



“Access to Remedy: Victims’ Perspectives in Cross-Border Cases”

Session at the 2016 Forum on Business & Human Rights - 15 November, 15:00-16:20 (Room XX)

The rights holders – which may be past/present victims or potential future victims – should be central to any project aimed at strengthening access to effective judicial remedies. With this in mind, this panel will provide a platform to the victims of corporate human rights abuses to articulate directly their “needs” for securing justice. It will specifically draw upon on victims’ perspectives in relation to cross-border cases such as POSCO’s proposed steel plant in India; Kik’s supplier factory in Pakistan; Shell’s operations in Nigeria and Acacia’s North Mara mine in Tanzania. Lawyers and civil society representatives will then be asked to respond to these identified needs in terms of appropriate regulatory responses aimed at improving accountability of business enterprises for human rights violations.

Reform proposals generated “bottom up” from this panel will inform, among others, the study to be prepared in pursuance of the UN Human Rights Council’s Resolution 32/10 to improve the effectiveness of cross-border cooperation amongst states with respect to law enforcement in business and human rights cases. This study will build on the recommendations outlined in the June 2016 OHCHR report on improving accountability and access to remedy for victims of business-related human rights abuse (A/HRC/32/19).

Moderator: Surya Deva, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

Panel:

- Karamat Ali, Pakistan Institute for Labour Education and Research (PILER)
- Aruna Chandrasekhar, Independent researcher (India)
- Richard Meeran, Partner, Leigh Day
- Purarama Pradhan, Posco Pratirodh Sagram Samiti (PPSS)

Pre-recorded video interviews with affected community members (click on hyperlinks to access):

- [Nazia Riaz, victim, Ali Enterprise factory fire \(Pakistan\)](#)
- [John Gbei, Bodo community \(Nigeria\)](#)
- [Zakaria Nyamakomo, North Mara Gold Mine \(Tanzania\)](#)

Other contributions including:

- Tricia Feeney, Executive Director, Rights and Accountability in Development (RAID)

Video recording of the session is available [via this link](#).