



The OHCHR Accountability and Remedy Project Multistakeholder consultation

Palais des Nations, Room XXI (Building E, Door 40)

10:00 – 18:00 Thursday 19 November / 10:00 – 13:00 Friday 20 November

Ensuring access to effective remedy for those impacted by business-related human rights abuses is one of the three pillars of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Yet much work remains to make access to remedy a reality. In November 2014, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights launched an initiative to make domestic legal responses fairer and more effective for victims of business-related human rights abuses, particularly in cases of severe abuses. The “Accountability and Remedy Project” (ARP) aims to deliver credible and concrete recommendations and guidance to States to enable more effective implementation of the Access to Remedy pillar of the UN Guiding Principles.

The ARP comprises six distinct, yet interrelated components, which correspond to issues identified in research as requiring further clarification and guidance. The six components have been chosen for their strategic value and ability to yield improvements in access to remedy in the short- to medium-term. The purpose of this multistakeholder consultation is to discuss emerging, initial findings in relation to four of the six projects: *tests for corporate legal liability, ways to overcome financial obstacles to legal claims, good practices in criminal law sanctions and in civil law remedies*. The feedback gathered from stakeholders at the consultation will be used by OHCHR to revise and refine the draft recommendations and findings. The final recommendations will be submitted in a report to the Human Rights Council in June 2016.

Thursday 19 November

Time	Agenda item
10.00 - 10.15	Welcome and introduction
10.15 - 11.00	Overview of the Accountability and Remedy Project Aims and objectives Research processes Final deliverables and future consultations
11.00 - 11.50	Enhancing accountability and access to remedy through effective tests for corporate liability in domestic law (part I) Approach to guidance for States Model terms of reference for State legal review <i>Discussion</i>
11.50 - 12.00	Break



12.00 – 13.00 Enhancing accountability and access to remedy through effective tests for corporate liability in domestic law (part I)

PS1: Ensuring legal liability for acts that result in severe abuses
PS2: Ensuring legal liability for complicity in abuses by third parties

Discussion

13.00 – 15.00 Break in programme until 15.00

15.00 – 16.30 Enhancing accountability and access to remedy through effective tests for corporate liability in domestic law (part II)

PS3: Encouraging good governance, sound management of subsidiaries, and proper supervision of employees and business relationships
PS4: Taking account of high risk contexts
PS5: Recognizing corporate efforts to carry out due diligence

Discussion

16.30 – 16.40 Break

16.40 – 18.00 Overcoming financial obstacles to legal claims: towards a menu of options for States

Trends and developments
Overview of proposed good practice indicators

Discussion

Friday 20 November

Time	Agenda item
10.00 – 10.20	Welcome and recap
10.20 – 11.25	Criminal law sanctions: discussion of innovations and good practices Criminal law sanctions: key preliminary findings Overview of proposed good practice indicators <i>Discussion</i>
11.25 – 11.40	Break
11.40 – 12.40	Civil law remedies: discussion of innovations and good practices Civil law remedies: key preliminary findings Overview of proposed good practice indicators <i>Discussion</i>
12.40 – 13.00	Wrap up and next steps