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| SECOND ANNUAL UN FORUM ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS(2-4 DECEMBER 2013)**BUSINESS RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN***MULTISTAKEHOLDER PANEL FOLLOWED BY INTERVENTIONS FROM THE FLOOR* |

***Chaired by***

Marta Maurás, UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

***Multistakeholder panel***

Benyam Dawit Mezmur, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Gonzalo de Benito, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain

Porntat Amatavivadhana, Sansiri Public Company Limited

***Commentators***

Ursula Wynhoven, UN Global Compact

Elana Berger, Bank Information Center (BIC)

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| This session will discuss the application of the UN Guiding Principles in the context of the rights of children, addressing both the State duty to protect and the responsibility of business to respect children’s rights. In the context of the State duty to protect, in February 2013 the Committee on the Rights of the Child released its General Comment Number 16 on State Obligations regarding the Impact of the Business Sector on Children’s Rights (CRC GC16). This General Comment is the first time a United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body has developed a comprehensive set of standards for States to follow in the context of the business sector. With regard to clarifying business responsibility for impacts on children, in March 2012, UNICEF, Save the Children and the UN Global Compact launched the Children’s Rights and Business Principles, the first comprehensive set of principles to guide business on the full range of actions they should take to prevent and address any adverse impact on children’s human rights, as well as measures all businesses are encouraged to take to help support children’s rights. Guiding questions for the panel: What lessons can we draw from the past on how business activities may impact the rights of children? What are the key challenges faced by stakeholders for preventing and addressing such adverse impacts? What are the key due diligence considerations businesses should take in order to effectively prevent and address adverse impacts on children’s rights? How is business addressing the challenge? How have States have played an effective role in protecting children’s rights from business-related impacts, and where is more attention needed? **Expected outcome: Identify key challenges and opportunities for effective State and business implementation of their respective duties and responsibilities with regard to preventing and addressing adverse impacts on children’s rights resulting from business activity and steps to be taken by States, business and others** |

 **WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2013, 13:45 – 15:15**

GENEVA, PALAIS DES NATIONS, ROOM XXI

INTERPRETATION: E, F, S (TBC)