



Addressing modern slavery in supply chains: putting access to remedy at the centre of government efforts

Parallel session

29 November

15:00-16:25

Organized by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

Background: According to the 2017 Global Estimates of Modern Slavery and Child Labour prepared by Alliance 8.7, there have been 82.7 million victims of forced labour in the past five years alone, including trafficking, largely in the private economy. Modern slavery exists in supply chains in all regions and with an estimated \$150 billion of illicit profits a year. It is one of the major challenges of today's global economy, and unless real progress can be made, the goals of sustainable supply chains and sustainable development will ring hollow.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ILO standards such as the ILO Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, and the G20 Leaders 2017 Declaration provide key frameworks for international efforts. At the same time new legislation and public policy approaches to eradicate modern slavery in business operations and supply chains are gaining momentum in a number of countries. The UN Forum will build on these recent developments and seek to add value by addressing how key concepts in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights – the UN's authoritative standard for preventing and addressing adverse business-related human rights impacts – notably human rights due diligence and the need to ensure access to remedy for victims, can reinforce and support ongoing efforts.

Key discussion questions: The session will be kicked off by comments from labour, civil society and business organizations that are seeking to address the issue, before turning to government representatives for a discussion on key questions such as:

- How can current government action on modern slavery in supply chains help realize access to remedy for victims?

- What regulatory and policy measures are required to enable effective grievance procedures?
- What global coordination and collaboration is required as we are currently seeing diverse approaches to regulating corporate action on modern slavery across different jurisdictions?
- What models of cross-border collaboration law enforcement exist or can be developed to strengthen accountability and access to remedy for victims of modern slavery in supply chains?
- How can multi-stakeholder approaches complement and reinforce regulatory approaches?

Speakers:

- Moderator: Michael Addo, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights¹
- Kick-off remarks:
 - Rob Lederer, Executive Director, Responsible Business Alliance
 - Ruwan Subasinghe, Legal Office, International Transport Workers Federation
- Government panel:
 - Karrie Peterson, Department of Labor, US Government
 - Stephen Lowe, Team Leader. Modern Slavery, Modern Slavery Unit, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK Government
 - Dr Geoff Shaw, Australia's Ambassador for People Smuggling
 - Grata Endah Werdaningtyas, Director for International Security and Disarmament, Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.
- Closing remark: Thomas Wissing, Head of Advocacy and Partnership Unit, ILO

ANNEX- SHORT BIO

Michael Addo (Moderator)

UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

Mr. Michael K. Addo is Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame and Director of the Law Program at the London Global Gateway. Michael is also a member of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights as part of which he served as Chair of the Co-ordination Committee of the United Nations Special Procedure Mandate Holders (2015/2016) as well as a member of the Steering Committee of the Addis Ababa Roadmap between the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Before joining Notre Dame he held appointments at the Universities of Exeter and Staffordshire and over his career has established an international reputation as an expert in human rights, and a leading scholar in the field of human rights and international business policy through his research, teaching and policy engagement. He has published several books, including one of the earliest collection of essays on Human Rights Standards and the Responsibility of Transnational Corporations (Nijhoff 1998), and articles in leading scholarly journals. He is an advocate at the Ghana Bar.

¹ See in annex a short bio of speakers and moderator

Rob Lederer***Executive Director, Responsible Business Alliance***

Rob Lederer is the Executive Director of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA), formerly the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC), a nonprofit comprised of electronics, retail, auto and toy companies committed to supporting the rights and wellbeing of workers and communities worldwide affected by the global electronics supply chain.

Rob has guided the RBA since 2013, driving industry action in the areas of forced labor, conflict minerals, human rights and sustainability, and expanding partnerships with governments and civil society worldwide. During that time the RBA has grown tremendously in size and reach, doubling its membership.

Rob has more than three decades of experience managing industry associations, helping them to achieve strategic objectives. Additionally, Rob was the mayor of Fairfax, Virginia, USA, for 10 years, providing leadership and vision to the city.

Ruwan Subasinghe***Legal Office, International Transport Workers Federation***

Ruwan Subasinghe is the Legal Officer of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF). He specialises in labour, human rights and international law. Ruwan represents the ITF at external bodies including the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). He is frequently called up as an expert on international labour standards and, among other things, guest lectures at the International Training Centre of the ILO. Prior to joining the ITF, Ruwan trained and qualified at an international law firm based in London. He holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of Durham and a Master's Degree in Industrial Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Karrie Peterson***International Relations Officer, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor***

She manages a \$30 million portfolio of cooperative agreements to international organizations in over 20 countries to work with foreign governments to build their capacity to address child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking. She has a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in social and economic development from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. She has an interest in migration and recruitment issues, and the field of asset building.

Stephen Lowe, Team Leader. Modern Slavery, Modern Slavery Unit, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK Government

Stephen Lowe has led the UK Foreign Office's work on business and human rights and modern slavery for the past four years. He was previously Head of EU & International Forestry Policy, where he introduced the UK's due diligence legislation on timber and timber products. He has also served as First Secretary Global Issues at the British Embassy Rome and as the UK Deputy Prime Minister's International Policy Adviser.

Dr Geoff Shaw***Ambassador for People Smuggling and Human Trafficking, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia***

Dr Shaw leads diplomatic engagement efforts to advance Australia's counter people smuggling interests in support of Operation Sovereign Borders (OSB). Dr Shaw works closely with the OSB Joint Agency Task Force to coordinate the international elements of OSB across government. Dr Shaw also

focuses on Australia's regional and international cooperation to combat human trafficking and modern slavery, including as co-chair with Indonesia of the 45-country Bali Process, the preeminent regional grouping working to address these transnational crimes. Previously, Dr Shaw was Assistant Secretary of DFAT's People Smuggling and Human Trafficking Task Force (2015-2017). Before then, he served as the Representative of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to the United Nations (UN) in New York (2010-2015). Dr Shaw chaired the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Working Group on preventing and responding to weapons of mass destruction. Dr Shaw served in Vienna as the Special Assistant for Policy to the Director General of the IAEA. Within DFAT, he has also worked as Assistant Secretary of the Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office, and as Australia's Deputy Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

Grata Endah Werdaningtyas

Director for International Security and Disarmament, Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

Grata Endah Werdaningtyas is a career diplomat and since August 2017, she is the Director for International Security and Disarmament, Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Prior to that, she served as Deputy Director for the Rights of Vulnerable Groups at the Directorate of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. After joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1997, She has been assigned to work on various issues, among other as a staff at ASEAN Economic Cooperations (1998-2001), a Third Secretary for Consular Affairs and Media Relations at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in London, United Kingdom (2001-2004) and a staf at the Office of Indonesia Foreign Minister (2004-2008). Her specific involvement and contribution on human right issues began when she was posted as First Secretary at the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York (2008-2012), where she covered numerous issues under the Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations. There, she built expertises on human rights and development activities issues, particularly those related to gender equality and women empowerment, the rights of children, the rights of migrant workers, the rights of person with disability, elder people and other vulnerable groups. Her works on this particular field was widely acknowledged as she was elected to represent Asia Group as the Vice President of the UNICEF Executive Board in 2011. Ms. Werdaningtyas is a graduate from Parahyangan Catholic University in Bandung Indonesia and has a Master Degree in Social and Political Science from University of Indonesia.