

Building Enabling Environments for Human Rights Defenders

PBI UK Conference – 17 June 2016

Venue:

Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1Y 5BJ

Schedule:

08:30-17:30

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	
8:30 - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome: Douglas Proudfoot , Head of Political & Public Affairs, Canadian High Commission Introduction : Susi Bascon , PBI UK Director
9:15 - 9:30	Keynote Speaker: Michel Forst , UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of HRDs "Ensuring enabling environments for HRDs: challenges, deficiencies and good practices"
RULE OF LAW	
9:30 - 10:55	Panel 1: <u>Rule of Law: Uses and Abuses of the Law in relation to Human Rights Defenders</u> Chair: Sir Henry Brooke , PBI UK patron 1. Eleanor Openshaw , International Service for Human Rights "Legal frameworks that restrict the civic space of HRDs and the role of protection laws and mechanisms in enhancing the work of HRDs" 2. Stephen Mwangi , Mathare Social Justice Centre, Kenya (video) introduced by Sabine Dwinger , PBI Kenya Advocacy Coordinor "Criminalisation of HRDs and challenges involved in delivering justice - a perspective from the slums of Nairobi"

	<p>3. Steve Fisher, Deputy Head of Human Rights & Democracy Department, FCO</p> <p>“The role of the UK government in upholding the Rule of Law and enhancing the protection of HRDs through the EU guidelines and other international instruments”</p> <p>4. Luis Guillermo Perez, CAJAR lawyers collective, Colombia</p> <p>“Challenging the impunity of violations against HRDs: delivering justice through the Inter-American System”</p> <p>5. Gwen Burnyeat, anthropologist and ex PBI field volunteer in Colombia</p> <p>“ Ensuring enforcement of legal judgments: The case of San Jose de Apartado Peace Community”</p> <p>15 mins Q&A</p>
10:55 – 11:10	COFFEE BREAK
11:10-12:35	<p>Panel 2: <u>Access to Justice: HRDs' fight for justice</u></p> <p>Chair: Professor Sara Chandler QC (Hon), Chair of Caravana UK/Trustee, Law Society Charity</p> <p>1. Mark Allen, Representative Human Rights and Indigenous Affairs Policy, Global Affairs Canada</p> <p>“Domestic policy and international human rights defenders: Ensuring coherence”</p> <p>2. Edgar Perez, <i>Bufete Jurídico de Derechos Humanos</i>, Guatemala</p> <p>“Transitional justice in Guatemala; Working with victims to overcome impunity.”</p> <p>3. Mandira Sharma, Human rights lawyer, Nepal</p> <p>“Enforcement of Judicial orders as an obstacle to delivering justice- the role of Universal Jurisdiction in strengthening the Rule of Law”</p>

	<p>4. Susan Lee, Former Americas Programme Director, Amnesty International, and currently PBI UK Advisor</p> <p>“INGOs’ support and protection strategies to enable the environment of HRDs”</p> <p>5. Iva Dobichina, Open Society Foundations</p> <p>“The role of funders in enabling environments in supporting HRDs”</p> <p>15 mins Q&A</p>
12.35-13.25	LUNCH
BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS	
13:25 – 13.55	<p>Chair: Mark Stephens, Chair of Global Witness</p> <p>Keynote Speaker: Ana Mirian Romero, 2016 Front Line Defenders Award winner - MILPAH & San Isidro Labrador Indigenous Council, Honduras</p> <p>“Threats and challenges faced by LERDs in Honduras”</p>
13.55 – 14:50	<p>Panel 3: <u>Business and Human Rights – Challenges and Developments</u></p> <p>1. Billy Kyte, Global Witness</p> <p>“Trends in repression for LERDS”</p> <p>2. Peter Frankental, Amnesty International UK</p> <p>“5 years after the adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights – progress and challenges”</p> <p>3. Stephen Lowe, Head of Business and Human Rights and Freedom of Expression Teams, FCO</p> <p>“The role of National Action Plans in enabling environments”</p> <p>4. Cindy Woods, International Corporate Accountability Roundtable</p> <p>“Consult, Respect, Protect: Including Human Rights Defenders in National</p>

	<p>Action Plans on Business and Human Rights"</p> <p>15 mins Q&A</p>
14:50 - 15:05	COFFEE BREAK
15:05 – 16:30	<p>Panel 4: <u>Strategies for confronting repressive environments for LERDs</u></p> <p>Chair: Dr. Julian Burger, Human Rights Consortium, School of Advanced Study</p> <p>1. Mauricio Lazala, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre</p> <p>"Tools, resources and strategies available to HRDs to confront breaches of international law by Corporations"</p> <p>2. Film: 'Land of Corn' - environmental defenders in Latin America</p> <p>3. Adam Lunn, PBI UK Advocacy Officer</p> <p>"PBI's protection of LERDs and their own strategies for confronting repression. <i>I think therefore I resist.</i>"</p> <p>4. Gabbi Loedolff, Lush</p> <p>"The role of corporations in protecting and supporting HRDs and communities"</p> <p>5. Monica Feria-Tinta, 20 Essex St Chambers and member of PBI UK's Lawyers Advisory Committee</p> <p>"Onsite expert missions as a form of intervention in the context of business and human rights conflict: The case of the Chorti community, Guatemala"</p> <p>15 mins Q&A</p>
PLENARY PANEL (Q & A SESSION)	
16:30 – 17:30	<p>Chair: Dr Julian Burger Panelists: Keynote speakers, HRDs and PBI</p> <p>Closing remarks</p>