

Rules of Engagement: How business can be a force for peace

Conference, 13 November 2002

Netherlands Congress Centre, The Hague

Joint Amnesty International / The Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa / Pax Christi initiative

Programme

09.00 Reception and registration

09.15 Welcome

09.20 Opening, by the Chairman, **prof.mr. C. Flinterman**

09.40 The European Parliament resolution on the Commission Green Paper on Promoting a European framework for Corporate Social responsibility. By **Richard Howitt**.

Co-referent: **André Driessen**,

10.20 Debate

10.35 The Draft norms and responsibilities of trans-national corporations and other business enterprises with regard to human rights. By **prof.mr. G.J.H. van Hoof**.

Co-referent: **Gemma Crijns**

11.05 Debate

11.20 Coffee break

11.40 The Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights. By **Bennett Freeman**.

Co-referent: **Lidouine Zumpolle**

12.15 Debate

12.25 Organisation of afternoon programme, division into workshops:

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Workshops

- Oil exploitation in Sudan, resource person **Marina Peter**, Sudan Focal Point Europe
- Diamond exploitation in DR Congo, resource person **Dr. Koen Vlassenroot**, University of Gent
- Tropical wood exploitation in Liberia, resource person: **Michael Lundberg**, Global Witness

15.00 Tea break

15.15 Reporting back from the workshops

16.00 Debate

16.45 Concluding remarks by **Renée Jones-Bos**, the Netherlands Ambassador for Human Rights

17.00 Closure

Prof.mr. C. Flinterman is Professor of Human Rights at Utrecht University and Director of the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights. He is member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Gemma Crijns is Managing Director of the Institute for Responsible Business at the University of Nijenrode

André Driessen is Senior Advisor International Affairs at the Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO NCW)

Lidouine Zumpolle is head of the Latin America department at Pax Christi Netherlands

Mr Bennett Freeman is a former United States Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labour He was the leader of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights on behalf of the State Department under the Clinton administration. He is presently working as a consultant on corporate responsibility and sustainable investment issues

Prof.mr. G.J.H. van Hoof is Professor of Human Rights at Utrecht University and member of the UN Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Mr Richard Howitt is Member of the European Parliament, since 1994, for the Labour Party, UK. He is the EP's Reporter on Corporate Social Responsibility and proposed the EP resolution on the Commission Green Paper on Promoting a European framework for Corporate Social responsibility (COM(2001) 366 - C5-0161/2002 – 2002/2069(COS))

Marina Peter is Sudan expert and co-ordinator of Sudan Focal Point Europe

Dr. Koen Vlassenroot is lecturer at the faculty of Third World Studies at the University of Gent, Belgium. His dissertation: 'The making of a new order. Dynamics of conflict and dialects of war in South Kivu (D.R. Congo)' has recently been published (July 2002).