

# 2013 Coordination Segment Panel II

Bios for the participants of the panel discussion on the topic of: "Using Human Rights instruments and ILO standards and recommendations to achieve decent work for all"

Monday, 8 July 2013, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

# **Moderator**

#### Dr. Sarah Cook

Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Sarah Cook took up the position of Director of UNRISD in November 2009. She moved to UNRISD from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, UK, where she had been a Research Fellow since 1996. She also worked for the Ford Foundation as Programme Officer for Governance and Public Policy from 2000 to 2005. Ms. Cook's research has focused on the social and economic transformation of China, where she lived and worked for extended periods starting in the mid-1980s. Ms. Cook has also undertaken advisory and commissioned work for international organisations and donors including DFID, the World Bank, ADB, IDRC, and various UN agencies.

### **Panelists**

#### Mr. Guy Ryder

Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr. Guy Ryder started his professional career in 1981 as assistant at the International Department of the Trade Union Congress in London. From 1985, he held the position of Secretary of the Industry Trade Section of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees (FIET) in Geneva. In 1988, Guy Ryder became Assistant Director and – from 1993 - Director of the Geneva office of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Guy Ryder first joined the International Labour Organization in 1998 as Director of the Bureau for Workers' Activities and, from 1999, as Director of the Office of the Director-General. It was during this time that the ILO's Decent Work Agenda was launched and won support from the international community. In 2002, he moved to Brussels where he was appointed General Secretary of the ICFTU, leading the process of global

unification of the democratic international trade union movement. He was elected as first General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) when it was created in 2006. He headed international trade union delegations to high level talks with the UN, IMF, World Bank and WTO and to the G20 Leaders' Summits. In September 2010, Guy Ryder came back to the ILO in Geneva as Executive Director, responsible for international labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. Among other activities, he supervised the application of ILO Conventions and Recommendations. He also headed several high-level ILO missions to address a range of issues related to labour standards in countries such as Bahrain, Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Myanmar and Swaziland. Guy Ryder was elected as ILO Director-General in May 2012 and took office on 1 October, 2012.

## Ms. Geeta Rao Gupta

Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

Ms. Geeta Rao is a leader on gender, women's issues, and HIV and AIDS. She is frequently consulted on issues related to AIDS prevention and women's vulnerability to HIV and is an advocate for women's economic and social empowerment to fight disease, poverty and hunger. Rao Gupta is former president of the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). She began working with ICRW in 1988 as a consultant, researcher, and officer, and headed the private, non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. from 1997 through April 2010. She stepped down to join the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as a senior fellow. Currently she serves as Deputy Executive Director for UNICEF and the Vice Chair of the Board for the GAVI Alliance. She was appointed to this position by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Kimoon on 18 April 2011.

#### Mr. Wellington Chibebe

Deputy General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Mr. Wellington Chibebe was elected Deputy General Secretary of the ITUC in 2011. Prior to taking up that position, he served as Secretary General of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU). He joined the ZCTU in 2001 having previously served as President of the national Railway Workers' Union, which he joined in 1988 after serving his apprenticeship as a diesel plant fitter. Wellington Chibebe represented Zimbabwe's trade union movement on numerous occasions at the annual ILO International Labour Conference and various other major international meetings. A champion for democracy and development, he was awarded the inaugural Arther Svensson International Award for Trade Union Rights by the Norwegian Chemical Workers' Federation in 2010.

#### Mr. Niklas Bruun

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Mr. Niklas Bruun, a Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, is currently professor in private law at the University of Helsinki (during 2007-2009 he was Vice Dean of the Faculty). He was professor in commercial law at Hanken School of Economics (1985-2006). He is the Director of the IPR University Center (www.iprinfo.com) and the Director for the Graduate School for Intellectual Property Law INNOCENT 2007-2011. He

is the Manager of the research programme" Regulating Markets and Labour - Nordic, European and Global Perspectives (ReMarkLab)", University of Stockholm. He is a researcher in the Finnish Center of Excellence in the Foundations of European Law and Polity Research, University of Helsinki. Niklas Bruun is the General Editor of JFT (Tidskrift, utgiven av Juridiska Föreningen I Finland).

# **Discussant**

## Mr. Craig Mokhiber

Chief, Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

To be added.