



## Integrating Human Rights into the International Financial Architecture Reforms:

A Cornerstone for Realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a Human Rights Economy

18 JANUARY 2024 | 10:00-18:00 CET | Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

### Sixth Intersessional Meeting of the Human Rights Council on Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda

#### 10:00 – 11:00, Opening Session

**Chair:** H.E. Mr. Marc Bichler, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Luxembourg

#### Opening remarks:

- H.E. Mr. Omar Zniber, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Morocco, President of the Human Rights Council
- H.E. Ms. Paula Narvaez, President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Mr. Volker Türk, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

#### Keynote address:

- Ms. Fernanda Cimbra Santiago, Special Advisor to the Minister of Finance, Brazil

#### 11:00 – 13:00, Session 1: Applying a human rights lens to the reform of IFIs to eradicate poverty and advance human rights and the Sustainable Development Agenda

Consistent with the global call for the reform of the international financial architecture and Member States' human rights obligations, the first panel discussion will focus on how international financial institutions' (IFI) policies, operations, analyses and metrics could be aligned with the human rights obligations of Member States and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Moderator:** Ms. Magdalena Sepulveda, Executive Director for the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights





**Panel discussion with:**

- **Prof. Jayati Ghosh**, Professor of Economics at University of Massachusetts Amherst, Member of the UN High Level Advisory Board for Economic and Social Affairs
- **Prof. Avinash Persaud**, Special Advisor on Climate Change at the Inter-American Development Bank, former Special Envoy to the Prime Minister of Barbados on Investment and Financial Services
- **Mr. Robert Powell**, Special Representative to the UN, International Monetary Fund
- **Ms. Sarah Saadoun**, Senior Researcher and Advocate, Poverty and Inequality, Human Rights Watch

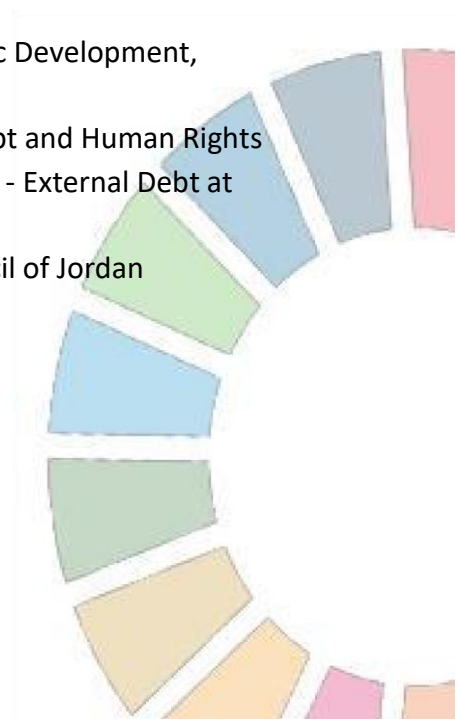
**15:00 – 16:25, Session 2: Maximizing available resources for ESCR and leaving no one behind at a time of growing debt distress**

With links to the three SDGs in focus (SDG 1, 16 and 17), the second panel discussion will explore the human rights implications and solutions to the current debt crisis. It will highlight States' promising practices, lessons learned, and policy interventions needed to improve the international sovereign debt restructuring architecture. It will also explore how principles of responsible borrowing and lending can better reflect the human rights obligations of States, as a way to reduce debt risks, indicate early warning signs of crisis and enhance the ability of market-based instruments to support human rights and the SDGs.

**Moderator: Mr. Richard Kozul-Wright**, Director of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

**Panel discussion with:**

- **Mr. Navid Hanif**, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- **Prof. Attiya Waris**, UN Independent Expert on Foreign Debt and Human Rights
- **Ms. Maryann L. N. Lwandamina**, Acting Assistant Director - External Debt at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia
- **Prof. Musa Shteivi**, President, Economic and Social Council of Jordan





**16:25 – 17:50, Session 3: Leveraging human rights to combatting illicit financial flows and corruption through effective international tax cooperation and fiscal transparency**

The third panel discussion will bring a human rights perspective to the current global developments on inclusive and effective international cooperation on tax matters under the UN. The discussion will delve into SDG 1 to mobilize resources to eradicate poverty, SDG 16 on reducing corruption and illicit financial flows, and SDG 17 on improving domestic resource mobilization to advance human rights and the Sustainable Development Agenda.

**Moderator: Ms. Özge Aydoğan**, Director of the SDG Lab

**Panel discussion with:**

- **Hon. Solomon Ayele Dersso**, Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR)
- **Francisco Saffie Gatica**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Chile to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- **Ms. Liz Nelson**, Director of Advocacy and Research, Tax Justice Network

**17:50 – 18:00, Closing Session**

The Secretariat: OHCHR will provide a recap of the main strategic points raised in the meeting, including an initial indication of the conclusion and key recommendations to be taken forward to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2024 and Summit for the Future in September 2024. The Chair will close the meeting.

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