



***“National action plans to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights:
stepping up Government commitments and action”***

Session at the 2016 Forum on Business & Human Rights - 16 November, 11:40-13:00 (Room XX)

The UN Working Group strongly encourages all States to develop and implement national action plans (NAP) on business and human rights to protect against adverse human rights impacts by business enterprises in conformity with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The Human Rights Council has also encouraged States to submit information on such national action plans to the Working Group (res. 26/22, para. 4). Five years after the unanimous endorsement of the Guiding Principles by the UN Human Rights Council, this session will be an opportunity to take stock of progress to date and for States to:

- Share lessons on challenges and progress if they have already launched a NAP, and reflect on what leadership is required for NAPs to be effective implementation tools;
- Share lessons on challenges and progress if they have embarked on a NAP process;
- Share their commitment to develop a NAP (or similar policy framework) to implement the UN Guiding Principles at national level.

The session will also be an opportunity for other stakeholders to offer their views on the progress to date and what leadership is needed going forward. Moreover, at the outset, the UN Working Group will share the key insights and recommendations from the final version of its NAP guidance for States.

The session will be moderated by the UN Working Group and involve introductory remarks by senior level Government representatives from different regions.

The UN Working Group encourages the regional group coordinators at the Human Rights Council to collect inputs from States in their respective regions to allow input from as many States as possible. Additionally, States that wish to make a 2-minute statement on their lessons to date/position on NAPs are invited to send an email to forumbhr@ohchr.org with subject line: “NAP session – Statement by [country name]”. Although speaking time is limited, all States will be able to submit such a statement to be posted on the Forum page and the Working Group’s NAP portal.¹ Civil society and business organisations will be encouraged to coordinate on their statements, which also may be posted online.

¹ www.ohchr.org/2016ForumBHR and www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/NationalActionPlans