First Global Forum on Statelessness

Provisional Programme

Please note that days/times of sessions and content/speakers are subject to change.

Monday 15 September 2014

08.30 – 09.30: Registration

09.30 – 11.00: Welcome and keynote address by Volker Türk, UNHCR Director of International Protection

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00: Thematic Panels

Statelessness and surrogacy:
Claire Achmad (Leiden University), Sanoj Rajan (ITM University New Delhi)

Experiences of statelessness and displacement:
Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh (Oxford University), Nell Gabiam (Iowa State University), Tun Khin (Burmese Rohingya Organisation in the UK, tbc)

Durable solutions for the stateless:
Ernst Hirsch Ballin (Tilburg University), Tamás Molnár (Hungarian Ministry of Interior), Eva Mrekajova (UNHCR Research Award winner 2013)

Statelessness and strategic litigation:
Maxim Ferschtman (Open Society Justice Initiative / European Network on Statelessness), Francisco Quintana (CEJIL, Dominican Republic), Kaajal Ramjathan-Keogh (Lawyers for Human Rights, tbc)

13.00 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 16.00: Thematic panels

Birth registration and statelessness – national case studies:
Rana Akoum (Ministry of Justice, Lebanon), Stephanie Gordon (University of Leicester), Ashraf Milad (UNHCR Egypt/Yemen, tbc)

Denationalisation as persecution:
David Baluarte (Washington & Lee University), Eric Fripp (Barrister at Elm Court), Hélène Lambert (University of Westminster), Zahra Albarazi (Tilburg University)

**Benchmarks and indicators for assessing nationality laws:**
René de Groot, Maarten Vink and Olivier Vonk (Maastricht University), Nick Oakeshott (UNHCR, Asia region, tbc), Laura van Waas (Tilburg University)

**Statelessness and (social) media:**
Mohammad Al-Wuhaib (Kuwait University), Jocelyn Kane (Ryerson University)

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**TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2014**

09.00 – 11.00: Thematic panels

**Statelessness and the right to education, work and health:**
Michael Hirsch (Hagar International, Cambodia), Nina van Egmond (VU University of Amsterdam), Dato N. Siva Subramaniam (Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia), Conny Rijken (Tilburg University)

**Affecting change: Exploring how and why action is taken on statelessness:**
Lindsey Kingston (Webster University), Amanda Cheong (Princeton University), Carolina de Abreu Batista Claro (University of Sao Paulo), Ngo The Hong Loan (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam)

**The nexus between stateless persons, refugees & international protection:**
Heather Alexander and Jonathan Simon (Tulane University), Mai Kaneko-Iwase (UNHCR Japan/Pakistan), Gábor Gyulai (Hungarian Helsinki Committee), Linda Kerber (University of Iowa)

**Statelessness and paralegal projects:**
Laura Bingham (Open Society Justice Initiative), Mustafa Mahmoud Yousif (Nubian Rights Forum, Kenya), Laura Goodwin (Namati, Myanmar), Khalid Hussain (Council of Minorities, Bangladesh)

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00: Thematic panels

**Birth registration and statelessness - regional perspectives:**
Jacqueline Gallinetti and Mary Lagaay (Plan International), Amit Sen (UNHCR, MENA region), Nick Oakeshott (UNHCR, Asia region, tbc)

**Protecting the stateless from arbitrary detention:**
Ben Lewis (International Detention Coalition), Amal DeChickera (The Equal Rights Trust)

**Exploring the utility of statelessness determination:**
Susan Kennedy (University of Adelaide), Yue Fu (Ibaraki University / Stateless Network, Japan), Stans Goudsmit (Netherlands Institute for Human Rights)

**Addressing statelessness through foreign policy:** presenters tbc

13.00 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 15.30: Plenary: A roundtable discussion on Statelessness and Empowerment with stateless and formerly stateless persons, led by Barbara Hendricks, world-famous classical singer and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador

15.30 – 16.00: Coffee break

16.00 – 18.00: Thematic panels

**Children’s experiences of statelessness:**
Catherine Allerton (London School of Economics), Maureen Lynch (International Observatory on Statelessness), Ian Kysel (Georgetown University Law Center)

**Networking for change: the importance of collaboration on statelessness:**
Chris Nash (European Network on Statelessness), Lara Chen (Waseda University / Stateless Network Japan / APRRN), Tim Parritt (Oak Foundation, tbc)

**Addressing statelessness as a product of irregular / forced migration:**
Adrian Berry and Alison Harvey (Immigration Law Practitioners Association, UK), Monica Sanchez Bermudez (Norwegian Refugee Council), Rodziana Mohamed Razali (National University of Malaysia)

**Resolving statelessness through confirmation of nationality:**
Ivanka Kostic (Praxis, Serbia), Dato N. Siva Subramaniam (Prime Minister’s Department, Malaysia), Rico Salcedo (UNHCR Philippines, tbc)

**WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2014**

09.00 – 10.30: Keynote address by Irene Khan: Director-General of the International Development Law Organisation

10.30 – 11.00: Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30: Cross-theme panels on specific situations of statelessness
Myanmar:
Amal DeChickera (Equal Rights Trust), Katherine Southwick (University of Singapore)

Dominican Republic:
Tatiana Cadoso (UniRitter University), Eve Hayes de Kalaf (Haiti Support Group), Bridget Wooding (Caribbean Migrants Observatory / Ibero-American University)

Malaysia's sea gypsies:
Julian Clifton and others (University of Western Australia), Sanen Marshall and Devi Kusardy Cox (Centre for Promotion of Knowledge and Language Learning, Malaysia)

Europe's Roma:
Davor Rako (UNHCR Serbia), Julija Sardelic (University of Edinburgh), Michelle (Mila) van Burik (Roma Advisor, the Netherlands)

12.30 – 13.30: Lunch

13.30 – 15.00: Thematic panels

Gender discrimination and childhood statelessness:
Mohna Ansari (National Women's Commission of Nepal), Zahra Albarazi (Tilburg University)

The impact and legacy of statelessness:
Dawn Chatty (Oxford University), Brad Blitz (Middlesex University), Amanda Flaim and David Feingold (Cornell University / UNESCO)

Teaching statelessness (including through university law clinics):
Jos van Schilt and Christina van Kuijck (OLV Lyceum / Tilburg University), Frances Meyler (Liverpool University), David Baluarte (Washington & Lee University)

The prevention of statelessness: contemporary tools and challenges:
Sarnata Reynolds (Refugees International), Laurie Fransman and Adrian Berry (Garden Court Chambers), William Thomas Worster (Hague University of Applied Sciences)

15.00 – 15.30: Coffee break

15.30 – 16.30: Cross-theme regional workshops

Asia:
Jayantha Shastri Ramasubramanyar (Victoria University of Wellington), Yuyun Wahyuningrum (ASEAN Human Rights Working Group)

Europe:
Katja Swider (University of Amsterdam), Giulia Bittoni (University of Burgundy and Bologna)

Africa:
Bronwen Manby (London School of Economics), Ayalew Getachew (African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child)

Americas:
Polly Price (Emory University School of Law), Katie Tobin (UNHCR Caribbean)

16.30 – 17.30 Closing Plenary
**Country presentations: As poster sessions during breaks/lunches**

**Ireland:** Hilkka Becker (Immigrants Council Ireland)

**Ukraine:** Kateryna Moroz (HIAS)

**Greece:** Eleni Takou (Hellenic League for Human Rights)

**Madagascar:** Caroline McInerney (UNHCR Research Award winner 2013)

**Iraq:** Arash Lahourpour (Islamic Azad University of Sanandaj); Karel Hendriks (UNHCR Iraq)

**Kuwait:** Ines Fernandes (SOAS)

**Kyrgyzstan:** Elina Trosenko (University of Bergen)

**Iran:** Jason Tucker (University of Bath)

**Nepal:** Dipendra Jha (Terai Human Rights Defenders Alliance)

**Thailand:** I Hsuan Liu (Chulalongkorn University)

**Cambodia:** Christoph Sperfeldt and Lyma Nguyen (Asian International Justice Initiative / ECCC)

**Spain:** Valeria Cherednichenko (Carlos III University of Madrid)

**Poland:** Dorota Pudzianowska (Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights)