



2015 United Nations Forum on
Business and Human Rights
Geneva · 16 – 18 November

*“Tracking progress and
ensuring coherence”*

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Version 21 October 2015

Fourth Annual United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights
16 to 18 November 2015, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Context: convergence of agendas

The powerful idea that the dignity of every person must be respected and protected is recognized across the world and anchored in international and national human rights law. While human rights traditionally focus on the obligations of States, the growing role of business in society has led to an increasing recognition of the human rights responsibilities of business enterprises. This recognition is at the centre of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which were endorsed by the Human Rights Council in 2011.

The Guiding Principles constitute a bridge between human rights and the business world. They provide an authoritative global point of reference on business and human rights around which other international standards and initiatives on responsible business conduct have begun to converge. An increasing number of States are taking steps to develop national action plans on business and human rights, while more and more companies are becoming aware of and taking steps to implement the Guiding Principles. These are encouraging developments. At the same time, much remains to be done to translate policy statements and commitments into action and to ensure access to effective remedies for victims of corporate-related human rights abuse.

The Guiding Principles (A/HRC/17/31, annex) clarify how to implement the three pillars of the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework:

(a) the State duty to protect against human rights abuses by third parties, including business, through appropriate policies, regulation, and adjudication;

(b) an independent corporate responsibility to respect human rights, meaning that business enterprises should act with due diligence to avoid infringing on the rights of others and to address adverse impacts with which they are involved;

(c) greater access by victims to effective remedy, through both judicial and non-judicial grievance mechanisms.

Aims of the annual Forum

The annual Forum on Business and Human Rights aims to reinforce linkages between the business and human rights worlds. Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 17/4 and 26/22, the Forum seeks to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles and to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights, including challenges faced in particular sectors, operational environments or in relation to specific rights or groups, as well as identifying good practices. By doing so, the Forum also aims to facilitate the development of a common vision for the global business and human rights agenda.

The 2015 annual Forum

Under the theme “Tracking progress and ensuring coherence”, the Forum will identify ways to track progress, promote policy coherence and achieve more rapid change on the ground for rights-holders. Discussions in the plenary and parallel sessions will focus on six key substantive areas that address the overall theme, taking into account the three pillars of the Guiding Principles: the State duty to protect against human rights abuses, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and the need for access to effective remedy for victims:

- **Efforts to track performance and progress in the implementation of the Guiding Principles**, examining the wide range of existing initiatives and methodologies – from measuring, tracking and reporting to ranking and benchmarking – to measure and track progress of implementation by States and businesses
- **Policy coherence in global governance frameworks**, exploring the practical implications of the Guiding Principles for policies relating to trade, investment and sustainable development, and opportunities for improved policy coherence
- **Policy and practice coherence at the national level**, exploring emerging practices, challenges and opportunities, including the increasing trend of developing national action plans on business and human rights, as well as a focus on State-owned enterprises and economic activities controlled by the State
- **Corporate respect for human rights in practice**, exploring how companies can effectively prevent and address any adverse impact on human rights, with a particular focus on human rights due diligence, sector specific challenges and supply chain issues
- **Groups at risk**, learning from human rights defenders and groups who have been and are at particular risk of business-related human rights abuses, assessing the level of protection, and exploring good practice responses
- **Access to effective remedy**, examining trends and innovative ways to strengthen access to remedy for victims through both judicial and non-judicial mechanisms

Each year the Forum also strives to link discussions to concrete realities and existing challenges to securing protection, respect and remedy of private sector impact on human rights. A cross-cutting topic in this respect, which will be discussed at the Forum, involves **multi-stakeholder engagement** between States, businesses, civil society and affected stakeholders across the three pillars of the Guiding Principles. **Major international sports events (mega-events)**, which have dominated recent global headlines, also encapsulate all six of the Forum's themes and will be the subject of discussion in a special session.

A number of parallel sessions organized by external stakeholders will complement United Nations-led sessions on the topics listed above and address key trends and issues related to specific rights, groups, sectors and operational contexts. High-level plenary sessions will provide leadership perspectives on the business and human rights agenda and current global trends.

Format

The Forum is a multi-stakeholder event under the guidance of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). It is the largest global multi-stakeholder gathering on the topic of business and human rights; at the third session of the Forum, in 2014, there were no fewer than 2,000 registered participants.

In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/4, the Forum is open to all relevant stakeholder groups, including States, the wider United Nations system, intergovernmental and regional organizations, businesses, labour unions, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders.

The programme comprises high-level plenary sessions and parallel sessions that are organized by the Working Group and OHCHR, as well as by external stakeholders. All stakeholder groups – whether they are States, representatives of civil society, enterprises or inter-governmental organizations – participate on an equal footing. By bringing together such different perspectives, the Forum offers a unique opportunity for constructive, solution-oriented discussions and respectful dialogue.



Pursuant to its role in guiding the programme of the Forum, the Working Group led the preparation of plenary sessions and a number of parallel sessions. Each session will reflect the overall theme of the Forum and be dedicated to one of the six areas of discussion.

Sessions on access to remedy were organized by OHCHR in collaboration with the Working Group. Several of the parallel sessions were prepared in consultation or collaboration with organizations that submitted session proposals.

Parallel sessions led by external organizations accredited to the annual Forum on Business and Human Rights have become a regular feature of the event, in line with its open and inclusive nature. The 2015 Forum includes a number of parallel sessions organized by a range of stakeholders and covering a diverse array of themes and topics linked to the mandate of the Forum and the overall theme.

For the 2015 Forum, the secretariat received more than 140 proposals for thematic sessions from external stakeholders, covering a vast array of issues and perspectives. The secretariat has sought to accommodate as many proposals for externally organized parallel events as possible. The Working Group and OHCHR are not responsible for the content and organization of these externally-organized sessions. Details about externally-organized sessions will be published on the Forum webpage.

Interpretation

Interpretation services in English, French and Spanish will be provided at all sessions organized by the Working Group and OHCHR. Plenary sessions will be provided with interpretation services in all official languages of the United Nations. Interpretation services for other sessions are subject to arrangements made by external organizers.

More information

www.ohchr.org/2015ForumBHR

DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

White colour: sessions organized by external stakeholders.
Blue-colour: sessions led by the Working Group and/or OHCHR.
△ Thematic tag of the session.

Monday 16 November			
09:00-10:00	Networking coffee		
10:00-11:20	<p>Promoting the Guiding Principles in global governance frameworks: Recent developments and opportunities for further alignment △ Policy coherence global governance</p>	<p>The Guiding Principles for newcomers – Introductory presentation on their background, key features and implications</p>	<p>Parallel sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership from the legal profession on business and human rights The role of national human rights institutions The role of academic institutions as multipliers
11:20-11:40	Break		
11:40-13:00	<p>Measuring States' implementation of the Guiding Principles △ Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</p>	<p>The interface between judicial and non-judicial remedy: Experiences and challenges △ Access to remedy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human rights due diligence approaches across sectors International investment arbitration and human rights Indigenous peoples and access to remedy
13:00-15:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch break</p> <p><i>Parallel session (organized by external stakeholders) (13:30-14:30)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early application of forced labour standards and regulations ICT and child sexual exploitation 		
15:00-16:20	<p>Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies) △ Corporate respect in practice △ Policy coherence national level △ Groups at risk</p>	<p>State implementation of the Guiding Principles in the context of investment policy △ Policy coherence at the national level and global governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges and exploring opportunities to secure rights online Promoting human rights in agricultural supply chains State-based mechanisms for access to remedy
16:20-16:40	Break		
16:40-18:00	<p>Sector-specific challenges: providing access to effective remedy in the financial sector △ Access to remedy</p>	<p>Identifying the specific challenges that women human rights defenders face and understanding their valuable role △ Groups at risk △ Policy coherence at the national level △ Corporate respect in practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective company-level grievance mechanisms Due diligence and protection of workers' rights during recruitment Land, corruption and human rights
18:15-20:00	<p>Evening sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch events (Business and Human Rights Journal; Ranking Digital Rights Corporate Accountability Index) followed by drinks receptions 		

Tuesday 17 November			
08:00-09:00	<i>Networking coffee</i>		
09:00-13:00	<p>Opening high-level plenary in the Assembly Hall</p> <p><i>Opening of the high-level plenary session in the Assembly Hall</i></p> <p><i>Part I: Welcoming remarks by the President of the Human Rights Council, the Forum Chairperson, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</i></p> <p><i>Part II: Opening remarks by the Working Group: Global outlook of business and human rights: trends and opportunities for faster progress</i></p> <p><i>Part III: Leadership views on business and human rights: addressing key global challenges and capitalizing on opportunities for progress</i></p>		
13:00-15:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lunch break</i></p> <p><i>Lunch-time high-level events (13:30-14:30)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The informal sector, SMEs and human rights</i> • <i>Women's empowerment, business and human rights</i> 		
15:00-16:20	<p>National action plans on business and human rights: challenges and lessons learned</p> <p>⊞ <i>Policy coherence national level</i></p>	<p>Measuring and tracking businesses' implementation of the Guiding Principles</p> <p>⊞ <i>Tracking performance and progress of the Guiding Principles</i></p>	<p>Parallel sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pitfalls and promises of non-judicial grievance mechanisms</i> • <i>Implications of trade and investment agreements for the State duty to protect and have access to remedy</i> • <i>Climate justice</i>
16:20-16:40	<i>Break</i>		
16:40-18:00	<p>Identifying solutions to key human rights challenges associated with Mega Sporting Events</p> <p>⊞ <i>Corporate respect in practice</i></p> <p>⊞ <i>Policy coherence national level</i></p>	<p>Multi-stakeholder consultation on the Accountability and Remedy Project of OHCHR</p> <p>⊞ <i>Access to remedy</i></p> <p>⊞ <i>Policy coherence national level</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assessing the human rights impact of private sector projects approaches</i> • <i>National action plans: global perspectives, lessons learned and next steps</i> • <i>Overcoming challenges of company-community relations in complex environments</i>
18:15-20:00	<p>Evening sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <p><i>Launch event (Academic book launch) followed by drinks reception</i></p>		

Wednesday 18 November

08:20-09:40	<p>Parallel sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respecting children's rights in law and in practice Human rights obligations of development finance institutions and the right to an effective remedy Community-company dialogue facilitation in complex environments The United Nations treaty process on business and human rights: business and other perspectives Whistle-blower protection in the context of the Guiding Principles "Corporate capture" and company ownership transparency 		
10:00-11:20	<p>Integrating human rights in State-owned enterprises and other business controlled by the State: challenges and lessons learned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy coherence at the national level 	<p>Addressing the challenges human rights defenders face in the context of business activities and in an age of a shrinking civil society space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups at risk Policy coherence at the national level Corporate respect in practice 	<p>Parallel sessions (organized by external stakeholders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges and opportunities of a treaty on business and human rights Making business sense of human rights Business relationships learning dialogue: corporate responsibility to respect human rights beyond the supply chain
11:20-11:40	<p style="text-align: center;">Break</p>		
11:40-13:00	<p>The sustainable development goals, the private sector and the Guiding Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy coherence at the national level and global governance Corporate respect in practice 	<p>Company commitments and community-led initiatives: making meaningful community engagement a best practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups at risk Policy coherence at the national level Corporate respect in practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beyond auditing: Effective ways to address human rights violations in garment supply chains Enhanced due diligence in conflict-affected areas The role of corporate reporting in the implementation of the Guiding Principles
13:00-15:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch break</p> <p>Parallel session (organized by external stakeholders) (13:30-14:30)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connecting the Guiding Principles with the business and human rights treaty process 		
15:00-16:20	<p>Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate respect in practice Policy coherence at the national level Groups at risk 	<p>Access to remedy - Roles and responsibilities of States concerned in cross-border cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to remedy Policy coherence at the national level and global governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public procurement and human rights Utilizing the Guiding Principles in the context of extractive industries Human rights due diligence in law and practice
16:20-16:40	<p style="text-align: center;">Break</p>		
16:40-18:00	<p>Closing high-level plenary session in Room XX</p> <p>Panel discussion: Identifying concrete steps to ramp up implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</p>		



FULL PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Version 21 October 2015

** The schedule is subject to change.*

White colour: sessions organized by external stakeholders.

Blue-colour: sessions led by the Working Group and/or OHCHR.

16 November

Networking coffee (to be confirmed)

**10 –
11.20
a.m.**

Room XX

Promoting the Guiding Principles in global governance frameworks: Recent developments and opportunities for further alignment

Room XXIII

The Guiding Principles for newcomers: introductory presentation on their background, key features and implications

Room XXIV

Business and the Bar: leadership from the legal profession on business and human rights

Organized by the International Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations

Room XXII

The role of national human rights institutions in advancing human rights in business: experiences, opportunities and challenges

Organized by the Australian Human Rights Commission, Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos (Mexico), Comisión Estatal de Derechos Humanos de Nuevo León (Mexico) and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission

Room XII

Cooperation through education and research: the role of academic institutions as multipliers of the global business and human rights agenda

Organized by the BHRIGHT Network (Copenhagen Business School, EDHEC Business School and University of Seville; Business and Human Rights Project of University of Essex, Centre for Applied Legal Studies of the University of Witwatersrand; City University of Hong Kong, E-dh - Entreprises pour les droits de l'homme, Human Rights and Business Centre of the Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil); and the Teaching Business & Human Rights Forum, Columbia University

16 November

11.40
a.m. –
1 p.m.

Room XX

Measuring States' implementation of the Guiding Principles

Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Institute for Human Rights and Business, the Measuring Business and Human Rights Project, Shift, University of Denver, and the US Council for International Business

Room XXIII

The interface between judicial and non-judicial remedy: experiences and challenges

Organized in collaboration with Accountability Counsel, Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO), Inclusive Development International (IDI), International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), OECD Watch, Matrix Chambers, International Organisation of Employers

Room XXII

Unpacking the Guiding Principles in investment disputes: is there a place for human rights in investment treaty arbitration?

Organized by Allen & Overy LLP's Human Rights Working Group and Arbitration Group and Essex Business and Human Rights Project in collaboration with Al-Haq

Room XXIV

Recognizing indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and resources, and challenges in their access to mechanisms for redress

Organized by the Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy, Incomindios, the Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation, CPDE-CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, the Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme, Red PAZINDE – Consejo de Capitanes Guaranies de Chiquisaca, Rural Missionaries of the Philippines – Northern Mindanao Region (RMP-NMR), the eWorld Council of Churches-Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

Room XXI

Human rights due diligence approaches across sectors

Organized by the OECD, the Government of Switzerland and E-dh - Entreprises pour les droits de l'homme

16 November

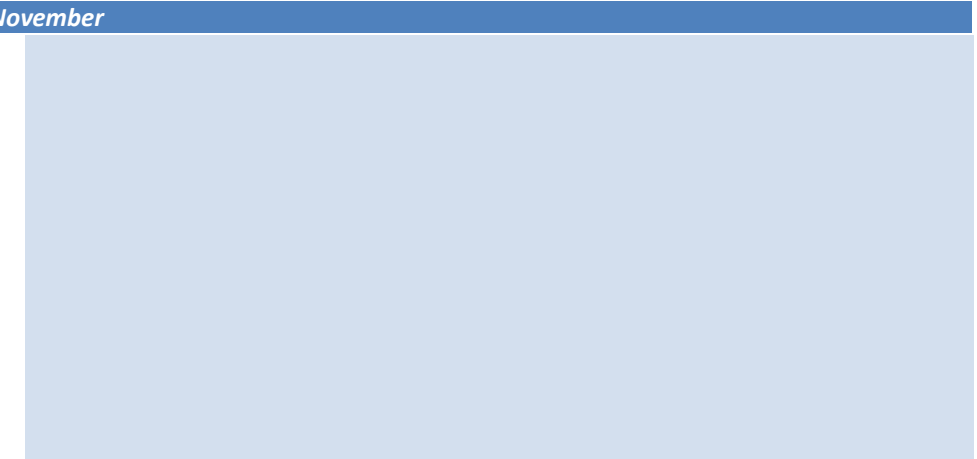
1.30 –
 2.30
 p.m.

Room XII
Early application of forced labour standards and regulations

Organized by the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights, the UK Global Compact Network, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom, and the Government of the United States of America

Room XXI
ICT and child sexual exploitation

Organized by the Permanent Mission of Belgium



16 November

**3 – 4.20
p.m.**

Room XX

Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies)

Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre and the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights

Room XXIII

State implementation of the Guiding Principles in the context of investment policy

Organized in collaboration with the LSE Investment and Human Rights Project

Room XXI

Balancing rights and State demands: taking stock of the challenges and exploring opportunities to secure rights online

Organized by the Global Network Initiative (GNI) and Privacy International (PI)

Room XXIV

Promoting human rights in agricultural supply chains: From palm oil workers in South East Asia to women in Kenya's horticulture industry

Organized by Hivos, Humanity United, International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF), the Kenya Human Rights Commission, the Rainforest Action Network and Verité

Room XXII

State-based mechanisms for access to remedy

Organized by the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, the International Law Association, the Study Group on Business and Human Rights and the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR)

16 November					
4.40 – 6 p.m.	<p><i>Room XX</i></p> <p>Identifying the specific challenges that women human rights defenders face and understanding their valuable role</p> <p><i>Organized in collaboration with Proyecto de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales, A.C. (ProDESC), Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID), Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition (WHRDIC)</i></p>	<p><i>Room XXIII</i></p> <p>Sector-specific challenges: providing access to effective remedy in the financial sector</p>	<p><i>Room XXI</i></p> <p>Working together to promote due diligence and to protect workers’ rights during recruitment</p> <p><i>Organized by the Institute for Human Rights and Business, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Global Compact and</i></p>	<p><i>Room XXIV</i></p> <p>Land, corruption and human rights: a round-table discussion on the implications of large-scale land investments and constructive responses for human rights</p> <p><i>Organized by the Centre for Peacebuilding (KOFF), the Swiss Peace Foundation, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR) and the Quaker United Nations Office</i></p>	<p><i>Room XXII</i></p> <p>Effective company-level grievance mechanisms: multi-stakeholder perspectives and examples from practice</p> <p><i>Organized by the United Nations Global Compact and the ACCESS Facility</i></p>

16 November

**6.15 –
8 p.m.**

Room XXI

Role of research and scholarships in promoting business respect for human rights: launch of the Business and Human Rights Journal

Organized by the editors-in-chief of the Business and Human Rights Journal and Cambridge University Press

(followed by drinks reception)

Room XXIV

Ranking Digital Rights Corporate Accountability Index: Inaugural launch event

Organized by Ranking Digital Rights

(followed by drinks reception sponsored by Aspiration Tech)



17 November	
8 – 9 a.m.	<i>Networking coffee (to be confirmed)</i>
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Assembly Hall</i></p> <p>Opening high-level plenary</p> <p><i>Part I: Welcoming remarks</i></p> <p><i>Part II: Opening remarks by the Working Group: Global outlook of business and human rights: trends and opportunities for faster progress</i></p> <p><i>Part III: Leadership views on business and human rights: addressing key global challenges and capitalizing on opportunities for progress</i></p>

17 November

**1.30–
2.30
p.m.**

Room XX
Informality, SMEs and human rights: Challenges and solutions
Details to be confirmed

Room XII
Women's empowerment, business and human rights
Organized by the Government of the Netherlands, the International Trade Centre and the United Nations Global Compact

17 November					
3 – 4.20 p.m.	Room XX	Room XXIII	Room XXIV	Room XXI	Room XXII
	<p>National action plans on business and human rights: challenges and lessons learned</p>	<p>Measuring and tracking businesses' implementation of the Guiding Principles</p> <p>Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Institute for Human Rights and Business, the Measuring Business and Human Rights Project, Shift, University of Denver, and the US Council for International Business</p>	<p>Business, climate change and environmental justice</p> <p>Organized by the International Bar Association and the Faculty of Law, Western University, Ontario</p>	<p>Pitfalls and promises of non-judicial grievance mechanisms: strengths and weaknesses, and how to improve outcomes on the ground</p> <p>Organized by the Accountability Counsel, Corelab / The B Team and RAID</p>	<p>Implementing the Guiding Principles: implications of trade and investment agreements for the State duty to protect and have access to remedy</p> <p>Organized by International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and Friends of the Earth Europe</p>

17 November

<p>4.40 – 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Room XX</p> <p>Identifying solutions to key human rights challenges associated with Mega Sporting Events</p> <p>Organized in collaboration with the Caux Round Table Japan and the Institute for Human Rights and Business</p>	<p>Room XXIII</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder consultation on the Accountability and Remedy Project of OHCHR</p>	<p>Room XXI</p> <p>Assessing the human rights impact of private sector projects: current challenges and innovative approaches</p> <p>Organized by the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) and the Sciences Po Law School Clinic (France)</p>	<p>Room XXIV</p> <p>National action plans on business and human rights: global perspectives, lessons learned and next steps</p> <p>Organized by the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS), University of Witwatersrand, the Asian Business and Rule of Law Initiative, the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP), the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR) and Singapore Management University</p>	<p>Room XXII</p> <p>Overcoming challenges of company-community relations in complex environments</p> <p>Organized by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)</p>
<p>6.15 – 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Room XXIV</p> <p>Business and Human Rights at a Crossroads? Moving Forward, Looking Back (Academic book launch)</p> <p>Organized by the Cambridge University Press, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, West Virginia University College of Law (followed by drinks reception)</p>				

18 November

**8.20 –
9.40
a.m.**

Room XX

Respecting children’s rights in law and in practice: tools and approaches to fight child labour

Organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Global Compact, Save the Children and Terre des Hommes

Room XXIII

Human rights obligations of development finance institutions and the right to an effective remedy

Organized by Accountability Counsel, Human Rights Watch, the Bank Information Center and Conectas Human Rights

Room XXII

Innovative approaches in company-community dispute resolution in complex environments

Organized by the Global Community of Practice of Dialogue Facilitators (COPDF) with the collaboration and support of ACCESS Facility, the PeaceNexus Foundation, International Mediators Community of Practice, and Partners for Democratic Change International (to be confirmed)

Room XII

The United Nations treaty process on business and human rights: business and other perspectives

Organized by BDA, the International Organisation of Employers and the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights

Room XXIV

Whistle-blower protection in the context of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Organized by the French Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Blueprint for Free Speech, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) and Expolink Europe Ltd.

Room XXI

Corporate capture and company ownership transparency: addressing the root causes of corruption and human rights abuses

Organized by Global Witness and the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net)

18 November

**10 –
11.20
a.m.**

Room XX

Addressing the challenges human rights defenders face in the context of business activities and in an age of a shrinking civil society space

Organized in collaboration with Amnesty International, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Civil Rights Defenders, Front Line Defenders, Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (a joint programme by FIDH and OMCT), Institute for Human Rights and Business, International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)

Room XXIII

Integrating human rights in State-owned enterprises and other business controlled by the State: challenges and lessons learned

Room XXI

Challenges and opportunities of a treaty to address corporate abuse of human rights

Organized by the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Friends of the Earth Europe, the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), Al-Haq and Franciscans International

Room XXIV

Putting the Guiding Principles into practice: making business sense of human rights

Organized by Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Sancroft International, the Global Compact Network Australia, Fair Play Human Rights Consulting, Omnia Strategy LLP and the Business and Human Rights Journal

Room XII

Business relationships learning dialogue: Implementing the corporate responsibility to respect human rights beyond supply chain

Organized by the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights and the Institute for Human Rights and Business

18 November

**11.40
a.m. –
1 p.m.**

Room XX

The sustainable development goals, the private sector and the Guiding Principles

Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Danish Institute for Human Rights, Global Reporting Initiative, the Institute for Human Rights and Business and Oxfam

Room XXIII

Company commitments and community-led initiatives: making meaningful community engagement a best practice

Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA), EarthRights International (ERI), HIVOS, International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Oxfam, Project on Organizing, Development, Education and Research (PODER), and Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)

Room XXI

The role of corporate reporting in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Organized by Clifford Chance, Global Reporting Initiative, Group of Friends of Paragraph 47, and Shift and Mazars

Room XXIV

Enhanced due diligence in conflict-affected areas: the roles of different stakeholders

Organized by Al-Haq, the Essex Business and Human Rights Project, International Alert and the Swiss Peace Foundation (swisspeace)

Room XII

Beyond auditing: effective ways to address human rights violations in garment supply chains

Organized by the Council on Ethics, Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global



18 November

1.30 –
2.30
p.m.

Room XII

**Connecting the Guiding Principles
with the business and human
rights treaty process**

*Organized by the Permanent
Mission of Ecuador to the United
Nations Office at Geneva*

18 November					
3 – 4.20 p.m.	<p>Room XX</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder engagement across all three pillars (case studies)</p> <p>Organized in collaboration with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre and the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights</p>	<p>Room XXIII</p> <p>Access to remedy – Roles and responsibilities of States concerned in cross-border cases</p>	<p>Room XXII</p> <p>Public procurement and human rights: a round-table discussion</p> <p>Organized by the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Harrison Institute, Georgetown University</p>	<p>Room XXIV</p> <p>Utilizing the Guiding Principles in the context of extractive industries - Benefits and challenges</p> <p>Organized by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association</p>	<p>Room XXI</p> <p>Human rights due diligence in law and in practice</p> <p>Organized by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE), the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Frank Bold, Global Witness, the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR), the International Bar Association, Norton Rose Fulbright and the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)</p>



18 November

*4.40 – 6
p.m.*

Room XX

Closing high-level plenary session

Panel discussion: Identifying concrete steps to ramp up implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights