In the aftermath of the global financial crisis in 2008, many governments and international financial institutions (IFIs) have been implementing and/or prescribing and/ fiscal consolidation and adjustment measures. While the usefulness of these measures are debated, it has been increasingly recognized that they have, in the majority of cases, resulted in massive violations of the economic, social and cultural rights. The social unrest in many parts of the world is a stark reminder of this.

At the request of the UN Human Rights Council (resolutions 34/03 and 37/11), the Independent Expert on debt and human rights, Mr. Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, developed a set of “Guiding principles on human rights impact assessments for economic reform policies” in consultation with States, IFIs and other relevant stakeholders.

The side event will allow a discussion with experts and participants on the good practices, opportunities and challenges for the effective implementation of the Guiding Principles. A reader-friendly version to Guiding Principles will be launched at this occasion.

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