Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

Regional Consultation on the Draft General Guidelines on Foreign Debt and Human Rights

ORGANIZED BY OHCHR
20 – 21 June 2011
Palais des Nations, Room XXIV
Geneva, Switzerland

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

09:30–10:00 Arrival and registration of participants
10:00–10:30 Opening statements by Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Chief of Branch, OHCHR

10:30–11:45 Session 1: Rationale and purpose of the Draft General Guidelines on Foreign Debt and Human Rights
Chair: Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Chief of Branch, OHCHR
Presentation: Background and rationale of the Draft General Guidelines on Foreign Debt and Human Rights, Mr. Cephas Lumina, United Nations Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights
Presentation: Comment on the form and content of the Draft General Guidelines on Foreign Debt and Human Rights.
Mr. Boris-Ephrem Tchoumavi (SPB, OHCHR)
Discussion

11:45–13:00 Session 2: Core human rights principles and obligations
Chair: Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Chief of Branch, OHCHR
Presentation: Human rights obligations of States, including the obligation of international assistance and cooperation
Mr. Christian Courtis, (RRDD, OHCHR)
Presentation: Core international human rights principles relevant to debt and economic reform
Mr. Florian Rochat, Europe Third World Centre (CETIM), and Committee for the Abolition of Third World Debt (CADTM)
Discussion

13:00–15:00 Lunch Break
15:00–16:30  Session 3:  Debt, debt relief and economic reform
Chair:  TBA
Presentation:  Debt relief, conditionality and debt sustainability
Ms. Oygunn Brynildsen, European Network on Debt and Development (EURODAD)
Presentation:  Integrating human rights into a poverty reduction strategies
Ms. Mariama Williams, South Centre
Presentation:  Coherence between trade, debt policies and related obligations of States
Mr. Vijay Nagaraj, International Council for Human Rights Policy
Discussion

16:30–18:00  Session 4:  Loan negotiation, contraction, management and use – The relevance of human rights principles
Chair:  TBA
Presentation:  UNCTAD’s initiative on Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing
Mr. Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
Presentation:  Loan agreements and human rights: The role of human rights impact assessments
Mr. Antonio Tricarico, Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale (CRBM)
Presentation:  Ensuring transparency and accountability in loan contraction, use of loan funds and debt management: The role of civil society.
Mr. Eric LeCompte, Jubilee USA Network
Discussion

DAY 2

10:00–11:00  Session 5:  Comments on the scope and application of the Guidelines
Chair:  TBA
Presentation:  Overview of the scope and application of the Guidelines.
Discussion

11:00–12:00  Session 6:  Comments on overarching principles
Chair:  TBA
Presentation:  Overview of principles relevant to foreign debt and economic reform.
Discussion

12:00–13:00  Session 7:  Comments on guidelines on foreign debt
Chair:  TBA
Presentation:  Overview of guidelines on foreign debt in the Draft Guidelines (debt sustainability, debt relief, new loan agreements and efficient use of policy space.
13:00—15:00  Lunch Break

15:00—16:00  **Session 8:** Comments on the Guidelines on economic reform policies
   Chair:
   **Presentation:** Overview of guidelines on economic reform policies in the Draft Guidelines (macroeconomic stabilisation, trade, social sector reform, privatisation and governance).
   Discussion

16:00—17:00  **Session 9:** Identification of missing elements in the Draft Guidelines
   Chair: TBA
   Discussion

17:00—18:00  **Session 10:** Discussion on the way forward and next steps
   Chair: OHCHR
   Discussion
   Closing remarks