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Fourth session

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Agenda and organization of work

16 – 18 November 2015

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the Secretariat

Provisional agenda

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Annotations

1. Agenda and organization of work

(a) Background

The fourth annual Forum on Business and Human Rights will be held from 16 to 18 November 2015 in Geneva.

The powerful idea that the dignity of every person must be respected and protected is recognized across the world and anchored in international and national human rights law. While human rights traditionally focus on the obligations of States, the growing role of business in society has led to an increasing recognition of the human rights responsibilities of business enterprises. This recognition is at the centre of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which were adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2011, in its resolution 17/4.¹

The Guiding Principles constitute a bridge between human rights and the business world. They provide an authoritative global point of reference on business and human rights around which other international standards and initiatives on responsible business conduct have begun to converge. An increasing number of States are taking steps to develop national action plans on business and human rights, while more and more companies are becoming aware of and taking steps to implement the Guiding Principles. These are encouraging developments. At the same time, much remains to be done to translate policy statements and commitments into action and to ensure access to effective remedies for victims of corporate-related human rights abuse.

The annual Forum on Business and Human Rights aims to reinforce linkages between the business and human rights worlds. Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 17/4 and 26/22, the Forum seeks to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles and to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights, including challenges faced in particular sectors, operational environments or in relation to specific rights or groups, as well as identifying good practices. By doing so, the Forum also aims to facilitate the development of a common vision for the global business and human rights agenda.

(b) Organization of work

The Forum is a multi-stakeholder event under the guidance of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). It is the largest global multi-stakeholder gathering on the topic of business and human rights; at the third session of the Forum, in 2014, there were no fewer than 2,000 registered participants.

¹ The Guiding Principles (A/HRC/17/31, annex) clarify how to implement the three pillars of the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework: (a) the State duty to protect against human rights abuses by third parties, including business, through appropriate policies, regulation, and adjudication; (b) an independent corporate responsibility to respect human rights, meaning that business enterprises should act with due diligence to avoid infringing on the rights of others and to address adverse impacts with which they are involved; (c) greater access by victims to effective remedy, through both judicial and non-judicial grievance mechanisms.

In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/4, the Forum is open to all relevant stakeholder groups, including States, the wider United Nations system, intergovernmental and regional organizations, businesses, labour unions, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders.

The programme comprises high-level plenary sessions and parallel sessions that are organized by the Working Group and OHCHR, as well as by external stakeholders. All stakeholder groups – whether they are States, representatives of civil society, enterprises or inter-governmental organizations – participate on an equal footing. By bringing together such different perspectives, the Forum offers a unique opportunity for constructive, solution-oriented discussions and respectful dialogue.

Interpretation services in English, French and Spanish will be provided at all sessions organized by the Working Group and OHCHR. Plenary sessions will be provided with interpretation services in all official languages of the United Nations. Interpretation services for other sessions are subject to arrangements made by external organizers.

The Forum will have before it the provisional agenda contained in the present document. A draft programme outline is annexed to the present document (annex I). More information and the final programme will be available on the webpage of the Forum at www.ohchr.org/2015ForumBHR.

2. Theme for the 2015 Forum: Tracking progress and ensuring coherence

In addressing the theme of its fourth session, “Tracking progress and ensuring coherence”, the Forum will identify ways to track progress, promote policy coherence and achieve more rapid change on the ground for rights-holders. Discussions in the plenary and parallel sessions will delve into six key substantive areas that address the overall theme, taking into account the three pillars of the Guiding Principles: the State duty to protect against human rights abuses, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and the need for access to effective remedy for victims:

- Efforts to track performance and progress in the implementation of the Guiding Principles, examining the wide range of existing initiatives and methodologies – from measuring, tracking and reporting to ranking and benchmarking – to measure and track progress of implementation by States and businesses
- Policy coherence in global governance frameworks, exploring the practical implications of the Guiding Principles for policies relating to trade, investment and sustainable development, and opportunities for improved policy coherence
- Policy and practice coherence at the national level, and exploring emerging practices, challenges and opportunities, including the increasing trend of developing national action plans on business and human rights, as well as a focus on State-owned enterprises and economic activities controlled by the State
- Corporate respect for human rights in practice, exploring how companies can effectively prevent and address any adverse impact on human rights, with a particular focus on human rights due diligence, sector specific challenges and supply chain issues
- Groups at risk, learning from human rights defenders and groups who have been and are at particular risk of business-related human rights abuses, assessing the level of protection, and exploring good practice responses
- Access to effective remedy, and examining trends and innovative ways to strengthen access to remedy for victims through both judicial and non-judicial mechanisms

Each year the Forum also strives to link discussions to concrete realities and existing challenges to securing protection, respect and remedy of private sector impact on human rights. A cross-cutting topic in this respect, which will be discussed at the Forum, involves multi-stakeholder engagement between States, businesses, civil society and affected stakeholders across the three pillars of the Guiding Principles. Major international sports events (mega-events), which have dominated recent global headlines, also encapsulate all six of the Forum's themes and will be the subject of discussion in a special session.

A number of parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders will complement United Nations-led sessions on the topics listed above and address key trends and issues related to specific rights, groups, sectors and operational contexts. High-level plenary sessions will provide leadership perspectives on the business and human rights agenda and current global trends.

3. Opening high-level plenary session: Global outlook on business and human rights, and leadership views on key global challenges and opportunities for progress

The opening high-level plenary session, to be held on 17 November, will be opened by the President of the Human Rights Council. Welcoming statements will be made by the Chairperson, who will preside over the plenary opening and closing sessions, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or his representative.

The Chairperson of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises will deliver an opening address, describing the global framework of business and human rights and highlighting the trends and opportunities for more rapid progress in the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

The opening reflections will be followed by a series of moderated discussions featuring distinguished speakers, including representatives of Governments, business, civil society and international organizations. The segment will provide leadership views on business and human rights, and on how to address key global challenges and capitalize on opportunities for progress.

4. Working Group-led sessions

Pursuant to its role in guiding the programme of the Forum, the Working Group led the preparation of plenary sessions and a number of parallel sessions. Each session will reflect the overall theme of the Forum and be dedicated to one of the six areas of discussion (see item 2 above).

Sessions on access to remedy were organized by OHCHR in collaboration with the Working Group. Several of the parallel sessions were prepared in consultation or collaboration with organizations that submitted session proposals. A draft overview of Working Group-led sessions and the organizations that contributed to them is attached to the present document (annex II).

5. Parallel sessions led by external organizations

Parallel sessions led by external organizations accredited to the annual Forum on Business and Human Rights have become a regular feature of the event, in line with its open and inclusive nature. The 2015 Forum includes a number of parallel sessions

organized by a range of stakeholders and covering a diverse array of themes and topics linked to the mandate of the Forum and the overall theme for the fourth session.

For the 2015 Forum, the secretariat received more than 140 proposals for thematic sessions from external stakeholders, covering a vast array of issues and perspectives. The secretariat has sought to accommodate as many proposals for externally organized parallel events as possible in line with the inclusive nature of the Forum. The Working Group and OHCHR are not responsible for the content and organization of these externally-organized sessions. The provisional outline of parallel sessions led by external stakeholders (see annex III) is subject to change.

All organizers of parallel sessions at the annual Forum are requested to show consideration for the mandate of the Forum to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights and the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Parallel session organizers have an important role to play in stimulating respectful dialogue and a participatory approach in the sessions of which they are in charge. This does not mean avoiding contentious topics, reducing divergent views or censoring inputs, but rather taking extra care to create a space for meaningful multi-stakeholder engagement. With this in mind, the Working Group has developed the guidance below for session organizers and moderators.

(a) Guidance for session organizers

1. Basic expectations

Parallel session organizers are requested to take the following into account:

- (a) Panels should be moderated in an interactive fashion to avoid single speaker and lengthy presentations;
- (b) The organizers should plan for sufficient time for interaction between panel speakers and the audience; this includes limiting the size of the panel and time for introductory remarks;
- (c) Panels should allow for multi-stakeholder participation to the greatest extent possible.
- (d) If panel presentations are expected to address specific cases involving named States and/or enterprises, session organizers should inform the Forum secretariat and relevant parties (namely, the Permanent Mission of the State and the companies concerned) in due course before the opening of the Forum, and seek to involve them in the session;
- (e) Moderators and panel organizers should communicate the content of the present note to panellists participating in their session in due course before the session of the Forum, and ensure that the content is acknowledged and has been understood.

2. Support for session organizers to facilitate multi-stakeholder engagement

The Forum secretariat stands ready to support session organizers in the planning of sessions. For example, one particular challenge that civil society actors faced in past years was finding business speakers, and vice-versa. The secretariat disposes of mechanisms that can be used to assist organizers when addressing challenges of this type.

3. Timeline and administrative information

Organizers should prepare a final concept note for the session and submit it to the Forum secretariat for posting on the Forum webpage by the deadline indicated.

The United Nations is not able to cover travel and participation costs of speakers and other persons involved in the session, or to arrange interpretation services for the event. Session organizers are welcome to make arrangements for interpretation and for providing refreshments to participants at their respective events.

All participants in parallel sessions, including organizers and speakers, must register online using the form available on the Forum website.

Following the Forum, session organizers are requested to prepare a brief summary of the discussions and send to the Forum Secretariat within three weeks after the Forum.

(b) Guidance for moderators

The aim of the Forum is not only frank and respectful dialogue, but also dynamic and substantively focused discussion. Session moderators have an important role in helping to achieve such an outcome.

When selecting moderators, session organizers should consider whether candidates have any prior relationship with panellists or can take the time to establish this in the lead-up to the Forum. They should also consider whether they have (a) an understanding of the content of the session, and (b) a proven track record in supporting dialogue that values diverse opinions.

Session moderators are expected to assist with the following:

Facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue: Moderators may want to emphasize the unique multi-stakeholder character of the Forum and that all participants in the audience participate on an equal footing.

Acting as stewards: Moderators are encouraged to embrace the neutral role of being the steward or guide for the conversation based on (a) what panellists and participants express as important and (b) the overall intent of the Forum.

Constructive dialogue: Moderators should ensure that discussions do not focus on one single case, specific company, organization or country. In situations where speakers refer to allegations against specific entities (for example, Governments, individual companies or non-governmental organizations), moderators should ensure that the latter, if present and requesting the floor, are given the right of reply during the session. In such instances, moderators should remind all participants about the overall principles guiding the Forum, namely, that of constructive dialogue and respect for each other's viewpoint, and encourage participants to abide by those principles.

Balanced and pertinent discussions: Moderators may use their discretion in the management of the interventions from the floor in order to achieve participatory and balanced discussions that are pertinent to the topic of the session. This includes interrupting, if required, any derogatory or irrelevant interventions, and actively encouraging interventions from different stakeholder groups.

Dynamic exchanges: Moderators should remind participants in the audience to avoid reading from prepared written statements, documents or published texts. Written statements may be sent to the Forum secretariat for posting on the Forum webpage. Participants in the audience should also be encouraged to make short, relevant interventions or to ask questions relevant to the topic of the session.

Timekeeping: Given that time for every item on the Forum programme is limited, moderators are asked to assist in managing the scheduled time for the session and the allotted speaking time. The goal of the Forum is to enable multi-stakeholder participation in the discussions, which can be facilitated if panellists and participants

taking the floor stay within their allotted time. To that end, moderators might be required to remind speakers that they should respect the speaking time allotted to them (generally maximum 1-2 minutes).

6. Conclusion: The sustainable development agenda, human rights and business, and ways forward

In the closing plenary session, the discussion will focus on strategic opportunities and next steps for scaling-up the implementation of the Guiding Principles by States, business and other stakeholders. A thematic panel discussion will focus on the sustainable development agenda, human rights and business in the light of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Panellists will share their views about the role of business in development and the importance of coherence and scaling-up action on the Guiding Principles.

To conclude, the Working Group and selected speakers will offer closing reflections on Forum discussions and implications for the way forward.

Annex I

Draft outline of the Forum programme*

16 November 2015			
9 – 10 a.m.	Welcome coffee		
10 – 11.30 a.m.	Updates by international organizations with close interface to the Guiding Principles: opportunities for further alignment and convergence △ Policy coherence global governance	The Guiding Principles for newcomers: introductory presentation on their background, key features and implications	Parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of “multipliers”: academia, lawyers and bar associations, and national human rights institutions • International investment arbitration and human rights • Extractive industries and indigenous peoples • Human rights and the ICT sector
11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies) △ Corporate respect in practice △ Policy coherence national level △ Groups at risk	The interface between judicial and non-judicial remedy: experiences and challenges △ Access to remedy	
1 – 3 p.m.	Lunch break		

△ Thematic tag of the session.

* The schedule is subject to change. Please refer to the final version of the programme at www.ohchr.org/2015ForumBHR.

Participants are informed that there will be short breaks/transition periods between the sessions ending at 11.30 a.m./4.30 p.m. and those starting at 11.30/4.30 p.m.; some sessions may therefore open and close later than indicated in the programme. Sessions open at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. sharp.

3 – 4.30 p.m.	Measuring and tracking implementation of the Guiding Principles △ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles	State implementation of the Guiding Principles in the context of investment policy △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human rights due diligence approaches across sectors • Sustainable agriculture supply chains • State-based mechanisms for access to remedy
4.30 – 6 p.m.	Sector-specific challenges: providing access to effective remedy in the financial sector △ Access to remedy	Addressing challenges and risks faced by women’s human rights defenders working in and for communities affected by business enterprises △ Groups at risk △ Policy coherence at the national level △ Corporate respect in practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective company-level grievance mechanisms • Recruitment practices and migrant workers • Land investments, corruption and human rights
6.30 – 8 p.m.	Evening sessions (organized by external stakeholders) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch events (<i>Business and Human Rights Journal</i>; Ranking Digital Rights Corporate Accountability Index) 		

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8 – 9 a.m.	Welcome coffee		
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Opening of the high-level plenary session in the Assembly Hall Part I: Welcoming remarks by the President of the Human Rights Council, the Forum Chairperson, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Part II: Opening remarks by the Working Group: Global outlook of business and human rights: trends and opportunities for faster progress Part III: Leadership views on business and human rights: addressing key global challenges and capitalizing on opportunities for progress		
1 – 3 p.m.	Lunch break Parallel session (organized by external stakeholders) (1.30 – 2.30 p.m.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s empowerment, business and human rights 		
3 – 4.30 p.m.	National action plans on business and human rights: challenges and lessons	Measuring and tracking implementation of the Guiding Principles	Parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders:

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	learned △ Policy coherence at the national level	△ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-judicial remedy: lessons from case studies • The Guiding Principles, trade and investment • Human rights in supply chains • Human rights impact assessments – sectoral and multi-stakeholder approaches • National action plans • Company-community relations in complex environments
4.30 – 6 p.m.	Mega-sporting events and human rights △ Corporate respect in practice △ Policy coherence at the national level	Multi-stakeholder consultation on the Accountability and Remedy Project of OHCHR △ Access to remedy △ Policy coherence at the national level	
	Evening events (to be confirmed)		

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8.15 – 9.45 a.m.	Parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International financial institutions and human rights • Children’s rights and business • Innovative approaches in company-community dispute resolution • Stakeholder perspectives on a business and human rights treaty • Whistle-blowing and the Guiding Principles • Addressing the root causes of corruption and human rights abuses 		
9.45 – 10 a.m.	Break		
10 – 11.30 a.m.	Integrating human rights in State-owned enterprises and other business controlled by the State: challenges and lessons learned △ Policy coherence at the national level	Human rights defenders and civic space in the context of business △ Groups at risk △ Policy coherence at the national level △ Corporate respect in practice	Parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder perspectives on a business and human rights treaty • Putting the Guiding Principles into practice: making business sense of human rights • Business, climate change and environmental justice • Conflict areas and due diligence • Supply chain responsibility in the garment sector • Human rights reporting and assurance
11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	The sustainable development goals, the private sector and the Guiding Principles △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance	Company commitments and community-led initiatives: different approaches to making meaningful community engagement a best practice △ Groups at risk	

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	△ Corporate respect in practice	△ Policy coherence at the national level	
		△ Corporate respect in practice	
1 – 3 p.m.	Lunch break		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parallel session (organized by external stakeholders) (1.30 – 2.30 p.m.) • Connecting the Guiding Principles with the business and human rights treaty process 		
3 – 4.30 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies)	Roles and responsibilities of States concerned in cross-border cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public procurement • Extractive industries, complex environments and community relations • Human rights due diligence in law and in practice
	△ Corporate respect in practice	△ Access to remedy	
	△ Policy coherence at the national level	△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance	
	△ Groups at risk		
4.30 – 6 p.m.	Closing of the high-level plenary session in Room XX		
	Part I: Panel discussion: “The sustainable development agenda, human rights and business: connecting the dots, the role of business in development and the importance of coherence and of scaling-up action on the Guiding Principles”		
	Part II: Closing reflections: Forum takeaways and implications for the way forward		

Annex II

Parallel sessions led by the Working Group and the Office of the High Commissioner in collaboration with partners: draft overview of sessions and partner organizations

Session title	Partners or organizations whose proposal was incorporated in the session (at time of submission of the present document)
Measuring and tracking progress in the implementation of the Guiding Principles	Corporate Human Rights Benchmark, Shift and the Danish Institute for Human Rights; “Measuring Business and Human Rights” Project and the United States Council for International Business; University of Denver
The interface between judicial and non-judicial remedy: experiences and challenges	Accountability Counsel, Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO), Inclusive Development International (IDI), International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), OECD Watch, Matrix Chambers, International Organisation of Employers
Company commitments and community-led initiatives: different approaches to making meaningful community engagement a best practice	Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Oxfam, Project on Organizing, Development, Education and Research (PODER), EarthRights International (ERI), Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO), Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA), HIVOS
Human rights defenders and civic space in the context of business	Amnesty International, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Civil Rights Defenders, Front Line Defenders, Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (a joint programme by FIDH and OMCT), Institute for Human Rights and Business, International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)
Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies)	Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Global Business Initiative on Human Rights
Mega-sporting events and human rights	Caux Round Table Japan, Institute for Human Rights and Business

Session title	Partners or organizations whose proposal was incorporated in the session (at time of submission of the present document)
Addressing challenges and risks faced by women's human rights defenders	Proyecto de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales, A.C. (ProDESC), Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition (WHRDIC)
State implementation of the Guiding Principles in the context of investment policy	LSE Investment and Human Rights Project
The sustainable development goals, the private sector and the Guiding Principles	Danish Institute for Human Rights, Institute for Human Rights and Business; Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Oxfam

Annex III

Draft overview of parallel sessions led by external stakeholders

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10 – 11.30 a.m.	<p>Business and the Bar: leadership from the legal profession on business and human rights</p> <p>Organized by the International Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p>	<p>The role of national human rights institutions in advancing human rights in business: experiences, opportunities and challenges</p> <p>Organized by the Australian Human Rights Commission, Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos (Mexico), Comisión Estatal de Derechos Humanos de Nuevo León (Mexico) and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level</p>
		<p>Cooperation through education and research: the role of academic institutions as multipliers of the global business and human rights agenda</p> <p>Organized by the BHRIGHT Network, represented by the Copenhagen Business School (Denmark), EDHEC Business School (France) and the University of Seville (Spain); Business and Human Rights Project of the University of Essex, the Centre for Applied Legal Studies of the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa); the City University of Hong Kong, E-dh - Entreprises pour les droits de l'homme(France), the Human Rights and Business Centre of the Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil; and the Teaching Business & Human Rights Forum, Columbia University (United States of America)</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</p>

Transition between sessions

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11.30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	<p>Unpacking the Guiding Principles in investment disputes: is there a place for human rights in investment treaty arbitration?</p> <p>Organized by Allen & Overy LLP’s Human Rights Working Group and Arbitration Group and Essex Business and Human Rights Project in collaboration with Al-Haq</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p>	<p>Recognizing indigenous peoples’ rights to land, territories and resources, and challenges in their access to mechanisms for redress</p> <p>Organized by the Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy, the Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation, CPDE-CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, the Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme, Red PAZINDE – Consejo de Capitanes Guaranies de Chiquisaca, Rural Missionaries of the Philippines – Northern Mindanao Region (RMP-NMR), the World Council of Churches-Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>Balancing rights and State demands: taking stock of the challenges and exploring opportunities to secure rights online</p> <p>Organized by the Global Network Initiative (GNI) and Privacy International (PI)</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p>
1 – 3 p.m.	<p>Lunch break</p>		
3 – 4.30 p.m.	<p>Human rights due diligence approaches across sectors (details to be confirmed)</p>	<p>Promoting human rights in agricultural supply chains: From palm oil workers in South East Asia to women in Kenya’s horticulture industry</p> <p>Organized by Hivos, Humanity United, International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF), the Kenya Human Rights Commission, the Rainforest Action Network and Verité</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p>	<p>State-based mechanisms for access to remedy</p> <p>Organized by the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, the International Law Association, the Study Group on Business and Human Rights and the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR)</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level</p>

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		△ Groups at risk	△ Groups at risk
	Transition between sessions		
4.30 – 6 p.m.	<p>Effective company-level grievance mechanisms: multi-stakeholder perspectives and examples from practice</p> <p>Organized by the United Nations Global Compact and the ACCESS Facility</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>Working together to promote due diligence and to protect workers' rights during recruitment</p> <p>Organized by the Institute for Human Rights and Business, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Global Compact and Verité</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>Land, corruption and human rights: a round-table discussion on the implications of large-scale land investments and constructive responses for human rights</p> <p>Organized by the Centre for Peacebuilding (KOFF), the Swiss Peace Foundation, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR) and the Quaker United Nations Office</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>
6.30 – 8 p.m.	<p>Evening sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of research and scholarships in promoting business respect for human rights: launch of the <i>Business and Human Rights Journal</i>. Organized by the editors-in-chief of the <i>Business and Human Rights Journal</i> and Cambridge University Press • Ranking Digital Rights Corporate Accountability Index: Inaugural launch event. Organized by Ranking Digital Rights 		

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1 – 3 p.m.	<p>Lunch break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's empowerment, business and human rights. Organized by the Government of the Netherlands, the International Trade Centre and the United Nations Global Compact (1.30 – 2.30 p.m.) 		
3 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<p>Human rights in supply chains</p> <p>Organized by the B Team</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p>	<p>Pitfalls and promises of non-judicial grievance mechanisms: strengths and weaknesses, and how to improve outcomes on the ground</p> <p>Organized by the Accountability Counsel, Corelab / The B Team and RAID</p>	<p>Implementing the Guiding Principles: implications of trade and investment agreements for the State duty to protect and have access to remedy</p> <p>Organized by International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE), the International Federation for Human Rights</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Access to remedy △ Policy coherence at the national level △ Corporate respect in practice △ Groups at risk 	<p>(FIDH) and Friends of the Earth Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Access to remedy △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance △ Groups at risk
	Transition between sessions		
4.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.	<p>Assessing the human rights impact of private sector projects: current challenges and innovative approaches</p> <p>Organized by the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) and the Sciences Po Law School Clinic (France)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Corporate respect in practice 	<p>National action plans on business and human rights: global perspectives, lessons learned and next steps</p> <p>Organized by the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS), University of Witwatersrand, the Asian Business and Rule of Law Initiative, the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP), the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR) and Singapore Management University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance △ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles 	<p>Overcoming challenges of company-community relations in complex environments</p> <p>Organized by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance △ Corporate respect in practice △ Access to remedy △ Groups at risk
	Evening events (to be confirmed)		

18 November 2015

8.15 – 9.45 a.m.	<p>Respecting children’s rights in law and in practice: tools and approaches to fight child labour</p> <p>Organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Global Compact, Save the Children and Terre des Hommes</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p>	<p>Human rights obligations of development finance institutions and the right to an effective remedy</p> <p>Organized by Accountability Counsel, Human Rights Watch, the Bank Information Center and Conectas Human Rights</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p>	<p>Innovative approaches in company-community dispute resolution in complex environments</p> <p>Organized by the Global Community of Practice of Dialogue Facilitators (COPDF) with the collaboration and support of ACCESS Facility, the PeaceNexus Foundation, International Mediators Community of Practice, and Partners for Democratic Change International (to be confirmed)</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>The United Nations treaty process on business and human rights: business and other perspectives</p> <p>Organized by the International Organisation of Employers and the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights</p> <p>△ Policy coherence and global governance</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p>	<p>Whistle-blower protection in the context of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Organized by the French Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Blueprint for Free Speech, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) and Expolink Europe Ltd.</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level</p>	<p>Corporate capture and company ownership transparency: addressing the root causes of corruption and human rights abuses</p> <p>Organized by Global Witness and the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net)</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p>
9.45 – 10 a.m.	Break					

10 – 11.30 a.m.	<p>Challenges and opportunities of a treaty to address corporate abuse of human rights</p> <p>Organized by the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Friends of the Earth Europe, the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), Al-Haq and Franciscans International</p> <p>△ Policy coherence and global governance</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>Transition between sessions</p>	<p>Putting the Guiding Principles into practice: making business sense of human rights</p> <p>Organized by Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Sancroft International, the Global Compact Network Australia, Fair Play Human Rights Consulting, Omnia Strategy LLP and the <i>Business and Human Rights Journal</i></p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</p>	<p>Business, climate change and environmental justice</p> <p>Organized by the International Bar Association, Friends of the Earth Europe and Greenpeace Switzerland, the Faculty of Law, Western University, Ontario</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p>
11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<p>Beyond auditing: effective ways to address human rights violations in garment supply chains</p> <p>Organized by the Council on Ethics, Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global and the Fair Wear Foundation</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p>	<p>Enhanced due diligence in conflict-affected areas: the roles of different stakeholders</p> <p>Organized by Al-Haq, the Essex Business and Human Rights Project, International Alert and the Swiss Peace Foundation (swisspeace)</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>The role of corporate reporting in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Organized by Clifford Chance, Global Reporting Initiative, Group of Friends of Paragraph 47, and Shift and Mazars</p> <p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</p>
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.	<p>Lunch break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connecting the Guiding Principles with the business and human rights treaty process. Organized by the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations Office at Geneva (1.30 – 2.30 p.m.) 		

3 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<p>Public procurement and human rights: a round-table discussion</p> <p>Organized by the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Harrison Institute, Georgetown University</p>	<p>Implementation of the Guiding Principles in the mining sector: company-civil society engagement</p> <p>Organized by Fondation Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association</p>	<p>Human rights due diligence in law and in practice</p> <p>Organized by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE), the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Frank Bold, Global Witness, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), the International Bar Association, Norton Rose Fulbright and the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)</p>
	<p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p>	<p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Access to remedy</p> <p>△ Groups at risk</p>	<p>△ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p> <p>△ Corporate respect in practice</p> <p>△ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</p>

△ Thematic tag of the session.

The schedule is subject to change. Participants are informed that there will be short breaks/transition periods between the sessions opening at 11.30 a.m./4.30 p.m. and those opening at 11.30 a.m./4.30 p.m; some sessions may therefore open and close later than the time indicated in the programme. Sessions open at 8.15 a.m., 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. sharp.