



AMERICAS REGIONAL FORUM

11-12 OCTOBER 2022

REVIEW RETHINK REFORM

30th
ANNIVERSARY,
UN DECLARATION
ON THE RIGHTS
OF MINORITIES
1992-2022



Programme of Work (DRAFT – subject to change)

Day 1 – Tuesday 11th October 2022

13:00-14:00 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Opening Session

08:00-09:00 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

07:00-08:00 (New York, GMT -4)

06:00-07:00 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

Welcome Remarks:

Anna-Mária Bíró, Director, Tom Lantos Institute

Opening Remarks (45 minutes)

Victoria Donda, Director, National Institute Against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism, Argentina

Margarette May Macaulay, Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons of African Descent and against Racial Discrimination and second Vice-President, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Magdalena Talamas, Director, Department for the Promotion of Peace at the Organization of American States

Karin Santi, Regional Team Leader HIV, Health and Development, UNDP's Regional Bureau on Latin America and the Caribbean

Fernand de Varennes, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues

Rules and Guide to Proceedings (5 minutes)

14:00-14:15 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Break

14:15-15:15 (Geneva, GMT +2)

High-Level State Panel

09:15-10:15 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

08:15-09:15 (New York, GMT -4)

07:15-08:15 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

Moderator: **Tania Reneaum**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Panel: **Horacio Pietragalla**, Secretary of State, Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice, Argentina

Edgar Rodrigo Rojas, Director of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colombia

Desirée Cormier Smith, Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice, State Department, United States of America

15:15-15:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Break

15:30-17:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Thematic Session 1: Normative framework: existing norms and interpretations Policies, and Programmes

10:30-12:30 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

09:30-11:30 (New York, GMT -4)

08:30-10:30 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

Moderator: **Michael Lieberman**, Senior Policy Counsel on Hate & Extremism, Southern Poverty Law Center

Experts: **Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves**, Professor at the Law School of the Federal University of Uberlândia

Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal, University of the West-Indies, former Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons of African Descent and against Racial Discrimination and former Rapporteur for Indigenous Peoples at Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

John Packer, Director, Human Rights Research and Education Centre, University of Ottawa

Interactive dialogue

17:30-18:00 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Break

18:00-20:00 (Geneva, GMT +2)

13:00-15:00 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

12:00-14:00 (New York, GMT -4)

11:00-13:00 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

**Thematic Session 2: Implementation:
Institutions, Mechanisms, Policies, and
Programmes**

Moderator: **Leilane Reis**, Race and Gender Officer, International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights

Experts: **Nihad Awad**, Executive Director, Council on American-Islamic Relations

Federico Fernando Pita, Founder of the African Diaspora of Argentina (DIAFAR)

Beneco Enecia, Director, Center for Sustainable Development (CEDESOC)

Pedro L. Cortes-Ruiz, Advisor, International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights

Interactive dialogue

Day 2 – Wednesday 12th October 2022

14:00-16:00 (Geneva, GMT +2)

09:00-11:00 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

08:00-10:00 (New York, GMT -4)

07:00-09:00 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

**Thematic Session 3: Minority
participation as a procedural and
substantive right and process**

Moderator: **Gina Romero**, Executive Director, Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy

Experts: **Yimene Calderón**, Head of the Organization for Ethnic Development

Dwight Newman, Professor, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Rights in Constitutional and International Law

Gay McDougall, Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at Leitner Center on International Law and Justice, Fordham University Law School; Member, UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Vice Chair 2018-2019), and former UN Special Rapporteur on Minorities

Interactive dialogue

16:00-16:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Break

16:30-18:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

11:30-13:30 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

10:30-12:30 (New York, GMT -4)

09:30-11:30 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

**Thematic Session 4: Moving Forward:
Reforming the Protection and Implementation
of the Minority Rights Framework**

Moderator:

Meredith Preston McGhie, Secretary General, Global Centre for Pluralism

Experts:

Angie Cruickshank, Co-founder of the Latin American Alliance for the African Descendant Decade (ALDA)

Ana Dalila Gómez Baos, General Coordinator, Organizational Process of the Rrom People of Colombia

Yves Goguen, Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Moncton

Interactive dialogue

18:30-19:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Break

19:30-20:00 (Geneva, GMT +2)

14:30-15:00 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

13:30-14:00 (New York, GMT -4)

12:30-13:00 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

Presentation of Recommendations

In this session, the proposed recommendations developed during the four thematic sessions will be made available to participants to consider.

The session will be introduced by **Fernand de Vareennes**, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues, following which **Marcus Oda**, Programme Manager at the Tom Lantos Institute, will present the list of recommendations.

*Moderator: **Anna-Mária Bíró**, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute*

20:00-20:30 (Geneva, GMT +2)

Concluding remarks

15:00-15:30 (Buenos Aires, GMT -3)

14:00-14:30 (New York, GMT -4)

13:00-13:30 (Mexico City, GMT -5)

Fernand de Vareennes, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues