

Programme of the 28th Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers

<http://www.un.org/law/counsel/meetings2017>

Monday 23 October 2017

3 – 3.15 pm

Inauguration of the 28th Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ

Welcome by Ambassador Elinor Hammar skjöld, Legal Advisor of Sweden. Inaugural statement by Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs Miguel de Serpa Soares.

3.15 – 4.25 pm

Panel 1: On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions – the impact and importance of International Humanitarian Law

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ

The aim of the first panel is to address the impact of the Additional Protocols on the parties to armed conflicts, on states, non-state actors and humanitarian actors. Possible issues for discussion include what the AP:s have taught us in terms of experiences of implementation regarding for example protection medical persons, conduct of hostilities, fundamental guarantees and detainees as well as sexual and gender based violence and humanitarian access.

Panel chair: Ambassador **Elinor Hammar skjöld**

Panelists:

- Dr. **Helen Durham**, Director for international law and policy International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Prof. **Naz K. Modirzadeh**, founding Director of the Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict (HLS PILAC)

4.30 – 6 pm

Panel 2: Future challenges to the respect for International Humanitarian Law – looking ahead

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ

The aim of the second panel is to look ahead at future challenges for International Humanitarian Law. Possible issues for discussion include ensuring accountability for violations of IHL, how to engage non-state actors and the role of humanitarian actors.

Panel chair: Ambassador **Roberto Balzaretti**, Head of the Directorate of International Law, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland

Panelists:

- Ms. **Catherine Marchi-Uhel**, Head of the International Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)
- Ms. **Sahr Muhammedally**, Director, Middle East and North Africa, at the Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)

7 – 9 pm

New York City Bar Association Reception

Venue: 42 West, 44th Street, New York

Tuesday 24 October 2017

3.00 – 4.30 pm

Panel 3: The role of international law and peaceful settlement of disputes in conflict prevention

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ

The third panel takes place against the background of the UNSG policy intention to focus on conflict prevention. Peaceful settlement of disputes is evidently an important contribution to preventing conflicts. In addition, several other aspects may be addressed during the panel, such as the significance of international law in mediation, arbitration, international law and justice as a roadmap towards peace (during conflict) and international law and justice as tools for lasting peace (post-conflict).

Panel chair: Ambassador **Marie Jacobsson**, Principal Legal Advisor on International Law, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. **Charles C. Jalloh**, Florida International University College of Law, Member of the United Nations International Law Commission
- Ms. **Daphne Hong Fan Sin**, Director-General, International Affairs Division, Attorney-General's Chambers of Singapore
- Prof. **Marcelo G. Kohen**, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and Secretary-General of the Institute of International Law

4.30 – 6 pm

Panel 4: The future role of the legal advisor – opportunities and challenges

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ

Panel chair: Ambassador Helga Hauksdóttir, Director General, Directorate for Legal and Executive Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Iceland

Panelists:

- Ambassador **Claudio Troncoso Repetto**, Director-General for Legal Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Chile
- Mr. **Alan Kessel**, Assistant Deputy Minister for Legal Affairs and the Legal Adviser to the Department of Global Affairs and the Government of Canada

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