



## ***Frameworks for leveraging access to remedy in supply chains and business relationships***

*Parallel session*

*28 November*

*10:00-13:00*

***Part 1: Access to remedy in global governance frameworks: new developments and building further convergence***

*10:00-11:25*

*Organized by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights*

***Part 2: How can MNEs use their leverage to help enable remediation by their business partners?***

*11:30-13:00*

*Organized by the Foreign Trade Association (FTA) and the International Organisation of Employers (IOE)*

### **Part 1: Access to remedy in global governance frameworks: new developments and building further convergence**

**Outline:** This panel organized by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights will address developments in key global governance frameworks oriented toward business and human rights and responsible business conduct, with a special focus on the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the revised ILO MNE Declaration. In line with the 2017 Forum's main theme – realizing access to remedy – the panel will take stock of the role of these frameworks in leveraging more effective access to remedy in the context of supply chains and business relationships and examine ways to achieve effective implementation.

**Speakers:**

- Moderator: Dante Pesce, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights
- Roel Nieuwenkamp, Chair, OECD Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct
- Githa Roelans, Head, Multinational Enterprises and Enterprise Engagement Unit, Enterprises Department, ILO

**Stakeholder comments**

- Dwight Justice, Advocacy Lead, OECD Watch
- Catelene Passchier, spokesperson of the Workers' Group of the ILO Governing Body
- International Organisation of Employers

## **Part 2: How can MNEs use their leverage to help enable remediation by their business partners?**

**Description:** The revised [ILO MNE Declaration](#) (March 2017) calls on MNES “to use their leverage to encourage their business partners to provide effective means of enabling remediation for abuses of internationally recognized human rights.” This session will examine how companies are currently exercising leverage to advance access to remedy in practice and what can be done to strengthen their efforts. It will also explore how leverage extends beyond MNEs to other actors, such as Governments.

**Speakers:<sup>1</sup>**

- Moderator: Linda Kromjong, Secretary General, International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
- Kirsty Cooper, Group General Counsel and Company Secretary, Aviva Plc
- Laura Chapman Rubbo, Director, Responsible Governance and Supply Chain, The Walt Disney Company
- Vanessa Zimmerman, Group Advisor on Human Rights, Rio Tinto
- Maren Barthel, Head of CSR & Sustainability, CBR Fashion Holding GmbH

*This session has all-female speakers to reflect Linda Kromjong's [letter](#) on International Women's Day to push for more female speakers at the UN Forum.*

**Format:** Mix of a highly-interactive moderated panel discussion and a break-out group discussion on one question identified above.

**Key discussion questions:**

- How does applying "leverage" enable remediation and why is this important?
- How do multinational enterprises currently exercise their leverage in this context?
- How do business partners respond to MNEs using their leverage in this way?

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<sup>1</sup> Further information on speakers provided in Annex

- How can multinational enterprises better apply their leverage to advance remediation? For example, what are the key leverage moments/opportunities? (*Breakout discussion with participants to get the audience engaging constructively on this point*).
- Does the concept of "leverage" in the context of "access to remedy" extend beyond MNEs to other companies and other actors? If so, who and how?

**Objectives :**

- Bring to wider attention this important principle in the MNE Declaration (para 65); and
- Go beyond the Geneva policy-space bubble and examine how this core principle is currently being and can be better applied in practice.

**Context:** Employers, Governments and Workers revised the ILO MNE Declaration in 2017 to align it with key international standards such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). As a consequence, while other key international texts refer to leverage in the context of "preventing" and "mitigating" harm, the MNE Declaration provides – for the first time – explicit language on the importance of multinational enterprises using their "leverage" to advance access to remedy for human rights harm through their business relationships (para 65). The principle complements the essence/spirit of the UNGPs and other instruments such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, but it makes the point about "leverage" applying to situations of "remedy" more clear.

**How the session reflects the Forum's main theme of “Realizing Access to Remedy”**

- The session explores a key piece of the "access to remedy" puzzle and it builds on the 2016 UN Forum focus on "leadership and leverage".
- The session also demonstrates policy coherence (namely with the ILO and UNGPs), but importantly it focuses on practice and how to apply an abstract policy/principle to real-life situations.

## **ANNEX. SPEAKERS SHORT BIOS.**

### **Laura Chapman Rubbo**

#### ***Director, Responsible Governance and Supply Chain, The Walt Disney Company***

Laura Chapman Rubbo is Director, Responsible Governance and Supply Chain at The Walt Disney Company. In this role, Laura leads policy analysis and development for responsible supply chain management, including human and labor rights issues. She oversees issue analysis, research, and external stakeholder engagement, including with inter-governmental institutions. With more than 20 years of experience in business and human rights, international labor standards, and corporate social responsibility, she is also the Chair of the Corporate Responsibility and Labor Affairs Committee of the United States Council for International Business and a two-time member of the United States delegation to the International Labor Organization's International Labor Conference.