

Religion and Rights: Strengthening Common Ground

Geneva, Switzerland
16 February 2018

Organised by Musawah, OHCHR
and the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development

Location: Palais des Nations, Room XII, 3rd floor, Building A, Door A15

Please register online for your security pass to access Palais des Nations at:
<https://reg.unog.ch/event/23349/overview>

	Day 1: Friday, 16 February 2018
09:30-10:00	Introductions, Objectives, and Overview of Agenda
10:00-11:30	<p>Session 1: Reconciling Religion and Rights: Perspectives and Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bridging Rights and Faith for the SDGs</i> Dr Azza Karam, Coordinator, UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development • <i>Reconciling Religion and Rights to Promote Compliance with Treaty Obligations</i> Ibrahim Salama, Chief, Human Rights Treaties Branch, OHCHR • <i>Civil Society Interventions to Reconcile Religion and Rights: Musawah Ways of Working</i> Zainah Anwar, Executive Director, Musawah
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 2: Reconciling Religion and Rights: Initiatives by intergovernmental platforms</p> <p>Moderator: Ambassador Hans Brattskar (Norway)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Faith for Rights</i> Michael Wiener, Human Rights Officer, Rule of Law and Democracy Section, OHCHR • <i>Religion and Gender Equality</i> Lopa Banerjee, Director, Civil Society Division, UNWomen • <i>Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that could Lead to Atrocity Crimes</i> Simona Cruciani, Political Affairs Officer, United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect (OGPRtoP)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciling Religion and Rights through the CEDAW Process Nahla Haidar, member, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-16:00	<p>Session 3: Reconciling Religion and Rights: Civil Society Initiatives</p> <p>Moderator: Ani Zonneveld (Muslims for Progressive Values)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countering Misuse of Religion, Culture, and Tradition to Undermine the Universality of Human Rights Isabel Marler, Communications Coordinator, Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms Programme, AWID • Engaging the UN System to Reconcile Religion and Rights Bani Dugal, Faith and Feminism Working Group at the United Nations • Faith-based engagement: Building Partnerships with Governmental, Intergovernmental, and Civil Society Sectors Rudelmar Bueno de Faria, General Secretary, ACTAlliance • Forging an Overlapping Consensus between Muslim Legal Tradition and International Human Rights Dr Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Legal Anthropologist and Musawah Board Member
16:00-17:15	<p>Session 4: Reconciling Religion and Rights: Government Initiatives, Perspectives and Challenges</p> <p>Moderator: Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin (Ambassador at Large for Freedom of Religion and Belief, Denmark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Human Rights Compliance within the UN System through a Feminist Foreign Policy Ambassador Dr Joachim Bergström, Swedish Representative to the OIC • Implementing the Rabat Plan of Action and Beirut Declaration Dr Faouzi Skali, Advisor, High Authority for Audiovisual Communication (HACA), Morocco • The ‘Added Value’ of Religion: Possibilities and Pitfalls in Government Cooperation with Religious Actors Dr Marie Juul Petersen, Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for Human Rights
17:15-17:30	Next Steps and Closing