

Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

Expert Consultation on the negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin on the enjoyment of human rights

Geneva, 20-21 June 2013 Palais Wilson, Room 1-016

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 20 June 2013	
9:30	Welcome
	Mr. Rio Hada, Chief, Sustainable Human Rights Section, Special Procedures Branch, OHCHR
9:40	Opening Remarks
	Mr. Cephas Lumina, Independent Expert on Foreign Debt and Human Rights
10:00	Coffee Break
10:15	Perspectives of Member States

Chair: Mr. Rio Hada, Chief, Sustainable Human Rights Section

This session will be open to States and the invited experts. It will focus on the perspectives of States on the following key issues:

- The impact of illicit financial outflows (from corruption, tax evasion, transfer mispricing, trade misinvoicing, etc) on Government revenues and realization of economic, social and cultural rights in countries of origin.
- The main initiatives that have been taken in countries of origin and destination to return stolen assets and what are the main problems encountered?
- The main human rights issues relating to the outflow, seizure, freezing and return of stolen assets and how human rights considerations should inform the management of returned assets?
- With reference to the interim report of the Independent Expert on illicit funds and human rights (A/HRC/22/42), what issues (in your view) should the final report of the Independent Expert address?

Presentation: Ms Janet Dine, University of London, United Kingdom ["Funds of illicit origin: what they are"]

Note: State representatives will be invited to make brief states (5 minutes maximum) on the foregoing issues. States are also invited to furnish additional information in writing concerning these and any other relevant issues.



12:15 Comments by invited experts on the interim report

Chair: Mr. Obert Gutu, Zimbabwe

In this session, the experts will share their views on the interim report (A/HRC/22/42).

13:15 Lunch Break

14:30 Estimates of illicit financial flows, countries of origin and destination

Chair: Mr. Ilias Bantekas, Brunel University, United Kingdom

This session will provide an overview of the forms and estimates of illicit financial flows, as well as the role of secrecy jurisdictions in facilitating illicit financial flows and hindering the return of stolen wealth.

Presentations:

- Mr. Tom Cardamone, Global Financial Integrity, USA ["Estimates of illicit financial flows"]
- Mr. Oliver Stolpe, StAR Initiative [Estimates of asset returns / Asset Recovery Watch/ role of the StAR Initiative]
- Mr. Jimmy Gurule, University of Notre Dame, USA ["The role of banks and other financial intermediaries in facilitating illicit financial flows"]

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Combating illicit financial flows: international and regional perspectives

Chair: Ms. Janet Dine, United Kingdom

Presentations:

- Mr. Samson Kwalingana, Secretariat of the Technical Committee and High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows out of Africa, UNECA ["Combating illicit financial flows: The role of the UNECA High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa"]
- Ms. Øygunn Sundsbø Brynildsen, EURODAD ["Combating illicit financial flows: international and regional perspectives"]

Friday, 21 June 2013

09:00 Initiatives to tackle illicit financial flows: effectiveness and suggestions for improvement

Chair: Mr. Samson Kwalingana (TBC)

Presentations:

- Mr. Cephas Lumina, An overview of existing initiatives to tackle illicit funds
- Mr. Oliver Stolpe, StAR Initiative ["The StAR Initiative: Impact and Limitations"]
- Mr. Eric Le Compte, Jubilee USA ["Addressing the systemic causes of poverty through national legislative action: The Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act"]

10:30 Coffee Break



11:00 Asset recovery and management of returned assets

Chair: Mr. Jimmy Gurule, Notre Dame United, United States (TBC)

Presentations:

- The role of international assistance and cooperation [Speaker TBC]
- Human rights considerations concerning seizure, return and management of stolen assets
- Mr. Mark Herkenrath (Alliance Sud), [Appraisal of Swiss restitution law (RuVG/LRAI or "Lex Duvalier") and new draft Swiss federal law on restitution of stolen assets (SRVG)].

12:00 Impact of non-repatriation of illicit funds on human rights and development

Chair: Ms. Ana Mae Buenaventura Dolleton, Freedom from Debt Coalition, The Philippines

Presentations:

- Mr. Obert Gutu, Zimbabwe ["Impact of non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin on human rights and development"]
- Ms. Christina Suprapti, Aksi! for Gender, Social and Ecological Justice, Indonesia ["Impact of nonrepatriation of illicit funds on human rights and the environment"]
- Mr. Martin Ng'andu, Zambia ["Illicit financial flows from developing countries: tax evasion by transnational corporations involved in the Zambian mining industry"]

13:00 Lunch break

14:15 Impact of non-repatriation of illicit funds on human rights and development (cont'd)

Chair: Mr. Demba Moussa Dembele

Presentations:

- Ms Mae Buenaventura; Freedom from Debt Coalition, The Philippines ["Impact of non-repatriation of illicit funds on human rights and development: the experience of South East Asia"]
- Mr. Demba Moussa Dembele, Forum for African Alternatives, Senegal ["Illicit financial flows and Africa's development"]

15:00 Coffee break

15:15 Way forward: recommendations by experts on issues to be covered in the final report

Chair: Mr. Barry Herman, The New School, USA

15:45 Concluding Remarks

Mr. Cephas Lumina, Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights.