

### DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM E-NEWSLETTER

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Email: <u>dtp@unsw.edu.au</u> | Website: <u>www.dtp.unsw.edu.au</u> |

Phone: +61 2 9385 3549 | Fax: +61 2 9385 1778

Recipient of the Sir Ron Wilson Human Rights Award 2015

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# DTP – BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF ASIA-PACIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT 1990 – 2017

We are continuing with our series of contributions on new human rights challenges and new developments affecting political, economic, social and environmental challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and what these mean for human rights and capacity building. We invite our readers and alumni to contribute.

• This issue we provide a link to a public debate held in Oxford in 2016 between Professors Martin Scheinin and Sarah H Cleveland on the subject 'A world court for human rights?' asking whether a World Court for Human Rights should be established to contribute to the evolution of, and compliance with, human rights law. Both Professors Scheinin and Cleveland have been members of the UN Human Rights Committee charged with overseeing the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Martin Scheinin who spoke in favour was also the inaugural UN Special Rapporteur on Counter-terrorism and Human Rights.

# PLEASE DONATE

• DTP relies on donations to provide quality training to human rights defenders so that they can promote and protect human rights effectively in their societies. Please help if you can. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Please send your donation to DTP now online, or by credit card or EFT with this donation form

### CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### **DTP Programs:**

### **Calling for Applications**

• DTP's 27th Annual Regional Human Rights and Peoples Diplomacy Training Program in Dili, Timor-Leste (Oct 2-13, 2017) Brochure and Application

Please check the <u>DTP website</u> for details, <u>program information</u> and application forms. Please send enquiries to dtp@unsw.edu.au

**Reports** For reports on completed DTP Training Programs – <u>click here</u>

# Other training programs

• Application for ICJ Bar Reader Program, Australia September/October deadline 30 June

### PROFILES AND NEWS OF DTP ALUMNI

- Morse Flores 2005 DTP Alumnus and DTP Trainer, is the Coordinator of the <u>UN OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship</u>
   <u>Programme</u>. He welcomed 33 Indigenous people's human rights defenders from 25 countries to Geneva for the program.
- <u>Mark Munnich</u>, 2015-16 DTP Alumnus from DTP Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Youth Module, one of the fellows attending the <u>UN OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme</u> in Geneva.
- Mariam Bhacker, 2016 DTP Alumna and DTP Trainer, Project Manager-Migrant Workers & Gulf Business at Business & Human Rights Resource Centre
- <u>Sayeed Ahmad</u>, 2006 DTP Alumnus and DTP Trainer, Protection Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific at Frontline Defenders
- Ravi Tissera, 2015 DTP Alumnus, Asia-Pacific Coordinator at International Movement of Catholic Student (IMCS) Pax Romana

### **JOBS**

- Corporate Human Rights Benchmark is recruiting a Programme Director, deadline 10 July
- Business and Human Rights Resource Centre: Researcher and Representative, South Asia

## **DTP ALUMNI SURVEY**

#### **Priorities for Human Rights Capacity Building**

From 10th February – 23rd February 2017, DTP conducted a survey of its alumni through a short
questionnaire. The survey sought the input of alumni in identifying key human rights challenges in the AsiaPacific Region and Middle East, priorities for knowledge and skills building and advice on DTP's work in
supporting networks. 135 alumni completed the survey. See results.

### DTP ALUMNI NGO PROFILES

- <u>Community Legal Education Centre (CLEC)</u> in Cambodia dedicated to promoting the rule of law, justice and democracy in Cambodia.
- <u>The Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)</u> in Thailand dedicated to promoting and defending the rights and issues of Indigenous peoples in Asia
- North-South Initiative (NSI) in Malaysia build synergy between the North and South in addressing human rights, social justice and development issues

### RESOURCES AND LINKS

• UN Human Rights Office Mobile App puts human rights news at your fingertips

## **AWARDS**

Call for World Humanitarian Awards in FilmFreeway and Film Festivals Alliance

### **DTP'S THEMATIC PRIORITIES**

# **Human Rights and Business**

- AIPP: Communities in protracted struggle against Chinese sugar companies' land grab
- FIFA adopts new human rights policy in line with organisational strategy "FIFA 2.0" based on four pillars
- India: Acquitted Maruti workers demand employment

- Enhancing effectiveness of State-based non-judicial mechanisms in business-related human rights abuses
- Companies complicit in Australia's detention regime under spotlight at UN
- Government of Thailand Should Ensure Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are Practiced
- Migration activist Andy Hall to launch litigation against Thai state prosecutors, police & Natural Fruit Co

### **Indigenous Peoples' Rights**

- Australia: New report on skyrocketing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's imprisonment rates
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner June Oscar addresses UN Permanent Forum
- Indigenous Women's Network of Thailand and AIPP shadow report to CEDAW Committee

### **Migrant Workers' Rights**

#### DTP Monthly Migrant Workers Rights e-Bulletin. Issue No 5 is now available here

- Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration General Concept Note
- Guidelines for Participation in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- From WARBE in Bangladesh: "Access to Justice for Migrants' and their Families" and "Ratification of ILO Convention 189 for the Protection of Women Domestic Worker"
- Bangladesh: Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP) Study Paper on budgeting for Migrant Workers
- ASEAN pushes for the protection of migrant workers
- Qatar: <u>Diplomatic rift in Gulf squeezes business</u>, <u>putting rights of migrant workers at risk</u>

### Women's rights

- Call for submission on online violence against women
- Promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet
- Realization of the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl

# **HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL NEWS**

- LGBT rights: UN expert's first report calls for global efforts to ensure universal application of human rights
- <u>UN expert demands urgent boost for online rights amid rampant State censorship</u>

#### **UPR**

Reminders: 28<sup>th</sup> session UPR Working Group 6-17 November July deadline (<u>Republic of Korea</u>, <u>Pakistan</u>, <u>Japan</u>, <u>Sri Lanka</u>)

### **HUMAN RIGHTS – REGIONAL NEWS**

Asian Civil Society Organizations Convene Workshop in Thailand on Accountability for Development Harms

# **HUMAN RIGHTS – COUNTRY SPECIFIC NEWS**

#### **Australia**

- UN official says Australia responsible for 'inhuman' treatment of asylum seekers
- Detaining children in adult prison unlawful: Supreme Court rules against Victorian Government
- Australia's only 'business and human rights' redress mechanism in dire need of reform
- Defending Democracy: report highlights the urgent need to safeguard independent civil society voices

#### **Bangladesh**

- Statement of PCJSS on setting fire to Jumma Houses, Looting and Communal Attack by Bengali Settlers
- From DTP Trainer Chowdhury Abrar: Undocumented Rohingyas in prisons even after serving out sentences
- From Kapaeeng Foundation: Massive arson attacks on Indigenous peoples in Longadu
- NHRC builds new partnerships with civil society

#### **Burma/Myanmar**

- Amnesty International: Ethnic minorities face range of violations including war crimes in northern conflict
- Fortify Rights: Ensure Safety of Men Tortured by Myanmar Army in Video

#### China

- Human rights defender Jiang Tianyong formally arrested
- Take action: Li Xiaoling suffers medical emergency while in detention; later detained for related protest
- Take action: Zhang Kun taken into criminal custody
- China arrests Taiwanese activist 'for subverting state power'
- UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty, Philip Alston calls on China to release Jiang Tianyong

#### Cambodia

• Amnesty International Press Release - Cambodia: Courts of injustice

#### India

- From DTP alumnus Subash Mohapatra: <u>Indigenous people killed and denied state grant</u>, <u>Indigenous people denied their rights over forest and corporates grab forest and Environmental degradation by corporates</u>, probe initiated
- Take action: Immediately stop demolition of Dalit and tribal hamlets in Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh
- From Ravi Nair: The NHRC Submission to the United Nations and India's Human Rights report at the UN

#### Indonesia

- Protecting the rights of the LGBTQ community in Indonesia
- New survey shows violence against women widespread in Indonesia

#### **Pakistan**

• Attempted killing of Rana Tanveer following death threats

### **Philippines**

Women's Legal and Human Rights Bureau: "Martial Law Endangers Women, Lift Martial Law now"

#### Sri Lanka

- From alumnus Nihal Chandrasiri: <u>Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka letter to His Excellency the President on growing religious intolerance</u>, <u>Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka issues Interim Recommendations on Salawa Fire and Government periodic report to ESCR Committee</u>
- Take action: Lakshan Dias threatened with disbarment for mentioning attacks on religious minorities on TV

#### **Thailand**

- Citizens sue state agencies for inadequate public participation in building of Pak Beng dam
- Front Line Defenders: House of Maitree Chamroensuksakul raided as part of ongoing harassment

#### **Timor Leste**

• From DTP alumnus Jose Moniz: Norms relating to the appointment of the President of the Court of Appeal

#### **Vietnam**

- Take action: Nguyen Dang Vu arbitrarily arrested and beaten by the police
- HRW report: End Attacks on Activists and Bloggers
- Vietnam must release prisoner of conscience Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh and end harassment of his family

### **NEWSLETTERS/REGULAR PUBLICATIONS**

In this section we list contributions that appear on a regular basis that may be of interest to our readers

- Vietnam Human Rights Defenders Weekly
- Bangladesh Human Rights Monitoring Report, monthly from Odhikar
- AWPA Sydney News from the Australian West Papua Association (AWPA)
- Center for Migration and International Relations (CMIR) Monthly E-Newsletter
- AHRC TV Weekly
- Australia Asia Worker Links
- United Nations Democracy Fund Monthly Newsletter
- Kapaeeng Watch from Bangladesh
- Hurights-Osaka: Asia Pacific Human Rights Information Center

June 2017 E Newsletter compiled, edited and designed by <u>André Frankovits</u> and <u>Patrick Earle</u>

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