



The complementary roles of States and civil society in the UPR process

Monday 7 September 2015

11:00am-12.30pm

Australian Permanent Mission, Chemin des Fins 2, Geneva

“The Universal Periodic Review is breaking new ground; now we must make sure it never becomes simply a rote exercise...Facing human rights problems is the first step, acting to fix them moves us forward on the path of progress.” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

As we move towards the end of the second cycle of the UPR, it is clear that States and civil society can play complementary roles at every stage of the UPR process and must do so if progress is to be made.

ISHR, UPR Info and the permanent missions of Australia, Paraguay and Namibia are pleased to invite you to a discussion on the opportunities for and benefits of collaboration and cooperation between States and civil society in the UPR process.

Marking the launch of the new book *Human Rights and the Universal Periodic Review: Rituals and Ritualism*, edited by Professor Hilary Charlesworth and Dr Emma Larking, and a comprehensive guide by UPR Info on the role of “Recommending States”, this discussion will also provide an opportunity to identify challenges to effective NGO participation and collaboration with States and to consider possible solutions.

Panelists:

- Professor Hilary Charlesworth, Editor, *Human Rights and the Universal Periodic Review: Rituals and Ritualism*
- H.E. Mr Juan Esteban Aguirre Martínez, Permanent Representative of Paraguay
- Ms Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, Chief, UPR Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Mr Miloon Kothari, President, UPR Info

Moderator:

- H.E. Mr John Quinn, Permanent Representative of Australia

A light lunch will be served following the panel discussion.

Photo: iStock

RSVP essential by 1 September to events.geneva@dfat.gov.au