

**UN Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers
24 – 25 October 2011
New York**

Agenda

*Monday 24 October, 3.00 - 6.00 p.m., UN Headquarters, North Lawn Building,
Conference Room 2*

Introductory statement by the Legal Counsel

- *The Legal Counsel, Under-Secretary-General Patricia O'Brien*
The Legal Counsel will focus on a) prevention as an essential element of the 'responsibility to protect' following on to the Secretary-General's speech of 4 October and b) an update on UN-established and UN backed international criminal courts and tribunals.
- *Exchange of views with the legal advisers*

Panel on the responsibility of States to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity

- *Introduction by Ambassador Anders Rönquist, Director-General for Legal Affairs of Sweden*
- *Presentation by Assistant-Secretary-General Edward Luck, Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect*
- *Presentation by Ms. Gay McDougall, former UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues*
- *Presentation by Mr. Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect*
- *Interactive discussion between the panellists and the legal advisers*

Contemporary challenges of IHL in view of the upcoming 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent

- *Introduction by Knut Dörmann, Head of the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)*
 - The ICRC project "Strengthening Legal Protection for Victims of Armed Conflicts" – *What are the main areas that would require further work to improve the protection of persons deprived of liberty in the context of armed conflict?*
 - Four Year Action Plan for the implementation of IHL – *What are the main areas that would require further work in order to improve compliance with international humanitarian law?*

- The ICRC report on International Humanitarian Law and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts – *What are the other areas posing challenges to international humanitarian law and where further research and thinking would be needed?*
- Health Care in Danger - The ICRC project.
- *Interactive discussion among legal advisers*

Monday 24 October, 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Reception at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 42 West 44th Street (between Fifth Avenue and Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue))

Tuesday 25 October, 3.00 - 6.00 p.m., UN Headquarters, North Lawn Building, Conference Room 2

Panel on the contribution of the International Court of Justice to the development of international law

- *Presentation by President Hisashi Owada (ICJ) on the Court's Advisory Jurisdiction*
- *Remarks by the Legal Counsel USG Patricia O'Brien on the Court's jurisprudence as it relates to the United Nations*
- *Presentation by Mr. Dapo Akande, Lecturer in the Oxford Law Faculty, on the Court's contribution to the development of international law and the use of force*
- *Interactive discussion between the panellists and the legal advisers*

Current issues regarding the Rule of Law

- *Update on Rule of Law coordination and activities in the UN – looking ahead towards the High-Level Meeting to be held at the 67th session of the General Assembly – Edric Selous, Head of the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General*
- *Discussion*

A.O.B.