

**Commemorative Event for the 20th Anniversary of the
Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
Arab World Institute (Room: *Salle du haut conseil*)
Paris, France**

14 November 2011

Programme of Work

8:30 Registration

9:00 – 9:30 Welcoming Remarks

- H.E. François Zimeray (Ambassador for Human Rights, France)
- H.E. Ambassador Christian Strohal (Vice-President, Human Rights Council)
- Mr. Halvor Sætre (Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway)
- Mr. Bacre Ndiaye (Director, Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights - OHCHR)
- Mr. Emmanuel Decaux (Vice-President, *Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme*)
- Mr. El Hadji Malick Sow (Chair-Rapporteur, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention - WGAD)

9:30 – 10:30 Panel 1: The WGAD's history and its development in the past 20 years

Moderator: Mr. Roberto Garretón (member of the WGAD)

Panellists: Mr. Louis Joinet, Mr. Tamás Bán, Mr. Haithem Al-Maleh, Ms. Birtukan Mideksa

- **The establishment of the WGAD and the first years of operation**
(Mr. Louis Joinet, founding member and first Chair-Rapporteur of the WGAD)
- **The working methods of the WGAD**
(Mr. Tamás Bán, former member of the WGAD)
- **The right to be free from arbitrary detention: sharing of experiences**
(Mr. Haithem Al-Maleh, former judge and Syrian human rights defender)
(Ms. Birtukan Mideksa, former judge and leader of the Unity for Democracy and Justice Party in Ethiopia)

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 11:45 Interactive discussion

11:45 – 12:00 Summary by Mr. Roberto Garretón (member of the WGAD)

12:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:00 **Panel 2: Lessons learned and the way forward**

Moderator: Ms. Shaheen Sardar Ali (Vice-Chair of the WGAD)

Panellists: Mr. Jared Genser, Ms. Leila Zerrougui, Mr. Carlos Ayala

- **The evolution of the jurisprudence of arbitrary detention in international law – deprivation of liberty and the WGAD Opinions**

(Mr. Jared Genser, President of Freedom Now; co-author of *"The Intersection of Politics and International Law: The United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in Theory and In Practice"*)

- **Experiences in the field: lessons learned from country missions and the engagement of the WGAD with States and other stakeholders**

(Ms. Leila Zerrougui, former Chair-Rapporteur of the WGAD)

- **Arbitrary detention: experiences from the regional human rights perspective**

(Mr. Carlos Ayala Corao, President of the Andean Commission of Jurists; former Chairman of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights)

15:00 – 15:15 **Break**

15:15 – 16:15 Interactive discussion

16:15 – 16:30 Summary by Ms Shaheen Sardar Ali (Vice-Chair of the WGAD)

16:30 – 17:00 Conclusions and Recommendations (Mr. Mads Andenas and Mr. Vladimir Tochilovsky, members of the WGAD)

17:00 Launching of the WGAD Database