

Ileana Bell



**1st Conference of the State Parties to the International Convention for the
Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances
19th December 2016**

GANHRI Statement

Thank you Mr Chair.

The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), representing more than a 100 national human rights institutions (NHRIs) around the world, welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 1st Conference of the State Parties to the International Convention for the Protection of all from Enforced Disappearances.

GANHRI attaches great importance to the work of the UN human rights treaty bodies. As central pillars in the UN human rights system, UN treaty bodies have a fundamental role in monitoring the implementation of the core international human rights treaties by identifying areas of concern and providing guidance and advice to States as they work to implement their human rights obligations on the ground.

As we mark the 10th anniversary of the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances, it is an important year to reflect both on achievements made and on remaining opportunities moving forward in our common objective towards full implementation of the Convention by all States.

GANHRI welcomes the productive cooperation between the Committee on Enforced Disappearances and NHRIs and recognises their significant and complementary role in promoting and protecting human rights worldwide.

NHRIs, as independent national bodies with the broad mandate to promote and protect human rights, play an important bridging role between international and national human rights protection systems. In support of the Committee's work, NHRIs undertake, *inter alia*, the following activities:

- Encourage and advise States on the ratification of the Convention;
- Advise on the domestication of the Convention into national legislation;
- Monitor the Convention's implementation and report to the Committee on progress made and remaining challenges; and
- Promote follow-up in-country of the Committee's recommendations.

GANHRI and its members reiterate their commitment to continue to support the work of States and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, at both national and international levels, with a view to promoting implementation of the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances.

Thank you.