



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences

Programme

**Expert Meeting on Eradicating Contemporary Forms of Slavery from Supply Chains:
States' obligations, the role of businesses and other stakeholders and access to
effective remedy for victims**

**2 April 2015
Geneva**

9:00 – 9:30 Welcome and introductory remarks

Welcoming remarks by Ms. Alisa Clarke, OHCHR

Tour de table

Introductory remarks by Ms. Urmila Bhoola, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences

9:30 – 11:00 Session 1: International normative framework and responsibility of States to eradicate contemporary forms of slavery from supply chains and ensure access to remedy for victims

Objectives:

- To examine the existing international normative framework and identify its strengths and weaknesses in relation to eradicating contemporary forms of slavery;
- To discuss the strengths and weaknesses of existing and emerging national legislation that attempt to regulate and improve business practices in supply chains;
- To identify prevention, protection and prosecution challenges, good practice initiatives and key lessons from jurisprudence;
- To identify mechanisms to strengthen access to remedies for victims of contemporary forms of slavery in supply chains.

Facilitator: Mr. Mike Dottridge, UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Speakers:

Ms. Beate Andrees, International Labour Organisation

Mr. Siddharth Kara, Harvard University

Mr. Jeroen Beirnaert, International Trade Union Confederation

Discussion and conclusions

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee/tea break

11:15 – 12:45 Session 2: New strategies in supply chain engagement and access to remedy for victims

Objectives:

- To look at existing and emerging approaches of supply chain engagement and identify their strengths and weaknesses, including in terms of addressing the issue of access to remedy for victims;
- To focus on new approaches to transparency, traceability, assessments and certification, stakeholder partnerships and other initiatives to tackle key challenges in supply chains, including the role of sub-contracting, the informal economy and labour supply chains.

Facilitator: Mr. Philip Hunter, Verité

Speakers:

Mr. Aidan McQuade, Anti-Slavery International

Mr. David Schilling, Interfaith Centre for Corporate Responsibility

Mr. Neill Wilkins, Institute for Human Rights and Business

Discussion and conclusions

12:45 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:30 Session 3: Partnerships and cooperation in eradicating contemporary forms of slavery from supply chains

Objectives:

- To assess different forms of cooperation aimed at eradicating contemporary forms of slavery from supply chains from the human rights perspective;
- To focus on business-stakeholder engagement, multi-stakeholder initiatives, international partnerships and the role of stakeholders such as foundations, investors and others.

Facilitator: Ms. Nicola Philips, Sheffield University

Speakers:

Mr. Miguel Coleta, Philip Morris International

Ms. Cindy Berman, Ethical Trading Initiative

Mr. Ben Smith, International Labour Organisation

Ms. Sonia Velázquez, ECLT Foundation

Discussion and conclusions

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee/tea break

15:45 – 17:15 Session 4: Sector- and commodity-based approaches to eradicating contemporary forms of slavery from supply chains with a focus on child slavery

Objectives:

- To examine the strengths and weaknesses of sector- and commodity-based approaches, including in agriculture, manufacturing, fishing and seafood;

- To focus on the issue of child slavery and slavery-like practices in specific commodities and the efficacy of responses to address these.

Facilitator: Mr. Ed Marcum, Humanity United

Speakers:

Ms. Nina Smith, Goodweave

Mr. Nick Weatherill, International Cocoa Initiative

Mr. Andrews Tagoe, General Agriculture Workers Union Ghana

Ms. Leslie Johnston, C&A Foundation

Discussion and conclusions

17:15 – 18:00 Conclusions and discussion on recommendations and next steps

Tour de table

Closing remarks by Ms. Urmila Bhoola, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences