Moving away from the Death Penalty: Protection of the rights of persons facing death penalty abroad, including migrants

29th Session of the Human Rights Council Side Event Wednesday, 17 June 2015, 11:00-13:00 Room No. XII Palais des Nations

> "The death penalty has no place in the 21st Century" - Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations

> Recent reports of the UN Secretary General identified discrimination in death penalty cases involving foreign nationals. Such persons can be arbitrarily and disproportionately affected by the death penalty due to unfamiliarity with the laws and procedures in the prosecuting State. They may have limited legal aid and inadequate legal representation; may be unable to understand the language in which proceedings are conducted; and less likely to have a support network of family and friends. The lack of access to consular assistance is also a critical concern. Authorities' refusal to exercise clemency or commutation in cases involving foreign nationals may amount to human rights violations.

> The side-event will provide a platform for the exchange of information and views on persons who face the death penalty aboard, including migrant workers; and to share good practices, lesson learned and challenges in the implementation of relevant international human rights standards.

Jointly organised by



Program

Introductory Remarks:

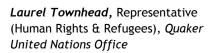
H.E Ambassador Jorge Lomónaco Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Offices at Geneva

Mona Rishmawi

Discrimination, OHCHR

Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-

Moderator:





FICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Quaker United Nations Office

Panellists:

Christof Heyns

United Nations Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions

Erasmo Lara Cabrera

Deputy Director General for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico

Prasad Kariyawasam

Member, the UN Committee on Migrants Workers

Hannah Gorman

Solicitor-Advocate, Head of Engaging Europe and Foreign Nationals Project, Reprieve, Reprieve

Ellene Sana

Executive Director, Center for Migrant Advocacy, Philippines