**UN Forum on Business and Human Rights Side Event: Indigenous Peoples, access to justice and reparation within the context of business operations**

**Date:** 1st December 2014.

**Time**: 14:45 to 16:15

**Venue**: Palais des Nations, Room XXII

**Objective:**

Presentation of case studies in relation to access to justice and remedies in the context of business operations, in particular extractive industry projects, in indigenous peoples territories in Latin America and Asia.

**Background:**

Indigenous peoples are among the most vulnerable groups to adverse human rights impact of corporate activities. This is particularly true in the context of natural resource exploitation and associated infrastructure projects. As noted in the UN Guiding Principles, they are also among the groups which face the greatest obstacles to accessing judicial and non-judicial remedies. In addition to accessibility issues, remedial mechanisms must be culturally appropriate and give due consideration to indigenous peoples legal systems and customary laws. Realizing the access to remedy pillar and guarantting effective remedies for violations of indigenous peoples’ rights is consequently a major challenge which necessitates dialogue and cooperation between representatives of indigenous peoples, States and corporations.

**Format:**

The first half of the side event will consist of a multi stakeholder panel overview of the issue of access to justice and right to remedy, including through the presentation of specific case studies in Asia and Latin America.

The second half of the event will allow for questions and answers and seek to engage business and state representatives in discussion with indigenous peoples in relation to remedies available in particular contexts.

**Chair:**

Ms Joan Carling of AIPP and member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) will chair the event.

**Speakers:**

1. Ms **Dalee Sambo Dorough**, Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). Right to remedy in the human rights / indigenous peoples' rights context and the Guiding Principles. (7')

2. Mr **Luis Vittor**, Coordinadora Andina de Organizaciones Indígenas (CAOI). Third pillar on the ground: status of implementation (7')

3. Mr **Thomas Jalong**, President of JOAS— National Network of Indigenous Peoples of Malaysia, and Executive Council Member of AIPP (7')

4. Mr **Pavel Sulyandziga**, Member of the UNWGHRB. Status and trends in the implementation of the third pillar of the UNGP (7’)

5. Mr **Emerson Sandi**, Pueblos Indígenas Amazónicos Unidos en Defensa de sus Territorios (PUINAMUDT) (7´)

6. Comments by Ms **Victoria Tauli-Corpuz**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (7')

7. General discussion on the issue of the right to remedy and recommendations to States and business. (c. 30-35')

9. Wrap up by the Chair and brief presentation of the work developed by indigenous organizations and support groups on the issue of access to remedy during the past year, including publication of case studies (5')

**Hosted by**: AIPP, CAOI and ENIP

**Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)** is a network of indigenous peoples’ organizations in Asia and an NGO with ECOSOC consultative status. Its goal is strengthen solidarity and cooperation of indigenous peoples in Asia. It was founded in 1988’s by the indigenous peoples’ movement in Asia. It has 47 members from 14 countries (in Asia) with 11 indigenous people’s alliances / networks and 36 local and sub-national organizations.

**European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP)** strives to ensure that all European actors comply with their obligations and responsibilities to fulfil, respect and protect the rights of indigenous peoples upon whom they impact across the globe. ENIP member organizations collaborate to promote the rights of all those indigenous peoples who are affected by the actions of the European Union and/or its member States.

The **Andean Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations (CAOI)** is a network organization for indigenous Andean organizations from Bolivia, Ecuador Peru and Colombia. Its main objective is the plain execution of indigenous rights, more specifically with regard to self-determination, territory, free, prior and informed consent, and against criminalization of social organizations and militarization of indigenous territories.