

**LDCs/SIDS BENEFICIARY DELEGATES AND FELLOWS
SUPPORTED BY THE TRUST FUND AT THE 55th SESSION
OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC55)
(26 February – 5 April 2024)**

Delegates programme at HRC55: 22 February – 5 April 2024

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Antigua and Barbuda

Zachary Phillips

Crown Counsel at the Attorney General's Chambers



Zachary A. R. Phillips is a young Attorney-at-Law, academic and published author. Zachary holds a B.Sc in Political Science., an LL.B, and an LL.M in Public International Law all at first class classification. Zachary is now employed at the Attorney General's Chambers as a Crown Counsel. As his LL.M was in Public International Law, Zachary has been placed in the International Unit at the Attorney General's Chambers and his tasks include negotiating on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda at regional and international fora such as the UNFCCC and the UNGA sub-committees and making sure treaty obligations are implemented domestically within Antigua & Barbuda. In this capacity he has also held the position of Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) Fellow in 2022 and participated in the Regional Course in International Law in 2023 organized by the United Nations.

This is his first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and his first time in Geneva.

Bangladesh

Sayedra Sumaiya Tarannum

Assistant Secretary, South America Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Ms. Sayeda Sumaiya Tarannum is a career diplomat, who currently works at the South America Wing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Apart from maintaining and strengthening Bangladesh's bilateral relations with different countries of South America, her portfolio mainly includes preparing, drafting, negotiating and finalizing bilateral agreements that Bangladesh signs with the countries of South America, addressing consular and human rights issues faced by the nationals of both sides, enhancing trade initiatives and opportunities, organizing high-level visits and so on.

Prior to working in the South America Wing, Ms. Sumaiya worked in various directorates of the Ministry including Public Diplomacy and Administration Wings. She underwent the '1st Specialized Diplomatic Training Course (SDTC) and Professional Master's in International Relations and Diplomacy (PMIRD)' at the Foreign Service Academy, Bangladesh in collaboration with the University of Dhaka. Her research topic is 'Blue Economy: Connecting Maritime Diplomacy of Bangladesh'.

As Bangladesh has been providing humanitarian assistance to the forcibly displaced Rohingyas who fled from Myanmar, steering resolutions titled 'Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar', and 'Human Rights and Climate Change', playing an active role in the areas of right to development and promotion and protection of rights of migrant workers and women in the Human Rights Council, Ms. Sumaiya possesses a keen interest and eagerness to learn, collaborate, and develop the skills necessary for effective advocacy in the fields of human rights, humanitarian diplomacy and multilateral negotiation.

Ms. Sumaiya joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2021. She holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (M.B.B.S.) degree from Faridpur Medical College.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and her first time in Geneva.

Benin

Souliadji Soumanou

Chef du Service p.i des Traités à la Direction des Affaires juridiques du Ministère des Affaires étrangères



Diplomate de carrière, Monsieur Souliadji SOUMANOU est titulaire d'un Master 1 en Sciences juridiques, option Sciences politiques et relations internationales obtenu en 2009 à l'Université de Parakou. Depuis sa prise de fonction au Ministère des Affaires étrangères le 2 février 2015 en qualité d'Attaché des Affaires étrangères, il a occupé plusieurs postes de responsabilité dont celui de la gestion du Service du Moyen-Orient et de la Coopération islamique où il a contribué, en lien avec les services nationaux compétents, à la connaissance des valeurs et principes qui guident le fonctionnement de l'Organisation de la Coopération islamique (OCI). A ce poste, il a également aidé à mieux faire connaître cette organisation et les avantages qu'elle offre en termes de coopération, de réseautage et de financement. Cumulativement à ses charges, il a été nommé en octobre 2019 en qualité d'Assistant du Directeur du Cabinet du Ministre des Affaires étrangères pour les questions liées à l'organisation du Hadj en Arabie Saoudite.

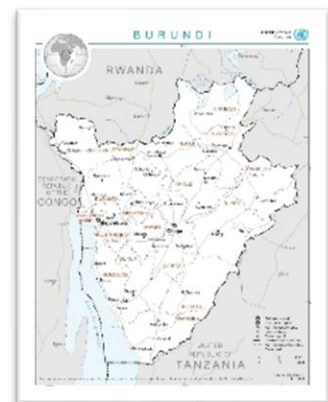
Chef du service p.i. des Traités à la Direction des Affaires juridiques depuis 2020, il assure le suivi des dossiers liés à la négociation, l'étude, la conclusion, la signature des accords de coopération et la ratification des Traités, conventions et accords internationaux y compris dans le domaine de la promotion et de la protection des droits humains et de leur mise en oeuvre.. Il représente le Bénin au sein du Comité de coordination de la CEDEAO sur le traité BBNJ et chargé de coordonner au plan régional les initiatives sur le traité en vue de mettre en oeuvre une stratégie régionale pour faciliter la ratification et l'application dudit traité.

Il participe pour la première fois à une session ordinaire du Conseil des droits de l'homme et il s'agit également de sa première visite à Genève.

Burundi

Arnaud Irakoze

Conseiller Technique du Vice-Président de la République en charge de la Gouvernance et des Affaires Juridiques. Organisme : Présidence de la République du Burundi- Cabinet du Vice-Président de la République



Auditeur de l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA France) et de l'Académie de Droit International de LA HAYE, Arnaud IRAKOZE est Doctorant en droit public à l'Université de Limoges. Il est également titulaire d'un master en droit international et européen des

droits fondamentaux (Université de Nantes –France), d’un master en droit international et comparé de l’environnement (Université de Limoges -France), d’un master en coopération internationale et aide humanitaire, d’un diplôme de spécialisation en droits économiques sociaux-culturels (Collège Universitaire Henry Dunant-Genève).

Enseignant-chercheur à l’Université Lumière de Bujumbura depuis 2011 (où il donne le cours de droit international des droits de l’homme) et à l’Institut des Cadres Militaires du Burundi(ISCAM), Arnaud IRAKOZE est également aujourd’hui Conseiller Technique du Vice-Président de la République du Burundi en charge de la Gouvernance et des Affaires Juridiques. A ce titre, il exploite régulièrement les rapports de la Commission Nationale Indépendante des Droits de l’Homme(CNIDH) au Burundi, analyse les rapports périodiques produits pour l’examen périodique universel, mais également d’autres rapports de mise en œuvre des conventions relatives aux droits de l’homme et émet des avis juridiques sur des accords Régionaux et Internationaux signés ou ratifiés par le. Il fait également partie de plusieurs commissions mises en place par le Gouvernement pour assurer la satisfaction des droits économiques-sociaux de la population comme le comité interministériel chargé de mise œuvre de la politique salariale, comité interministériel de suivi et évaluation des ONG étrangères, comité de pilotage du projet « Développement de la politique nationale de mobilité de la main d’œuvre » soutenu par l’Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM) au Burundi (jusqu’en 2022) . Il coordonnait la plateforme nationale de la lutte contre la traite des personnes et plateforme nationale de gestion des catastrophes naturelles.

Il participe pour la première fois à une session ordinaire du Conseil des droits de l’homme.

Ethiopia

Teshome Mekonnen Temesgen
Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Mr. Teshome joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in October 2012 and have been working in the Ministry in different capacities in different departments and countries. Mr. Teshome was assigned to the Ethiopian Consulate General Office in Puntland State of Somalia, in August 2017 and served for 18 months. In 2018, he was transferred to the Ethiopian Embassy in Berlin, Germany. Since August 21, 2021, he has been working under the International Organizations Affairs Directorate General at the head office as an expert in human rights issues.

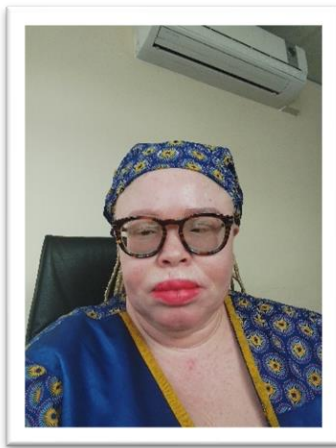
In terms of my educational level, he completed a BA degree in Political Science and International Relations (major) and Public Administration and Development Management (minor) from Addis Ababa University. After joining the ministry in 2012, Mr. Teshome completed a one-year postgraduate diploma in diplomacy and international relations from the Ethiopian Civil Service University. Currently, he is pursuing an MA in Peace and Security Studies from Addis Ababa University.

This is his first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and his first time in Geneva.

Lesotho

Makatlheho Molotsi

Advocate, Chief legal officer human rights unit, Ministry of Justice and Law



Ms. Molotsi is a human rights lawyer based in the Human Rights Unit under the Ministry of Justice and Law of the Government of Lesotho since August 2022. In this Unit, she is responsible for assisting the government to promote, protect and fulfil human rights in line with national and international standards. She is also responsible for mapping and partnering with different stakeholders in human rights for maximum enjoyment of human rights in Lesotho. Before joining the civil service, Ms Molotsi worked in the civil society where she advocated for the rights of persons with disabilities, women and other minority groups. Ms. Molotsi is the advocate of the courts admitted to bar in 2014. She holds Master of Laws in Human Rights and Democratization in Africa (LLMHRDA), which she obtained from the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria in 2015. She also holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), which she obtained from the National University of Lesotho in 2013.

Ms. Molotsi highly appreciates this opportunity afforded to her and her country and strongly believes that it strengthens the capacity of Lesotho to participate in the sessions of the Human Rights Council in Future.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and her first time in Geneva.

Maldives

Fathimath Razana

Human Rights Specialist, Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs



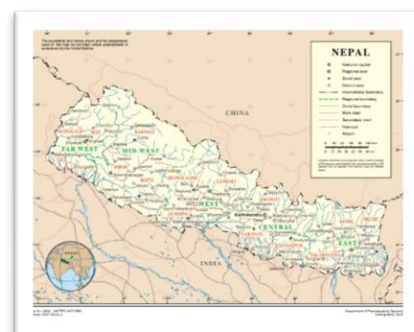
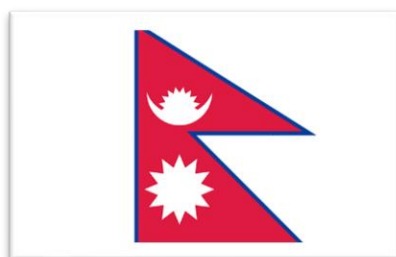
Ms. Fathimath Razana is a Maldivian diplomat, who presently works as an Assistant Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives. Ms. Razana joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2009 as a Desk Officer and has since served in several capacities and departments, most recently overseeing the work of the United Nations and Human Rights Division of the International Organisation Department. She was posted in Thailand, where she served as the First Secretary at the Maldives Embassy in Thailand, leading the Embassy's multilateral and bilateral activity from 2019 to 2023. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations from University of New South Wales in Australia and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the Open University, Malaysia.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and her first time in Geneva.

Nepal

Bipin Duwadi

Under Secretary, United Nations, International Organizations and International Law Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Mr. Duwadi is a Career Diplomat. He joined the Foreign Service of Nepal as a Section Officer in 2014. Currently, he is serving as an Under Secretary at the UN, International Organizations and International Law Division in the Ministry.

In the Ministry, he handles matters pertaining to the United Nations, its specialized agencies, international organizations and international law. He is also directly involved in dealing with a host of multilateral thematic issues including human rights, climate change, peacekeeping, migration, and disarmament. Apart from his extensive experience in multilateral affairs, he has also fulfilled various roles in the Regional Organizations Division of the Ministry, Department of Passports and Consular Services and as a liaison officer to the Office of the Prime Minister. He also successfully completed his diplomatic assignment in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Mr. Duwadi has also represented Nepal in a number of international forums.

Before joining the Ministry, he worked as a faculty member of English for Graduate and Post-Graduate Programs for over six years.

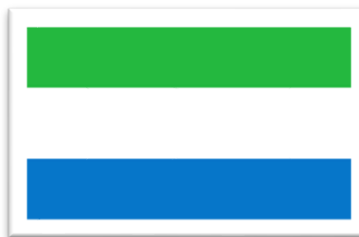
Mr. Duwadi holds MA and M. Phil. degrees in English. Currently, he is pursuing his PhD in International Relations and Diplomacy from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu.

This is his first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and his first time in Geneva.

Sierra Leone

Saliamatu Bah

Assistant Secretary/ Treaty/ Expert



Ms. Saliamatu Bah holds a bachelor degree in Social Science (BSc) in Peace and Conflict Studies at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) at the Institute of Public Administration and Management, University of Sierra Leone. She is presently studying bachelor of Laws (LLB) at the University of London online.

She works at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone as an Assistant Secretary/ Treaty/ Convention Expert attached to the Legal Affairs/ ECOTEC directorate. After she joined the Ministry in 2020, she has served in various directorates, including Europe department and Administration and Finance within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

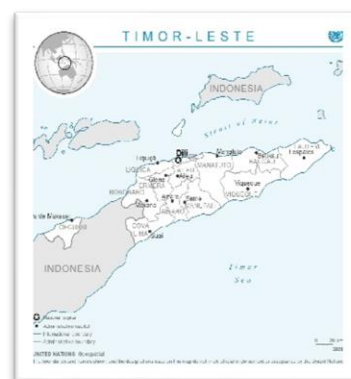
As the desk officer of treaties/conventions and Human rights instruments, her duty is to facilitate and coordinate the ratification processes of all treaties in the Sierra Leone House of Parliament for approval.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and her first time in Geneva.

Timor Leste

Leandro de Jesus Amaral

Desk Officer at the national division for the United Nations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation



Mr. Leandro de Jesus Amaral is currently the desk officer for the UNSC, ICC, ICJ, ITLOS, and UNCAC at the National Division for the United Nations under the Directorate General for Multilateral Affairs. Before that, he worked in various departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Timor-Leste.

He is responsible for facilitating, coordinating with the line ministries, and also preparing recommendations regarding Timor-Leste's position in UNSC, ICC, ICJ, ITLOS, and UNCAC matters. He has served the Timor-Leste public service for 15 years, including 12 years at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Currently, he is taking my master's degree in law at UNPAZ University.

This is his first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and also his first time in Geneva.

Togo

Pauline Dopé d'Almeida épouse Dokou

Directrice de la prévention des conflits au Ministère des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République



Juriste et sociologue de formation, Madame Pauline Dopé d'ALMEIDA épouse DOKOU est Directrice de la prévention des conflits au ministère des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République.

Depuis sa prise de fonction audit ministère en 2009, elle a occupé plusieurs postes de responsabilité dont celui d'Assistante de l'Expert en droits de l'homme et gouvernance, mis à la disposition du ministère par le Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement (PNUD). Elle a également occupé le poste de Chef de la division chargée des relations avec la société civile et de l'assistance aux victimes de violence et d'abus de droits de l'homme à la direction de la protection des droits de l'homme.

Elle a contribué significativement à l'élaboration du premier rapport de l'Examen périodique universel (EPU) en 2010 et 2011 et à l'élaboration de l'avant-projet de loi portant promotion du genre dans l'accès aux mandats électoraux, aux fonctions électives et aux nominations.

Elle a participé à l'élaboration de plusieurs rapports initiaux et périodiques des conventions internationales et régionales ratifiées par le Togo en matière de droits de l'homme et au processus de la prise en compte de la formation civique, de la citoyenneté et des droits de l'homme dans le système éducatif formel, informel, non formel et professionnel au Togo.

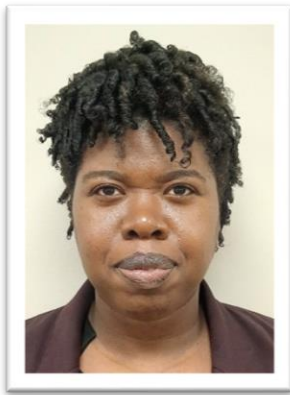
Elle est membre du Cadre national de concertation des acteurs de protection de l'enfant (CNCAPE) depuis 2017.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and also her first time in Geneva.

Trinidad and Tobago

Darcyl L. Legall

Foreign Service Officer III, Multilateral Relations Division, Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM affairs



Ms. Darcyl Legall is a career diplomat who joined the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, as a Foreign Service Officer, in 2014. Prior to that, she has been employed in the Public Service of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago since 2004.

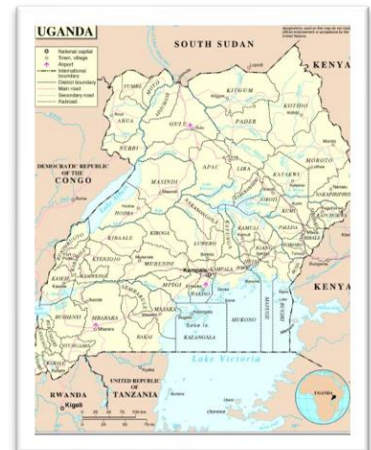
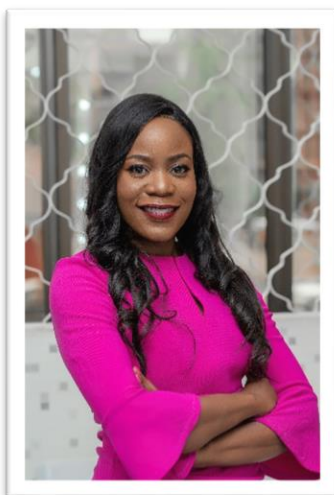
Currently assigned to the Multilateral Relations Division, Ms. Legall covers the multilateral human rights system. As part of her duties, Ms. Legall tracks and analyzes human rights developments and assesses their correlation to her country and region. She is also responsible for elections within the UN Human Rights Treaty System. An advocate for the advancement of Trinidad and Tobago's society, Ms. Legall is keen on bolstering her country's participation in the work of the Human Rights Council.

Ms. Legall holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration, a Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations and a Certificate in Business, Political Economy and International Relations.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council and her first time in Geneva.

Uganda

Tabitha Namulinda
Legal Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Ms. Tabitha Namulinda is an enrolled advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate. She is a legal officer in the International Legal Advisory Services Division in the Department of International Legal and Social Affairs of Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has over twelve (12) years of professional experience in international relations, trade, and human rights as a Foreign Service Officer, legal and human rights desk officer in Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and as a negotiator at the Permanent Mission of Uganda in Geneva.

She has previously coordinated and participated in the work of the Human Rights Council, including Uganda's reporting under the Universal Periodic Review and lending support to implementing recommendations and voluntary pledges arising from there. She has also coordinated the preparation of Uganda's human rights report under the eight-core international human rights instruments, monitored regional and global human rights, good governance, democracy, and Rule of Law issues, and recommended policy responses to them.

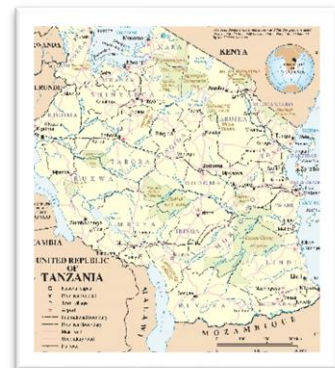
Ms. Namulinda holds a master's degree in international Trade Law, a master's degree in public administration, and a master's degree in Contemporary Diplomacy (Cum Laude). She also holds a bachelor's degree in law (Hons), a diploma in legal practice, and several certificates in international relations and trade. She is currently pursuing studies in economics.

This is her first time attending a regular session of the Human Rights Council.

United Republic of Tanzania

Boniphace Simon Boniphace

Principal Legal Officer, Human Rights Division, Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs



Mr. Boniphace Simon Boniphace is a Principal Legal Officer, working at Human Rights Division under the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs. His primary responsibility is to ensure that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania complies with its international human rights obligations and translates these into national legislation and policies through. He performs extensive legal research and analysis and prepares legal opinions, studies, briefs, reports and correspondences on issues concerning Human rights. He also facilitates the ratification of international and regional instruments on human rights and carries out review of domestic laws to ensure compliance with existing international and regional instruments on human rights. He also liaises with the Office of the Attorney General and Solicitor General on matters relating to advice and human rights cases. He holds a LLB degree from Tumaini University Dar es Salaam College and a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practices. In 2015, he enrolled as an Advocate of

High Court (Notary Public and Commissioner for Oath). He also a Postgraduate Diploma in Management of Foreign Relations at Centre for Foreign Relations Dar es Salaam. Currently, he is looking for scholarship to pursue master's degree in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

As a lawyer, he hopes this experience will enhance his ability to support his country's participation in the work of the Human Rights Council and advise Tanzanian authorities on the importance of integrating human rights into the national legislation framework and policies. He also expects to enrich his knowledge about the Council, its mechanisms and processes and to have the knowledge gained reflected in his job performance and engagement on human rights matters.
