



**TRANSLATORS
WITHOUT BORDERS**

Translators without Borders (TWB) is a non-profit organization offering language and translation support for humanitarian and development agencies, and other non-profit organizations globally.

INTERPRETATION TIP SERIES FOR INTERPRETERS

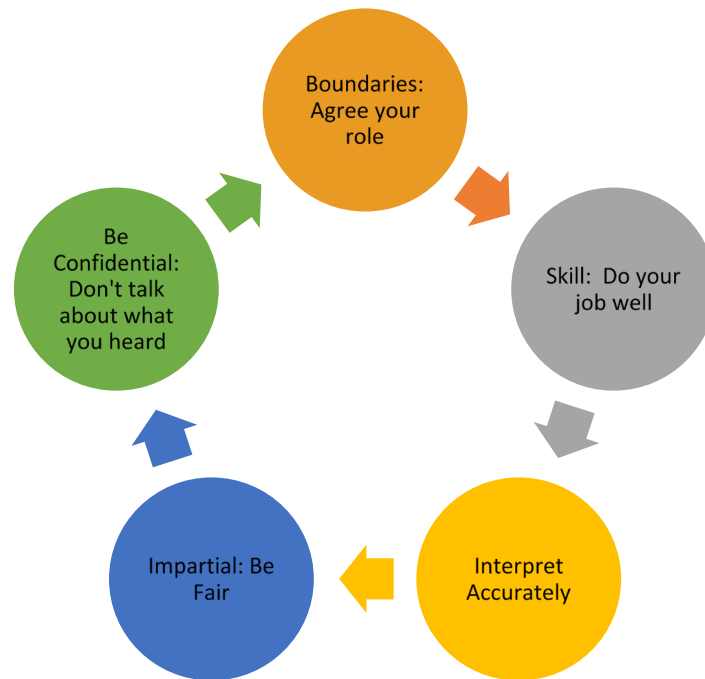
TIP 3

ETHICS IN HUMANITARIAN INTERPRETATION

The goal of the session is to describe ethics and how they apply to interpretation. Professional ethics are important and accurate interpretation helps people access the right service and support. If confidentiality is broken, there may be negative consequences.

Why do we need ethical principles?

1. Professional ethics are important.
2. Accurate interpretation helps people access the right service and support.
3. If confidentiality is broken, there may be negative consequences. The main ethical principles include:



- 1. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:** Interpreters and translators act at all times in accordance with the standards of conduct and decorum appropriate to the humanitarian and DO NO HARM principles.
- 2. COMPETENCE:** undertake work they are competent to perform in the languages for which they are professionally qualified through training and credentials.
- 3. IMPARTIALITY:** Remain unbiased throughout the communication exchanged between the participants in any interpreted encounter.
- 4. ACCURACY:** Use your best professional judgment in remaining faithful at all times to the meaning of texts and messages.
- 5. CLARITY OF ROLE BOUNDARIES:** They do not, in the course of their interpreting or translation duties, engage in other tasks such as advocacy, guidance, or advice.
- 6. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Continue to develop your professional knowledge and skills.
- 7. PROFESSIONAL SOLIDARITY:** Respect and support your fellow colleagues in their practice.
- 8. CONFIDENTIALITY:** Do not disclose information acquired in the course of your work or you must follow due process in exceptional cases that may require breaching the confidence.

For more information about this tip sheet or to find out how Translators without Borders is supporting humanitarian action in northeast Nigeria, visit our website or contact: nigeria@translatorswithoutborders.org



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