



**ADVANCED GENEVA TRAINING COURSE ON  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW AND  
ADVOCACY**

**6 –18 March 2011**

Geneva, Switzerland

1 RUE DE VAREMBÉ  
P.O. BOX 16  
CH-1211 GENEVA 20 CIC  
SWITZERLAND

## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**ISHR invites you to apply to take part in the Advanced Geneva Training Course on International Human Rights Law and Advocacy to be held in Geneva from 6 to 18 March 2011.**

**You are invited to submit your application form as soon as possible if you wish to take part in the course.** ISHR will begin reviewing applications as of **1 November 2010**

### ***Background***

The International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) will organise a training course on International Human Rights Law and Advocacy from 6 to 18 March 2011 in Geneva. The main objective of this course is to empower human rights organisations by training their representatives to effectively use the United Nations (UN) human rights mechanisms.

The course takes place over a period of two weeks in parallel to the 16<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council (the Council) providing human rights defenders with an opportunity to experience first-hand the UN human rights mechanisms in action.

It is designed for experienced human rights defenders and organisations that have the capacity to use the international human rights system in their work. Besides providing participants with an introduction to the role and functioning of the UN human rights system, the course will also include sessions on lobbying and advocacy techniques.

## ***The course***

The course is based on an experiential education approach focusing on theoretical and practical aspects of international human rights law, the procedures and practices of the UN human rights mechanisms and the role of NGOs to improve implementation of human rights treaties and standards. The practical and interactive training by experts on the UN system will be facilitated by pedagogies such as role-plays, debates, group discussions and presentations by participants.

By the end of the course participants will have broad knowledge and competencies in relation to:

- the UN human rights system;
- the Human Rights Council;
- the system of special procedures (Special Rapporteurs, independent experts, working groups etc.);
- the nine UN human rights treaties and their monitoring bodies;
- the role and functions of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR);
- the role of NGOs and national human rights institutions in the UN system;
- strategic advocacy and lobbying at the international level; and
- the use of the network of contacts emanating from the course.

## ***Participants***

The course will consist of 20-25 participants from around the world. The intended beneficiaries of this course are expected to:

- have been actively involved for five or more years in a national, regional or international human rights/development/humanitarian NGO or an independent and effective National Human Rights Institution;
- have a basic knowledge of and experience in international human rights law and the regional and/or international human rights system;
- be working in an organisation with the capacity and willingness to use the international human rights system,
- be presently at least in a middle management position in the organisation; and
- be proficient in written and spoken English, as the course will be conducted in English.

## ***Funding***

The cost of the course is approximately 6,000 CHF (including accommodation, per-diems, health insurance, and airfare). All participants are responsible for ensuring their own funding for the course. ISHR will seek to raise funds for the course and may offer a small number of scholarships.

## ***Application***

Applicants should send two letters, one from their organisation expressing the commitment of the organisation to using the international human rights system and to support the participant in the follow up and/or implementation of the action project, together with the application form and the Curriculum Vitae.

We kindly ask you to **e-mail your application** to [courses@ishr.ch](mailto:courses@ishr.ch).

Any enquiries about the course or the application process can also be addressed to [courses@ishr.ch](mailto:courses@ishr.ch).