



Launching of the OHCHR publication “Promoting and Protecting Minority Rights: A Guide for Advocates”

28 November 2013
Palais des Nations, Room XXI
Geneva

Morning session 10-13:00

10am **Opening session**

Mr. Bacre Ndiaye, Director, OIC, Research and Right to Development Division (OHCHR)
Ms. Rita Izsák, UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues
Ms. Astrid Thors, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Panels on Strengthening minority rights advocacy through effective use of mechanisms: Practical guidance and strategies

Moderator: Mr. Hurst Hannum

Professor of International Law, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

10:40 **Engagement with international actors**

- **Mr. Mark Lattimer**, Director of Minority Rights Group International
- **Ms. Heisoo Shin**, Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- **Mr. Patrick Thornberry** Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Discussion

11:50 Engagement at the regional and national level

- **Ms. Rebecca Reichmann Tavares**, Regional Programme Director, UN Women, Representative for India, Maldives, Bhutan and Sri Lanka
- **Mr. Abraham Korir Sing'oei**, Director, Centre for Minority Rights Development & Litigation, Katiba Institute, Member of Parliament, Kenya
- **Ms. Ana Dalila Gómez**, PROROM, Roma Organisation, Colombia

Discussion

**Afternoon session
15.00-18.00**

Panels on the Rights of Linguistic Minorities in a Digital Era: Accommodating linguistic diversity and providing access

Moderator: Mr. Antti Korkeakivi, Chief, Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section, OHCHR

15:00 Linguistic rights and contemporary challenges

- **Mr. Fernand de Varennes**, Expert on Language, Minorities and Human Rights, Université de Moncton, Canada
- **Mr. Boriss Cilevičs**, Member, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.
- **Mr. Zhou Yong**, Programme Director, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo
- **Ms. Lotta Sylwander**, UNICEF Representative, Viet Nam

Discussion

16:30 New technology and linguistic minorities

- **Ms. Mahulena Hofmann**, SES Chair in Satellite Communications and Media Law, University of Luxemburg
- **Mr. Tom Moring**, Professor of Communication and Journalism, University of Helsinki
- **Ms. Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg**, UNESCO, Knowledge Societies Division, Communication and Information Sector

Discussion