Seminar on the Prevention of Genocide

Geneva, 21 January 2009
Conference Room. XII, Palais des Nations

Agenda

Opening Session

09:00-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:45 Opening Statements by

Ms. Navi Pillay (Chair)
High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. Francis Deng
Special Advisor of the Secretary General on the Prevention of Genocide

Ambassador Erlinda Basilio
Vice-President, the Human Rights Council

Thematic Session – 1

10:45-12:00 Legal & judicial systems and the prevention and punishment of genocide: Where are we today?

Chair: Ms. Navi Pillay
High Commissioner for Human Rights

Speakers:
Professor Georges Abi-Saab
Former Judge of the Appeals Chamber,
International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) &
International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)

Professor Nicolas Michel
Former Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs,
Legal Counsel of the United Nations

Professor Vera Gowlland-Debbas
Professor of International Law,
Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva

Professor Paola Gaeta
Professor of International Criminal Law,
Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
12:00-13:00 Discussion

**Thematic Session-2**

15:00-16:30 **Human Rights Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures and the Prevention of Genocide: Is there a gap?**

Chair: Ms. Kyung-wha Kang  
Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Part 1: Role of Human Rights Treaty Bodies**

Ms. Zonke Zanele Majodina  
Member, Human Rights Committee

Mr. Chris Maina Peter  
Member, Working Group on Early-Warning Procedure, CERD Committee

Ms. Virginia Bonoan-Dandan  
Member, UN Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights

**Part 2: Role of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council**

Mr. Githu Muigai  
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Ms. Yakin Ertürk  
Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

Mr. Leandro Despouy  
Special Rapporteur on Independence of Judges and Lawyers

Mr. Aslan Abashidze  
Member, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

16:30-17:30 Discussion

**Concluding Session**

17:30 Closing Remarks by

Ms. Navi Pillay  
High Commissioner for Human Rights