



## Human Rights Council

### **SOCIAL FORUM 2008**

**1-3 September 2008**  
**Conference Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

#### **Programme of work**

#### **MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**10h00 – 10h30 Opening of the Social Forum**

- H.E. Mr. Mousa Burayzat, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Social Forum, Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations Office in Geneva
- Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

#### **Poverty and Human Rights**

**10h30 – 11h00 Human rights and extreme poverty**

##### **A. Normative Framework**

Speakers:

- Ms. María Magdalena SEPULVEDA, UN Human Rights Council's Independent Expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty
- Mr. Ariranga PILLAY, Member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**11h00 – 11h30 B. Enabling Environment**

##### **i) Foreign debt and poverty**

Speakers:

- Mr. Cephas LUMINA, UN Human Rights Council's Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights
- Mr. Nasser SHRAIDEH, Secretary General of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan

- 11h30 - 11h45      **ii) The role and responsibility of the State in poverty eradication**  
 Speaker:  
 • H.E. Mr. LI Baodong, Permanent Representative, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office in Geneva
- 11h45 – 12h00      **iii) International assistance and cooperation**  
 Speaker:  
 • H.E. Mr. Omar BEN MAHMOUD, Secretary of State, National Fund for Solidarity, Tunisia
- 12h00 -13h00      **Open debate on the topics**
- 13h00 – 15h00      LUNCH BREAK
- 15h00 – 15h45      **iv) International trade policies and poverty**  
 Speakers:  
 • Mr. Jean-Pierre LEHMANN, Founder and Director of The Evian Group  
 • Ms. Aileen KWA, Programme Coordinator of the Trade and Development Programme, South Centre  
 • Mr. David LUKE, Senior Trade Adviser and Coordinator of the Trade and Human Development Unit, UNDP Geneva
- 15h45 – 16h30      **Open debate on the topic**
- 16h30 – 17h15      **v) The role of civil society in the eradication of poverty at grass-roots level**  
 Speakers:  
 • Ms. Ingrid SRINATH, Secretary General of CIVICUS  
 • Mr. Alain GENIN, ATD Quart Monde  
 • Ms. Rosalbina PEREZ DE PEREZ, ATD Quart Monde
- 17h15 – 18h00      **Open debate on the topic**

## **TUESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2008**

### **B. Enabling Environment (Continued)**

- 10h00 – 10h30      **vi) The role and social responsibility of transnational corporations in poverty eradication**  
 Speakers:  
 • Mr. Gerald PACHOUD, Special Adviser to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Business and Human Rights  
 • Mr. Filippo VEGLIO, Business Solutions Leader, Development Focus Area, World Business Council for Sustainable Development

10h30 – 11h15 **Open debate on the topic**

## **Social dimension of the globalization process**

11h15 – 12h00 **A. National strategies**

### **i) Decent and favourable work conditions**

Speakers:

- Mr. Raymond TORRES, Director of the International Institute for Labour Studies, International Labour Organization
- Ms. Anna BIONDI, Director of the International Trade Union Confederation, Geneva Office and Secretary International Labour Organization, Workers' Group
- Mr. Brent WILTON, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Organisation of Employers

12h00 – 13h00 **Open debate on the topic**

13h00 – 15h00 LUNCH BREAK

15h00 – 15h45 **ii) Good governance / Corruption**

Speakers:

- Ms. Nadia BALGOBIN, Board Member of Transparency International Switzerland
- Mr. Derek LUYT, Media and Advocacy Head of Public Service Accountability Monitor
- Ms. Nohay EL-MIKAWY, Policy Advisor for Governance and Poverty, UNDP Oslo Governance Centre

15h45 – 16h30 **Open debate on the topic**

## **B. Global challenges**

16h30 – 17h00 **i) Access to affordable essential drugs and health care**

Speakers:

- Mr. Richard LAING, Medical Officer, Policy, Access and Rational Use, Medicine Policy and Standards, World Health Organization
- Ms. Margaret EWEN, Health Action International

17h00 – 18h00 **Open debate on the topic**

## WEDNESDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2008

### **B. Global challenges (Continued)**

10h00 – 10h45

#### **ii) Climate change**

Speakers:

- Mr. Theodor RATHGEBER, German Forum Human Rights and lecturer at the University of Kassel, Germany
- Mr. Tomas ALARCON, President of the Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos
- Mr. Ismail ELGIZOULI, Responsible for the Programme on Climate of the Sudanese "High Council for Environment"

10h45 – 11h30

#### **Open debate on the topic**

11h30 - 12h15

#### **iii) Food security, the food crisis and the right to food**

Speakers:

- Mr. Olivier DE SCHUTTER, UN Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food
- Mr. Christian COURTIS, Legal Officer for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the International Commission of Jurists
- Mr. Sayed Rofiqul ISLAM, Member of the Bangladesh Krishok Federation

12h15 – 13h00

#### **Open debate on the topic**

13h00 – 15h00

LUNCH BREAK

15h00 – 16h00

**Interactive debate with holders of the relevant thematic procedures mandates of the Human Rights Council on issues related to the topics of the Social Forum**

16h00 – 17h30

**Conclusions and recommendations to be presented to relevant UN bodies**

- i) Raising international awareness
- ii) International assistance and cooperation
- iii) Specific and action oriented initiatives
- iv) An enhanced role of the UN system
- v) Possible themes for the 2009 Social Forum

17h30 – 18h00

**Closure of the Social Forum**