Third Annual Seminar series for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) on the topic: Participation of NHRIs in the International Human Rights System and the Role of NHRIs as Institutions of Accountability

12 June 2015
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
UN General Assembly Building
Conference Room 6
United Nations Headquarters
New York

AGENDA

09:00 – 09.15  Registration

09.15 – 09.50  Welcome and Opening Remarks by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Mr. Stan Nkwain, Deputy Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS)

Remarks by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC)
Advocate Lourence Mushwana, Chairperson of the ICC and the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)

Mr. Thomas Schieb, Minister Plenipotentiary and Head of Political Section, Permanent Mission

Remarks by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Ms. Maarit Kohonen, Deputy Head of OHCHR’s New York Office

09:50 – 11.00  Panel discussion on Participation of NHRIs in the International Human Rights System
Moderator: Mr. Vladlen Stefanov, Chief of the National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms section of OHCHR

Panelists:
- Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes, Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Mr. Chris Sidoti, Senior Lawyer, International Service for Human Rights
- Advocate Lourence Mushwana, Chairperson of the ICC and the South African
Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)

Discussants

- Ms. Mitra Motlagh, UNICEF
- Ms. Christine Brautigam, UNWOMEN

Interactive discussion

11.00 – 11.30 COFFEE BREAK

11.30 – 12.45 Panel discussion on the Role of NHRIs as Institutions of Accountability

Moderator: Ms. Ana Graca, Policy Advisor, Rule of Law, Justice and Human Rights, UNDP

Panelists:

- Professor Alan Miller, Chair of the European Network of NHRIs and Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission.
- Member State - to be confirmed.
- Dr. Rosa Freedman, Senior Lecturer, University of Birmingham
- Mr Andrew Gilmour, Political Director, Executive Office of the Secretary-General

Discussants:

- Mr. Alfonso Barragues, UNFPA
- Additional discussants to be confirmed.

Interactive discussion

12:45 – 13:00 Closing remarks by UNDP
Mr. Alejandro Alvarez, Team Leader- Rule of Law, Justice, Security and Human Rights, UNDP