

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ICC)

ROOM XVIII, PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA, 21-23 MARCH 2007

SCHEDULE OF PARALLEL MEETINGS

Participants of the 19th Annual Meeting of the ICC are warmly invited to the following Parallel meetings that will be held alongside the main Annual Meeting. The Thematic Dialogue on Torture Prevention will have interpretation available in English, French and Spanish. However, please note that other parallel meetings will be without interpretation.

Wednesday 21 March: Thematic Dialogue on the Role of NHRIs in Torture Prevention: Challenges and Opportunities

Time: 10h00- 13h00

Venue: Room XVIII Palais de Nations

This dialogue will bring together high level speakers on several areas relevant to NHRIs in their work on the prevention against torture to discuss challenges and opportunities in this area. This will include speakers from the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (OPCAT), International Mechanisms (Special Procedure Mandate Holders), leading NGOs in this field and from NHRIs themselves. A special focus will be given to the new Sub-Committee on prevention introduced by OPCAT, and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) under OPCAT which represent an opportunity for NHRIs to play an active role in torture prevention at different levels.

Thursday 22 March: Parliamentarian Human Rights Committees and NHRIs: working together for the same cause

Time: 09h00 - 10h00

Venue: Room XVIII Palais de Nations

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is the lead organization fostering co-ordination and an exchange of experiences among parliaments and parliamentarians in all countries, as well as contributing to strengthening rule of law and human rights in representative democracies. This Dialogue, led by the IPU Secretary General, will provide the opportunity for NHRIs to learn about the role and functions of the IPU on human rights activities and will facilitate an open discussion on future strategies for NHRIs and Parliaments to work together.

Thursday 22 March: Briefing for Member States on the work of NHRI

Time: 13h30- 14h30

Venue: Room XVIII Palais de Nations

Representatives of Geneva-based permanent missions to the UN have been invited to attend this briefing on the work of NHRI. The aim of this interactive dialogue between Member States and NHRIs is to inform government representatives working at the international level of the important role and functions of NHRI in working to strengthen the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights. The briefing will be conducted by a number of Heads of NHRIs. All NHRIs are invited to participate.

Friday 23 March: Human Rights Defenders: NGO – NHRI Dialogue on possibilities for increased cooperation in relation to human rights defenders

Time: 09h00- 10h00

Venue: Room XVIII Palais de Nations

This Dialogue between NHRI and NGOs will be chaired by Chris Sidoti from the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) and will involve several of the Geneva based international NGOs working on human rights issues. Using the insights gained from the NGO-NHRI collaboration in the effort to protect Human Rights Defenders, this meeting will explore possibilities for increased collaboration between NGO and NHRI as equal partners in the protection and promotion of human rights.

19th ICC Annual Meeting and Parallel Meetings – Timetable as at 7 March 2007

Time	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23
0900 to 1000	0900 – 1300 ICC Sub-Committee on Accreditation (Closed meeting) [Room E1058]	0900 – 1300 ICC Sub-Committee on Accreditation (Closed meeting) [Room E1058]		<u>Parallel Meeting (Open)</u> : 9.00 – 10.00 Parliamentarian Human Rights Committees and NHRIs: working together for the same cause [Room XVIII] (no interpretation)	<u>Parallel Meeting (Open)</u> : 9.00 – 10.00 Human Rights Defenders: NGO - NHRIs Dialogue on possibilities for increased cooperation (no interpretation) [Room XVIII]
1000 to 1300			<u>Thematic Dialogue (Open)</u> : The role of NHRIs in torture prevention: challenges and opportunities [Room XVIII]	ICC Annual Meeting [Room XVIII]	ICC Annual Meeting [Room XVIII]
1300 to 1500	<u>Regional Meeting</u> : 14.00 – 16.00: Commonwealth Secretariat Steering Committee [Meeting time and room to be confirmed]	<u>Regional Meeting</u> : 13.00 – 18.00 APF regional meeting [Room XXVII]	ICC Bureau meeting over lunch for Bureau members (Closed Meeting) [Delegate's restaurant 8 th floor]	<u>Parallel Meeting (Open)</u> : 13.30 – 14.30 Briefing for Member States on the work of NHRIs: A dialogue between NHRIs and representatives of Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva (no interpretation) [Room XVIII]	<u>Regional Meeting</u> : 14.00 – 15.30: Network of the Americas with a special focus on HIV/AIDs [Room XXIV] <u>Regional Meeting</u> : 13.00 – 15.00: Meeting of Association of Francophone NIs [Room tbc]
1500 to 1800	1430 – 1800 ICC Sub-Committee on Accreditation (Closed Meeting) [Room E1058]	<u>Regional Meeting</u> : 15.00 – 18.00: European Group Regional Meeting [Room E3056/58 (3 rd floor)]	ICC Annual Meeting [Room XVIII]	ICC Annual Meeting [Room XVIII]	<u>Regional Meeting</u> : 15.30 – 18.00: Special Fund for Ombudsman of the Americas regular meeting <u>Regional Meeting</u> : 15.00 – 18.00: African regional meeting followed by Meeting of the Network of West African NIs [Room XXII]

