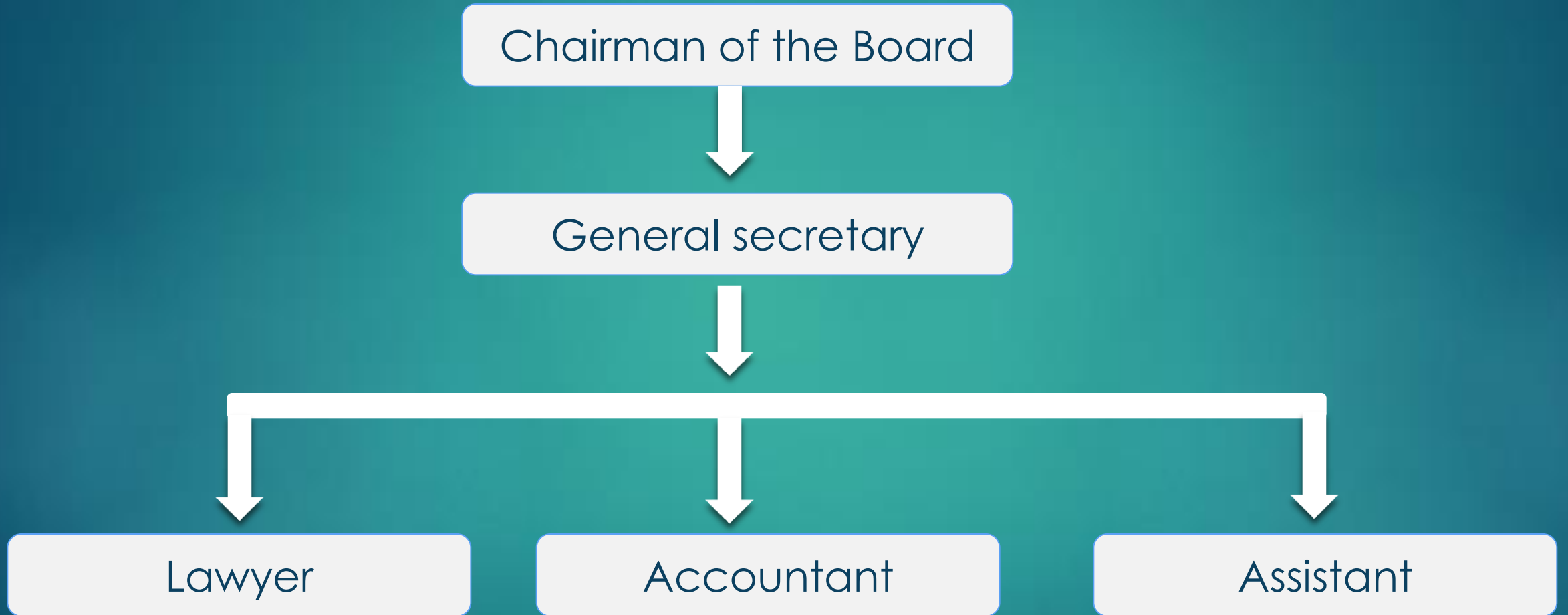
Mission of TMC

- provide information and interpretation of the ethical code of journalism in Tajikistan;
- receive, review and evaluate citizen complaints on the backdrop of professional ethics of journalism;
- protect the freedom of speech;
- improve the professional and legal knowledge of journalists;
- assist in resolving disputes between journalists, media and society;
- protect professional independence in the media;

Structure of TMC



Executive body of TMC



Founders:

Niyozov Khurshedjon (Khurshedi Atovullo), Center for Investigative Journalism

Sharif Hamdampur, Founder of Oila Media Holding

Umed Babakhanov - Founder of Asia Plus Holding

Nuriddin Karshiboev - NANSMIT

Zinatullo Ismoilzoda - Union of Journalists

Bokizoda Mukhtor - Foundation for Remembrance and Protection of the Rights of Journalists

Muso Asozoda - TAJANESMI

Shogona Sulaimon - Bonuvoni Tojikiston Magazine

Irshod Sulaimoni – Ozodagon Newspaper

Board Members

Chairperson of the Board: **Shahlo Akobirova**, Director, PO Khoma

Board Members:

1. **Sharif Hamdampur** - General Director, Oila Media Holding
2. **Vera Kulakova** – General Director, Vatan TV and Radio Company
3. **Irshod Sulaimoni** – Editor-in-Chief, Ozodagon Independent Newspaper
4. **Nematullo Mirsaidov** – Independent Journalist from Sogd Region
5. **Nabi Yusupov** – Director, PO MediaConsulting
6. **Rajabi Mirzo** – Editor of Data Journalism Website run by PO Khoma
7. **Khurshedi Atovullo** – Founder of Farazh Newspaper and Suqdnnews Website
8. **Qironshoh Sharifzoda** – Professor of Journalism, Journalism Department of TNU

In the last 9 months

Work organization:

- A closed Facebook group has been created for the members of Media Council
- New website is under development and new domain name - mediacouncil.tj - has been obtained (formerly odob.tj). The new site will be launched in the second half of March
- 9 in-person meetings of the board has been held and regular communication through e-mail and Facebook is maintained

Complaints

- Complaint against SSSR newspaper of December 12, 2017 in connection with article titled “When the country was betrayed in Leninabad”
- Complaint by employee of CMT TV company Jamshed Marupov against plagiarism of “Jumhuriyat” newspaper (a body of the Government of Tajikistan)
- Complaint against SSSR newspaper of February 14, 2017 in connection with article titled “From bully laborer to failed minister”

On Khairullo Mirsaidov's case

- Meeting with President's Aide on social issues and public relations Abdujabbor Rahmonov
- Meeting with the Chairman of Youth and Sports Committee Akhtam Abdulloev

Visit to Sogd region and meetings with:

- Prosecutor of Sogd Region Habibullo Vohidov
- Head of Department for Special Investigations within Prosecutor's Office of Khujand City Shuhrat Solehzoda and head of Department for International relations within Prosecutor's office of Khujand City Ghoibnazarova
- Head of Prēss Service of the Chairman of Sogd Region Muzaffar Yunusov

Applications and official appeals to TMC

- On February 1, 2018 a letter was sent to the Chairman of Presidential Office Ozoda Rahmon regarding illegal blockage of www.tajikistantimes.tj website.
- On February 3, the site was accessible.
- On February 4, TMC appealed to the President of the country with a statement regarding attempts to monopolize communications market and illegitimate actions by head of communications service of the government Beg Saburov.

Plans

Policy

- Offer to the government assistance in developing the national content strategy
- Develop mechanisms for the creation of competitive environment among media
- Initiate reforms in printed press, especially in state-owned ones
- Develop a mechanism of governmental support of independent media

Media Management

- Building the capacity of Tajik media through establishment of convergent editorials.
- Development of online journalism
- Development of ethical norms in online environment for journalists
- Conduction of 4-days trainings on the basics of journalistic ethics and access to information in Khorog, Kulyab, Kurgantyebe, Khujand and Dushanbe

Quality of media

- **Fact checking**

1. Establishment of an database of open information based on access to information requests regularly generated by TMC team.
2. Building the fact checking capacity of Tajik mass media in terms of watchdog journalism by providing a timeline o developments in bodies of government to members of Media Council thus making them accountable to citizens and fostering needed changes). Major topics will be the decision making processes, illegal actions, corruption, transparency in public finance management, etc.

Monitoring and reports

- Weekly reviews of publications by country's 10 major printed media in Tajik.
- Monthly reports on media situation in the country

Building the capacity of TMC

- Trainings on fundraising
- Study tours to learn the work of media councils in other countries
- Improving the capacity of the English version of the TMC website and introduction of elements of electronic petitions by citizens
- Analysis of national legislation on media for determining their compliance with international norms
- Comments to major laws of media

Thank you for attention

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