



In cooperation with:



Programme of Work (DRAFT – subject to change)

Day 1 7 September 2021

07:00-08:00 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva) **Opening Session**

10:00-11:00 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

13:00-14:00 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

17:00-18:00 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Welcoming remarks

Anna-Mária Bíró, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute

Opening Remarks

Kanni Wignaraja, Assistant Secretary-General, Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Development Programme (video message)

Heike Alefsen, Regional Representative, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office for the Pacific

Katia Chirizzi, Deputy Regional Representative, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office for South East Asia

Fernand de Varennes, United Nations Special Rapporteur on minority issues

Rules and Guide to Proceedings

Anna-Mária Bíró, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute, will set-out the process and explain the rules of proceedings for the forthcoming sessions.

08:00-08:15 (Geneva, UTC +2)

Technical Break

08:15-09:15 (Geneva, UTC +2)

High-Level State Panel

11:15-12:15 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

14:15-15:15 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

18:15-19:15 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Moderator: **Jerald Joseph**, Commissioner, Malaysia Human Rights Commission

Panel: **Dr. Mohammed Zakkariya**, Deputy Divisional Secretary, Policy and Strategic Planning Division of the Ministry of Rural Development, Malaysia

09:15-09:30 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva)

Technical Break

09:30-11:15 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva)

Thematic Session 1: Substantive root causes of contemporary conflicts involving minorities

12:30-14:15 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

15:30-17:15 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

19:30-21:15 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Moderator: **Sajjad Hassan**, Founder member, South Asia Collective

Experts: **Rita Manchanda**, Research Director, South Asia Forum for Human Rights

Kamarulzaman Askandar, Research and Education for Peace, School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia

Rode Wanimbo, human rights activist and head of the women's department of the GIDI Church

Tumur-Uyal Narangarav, Board Chair, Tuva Mother

Interactive dialogue

11:15-12:00 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva)

Break

12:00-13:30 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva)

Thematic Session 2: Normative framework: the human rights of minorities and conflict prevention

15:00-16:30 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

18:00-19:30 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

22:00-23:30 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Moderator: **Radhika Coomaraswamy**, Member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation

Experts: **Mohna Ansari**, Former member National Human Rights Commission of Nepal
Mohammad Shahabuddin, Chair in International Law & Human Rights, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
Tehmina Arora, Director of Advocacy, Asia, ADF International

Interactive dialogue

Day 2 **8 September 2021**

07:00-08:45 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva) **Thematic Session 3: Obstacles to implementing the rights of minorities and early effective conflict prevention**
10:00-11:45 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)
13:00-14:45 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)
17:00-18:45 ((UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Moderator: **Shamini Darshni Kaliemuthu**, Executive Director, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)

Experts: **Miriam Coronel-Ferrer**, Professor of Political Science, University of the Philippines
Cecil Shane Chaudhry, South Asia Deputy Team Leader, Christian Solidarity Worldwide
James Tanis, former President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville and former secretary of Bougainville's Department of Peace Agreement Implementation

Interactive dialogue

08:45-09:30 (UTC+02:00 – Geneva) **Break**

09:30-11:00 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva)
12:30-14:00 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad) **Thematic Session 4: Ways forward towards addressing gaps in human rights mechanisms to protect minorities and prevent conflicts**
15:30-17:00 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)
19:30-21:00 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Moderator: **Taisuke Komatsu**, Under-Secretary General, the International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)

Experts: **Jewher Ilham**, author and human rights activist

Farah Mihar, Lecturer, College of Social Sciences and International Studies, University of Exeter

Anchana Heemmina, Founder and director, Duay Jai Group

Interactive dialogue

11:00-12:30 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva) Break

12:30-13:30 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva) Presentation of Recommendations

15:00-16:30 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

18:00-19:30 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

22:00-23:30 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

In this session, the proposed recommendations developed during the four thematic sessions will be made available to participants to consider.

The session will be introduced by **Fernand de Vareennes**, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues, following which **Marcus Oda**, Programme Manager at the Tom Lantos Institute, will present the list of recommendations.

Participants can make any final comments on specific recommendations using the Zoom chat function.

Moderator: **Anna-Mária Bíró**, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute

13:30-14:00 (UTC/GMT+02:00 - Geneva) Concluding remarks

16:30-17:00 (UTC/GMT+05:00 - Islamabad)

19:30-20:00 (UTC/GMT+08:00 - Kuala Lumpur)

23:30-00:00 (UTC/GMT+12:00 - Wellington)

Fernand de Vareennes, UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues

Working language is English