

Panel Event

Use of private military and security companies by the United Nations

Convened by the Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries
Wednesday, 31 July 2013, 10:00-13:00
Conference Room 1, Conference Building
United Nations Headquarters
New York

The United Nations (UN) uses private military and security companies (PMSCs) extensively in a variety of activities and locations around the world. In light of concerns with respect to the outsourcing of security functions by the UN to private companies, the UN has recently adopted several policies on this matter. This panel aims to foster public awareness of the nature and extent of the UN's use of PMSCs and to discuss the UN policies and practices with a view to identifying strategies to address any gaps and challenges.

Confirmed Panelists:

Panel 1: Use of armed guards by the UN

- Mr. Stuart Groves**– Former Chief Security Coordinator, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Mr. Rick Cottam** – United Nations Staff Union, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
- **Ms. Lou Pingot** –Global Policy Forum

Panel 2: Use of PMSCs by the UN in peace operations

- **Mr. Mirko Sossai**– University of Rome, Italy
- **Ms. Åse Gilje Østensen** – University of Bergen, Norway
- **Mr. Sabelo Gumedze** – Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority, South Africa

Please kindly note that pre-registration is necessary to attend the event. To register your attendance, please send your name, title and affiliation to the secretariat of the Working Group (Natacha Foucard (nfoucard@ohchr.org, +41 22 917 9458)/Junko Tadaki (jtadaki@ohchr.org, +41 22 917 9298), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) by 26 July 2013.