



# HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE 2030 AGENDA: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality



16 January 2019, 10 am - 6 pm, Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

**Date:** Wednesday, 16 January 2019  
**Venue:** Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

## 10:00-10:30, Opening, Session 1:

**Chair:** H.E. Mr. Morten Jespersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in Geneva (Opening Remarks)

**President of the Human Rights Council:** H.E. Mr. Coly Seck (Opening Remarks)

**UN High Commissioner for Human Rights:** Ms. Michelle Bachelet (Opening Statement)

**Rapporteur:** Mr. Michael O'Flaherty, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Opening Remarks)

## 10:30-12:00, Session 2: Reflections and Conversation on human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals

'Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality' - How promoting and protecting human rights and progress towards the realization of the SDGs are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.

**Keynote speaker: Mrs. Mary Robinson**, Chair, The Elders and President of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

### Panel discussion

#### Panelists

- **Ms. Asako Okai**, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of Crisis Bureau, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs**, SDG Advocate, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University and of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- **Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar**, Member of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

**Moderator: Ms. Imogen Foulkes**, BBC UN Correspondent, Geneva

#### Objectives:

- Highlight the relationship between human rights obligations, commitments and principles and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Stimulate reflection on how the human rights pillar of the United Nations can contribute to the realization of the SDGs.





- Highlight how empowerment, inclusion and equality are crucial to ensuring sustainable development and are the cornerstones of the 2030 Agenda together with its overarching commitment to leave no one behind.

### 12:00-13:00, Session 3: Building synergies between human rights and SDG implementation at the national level

The discussion will highlight practical experiences with country case-studies and methodologies and tools available to countries to incorporate human rights standards, mechanisms and recommendations in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The focus will be on the SDGs under review at the 2019 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF): SDG 4 (Quality education), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (Climate action), SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals).

#### Panelists:

- **Mr. Jean de Dieu Yakouma Bambara**, Director-General, Human Rights and Defence Division, Ministry of Justice, Burkina Faso
- **Ms. Eva Grambye**, Deputy Executive Director, The Danish Institute for Human Rights

**Moderator: Mr. Adam Abdelmoula**, Director, Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

#### Objectives:

- Share individual country good practices in ensuring equitable and inclusive sustainable development.
- Illustrate the relationship between international human rights standards and SDG targets and indicators.
- Identify potential synergies between SDG implementation and the implementation of international human rights obligations and commitments.
- Explore how these synergies can reduce the reporting burden and improve voluntary reporting to the HLPF.
- Introduce specific approaches and tools supporting the integration of human rights standards and human rights mechanisms' recommendations in SDG-related planning and policy implementation.

### 13:00-15:00, Lunch: Knowledge Fair

*Individual stands outside the Human Rights Council room will showcase a variety of publications and resources relevant to human rights and the SDGs. There will also be a space to record short video messages of audience participants with their reactions to the morning session.*

### 15:00-16:00, Session 3 continued: Building synergies between human rights and SDG implementation at the national level

#### Panelists:

- **Ms. Noelia Lopez**, Director, Human Rights Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paraguay
- **Mrs. Kanchana Patarachoke**, Director-General, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

**Moderator: Mr. Adam Abdelmoula**, Director, Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



#### 16:00-17:30, Session 4: Global partnerships to support the synergies between human rights and SDG implementation

This session will involve a panel discussion on the contribution of partners and partnerships to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

##### Panelists:

- **Ms. Nicole Ameline**, Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- **Ms. Kitrhona Cerri**, Director, Social Impact, World Business Council on Sustainable Development
- **Mr. Francesco D'Ovidio**, Head, Solutions and Innovation Unit, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **Mr. Paul Ladd**, Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)
- **Dr. Alaa Murabit**, SDG Advocate, Founder of the Voice of Libyan Women
- **Mr. Mandeep Tiwana**, Chief Programmes Officer, Civicus

**Moderator: Ms. Nadia Isler**, Director, SDG Lab, Geneva

##### Objectives:

- Share experience in supporting and promoting the synergies between human rights and SDG implementation, particularly in relation to the six goals under review at the 2019 HLPF.
- Identify good practices in promoting meaningful participation and accountability in SDG implementation.
- Identify opportunities for and challenges to meaningful participation of marginalized and discriminated groups.
- Discuss the importance of civic space in relationship to SDG implementation.

#### 17:30-18:00, Session 5: Bringing the human rights narrative to the HLPF

This session will share reflections on the meeting and draw out key messages for the 2019 HLPF.

- **Ms. Marion Barthélemy**, Director, Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- **Ms. Peggy Hicks**, Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Mr. Michael O'Flaherty**, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Rapporteur

**Moderator: Ms. Imogen Foulkes**, BBC UN Correspondent, Geneva