

**FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS**

7-9 AUGUST 2000, ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

DAY 1

MONDAY 7 AUGUST 2000

- 7:30am All New Zealand participants assemble in hotel lobby for 7:45am departure to Marae
- 8:00am All International participants assemble in hotel lobby for 8:15am departure to Marae
- 8:15 – 8:30am Travel to Marae by bus
- 8:30 – 9:45am Powhiri (Maori welcome)
- 9:45 – 10:00am Forum Members return to Hotel
- 9:45 – 3:30pm Sightseeing available to other delegates or may return to hotel on the bus with the Forum Members
- 10:00 – 6:00pm **Forum Members Meeting** (closed session) – *Batten Room*
- Chair: New Zealand Human Rights Commission
1. Report of Forum Activities (Secretariat)
 2. Admission of New Members (Secretariat)
 3. Forum Structure (Working group)
 4. Report of the 5th International Workshop on National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Justice Aurora Navarette-Recina)
 5. Report on the April 2000 meeting of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions and the election of four regional representatives to the ICC and one regional representative to the ICC accreditation sub-committee (Justice JS Verma)
 6. Staff exchanges
 7. Sixth Meeting of the Forum (Secretariat)
 8. Discussion re Fifth Annual Meeting Concluding Statement (Secretariat)
 9. General Business

6:15pm **Opening Ceremony** – *Rutherford Room* - guests to be seated

6:30 – 7:30pm **Opening Ceremony**

Speakers:

-
The Hon Margaret Wilson
Attorney General and Associate Minister of Justice
Government of New Zealand

Mr Justice PN Bhagwati
Regional Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights

Commissioner Areta Koopu
New Zealand Human Rights Commission

7:30pm **Dinner and cultural evening**

DAY 2

TUESDAY 8 AUGUST 2000

9:00 – 10:30am

Theme session – *National Human Rights Institutions and the Protection and Promotion of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: international, regional and national strategies*
– *Batten Room*

Chair: Justice Aurora Navarette-Recina, Philippines Commission on Human Rights

Speakers:

The Hon Margaret Wilson

Attorney General and Associate Minister of Justice
Government of New Zealand

Mr Justice P.N. Bhagwati

Regional Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr Paul Hunt

Rapporteur, United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

10:30 – 11:00am

Morning tea

11:00 – 12:00pm

Parallel Working Groups

Group 1: *The United Nations Global Compact and National Human Rights Institutions* – *Batten Room*

Facilitator – Mr Paul Hunt

Group 2: *National Human Rights Institutions and Governments: Activities and Responsibilities* - *Rutherford Room*

Facilitator – Mr Damir Ivkovic

12:00 – 12:30pm

Report of Working Groups

12:30 – 2:00pm

Lunch – *Atlas Restaurant*

2:00 – 3:30pm

National Institutions and the World Conference Against Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance – **Batten Room**

Chair: Mr Faisz Mustapha, Sri Lankan Human Rights Commission

Speakers:

Dr William Jonas

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Acting Race Discrimination Commissioner
Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

Dr Rajen Prasad

Race Relations Conciliator
New Zealand Race Relations Office

NGO Representative

3:30 – 4:00pm	Afternoon tea
4:00 – 5:30pm	<p>Promoting Democracy: the role of National Institutions and the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions - <i>Batten Room</i></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Justice J.S. Verma, Indian National Human Rights Commission</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p>Dr Shaista Shameem Fiji Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Representative Sri Lankan Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Representative Indonesian National Human Rights Commission</p>
EVENING	<p>Advisory Council of Jurists – Inauguration Ceremony & Reception <u>Venue:</u> Rotorua District Council Chambers, Civic Building</p>
6.00 – 6.15pm	Coach travels to venue
6:30 – 8:30pm	<p>Inauguration Ceremony</p> <p>- <u>Welcome:</u> Master of Ceremonies</p> <p>- <u>Host:</u> Mr Bruce Slane Privacy Commissioner New Zealand Human Rights Commission</p> <p>- <u>Speakers:</u> Mr Chris Lawrence Proceedings Commissioner, New Zealand Human Rights Commission</p> <p>-</p> <p>Dame Sian Elias Chief Justice of New Zealand</p> <p>Mr Justice P.N. Bhagwati Former Chief Justice of India Vice Chairperson, UN Human Rights Committee Regional Representative, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p>President-Elect Advisory Council of Jurists</p>
8:30pm	Free Evening

DAY 3

WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST 2000

8:30 – 10:30am

Asia Pacific Regional Cooperation – *Batten Room*

Chair: Professor Alice Tay, Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

Speakers:

Mr Brian Burdekin

Special Advisor on National Institutions to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr Kieren Fitzpatrick

Director - Secretariat
Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Regional Governments – (short statements from government representatives)

10:30 – 11:00am

Morning tea

11:00 – 12:30pm

Parallel Workshops

Workshop 1: *Establishing New National Human Rights Institutions: Proposed Guidelines* – *Batten Room*

Facilitator: Mr Boonthan Verawongse, Asia Pacific NGO Facilitating Team

Resource Person: Mr Kieren Fitzpatrick, Director – Secretariat
Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Workshop 2: *National Human Rights Institutions & Public Inquiries* – *Rutherford Room*

Facilitator: Dr Saparinah Sadli, Indonesian Human Rights Commission

Resource Person: Ms Meredith Wilkie, Director, Human Rights Unit,
Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

12:30 – 2:00pm

Lunch – *Atlas Restaurant*

2:00 – 3:00pm

Joint Session: Advisory Council of Jurists and the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Chair: Professor Soetandyo Wignjosebroto, Indonesian National Human Rights Commission

Speakers:

President

Advisory Council of Jurists

Mr Justice J.S. Verma

Chairman
Indian National Human Rights Commission

- 3:00 - 4:00pm **Women and Human Rights – Batten Room**
- Speakers:
- Ms Pip Dargan
Secretariat, Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions
- Dr Shaista Shameem
Director
Fiji Human Rights Commission
- Ms Sherine Xavier
Director
Home for Human Rights (Sri Lanka)
- 4:00 – 4:30pm **Afternoon tea**
- 4:00 – 5:30pm **Closed Session (Forum Members) - Final Drafting of the
Concluding Statement – Mansfield Room, mezzanine floor**
- 4:30 – 5:30pm **The Work of the New Zealand Human Rights Commission –
presentation by the New Zealand Human Rights Commission
– Batten Room**
- 5:30 – 6:00pm **Conference Statement - Consideration and adoption of meeting
conclusions – Batten Room**
- Chair: New Zealand Human Rights Commission
- 6:00 - 6:45pm **Closing Ceremony – Democracy & Institutional Strengthening
– Batten Room**
- Speaker:
- The Hon Phil Goff**
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Government of New Zealand
- 7:00 – 9:30pm **Dinner – Rutherford Room**

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE MEETING

Conduct of the Meeting

Overall the meeting's sessions are to be chaired by a member representative of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Background papers have been prepared and will be distributed to all participants.

Each session will begin with a short introduction, followed by comments and responses, and concluded by a summary of the discussion by the Chair.

The interventions by Forum member representatives take place before those by other participants.

Participation of Forum member representatives

The representatives of Forum members – the human rights commissions of the, Australia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, the Philippines and Sri Lanka – are the principal actors of this regional meeting.

For each session, Forum member representatives may make initial introductory presentations or be subsequent commentators, if they so desire.

The responsibility for finalising the meeting conclusions lies with Forum member representatives.

Participation of the United Nations

As co-sponsor of the meeting, the representatives of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will be specifically invited to address the meeting under a number of topics, in particular – “Theme session – National Human Rights Institutions and the Protection and Promotion of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: International, regional and national strategies” and “Asia Pacific Regional Cooperation”.

The Chair is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions generally by representatives of the United Nations throughout the meeting.

Participation of Government representatives

The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by government representatives.

Government representatives will be specifically invited to make a 5 minute address the meeting under the topic – “Sub-Regional Cooperation, c) Regional Governments. Government representatives with a prepared written statement under this topic are requested to provide a copy of this to the Forum Secretariat for distribution to the meeting.

Participation of NGOs

The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). NGO representatives with prepared written statements are requested to provide a copy of these to the Secretariat.

Participation of relevant institutions

The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by representatives of relevant institutions.

The role of the Secretariat

The role of the Secretariat is to facilitate the work of the meeting by:

- (i) Providing necessary clarifications, inputs and information
- (ii) Acting as resource persons along with Forum member representatives – particularly in the preparation of background papers
- (iii) Summarising discussions and preparing the final report of the meeting.