



International Research Seminar

“REGIONAL COMMISSIONS OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCILS IN AUTONOMOUS REGIONS: GOOD PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES”

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations is convening an international research seminar on the topic: “Regional Commissions of National Human Rights Councils in Autonomous Regions: Good Practices and Challenges” in **New York on June, 30th 2014**. Like previous ones organized in Morocco or in Geneva, this seminar will aim at promoting the importance of the Moroccan Initiative for a negotiation on the autonomy of the Sahara Region, in the light of the efforts made by Morocco in terms of economic, socio-cultural, environmental and human development of that region. It will offer an opportunity to compare practices followed in some states with regard to the relationship between National Human Rights Councils (or Commissions) and Regional Commissions acting in their autonomous or decentralized territories. It is important to note that the international negotiations on the conflict of Western Sahara are being conducted within the United Nations and that this seminar does not aim at substituting these negotiations but at facilitating their success.

Programme

Venue: Conference Room, 733 Third Avenue, New York, NY

09.00 – 09.15	Mr Marc Finaud , Senior Advisor, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)	Introduction of the Chair: <i>Main Aspects of the Moroccan Initiative on the Autonomy of the Sahara Region Regarding Respect for Human Rights</i>
09.15 – 09.30	Mr Driss El Yazami , President of the National Human Rights Council of Morocco	<i>The Moroccan National Human Rights Council and Regional Human Rights Commissions</i>
09.30 – 12.45	Presentation of Experiences of Relationship between National Human Rights Councils/Commissions and Human Rights Regional Commissions, and Comparison with the Moroccan Practice	
- 09.30 – 10.00	Ms Renée Dupuis , Vice President, Commission for the Rights of the Person and Youth Rights, Quebec	<i>Canada / Quebec</i>
- 10.00 – 10.30	Ms Carola Carazzone , Secretary General, Italian Association of Fundraising Foundations and Institutions (ASSIFERO)	<i>Italy</i>
- 10.30 – 11.00	Mr Nabor Carrillo Flores , Executive Secretary, Mexican National Human Rights Commission	<i>Mexico</i>
- 11.00 – 11.30	Ms Isabel Lamers , on behalf of Atty Laisa Masuhud Alamia , Executive Secretary, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), The Philippines	<i>The Philippines / Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)</i>
- 11.30 – 12.00	Ms Mary C. Massay , Executive Secretary, Tanzanian Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG)	<i>Tanzania / Zanzibar</i>
- 12.00 – 12.30	Mr Marc Finaud	<i>Concluding Remarks of the Chair</i>
- 12.30 – 14.00	Traditional Moroccan Buffet Lunch	



GUEST SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Atty Laisa Masuhud ALAMIA

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Before being appointed Executive Secretary of the government of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) in the Philippines, Atty Laisa Alamia was the Chairperson of the ARMM Commission on Human Rights. Previously, she was one of the founders the Nisa network of Muslim women's rights advocates in ARMM as well as the Secretary of the Board of the Bangsamoro Lawyers' Network (BLN), a member of the Mindanao Human Rights Action Center (MinHRAC). She was a trial lawyer in Zamboanga City, handling cases on Family Law with emphasis on violence against women and children. She was the legal counsel of the Ateneo de Zamboanga University and a Senior Economic Development Specialist with the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA). She was initially trained as a nurse at the Ateneo de Zamboanga University and she finished her Bachelor in Law degree at Western Mindanao State University.

Ms Carola CARAZZONE

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Carola Carazzone is an Italian human rights lawyer. She holds a CIEDHU Diploma from the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France and an International Master in Co-operation and Development from the European School of Advanced Studies in Co-operation and Development at the University of Pavia, Italy. She is member of the Human Development and Capability Association, member of the Italian Association for Juridical Studies on migration and member of the Executive Board of the Don Bosco Network. Through her fifteen-year professional experience she has developed an extensive experience in 18 Non-European Union Countries and in many different multicultural environments, including living four years in three foreign countries, working with civil society for the promotion and protection of human rights in developing countries, different humanitarian contexts and at international level, reaching to cover top-level positions in different fields. After serving for 10 years in the Human Rights Coordination Office established in 2002 for VIS -*Volontariato Internazionale per lo sviluppo* – one of ten largest Italian development NGOs – in order to apply Human Rights Based Approaches in development programming for target groups in most vulnerable situations, in 2011 she became the first woman elected President of VIS. Since 2006, she has acted as the Spokesperson of a network of 88 Italian human rights NGOs leading international and national advocacy on different human rights issues, representing the Coalition before the Human Rights Council, different United Nations Treaty bodies and Special Procedures, the Italian Parliament, Government, Ombudsperson and Equality Bodies. She joined the International Training Centre of the ILO-ITCILO, Management of Development Program in 2005 as human rights expert. Every year she teaches specializing courses on human rights and development at the Italian Universities of Torino, Pavia, Roma, Siena as well as at the University of Bethlehem, Palestine and Cartagena, Colombia. She has published three books and many articles on different human rights and human development topics.

Mr Nabor CARILLO

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Mr Carillo holds a degree in law from the Autonomous University of Mexico and several diplomas in International Economic Policy (CIDE), in European Studies (ITAM), and in History (University of Grenoble). He also finished American Foreign Policy Studies at Georgetown University and the Programme for Senior Directorate of Public Enterprise at INAP. He has over 30 years experience in the public and private sectors in Mexico, where he has worked in the areas of government relations, international affairs, foreign trade and security. In the public sector he has held several senior positions, at the Department of Public Safety, the Embassies of Mexico to the United States and to Spain, as Chief of Staff of the Attorney General, Director General of International Legal Assistance and Extradition, Adviser for Special Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic and Advisor for International Affairs of the Ministry of Planning and Budget. In the private sector, he has worked at the Economic Strategy Institute (Washington, DC), in ICA and TMM, among others. In 2011 and 2012, he was a speaker to the Marrakech Security Forum in Morocco; since 2008 he is also a speaker to the Doha Forum in Qatar. He is associated since 2008 with the Mexican International Affairs Commission (COMEXI); in 1999 and 2000 he served as Vice Chair of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC); from 1995 to 2000 he served as President of three Bilateral Committees of the Mexican Council for Foreign Trade (COMCE) and in 1998 and 1999 as Board Member of the National Association of Importers and Exporters (ANIERM). Since 1985 he is a Member of the Mexican Academy of International Law.



Ms Renée DUPUIS

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Atty Renée Dupuis has been a member of the Québec Bar since 1973. She is specialised in human rights, Aboriginal peoples' rights and administrative law. Ms Dupuis has acted as defence counsel for several First Nations of Québec and as a consultant on Aboriginal issues to the governments of Québec and Canada. She has published many books and articles and delivered several lectures in Canada and overseas. From 2003 to 2009, she chaired the Indian Claims Commission after having been a Commissioner thereof from 2001 to 2003. From 1989 to 1995, she was a Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. She was a fellow researcher for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples from 1992 to 1995 and a member of the Review Committee of the Canadian Law on Human Rights in 1999-2000. From 1988 to 1998 she taught Administrative Law and Human Rights Law at the National School of Government (ENAP). Her monography *Le statut juridique des peuples autochtones en droit canadien* (Carswell, 1999) was awarded the prize of the Quebec Bar Foundation in 2001 and her essay *Quel Canada pour les Autochtones, La fin de l'exclusion* (Boréal, 2001) received the prize of the Governor-General in 2001.

Mr Driss EL YAZAMI

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Driss El Yazami, appointed in 2011 President of the Moroccan National Human Rights Council (CNDH), was born in 1952 in Fes. Having graduated from the Paris Journalist School, Mr El Yazami was a member of the Equity and Reconciliation Institution, the Human Rights Consultative Council and the Board of the Three Cultures Foundation (Spain). He is Delegate-General of Génériques, an NGO dealing with the history of foreign migrants to France and editor-in-chief of the *Migrance* journal. Mr El Yazami was the vice-president of the French Human Rights League (LDH), Secretary-General of the International Federation of Human Rights Leagues (FLDH) and a member of the Executive Committee of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network. Since 2004, he has been president of the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Support to Human Rights Advocates and member of the Steering Council and Board of the National Museum of History of Immigration to France. Mr El Yazami was the co-director of the film *France, terre d'Islam?* in 1984. He was also the curator of several exhibitions on immigration. He also co-authored several publications: *For Human Rights* (bilingual French-English - Syros-Artis, Paris 1989); *Les étrangers en France, guide des sources d'archives publiques et privées* (XIX^e-XX^e siècle) ; *Le Paris arabe* (La Découverte - 2003); *Génération* (Gallimard, 2009). He is also the author (with Rémy Schwartz) of the *Report for the Creation of a National Centre for the History and Cultures of Immigration* commissioned in 2001 by the French Prime Minister as well as several articles in the French press. He is a Knight of the French Legion of Honour since 2010. Since December 2007 he has been the president of the Council of the Moroccan Expatriate Community.

Mr Marc FINAUD

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Marc Finaud is a former French career diplomat with experience in bilateral postings (Leningrad, Warsaw, Tel Aviv, Sydney) and multilateral responsibilities (in Madrid, Vienna, Geneva, New York) especially in human rights and arms control. Since 2004 he has been sharing this experience with junior diplomats and military officers from all countries trained at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and has been conducting research on disarmament, the Middle East, and international humanitarian law. Since 2013, he is also a Senior Resident Fellow at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Among his publications are: "Can Autonomy Fulfill the Right to Self-determination?" (GCSP Geneva Paper, 2010); *Multilateralism and Transnational Security* (Slatkine, 2009); *Global Biosecurity* (Slatkine, 2008).

Ms Isabel LAMERS

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Ms Isabel Lamers, born in the Netherlands, holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Law from Maastricht University (2012) and a Master's Degree in International Law from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva (2014) with a thesis on the right to self-determination in the Philippine Bangsamoro Peace Process in Muslim Mindanao. She held several internships: in Mediation Support at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva; the Office of the Presidential Advisor on the Peace Process (OPAPP) in Manila; as a Legal Intern at UNRWA and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Amman. She also was a Research



Assistant at Maastricht University. She published *Consumption Without Borders: Competence Attribution in EU Consumer Law and the American Federal Model* (Brink, 2013).

Mary C. MASSAY

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Me Mary Crescent Massay, born in 1958, is the Executive Secretary of the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) of Tanzania. CHRAGG is an independent government department vested with a broad mandate to promote and protect human rights as well as principles of good governance in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. She has ten years of solid experience in human rights work. Being the Chief Executive Officer of CHRAGG, her primary responsibilities include carrying out policy decisions of the Commission and overseeing day-to-day administration and management of the organization. She also performs the function of overseeing and advising on matters related to investigation, research and public enquiry on human rights issues, public awareness activities, advisory role to the government, and oversee the cooperation between the Commission and the national, regional and international human rights stakeholders. She is a professional Lawyer and a High Court Advocate. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law – L.LB (Hons) from the University of Dar es Salaam (1984) and a Master's Degree in Public Administration (MPA) from Mzumbe University in Tanzania (2012). She has previously served as Director of Legal Services at CHRAGG, Company Secretary at Twiga Bancorp. Principal Legal Officer with the Tanzania Housing Bank, and Private Legal Counsel with various corporate entities. She has attended a wide range of human rights and management trainings at international and regional levels and has drawn a wealth of experience and knowledge in human rights and management issues.