

**INTEGRATING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS INTO THE
WORK OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS:**

**Report on the Consultation between Member and
Observer Institutions of the Asia Pacific Forum of
National Human Rights Institutions (APF)**

Kuala Lumpur, 20-21 June 2011

PARTNERS

The Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

The Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) is an independent non-profit organisation that supports, through regional cooperation, the establishment and development of national institutions in order to protect and promote the human rights of the peoples of the region.

Established in 1996, the APF is comprised of independent national human rights institutions that have been established in compliance with the minimum standards of the United Nations General Assembly endorsed “Principles relating to the status of national Institutions” (The Paris Principles).

The United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect. Its three core areas of work are: (i) reproductive health; (ii) gender equality; and (iii) population and development strategies. UNFPA works in partnership with governments, as well as with other agencies and civil society broadly, to advance its mission. Two frameworks serve to focus its efforts: the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD); and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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INTRODUCTION

At the 13th Annual Meeting of the APF, held in July 2008, APF Forum Councillors considered and formally approved a proposal to undertake joint activities with the UNFPA in the area of reproductive rights. The principal activity agreed between the APF and UNFPA was the development of a publication on integrating reproductive rights into the work of APF member institutions. That publication *Integrating Human Rights into the Work of National Human Rights Institutions: A Preliminary Study of Current Views and Practices, Challenges and Opportunities*, was finalized in late 2010. Its focus is on the extent to which reproductive rights are, or could be, integrated into the work of national human rights institutions. The report includes information and insights secured through a comprehensive survey involving 15 member institutions of the APF. It analyses the current work practices and views of these institutions and considers the major challenges and risks they face in dealing effectively with this important issue. The report also identifies the special features of NHRIs that make them uniquely appropriate vehicles for promoting and protecting reproductive rights. It explores how NHRIs can best be supported in this work and proposes a set of steps for APF and UNFPA to consider in taking this initiative forward.

A major recommendation of the Study was the convening of a regional consultation that would bring together individuals from national human rights institutions (NHRI) and UNFPA country offices in the Asia Pacific region to forge understanding and collaboration on addressing reproductive rights.

This report of the Consultation provides a summary overview of the discussions and of the agreed next steps. It is not a comprehensive account of the Consultation and readers should refer to the APF website (www.asiapacificforum.net) where additional background, resource and evaluation materials are available.

The Consultation was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 20-21 June 2011. It was co-sponsored and organised by the UNFPA and APF and hosted by the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia.

OVERVIEW

This section briefly explains the purpose, objectives and structure of the Consultation as well as the profile of participants.

The purpose of the Consultation was to bring together individuals from national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and UNFPA country offices in the Asia Pacific region to forge understanding and collaboration on addressing reproductive rights. Its objectives were:

- To increase knowledge and understanding of NHRI participants on reproductive rights and how they can be addressed;
- To provide a forum where opportunities for collaboration between national institutions and UNFPA country offices can be identified and encouraged;
- To explore ways in which the capacity of national institutions to understand and address reproductive rights can be strengthened.

Expected outputs of the Consultation were: (i) increased knowledge of participants on reproductive rights and how these can be addressed in their work; and (ii) possibilities identified for collaboration between national institutions, APF and UNFPA at national and regional levels.

The Consultation was divided into two themes – one for each day. The theme for Day 1 was: *understanding and working with reproductive rights*. The theme for Day 2 was: *strategies for strengthening the capacities of NHRI to work with reproductive rights*. Each theme was introduced and explored through a plenary panel discussion involving expert resource persons who responded to questions from the moderator and also addressed questions and comments from the floor. Participants then divided up into small working groups to complete a specific task before reconvening in plenary to present their main findings. The Consultation agenda is attached at **Annex 1**.

Participants comprised two main groups. In the first group were representatives of APF member and observer NHRIs. All APF member and observer institutions were represented with the exception of the NHRIs of Afghanistan, Indonesia and Qatar. In the second group were representatives of UNFPA country offices (CO) who are working on the issue of reproductive rights and who are or may in the future be collaborating with NHRIs.

Other participants included UNFPA officials from the regional office in Thailand, APF Secretariat, Pacific Island Forum Secretariat and individual experts, selected to participate in the consultation as resource persons because of their considerable experience working on the issue of reproductive rights in the Asia Pacific region. A full list of participants is provided in **Annex 2**.

THEME 1: Understanding and working with reproductive rights

The first theme provided an opportunity to introduce participants to the issue of reproductive rights in a way that would enable them to engage in deeper discussions about how this aspect of human rights can be effectively integrated into the work of NHRI. To that end it sought to address basic questions such as: what are reproductive rights? How are they protected in international human rights law? What are the main reproductive rights “issues”? How do the sensitivities around reproductive rights affect their legitimacy and universality? The author of the Report, Anne Gallagher, began the session with a brief overview of the relevant international rules: noting the piecemeal nature of legal development in this area; the lack of a clear and robust legal and policy framework; and the relationship between reproductive rights and other rights such as those related to discrimination, privacy and violence against women.

The panel discussion that followed comprised Rashidah Abdullah, Co-Chair, Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia; Junice Melgar, Executive Director of Likhaan and Convenor, Reproductive Health Advocacy Network, Philippines; and Shireen Huq, Naripokkho, Bangladesh. Each panel member briefly introduced an area or 'group' of rights, exploring what these rights actually mean in law and practice, and identifying both limitations and controversies. Issues addressed in this panel were: marriage and family planning; rights related to maternal and sexual health; and right to freedom from violence

and harmful practices related to reproductive health. Participants were able to draw on their experience working in the region to highlight specific issues and challenges.

Key points to emerge from the panel discussion and subsequent question and answer session included the following:

- It is important to acknowledge a number of important features of reproductive rights that impact on how they can be used and implemented. For example, as a legal category, “reproductive rights” is relatively less well established and defined.
- Not all the issues around reproduction are necessarily amenable to a legal or “rights-based” solution;
- There is often a significant gap between legal protection of reproductive rights and their actual realization on the ground;
- Some related rights, (such as the prohibition on discrimination, or the right to health), provide important additional or alternative opportunities to advance reproductive rights goals;
- NHRIs are operating in many different environments; from stable, well-established democracies to conflict and post-conflict situations. While there are common challenges, it is important to take account of these different environments and how they impact on NHRI capacity to engage with specific reproductive rights issues;
- In many countries, there is a fundamental conflict between religion and the realization of reproductive rights. That conflict must be acknowledged and managed. NHRIs can play an important role in this respect.
- While reproductive rights are not exclusively the concern of women, the burden of reproduction falls on women. Men are nevertheless important partners in the struggle for reproductive rights;
- Children are also implicated. The “best interests of the child” principle and the notion of evolving capacities are both important when working with children in this area;
- New and emerging issues include the reproductive rights of disabled persons; indigenous groups, migrants, internally displaced and geographically isolated groups; new technologies such as surrogacy and assisted reproduction and their impact on the realization of rights; and the impact of privatization of medical services and reductions in public health expenditure.

Participants were then divided into two sets of small working groups to consider the key findings of the Report. The first group was required to critique Chapter 2 of the report (key findings related to current practice): providing their view on the content and conclusions as well as insight, based on personal and institutional experience, into the issues raised. The second set of Working Groups was required to do the same with the challenges and risks section of Chapter 4. Each Working Group appointed a rapporteur, who reported on findings and conclusions to plenary.

Key points to emerge from the working groups and through subsequent discussion included the following:

- All participating NHRIs have a mandate to address reproductive rights. However, many of the features identified in the previous section, including significant differences in legal and cultural situations, means that this mandate will be exercised in very different ways; limited awareness and understanding of reproductive rights

(and their linkages with other human rights) within the various NHRIs was also noted as a challenge;

- NHRIs are rarely or never actual service providers: this means that their work on reproductive rights will be indirect;
- Most NHRIs confirmed few complaints related to reproductive rights. Lack of public awareness in this area is clearly a factor. However, the lack of a specific category may obscure complaints that are being received;
- NHRI priorities are often set by Commissioners, which can mean a lack of continuity in relation to issues such as reproductive rights and the rights of women. NHRI-wide strategic planning could address this problem;
- A monitoring role around NHRIs is complicated by the lack of a specific set of standards against which state actions can be properly measured and assessed;
- Obstacles identified in the Report including lack of knowledge, expertise, resource scarcity and sensitivity of the issues, are shared by many NHRIs.

THEME 2: Strengthening NHRI capacities to work with reproductive rights

The second theme aimed to move discussions directly towards the very practical question of how NHRI can be strengthened or supported to better work with reproductive rights. The panel discussion for this theme comprised Loretta Rosales, Chairperson, Philippines Commission on Human Rights (speaking about successes and challenges of the Philippine Commission in integrating reproductive rights); Dhanashri Brahme, UNFPA Programme Officer, India (speaking about collaboration between the Indian Commission and UNFPA on the issue of reproductive rights); Samuel Tororei, Commissioner, National Human Rights Commission of Kenya (providing an overview of the national inquiry on reproductive rights that is presently being conducted by the NHRI of Kenya); and Ulrik Spliid, Senior Legal Adviser, Danish Institute for Human Rights (describing a current UNFPA initiative to develop a handbook on reproductive rights for NHRIs).

Key points to emerge from the panel discussion and subsequent question and answer session included the following:

- NHRI have opportunities to contribute to the international legal and policy framework around reproductive rights: avenues could include the treaty bodies, special procedures as well as the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council;
- Partnership is essential for capacity building of NHRI. Potential partners include national gender mechanisms (such as Women's Commissions); civil society including NGOs working on issues such as women's rights and violence against women; media, religious groups, academic institutions, local government, line agencies and even criminal justice agencies;
- National and public Inquiries can be powerful tools to promote awareness of reproductive rights as well as to identify major issues of concern that could be addressed by NHRIs and their partners. The experience of the Kenyan Human Rights Commission in this respect may yield valuable lessons for APF institutions.

Participants were then divided into the same working groups as Day 1. Each working group was asked to consider possibilities for building NHRI capacity in one of three areas (working methods and procedures; awareness-raising and education; advice and advocacy; overcoming cultural and religious resistance to reproductive rights). Each Working Group appointed a rapporteur, who reported on findings and conclusions to plenary.

Key points to emerge from the working groups and through subsequent discussion included the following:

- The need for clearer understanding on the definition of reproductive rights;
- The importance of identifying allies and establishing strong and productive partnerships with those with knowledge, expertise and/or influence;
- External partners are vital to developing NHRI expertise;
- Respected 'moderate' religious authorities and leaders that support reproductive rights should also be involved;
- NHRIs need to set priorities by identifying the most important issues: it is not possible to do everything;
- Strategic planning is important: this helps to structure the response and ensure that resources are allocated effectively. It also allows for strong monitoring and evaluation;
- The way in which information is collected and analysed should be reviewed. Is this information being disaggregated properly? Are the information categories appropriate?
- NHRIs need to be open to new ways of working. Utilization of social media is one example of an innovative approach that might increase effectiveness of NHRI work in the area of reproductive rights;
- The issue of reproductive rights is difficult and potentially regarded as threatening in some quarters – particularly because it involves a redistribution of power between men and women. The work will be difficult.

In her summary comments, the Consultation Chairperson highlighted several main themes that had emerged during the two days of the Workshop. These included the need for NHRIs to identify critical issues that they should be addressing; the need for NHRIs to develop a strategic plan around reproductive rights; the importance of nurturing internal capacity in order to ensure that NHRI staff themselves are able to identify and address issues related to reproductive rights; the importance of educating rights-holders; and the value in NHRIs being able to document what they have done and are doing with respect to reproductive rights and also including such information in their annual reports.

PARTICIPANT PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER ACTION

In a final working group session, participants were asked to work together in country groups to identify several specific actions that they would be prepared to take upon their return home to advance the reproductive rights work of the NHRI with whom they are associated. Participants were specifically requested to make proposals that they would be prepared to report back on within a month or so. A summary of the proposals made by NHRI, UNFPA, PIFS representatives in the subsequent feedback session is set out below.

National Human Rights Institutions:

Australia NHRI

- Undertake internal capacity building using the insights and information gained from the Consultation;
- Build on existing work on issues such as forced sterilisation, violence against women, LGBT and pregnancy discrimination.
- In response to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), seek to include reproductive rights in the new human rights National Action Plan.
- Seek opportunities to cooperate closely with the New Zealand Commission on this issue.

Bangladesh NHRI

- Share the ideas that emerged during the Consultation with colleagues;
- Recommend the development of an internal orientation programme to assist in the development of knowledge about reproductive rights. Expertise could be drawn from NGOs, government and UNFPA;
- Recommend that a separate classification on reproductive rights is incorporated into the complaints system;
- Encourage the government to re-cast 'reproductive health' as 'reproductive rights'.

India NHRI

- Hold a Commission-wide briefing on reproductive rights and the results of the Consultation;
- Suggest that an expert or core group be set up by Commission to identify issues and establish joint actions. The group should include representatives of India's Women's Commission, NGOs, and health professionals;
- Begin to include reproductive rights into the Commission's Annual Report to Parliament, as well as in its UPR report;
- Introduce a separate classification on reproductive rights into the complaints system.

Jordan NHRI

- Report back outcomes of the Consultation to NCHR staff;
- Seek to create a specific category: "reproductive rights" within the complaints database system;
- Look to incorporate reproductive rights into the NHCR's strategic plan for 2013-2015;
- Seek to work with UNFPA country office and UNDP to see how it can more effectively integrate reproductive rights into its work program.

Korea NHRI

- Use the new knowledge on reproductive rights terminology gained through the Consultation to engage with the community – seeking to shape community perceptions about reproductive rights and ensure that controversial and sensitive issues can be better managed;
- Collaborate with women's groups that have experience and expertise in this area;
- Move forward its work on workplace rights.

Malaysia NHRI

- Hold a Commission-wide briefing on reproductive rights;
- Suggest that a new committee be set up on reproductive rights (or at least incorporate this issue into existing working groups, for example the group dealing with law reform);
- Link with other stakeholders to provide training and to disseminate information on reproductive rights, inviting UNFPA as well as regional experts and resource persons to assist in this endeavour.

Maldives NHRI

- Develop a technical assistance programme with the UNFPA country office to develop internal capacity of Commission staff in this area;
- Incorporate reproductive rights into the Commission's human rights education program.
- Create a separate classification on reproductive rights for the complaints system; review existing complaints and reclassify, where required, those that deal specifically with issues related to reproductive rights.

Nepal NHRI

- Brief commissioners and staff on the Consultation and its results;
- Recommend that a separate classification on reproductive rights is incorporated into the complaints system;
- Engage with UNFPA to discuss possibilities for collaboration in this area;
- Develop an orientation programme on reproductive rights for staff; establish an expert group on reproductive rights within the Commission and assign a focal point.

New Zealand NHRI

- Collect all complaints data and policy in relation to sexual and reproductive rights and use this to develop the internal capacity of the Commission to engage on these issues;
- In recognition of the importance of reporting to UN treaty bodies, offer the Commission's expertise to relevant NGOs to assist them to better engage in this process;
- Draw on the expertise of women's groups to enhance the Commission's understanding of reproductive rights issues and capacity to engage;
- As a matter of urgency, develop and communicate a rights-based position on the Government's plan to index benefits payments to single mothers having more children;
- Actively seek to collaborate with the Australian HRC on this issue.

Philippines NHRI

- Issue an advisory note on the Reproductive Health Bill (House Bill No 4244) in July and call on Parliament to call for the immediate passage of the Bill;
- Develop guidelines on receiving reproductive rights complaints and investigations.

Sri Lanka NHRI

- Brief commissioners and management on the Consultation;

- Ensure that reproductive rights are included in the training manual on women's rights and gender equality currently being developed by UNFPA and ensure that officials are trained on this issue;
- Work with UNFPA country office to convene a roundtable on reproductive rights involving stakeholders government, NGOs and UN agencies;
- Examine the possibility of developing an advocacy plan on reproductive rights;
- In the Batticola district the SLHRC is working with UNICEF on child rights and has done some work in relation to female combatants. The SLHRC will visit this district on 1 August and consult with female combatants in relation to reproductive rights and internal conflict;
- Building on ongoing collaboration with Muslim religious leaders in the area of customary law, engage with Muslim religious leaders on the cultural practice of girls to marry from 12 years of age.

Thailand NHRI

- Establish a clear working definition of reproductive rights
- Convene a meeting with the UNFPA country office to discuss possibilities of support and cooperation;
- Form a core group comprising representatives of the Commission, UNFPA and NGOs within the Commission to assess critical issues of reproductive rights in Thailand and assess how the Commission can most effectively engage.

Timor Leste NHRI

- Discuss the outcomes of the Consultation with other colleagues;
- Seek to develop a cooperative agreement between the Provedore's Office and UNFPA country office on further strengthening the Provedore's engagement in reproductive rights;
- Explore possibilities to receive training and support from the UNFPA country office;
- Establish a working group that will connect with NGOs to develop a tool for monitoring reproductive rights.

UNFPA

Indonesia UNFPA

- Meet with the Chairperson of the Commission with a view to identifying critical issues and potential avenues of support; and to encourage a review of complaint classification

Mongolia UNFPA

- Arrange a meeting between UNFPA country office and the HRC to discuss future collaboration in a range of areas including: (i) training of HRC staff; (ii) incorporation of reproductive rights into the HRC's next 3 year strategic plan; and (iii) developing an awareness raising documentary to raise and illustrate RR issues
- The HRC will conduct a 'snapshot analysis' of rights violations enquiries to see if any are reproductive rights violations;
- HRC will undertake internal training on reproductive rights, using external resource persons.

Palestine UNFPA

- Seek a meeting with Commissioners and Secretary-General to discuss future cooperation and to request completion of the UNFPA-APF questionnaire on reproductive rights;
- Develop a one-day workshop for the Palestinian Commission on the issue of reproductive rights in the West Bank and Gaza;
- Strengthen its links with the Commission and refer cases relating to reproductive rights to the Commission for investigation;
- Focus on issues relating to Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

Pacific Island Forum Secretariat

- Provide a briefing on the Consultation's outcomes to the UN Office and the 22 Member Countries of the Forum.
- Encourage the integration of reproductive rights into the mandate of newly established NHRI.

CONCLUSIONS AND AGREED / RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS

The Consultation confirmed the main findings of the Report: most importantly, that NHRIs have a unique and important role to play in promoting and protecting reproductive rights; that they have a clear mandate to move forward in this area; and that reproductive rights can and should be integrated into all aspects of their work: from education to advocacy to complaint handling.

However, the Consultation also confirmed that many of the same difficulties and obstacles which have prevented the development of a clear legal and policy framework around reproductive rights at the international level will continue to hamper national progress in this area. Reproductive rights remain controversial and contested. There is often a significant difference between attitudes to key reproductive rights within NHRIs themselves, as well as and between NHRIs and other stakeholders. NHRIs must walk a fine line between advancing reproductive rights and ensuring that such work produces positive results and does not jeopardize other work.

The Consultation highlighted the importance of cultivating awareness of reproductive rights within NHRIs – as well as specific expertise on this issue. In this context it is relevant to note that internal training was identified as an immediate priority for in respect of many NHRI (see previous section). However all NHRI have heavy workloads. Competing priorities and lack of knowledge and resources can present an impediment to the development of the necessary level of expertise. There was general agreement that NHRIs should actively seek expertise and guidance beyond their institutions: there is often a wealth of experience among Women's Commissions, women's groups, health professionals, academic institutions and others operating at the national level that can be put to good use by NHRIs.

Many NHRI representatives observed that reproductive rights can very easily "fall between the cracks": not just because of lack of awareness within the NHRI staff but also because operational systems have not been set up to capture and analyse the relevant information. A review of NHRI commitments reveals that many felt a reclassification of their complaints system to specifically include a category on reproductive rights was an urgent priority and something that could be achieved fairly easily.

In terms of next steps, the following proposals that emerged during the consultation and / or through subsequent discussions with resource persons will be subject to specific follow-up action:

1. **Reporting on individual NHRI commitments:** the previous section outlined the specific actions that individual NHRIs were prepared to commit to and report on. APF will contact each NHRI within eight weeks of the Consultation and request an update on actions taken. Reported results will be posted on the APF website.
2. **Accessing information:** the APF agreed to establish a website page dedicated to reproductive rights.
3. **Provision of key documentation:** NHRI expressed a wish for key documentation on reproductive rights that could help individual officials in their work as well as contribute to improving awareness and expertise within the broader institution. Within eight weeks of the Consultation the APF will post this information on its website and inform Member and Observer institutions accordingly. Additional information will be posted as it is identified.
4. **Additional recommendation: updating of the background report:** Within 18 months, NHRIs will be asked to participate in a review and update of the background report, with a specific focus on recent developments, lessons learned and good practices that could be replicated by other institutions.

In terms of potential areas for future collaboration, the following suggestions will be explored by APF and, as appropriate, UNFPA:

5. **Explore the inclusion of reproductive rights into relevant existing training materials and/or training courses:** APF was requested by NHRI to incorporate a module on reproductive rights into the general training they provide. APF could explore future collaboration with UNFPA APRO on this.
6. **Monitor external developments** (including the forthcoming UNFPA Handbook) with a view to identifying useful resources.
7. **Report on this consultation at the APF 16th Annual Meeting and Biennial Conference in 2011.**



**UNFPA – APF REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON INTEGRATING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS INTO
THE WORK OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS
CO-SPONSORED BY UNFPA AND APF
HOSTED BY SUHAKAM (Human Rights Commission of Malaysia)**

Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, 20-21 June 2011

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATION:

To bring together representatives from national human rights institutions (NHRI) and UNFPA country offices in the Asia Pacific region to forge understanding and collaboration on addressing reproductive rights.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATION:

- To increase knowledge and understanding of NHRI participants on reproductive rights and how they can be addressed;
- To provide a forum where opportunities for collaboration between national institutions and UNFPA country offices can be identified and encouraged;
- To explore ways in which the capacity of national institutions to understand and address reproductive rights can be strengthened.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS OF THE CONSULTATION:

- Increased knowledge of participants on reproductive rights and how these can be addressed in their work
- Possibilities identified for collaboration between national institutions, APF and UNFPA at national and regional levels
- A report describing the outputs of the meeting (including, as appropriate, agreed 'next steps' on capacity strengthening and/or possibilities for collaboration)

MONDAY 20 JUNE 2011

THEME 1: UNDERSTANDING AND WORKING WITH REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

0815-0915
0915-0945

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
Session 1: OPENING OF CONSULTATION

Opening address and welcome

Representing SUHAKAM and APF: Tan Sri Hasmy Agam,
Chairperson, Malaysian Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM)
Representing UNFPA: UNFPA Assistant Representative

0945-1030

**Session 2: INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP: THE REPORT,
OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

*Consultation Chair: Datuk Professor Khaw Lake Tee, Vice
Chairperson, SUHAKAM*

Presenter: Dr Anne Gallagher, Facilitator

1030-1100

COFFEE BREAK

1100-1230

**Session 3: THEME 1: UNDERSTANDING REPRODUCTIVE
RIGHTS**

*Chair: Datuk Professor Khaw Lake Tee, Vice Chairperson,
SUHAKAM*

1100–1130

Panel Speakers:

Ms Rashidah Abdullah, Co-Chair, Reproductive Rights Advocacy
Alliance Malaysia

Dr. Junice Melgar, Executive Director of Likhaan and Convenor,
Reproductive Health Advocacy Network, Philippines

Shireen Huq, Naripokkho, Bangladesh

1130-1230

Floor open to questions, comments from participants

1230 - 1400

LUNCH

1400-1530

**Session 4: WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS -
UNDERSTANDING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

1530 – 1545

COFFEE BREAK

1530-1700

Session 5: RAPPORTEUR FEEDBACK TO PLENARY

Working Group rapporteurs summarise their responses and
report to Plenary.

Summary by Consultation Chair, Datuk Professor Khaw

1830 – 1930

HIGH TEA (light snacks), courtesy of SUHAKAM

TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2011

THEME 2: STRATEGIES FOR STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF NHRIS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

- 0900-1030** **Session 6: THEME 2: STRENGTHENING CAPACITY**
Panelists will discuss possible strategies and approaches to strengthen NHRI capacity to promote and protect reproductive rights
Consultation Chair: Datuk Professor Khaw Lake Tee
- 0900-0940** Panel Speakers:
Ms Loretta Rosales, Chairperson, Philippines Commission on Human Rights
Ms Dhanashri Brahme, UNFPA Programme Officer, India
Dr Samuel Tororei, Commissioner, National Human Rights Commission of Kenya
Mr Ulrik Spliid, Senior Legal Adviser, Danish Institute for Human Rights.
- 0940-1030** Floor open to questions, comments from participants
- 1030-1100** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 1100-1230** **Session 7: THEME 2: WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS - STRENGTHENING CAPACITY**
- 1230-1400** **LUNCH**
- 1400-1500** **Session 8: THEME 2: RAPPORTEUR FEEDBACK TO PLENARY**
Consultation Chair: Datuk Professor Khaw
Working Group rapporteurs summarise their responses and report to Plenary.
- 1500-1515** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 1515-1600** **Session 9: Country level discussions on specific next steps**
- 1600-1630** **Session 10: Feedback in plenary**
Consultation Chair: Datuk Professor Khaw
- 1630-1645** **Session 11: EVALUATION**
- 1645-1700** **Session 12: CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND CLOSE OF CONSULTATION**

Consultation Chairperson presents consultation conclusions.

ANNEX 2: List of participants

Refer to list of participants at www.asiapacificforum.net

