Asia Pacific Virtual Consultation on

Revised Draft of the Proposed Business and Human Rights Treaty

23 June 2020 (online)

In June 2014, the UN Human Rights Council established an open-ended intergovernmental working group (OEIGWG) “to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.” In the report of the 5th session of the OEIGWG, the Chair-Rapporteur recommended “regional and political groups, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and all other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to organize consultations at all levels, including in particular at the regional and national level, with a view to exchanging comments and inputs on the revised draft legally binding instrument”.

In line with this recommendation, the Public Law and Human Rights Forum at City University of Hong Kong and the Law Futures Centre at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia will be co-organising an Asia Pacific virtual consultation open to all academics, lawyers and civil society organization interested in discussing how to improve the revised draft of the proposed legally binding instrument. Based on input received during the consultation, a summary of recommendations will be submitted to the OEIGWG’s Chair-Rapporteur to inform the second revised draft likely to be released in July 2020.

Part 1: 23 June 2020 (12noon-1:30pm, HK time)

“Preamble and Articles 1-5 of the Revised Draft”

Moderator: Surya Deva, Associate Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Discussion Leads:
Justine Nolan, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales, Australia
Ryan Song, Professor, Kyunghee University, South Korea
Zhang Wanhong, Professor, Wuhan School of Law, China
Akiko Sato, Human Rights Lawyer, Japan

Part 2: 23 June 2020 (1:45-3:15pm, HK time)

“Articles 6-12 of the Revised Draft”

Moderator: Sarah Joseph, Professor, Griffith Law School, Griffith University, Australia

Discussion Leads:
Joanna Kyriakakis, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Monash University, Australia
Ilias Bantekas, Professor, School of Public Policy and Law, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar
Shelley Marshall, Director, RMIT Business and Human Rights Centre, Australia

Please register by sending an email with your name and institution to Mr Julian Fung: jcyfung@cityu.edu.hk

A Zoom link will be sent to registered participants.