

INVITATION

On the occasion of the 2015 United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights (Geneva, 16-18 November 2015) please join representatives from governments, businesses, NGOs, faith-based communities and UN and international agencies for the following debate:

“Implementing the Guiding Principles: Implications of trade & investment agreements for the state duty to protect and access to remedy”

This session will discuss new developments in trade and investment agreement negotiations and the extent to which aspects of these agreements are serving or challenging the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, particularly governments’ state duty to protect. During the session, new research and experiences will be shared on the real or likely role of such trade and investment agreements concerning human rights abuses by companies and access to remedy for victims. In a joined-up perspective, discussions will consider the interaction and coherence between trade and investment agreements and other international instruments of relevance for business and human rights.

When: 17 November 2015, 15:00 – 16:20

Where: Room XXII, Palais des Nations

Panellists

- **Ms. Marta Hirsch-Ziembinska**, Head of Complaints and Inquiries Unit 1, EU Ombudsman
- **Dr. Joshua Curtis**, LSE - Laboratory for Advanced Research on the Global Economy, Centre for the Study of Human Rights
- **Ms. Tran Bich Hanh**, General Director, Berjaya Hotay Joint Venture Co., Ltd (Owner of Sheraton Hanoi Hotel) and board member of ActionAid Vietnam
- **Ms. Debbie Stothard**, FIDH Secretary General and Coordinator of the Alternative ASEAN Forum on Burma (Altsean Burma)
- **Mr. Alfred de Zayas**, UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order



Workers at Viet Tien Garment Export and Import Company
in Ho Chi Minh city.
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Moderation: Denise Auclair, CIDSE

Contact:

Stefan Reinhold, CIDSE, reinhold@cidse.org, +32.2.282.4071