



**On the Horizon ▪ A l'Horizon ▪ En el Horizonte**  
**A practical bulletin on what is ahead in the field of business & human rights**  
**Issue 19 - 2 February 2011**

*This bulletin is prepared by [Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](http://www.business-humanrights.org). It presents contributions from a number of experts and organizations, and is designed to keep all of us informed of future initiatives.*

*If you would like to contribute to our next bulletin planned for early April 2011, please send your announcement about an event, publication or initiative taking place after 6 April to Annabel Short: [short@business-humanrights.org](mailto:short@business-humanrights.org). Please keep the contribution under 200 words. The deadline for contributions is 28 March.*

**Contents**

- International** ..... 3
  - 1. Upcoming work of UN Special Representative John Ruggie ..... 3
  - 2. New campaign demanding water equity in tourism development ..... 3
  - 3. Children’s Rights & Business Principles: Consultations & launch during 2011 ..... 3
  - 4. Danish Institute for Human Rights grant for guest researchers..... 4
  - 5. New ECCR report on the social and human rights impacts of banks..... 4
  - 6. Global Conference of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative – Paris, 2-3 Mar ..... 4
  - 7. Upcoming initiatives by STR Responsible Sourcing..... 5
  - 8. 2011 “Proxy Preview” re shareholder resolutions on environmental & social issues ..... 5
  - 9. Human Rights Watch roundtable on “Transatlantic Labour Rights” – London, 10 Feb..... 5
  - 10. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre – forthcoming portals..... 6
- Africa** ..... 6
  - 11. Special consultation on land, water and human rights - Naivasha, Kenya, 8-10 February..... 6
  - 12. Third World Network-Africa events at World Social Forum – Dakar, 7 & 9 Feb..... 6
  - 13. Kenya National Commission to advise govt. on UN “Protect, Respect & Remedy” framework ..... 7
  - 14. Senegal: Founding of a new civil society network for monitoring the extractive industry..... 7
  - 15. Forthcoming DanWatch report on how Maersk Oil operates in Angola ..... 7
  - 16. Factory-based women’s health programme HERproject to expand to flower industry in Kenya ..... 8
  - 17. Report on investments of Swiss mining companies in Dem. Rep. of Congo ..... 8
  - 18. Study will question benefits of uranium mining investments for African countries ..... 8
  - 19. Ghanaian civil society will seek to ensure revenue transparency provisions are in petroleum bill ..... 8
  - 20. Dakar CSR Forum – 22-24 Mar 2011 ..... 9
  - 21. Research mission to Uganda – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre ..... 9
  - 22. Research mission to Democratic Republic of Congo – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre..... 9
- Americas** ..... 9
  - 23. Brazil’s National Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor to develop further ..... 9
  - 24. Fairtrade and Fairmined gold will launch for Valentine’s Day 2011 ..... 10
  - 25. Canadian Commission seeks comments on Framework for Documenting Equality Rights..... 10

26. Roundtable on “Human rights and business practices” – São Paulo, 31 Mar.....	10
27. Planned events in Latin America on poverty reduction, human rights and the nuclear Industry.....	11
28. Briefing paper on gender aspects in the Latin American garment industry.....	11
29. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to recruit a Latin America Researcher.....	11
<b>Asia/Pacific</b> .....	11
30. Consultation on child labour in the garment sector – India, 11 May.....	11
31. Celebration of indigenous people’s resistance to mining & militarization – Philippines, 26-27 Apr .....	12
32. “Disability and Corporate Social Responsibility” summit – India, 11-14 Feb.....	12
33. makeITfair report on working conditions at Chinese electronics factories .....	12
34. Seminar on "Vulture Funds", debt relief & human rights – Melbourne, 10 Feb.....	12
35. 6th National Conference of Global Compact Network of India .....	13
36. Conference on ESG & Impact Investing – Tokyo, 26-27 May.....	13
37. Research mission to Bangladesh – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre.....	13
<b>Europe &amp; Central Asia</b> .....	13
38. UK Commission requests tenders to review guidance on business & human rights for UK firms .....	13
39. UK: Call for better regulation to protect workers from abuse by labour providers.....	14
40. Job posting: Coordinator of UK Parliamentary Group on Business, Human Rights & the Environment.....	14
41. Research mission to Czech Republic, Slovakia & Hungary – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre. ....	14
<b>Middle East &amp; North Africa</b> .....	14
42. Forthcoming panel discussion on legal case against Riwal over alleged complicity with Israeli war crimes in West Bank.....	14
43. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to recruit a Middle East Researcher .....	15
<b>Español</b> .....	15
44. Lanzamiento de oro Fairtrade y Fairmined para el Día de San Valentín, 2011 .....	15
45. El Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos (CIEDH) contratará un/a investigador/a en América Latina .....	15
<b>Français</b> .....	15
46. Rapport sur les investissements d’industries minières suisses en République Démocratique du Congo (RDC).....	15
47. Sénégal : Constitution d’un nouveau réseau de la société civile pour le suivi des activités extractives.....	16
48. Forum de Dakar sur la RSE – du 22 au 24 mars 2011 .....	16
49. Ghana : La société civile restera mobilisée pour que le projet de loi sur les revenus pétroliers intègre des dispositions assurant la transparence .....	16
50. Mission de recherche en République Démocratique du Congo – Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises et les Droits de l’Homme.....	17
<b>Portuguese</b> .....	17
51. Brasil: O Pacto Nacional pela Erradicação do Trabalho Escravo .....	17

## International

### **1. Upcoming work of UN Special Representative John Ruggie**

#### Guiding Principles for the implementation of the UN Framework

The UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on business & human rights extends his thanks to all those who participated in his consultation on the draft Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights from November 2010 – January 2011. The Special Representative is in the midst of considering the feedback received as part of this important consultation process.

Feedback and commentaries on the draft may be viewed at the [Special Representative's online forum](#) as well as the [UN Special Representative portal on the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre website](#).

The Special Representative will submit the final text of the Guiding Principles to the UN for translation in early March, before presenting it formally to the Human Rights Council at its June session. At the same time the Special Representative will also present a paper on follow-up to his mandate.

#### The UN Framework in Action

The Special Representative has identified examples of how the Framework has been applied by governments, national human rights institutions, NGOs, companies & business organizations, investors, international organizations, academics, UN Special Procedures and legal organizations and others. The document, which will be updated periodically, is available [here](#).

→ *For more information, contact Vanessa Zimmerman, Legal Advisor to the UN Special Representative ([vanessa\\_zimmerman \(at\) ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:vanessa_zimmerman@ksg.harvard.edu))*

### **2. New campaign demanding water equity in tourism development**

UK-based advocacy group Tourism Concern has launched Water Equity in Tourism (WET) - a new programme of research and campaigning that demands protection of the water rights of communities by the international tourism industry and governments. WET will focus particularly on tourism destinations in the global South, where water scarcity is often acute while adherence to international human rights standards may be weak.

In the coming months, Tourism Concern will undertake research in a number of tourism destinations with the support of a unique cross-sectoral steering group. This will involve promoting multi-stakeholder dialogues aimed at addressing water inequity between tourism interests and local communities. The research findings will feed into future advocacy with the tourism industry and international water forums, and a public sensitisation campaign.

Tourism is a rapidly growing industry and often places huge demands on limited water resources and infrastructure to the detriment of local domestic and livelihood needs. All too often, while tourists can enjoy showers, swimming pools, landscaped gardens and a round of golf, nearby communities face severe water shortages.

→ *For further information, or if you are interested in potentially partnering with Tourism Concern in this project, please visit [www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk) or email Rachel Noble: [Rachel \(at\) tourismconcern.org.uk](mailto:Rachel@tourismconcern.org.uk)*

### **3. Children's Rights & Business Principles: Consultations & launch during 2011**

On 24 June 2010, UNICEF, UN Global Compact (UNGC) and Save the Children launched a process to develop a set of Principles offering concrete guidance on what business can do to respect and support children's rights. The intention is for these Principles to serve as a unifying framework and reference point for existing and future initiatives concerning business and children. The Principles will present business, civil society, government, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), academia and other stakeholders with an unprecedented opportunity to join forces in an effort to enable the private sector to become a more positive force for children.

Specifically, the Principles will provide a coherent set of practical considerations that business can apply throughout their operations. Whether in the workplace, marketplace or community, the Principles will maximize the positive impacts and minimize the negative ramifications that their activities may have on children.

The official launch of the Principles is scheduled near 20 November 2011 to coincide with the anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Key milestones include multi-stakeholder consultations at the global,

regional & national levels (Feb-May 2011) and drafting, review and finalization of the Principles (Jun-Sep 2011).

To participate in the consultations, provide case studies, lessons-learned or research that will contribute to their development, please contact Elisabeth Abeson at [eabeson \(at\) unicef.org](mailto:eabeson@unicef.org)

→ *Contributed by Elisabeth Abeson, Coordinator, Children's Rights & Business Principles Initiative ([eabeson \(at\) unicef.org](mailto:eabeson@unicef.org))*

#### **4. Danish Institute for Human Rights grant for guest researchers**

Informal Justice Systems (IJS) form a constituent part in the operationalisation of the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework. Grievance mechanisms should be "human rights compatible", as UN Special Representative John Ruggie states, but how should human rights standards be fully reflected in the structure, procedures and outcomes of IJS in clear operational terms?

[Danish Institute for Human Rights \(DIHR\)](#) offers researchers from developing and transitional countries the unique opportunity of becoming a guest researcher at the DIHR during the semester August – December 2011 to work on a project addressing the nexus of IJS, Human Rights and Business. While grant applicants may propose any field, objective and methodology of research, they are encouraged:

- To elaborate on means to make human rights standards fully reflected in the structure, procedures and outcomes of IJS in clear operational terms.
- To target local contexts in developing and transitional countries.
- To engage key stakeholders in targeted contexts including companies operating in the locality, local NGOs, and local government representatives as well as vulnerable groups.

The application deadline is 1 March 2011. More information is available [here](#). The brochure for the 2011 programme, containing application/contact information is available [here](#). More information on the [Human Rights and Business Department is available here](#).

→ *If you have further questions you are welcome to email: [rpp \(at\) humanrights.dk](mailto:rpp@humanrights.dk), or [business \(at\) humanrights.dk](mailto:business@humanrights.dk)*

#### **5. New ECCR report on the social and human rights impacts of banks**

On 1 March the [Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility \(ECCR\)](#) will mark the publication of its new report "The Banks and Society: Rebuilding Trust" with a panel discussion. The report assesses social, human rights, ethical and environmental concerns that have eroded trust in the banks and makes recommendations for a more socially responsible banking sector. Copies will be available on the day, and an advance electronic copy can be provided on request.

The panel will be chaired by Rt Rev. David Urquhart, the Bishop of Birmingham, and featuring Rev. Dr Giles Fraser (broadcaster and Canon Chancellor of St Paul's), Damon Gibbons (Centre for Responsible Credit / Better Banking Campaign), Suzanne Ismail (ECCR) and Prof. Andy Mullineux (University of Birmingham Business School / Centre on Household and Savings Management). The event takes place from 5.00 to 7.30 p.m. at Wragge's Banking Hall, 55 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2AS.

→ *For further details please see [www.eccr.org.uk/events](http://www.eccr.org.uk/events). RSVP Helen Boothroyd ([helen.boothroyd \(at\) eccr.org.uk](mailto:helen.boothroyd@eccr.org.uk)); Tel: +44(0)7503 931172). Contributed by Miles Litvinoff, Co-ordinator, ECCR ([miles.litvinoff \(at\) eccr.org.uk](mailto:miles.litvinoff@eccr.org.uk))*

#### **6. Global Conference of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative – Paris, 2-3 Mar**

On 2-3 March, the [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative \(EITI\)](#) will hold in Paris its fifth global conference. The year 2010 was an active period for EITI, as Indonesia, Afghanistan and other countries joined the initiative, and EITI found Ghana and Mongolia now to be in full compliance with its guidelines.

This year's gathering will show how far EITI implementing countries and their stakeholders have come in recognizing that information about oil, gas and mining revenues can and should be made public without compromising industry competitiveness, and how countries can move beyond transparency to wider accountability and reform.

The transparency measures of EITI have served as a model for national legislation such as the U.S. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection law, which requires country-by-country reporting of payments by companies listed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Revenue Watch is currently researching the EITI country reports and plans to provide analysis and tools to help EITI and the wider community of resource-rich countries, advocates and experts use EITI data to inform their work and empower citizens.

→ *Contributed by Kathryn Joyce, [Revenue Watch \(kjoyce \(at\) renewatch.org\)](mailto:kjoyce@renewatch.org)*

## **7. Upcoming initiatives by STR Responsible Sourcing**

1) [STR Responsible Sourcing](#) is offering a webinar on [U.S. Department of Labor reports on child and/or forced labour](#) to be held on 10 February. It will provide background information on the list, summarize the report and shed lights on business implications. In addition, the webinar will examine the latest development of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Consultative Group to Eliminate the Use of Child Labor and Forced Labor in Imported Agricultural Products. To register please contact Gina Gelber.

2) On 16 February, Emily Brennan will host a webinar on [STR Responsible Sourcing's Labor & Employment Standards Library \(LESLi\)](#) to introduce the capabilities of LESLi. LESLi is an online resource providing access to specific laws governing worker welfare topics for over 140 countries, translated into English and categorized within a responsible sourcing scope. LESLi's analytical tools allow users to compare hourly minimum wage rates in US dollars and Euros as well as compare country-to-country legal requirements. To attend please contact Emily Brennan.

3) The Timberland Company, Gap Inc., and the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) are just a few of the distinguished organizations appearing at the STR Responsible Sourcing 6th Annual Responsible Sourcing Summit, being held in Los Angeles, 10-11 March 2011. The event features keynote speaker David Schilling of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR). Hear directly from leaders in the responsible sourcing arena, who will discuss important topics such as living wages; sound purchasing practices; the California Transparency Supply Chains Act; and product traceability compliance. For more information please visit [Responsible Sourcing Summit 2011](#).

→ *Contributed by Gina Gelber ([gina.gelber \(at\) strs.com](mailto:gina.gelber@strs.com)) and Emily Brennan ([emily.brennan \(at\) strs.com](mailto:emily.brennan@strs.com)), STR Responsible Sourcing*

## **8. 2011 "Proxy Preview" re shareholder resolutions on environmental & social issues**

The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of "Proxy Preview" will be released on 23 February. This compendium of upcoming proxy votes on environmental and social issues features new sections for advocacy and case studies of past successes. The "Preview" has been called "the Bible for socially progressive foundations, religious groups, pension funds and tax-exempt organizations" by the *Chicago Tribune*. It is the result of a collaboration between [As You Sow](#), an environmental and social advocacy organization and publisher of the report since 2005; [The Sustainable Investment Institute](#) (Si2), which conducts impartial research on social and environmental shareholder proposals; and [Proxy Impact](#), a new proxy voting service for mission-based investors.

A team of issue experts provide advocacy positions on shareholder resolutions including climate change, human rights, political contributions, sexual orientation discrimination, board diversity, coal, hydraulic fracturing (fracking), toxic exposure, electronic waste, mortgage foreclosures, animal welfare, and many others.

The report will be released with a webinar featuring Andrew Behar, CEO, As You Sow; Heidi Welsh, Executive Director, Si2; Michael Passoff, CEO, Proxy Impact; Leslie Lowe, Senior Strategist, As You Sow; and other contributors. The Preview is sponsored by foundations and socially responsible investors including Calvert, Walden, Trillium, and First Affirmative.

For more information Contact Katherine Kassing ([katherine \(at\) asyousow.org](mailto:katherine@asyousow.org)) or visit [www.asyousow.org/proxy11](http://www.asyousow.org/proxy11)

→ *Contributed by Katherine Kassing, As You Sow*

## **9. Human Rights Watch roundtable on "Transatlantic Labour Rights" – London, 10 Feb**

On 10 February 2011, [Human Rights Watch](#) is organising a "Transatlantic Labour Rights Roundtable" with Lance Compa, Consultant to Human Rights Watch Business & Human Rights Division. He will briefly describe the recent



report on abuses of workers' rights in the United States by European firms in the light of their public declarations of support for human rights.

The roundtable will be held 2pm to 4pm at Human Rights Watch London office, 2-12 Pentonville Rd, N1 9HF London, UK. Places are limited so please notify Eleanor Blatchley of your interest in joining the roundtable at the following email: [blatche \(at\) hrw.org](mailto:blatche(at)hrw.org)

→ *Contributed by Lance Compa for Human Rights Watch ([lac24 \(at\) cornell.edu](mailto:lac24(at)cornell.edu))*

### **10. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre – forthcoming portals**

- a) The Resource Centre's "Business & Children Portal" will be launched in the first half of 2011. It will provide guidance materials on the subject, examples of good corporate practice, and examples of alleged abuses. The portal will include a special section on the joint initiative by UNICEF, Save the Children and UN Global Compact to develop "Children's Principles for Business" (see item 3 above).
- b) In 2012 the Centre will launch a portal on "Business & Freedom of Association", which will highlight reports about positive steps and alleged abuses by companies in relation to:
  - The internationally-recognised rights to form & join trade unions; to collective bargaining; to strike
  - Anti-union violence, intimidation & retaliation
- c) The Resource Centre is continuing to update its special section on "[Human rights impacts of oil pollution: U.S. Gulf Coast, Ecuador, Nigeria](#)", and is seeking funding to upgrade this into a proper, high-profile portal.

→ *Contributed by the team at Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: [contact \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:contact(at)business-humanrights.org)*

## **Africa**

### **11. Special consultation on land, water and human rights - Naivasha, Kenya, 8-10 February**

*The Resource Centre received two contributions about a consultation on the human rights aspects of land and water use by business in the context of agriculture, hosted by the [Kenya National Commission on Human Rights \(KNCHR\)](#) and the [Institute for Human Rights and Business](#) from 8-10 February 2011 in Naivasha, Kenya.*

The consultation aims to explore, debate and evaluate options to address the dilemma of land and water use. It is hoped that this convening will generate guidance for businesses to operate in a manner consistent with the principle of due diligence elucidated in the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework.

→ *Contributed by Louiza Kabiru, Senior Human Rights Officer, KNCHR ([Lkabiru \(at\) knchr.org](mailto:Lkabiru(at)knchr.org))*

This consultation is the fourth convening as part of the Institute's work on issues relating to land (the first consultation took place in India in June 2009, the second in Colombia in May 2010, and the third in South Africa in November 2010). The meeting will bring together a multi-stakeholder group of experts representing business, civil society, government and national human rights commissions from the region.

→ *Contributed by Kelly Davina Scott, Institute for Human Rights and Business ([kelly.scott \(at\) institutehrb.org](mailto:kelly.scott(at)institutehrb.org))*

### **12. Third World Network-Africa events at World Social Forum – Dakar, 7 & 9 Feb**

[Third World Network-Africa](#), in collaboration with the African Initiatives on Mining, Environment and Society (AIMES) and the Africa Trade Network (ATN), is organising two important inter-related events at the World Social Forum scheduled for 6-11 February 2011 in Dakar, Senegal:

1. Popular Responses in the Global Crisis and Africa, 7 Feb
2. Mobilizing for Alternatives to Crisis and New Scramble for Africa, 9 Feb

The boom in demand for primary commodities and accompanying rise in prices that preceded the global economic crisis was the context for the intensification of the new scramble for Africa. Economic liberalisation policies implemented in Africa since the 1980s and the global liberalisation agenda embodied in the rules of the World Trade Organization and free trade and investment agreements facilitated the entry of new actors, with adverse consequences for Africa's economic empowerment. In the extractive sector for instance, the quest to control Africa's resources is no longer a preserve of the economic powers of Europe, North America and Australia. The

rising interest of China and India in Africa and the presence of their firms is the sharpest illustration of this development.

The resurgence in the price of both food and fuel in recent months raises the spectre of yet another crisis even as more of Africa's arable lands are being sold off to foreign companies and countries to produce crops for biofuels or food for export.

→ *Contributed by Abdulai Darimani, Third World Network-Africa ([environment \(at\) twnafrica.org](mailto:environment@twnafrica.org))*

### **13. Kenya National Commission to advise govt. on UN "Protect, Respect & Remedy" framework**

[Kenya National Commission on Human Rights \(KNCHR\)](#) is preparing an advisory for the Government of Kenya on implementation of the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework. The advisory will draw on two meetings held by the KNCHR in January 2011 to collect the views of business, civil society organizations and government on the draft Guiding Principles for implementation of the Framework. Participants included: Ministry of Labour, Kenya Electricity Generating Company (Kengen), Kenya Power & Lighting Company and Kenya Commercial Bank. The second meeting was organised in partnership with the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights – Kenya Office, and Muslims for Human Rights. The views presented were compiled into a report that was submitted to the Working Group on Business and Human Rights of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC).

From February to June 2011, the KNCHR will carry out an audit of companies' compliance with the Capital Market Authority Guidelines on Corporate Governance. This audit will serve as an entry point to widen discussion on the responsibilities of business enterprises in line with the Kenya's new Constitution.

→ *For more information contact Louiza Kabiru, Senior Human Rights Officer, KNCHR ([Lkabiru \(at\) knchr.org](mailto:Lkabiru@knchr.org))*

### **14. Senegal: Founding of a new civil society network for monitoring the extractive industry**

*[unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from the French original]*

Senegalese civil society has been discouraged by the fact that, despite codes of conduct, mining guidelines and engagements undertaken by extractive companies, it seems that little is really changing for local communities. For this reason, [Groupe AGORA pour l'Education aux Droits de l'Enfant et à la paix](#) (Agora Group for Education About Children's Rights & Peace, or GRA-REDEP) – in collaboration with the Senegal-based NGOs Rencontre Africaine pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO), Organisation Nationale des Droits de l'Homme (ONDH), Forum Civil, La Lumière, Association Kédougou Action Développement, and others – will hold a General Meeting, on 12 February 2011, to constitute a Civil Society Network for Monitoring of Extractive Activities in Senegal.

The aims of this Network will be, among others, to raise awareness among rural communities of extractive industry issues and of their rights to participate actively in the monitoring of actions on the ground, and in real improvements related to the interest of local communities. The Network will also promote more responsible, transparent and effective development, and constructive dialogue with local communities, by changing existing social and environmental practices.

→ *Contributed by Gaspard Onokoko Onosal, President of GRA-REDEP ([gaspano \(at\) yahoo.fr](mailto:gaspano@yahoo.fr))*

### **15. Forthcoming DanWatch report on how Maersk Oil operates in Angola**

A new report from DanWatch focuses on how the largest Danish oil company, Maersk Oil, manages to operate in a potentially highly corrupt environment in Angola, while at the same time living up to the company's own standards of social responsibility and anti-corruption. DanWatch's report also describes the general social and economic situation in Angola and how the countries' oil revenues are managed. An English summary of the report will be available from mid-February.

In less than ten years Angola has become a very important country in the global oil market, and the country's oil revenues have increased immensely. But while Angola's GDP has developed into one of Africa's highest - growing by over 1000 percent from 1997 to 2008, 70 percent of Angola's population still lives on fewer than two dollars a day. According to a number of international sources this is partly because the government of Angola is riddled with corruption.

→ For more information, please visit [www.danwatch.dk](http://www.danwatch.dk) or email Peter Bengtsen, Head of Investigations ([peter \(at\) danwatch.dk](mailto:peter@danwatch.dk))

### **16. Factory-based women's health programme HERproject to expand to flower industry in Kenya**

In 2011, [HERproject](#), the factory-based women's health programme of [Business for Social Responsibility \(BSR\)](#), will expand beyond the consumer product and information and communication technology industries, into the agriculture and horticulture industry in Kenya. Women represent a large percentage of workers producing cut flowers and vegetables in the country - about 75% and 66% respectively. Despite many initiatives targeting HIV/AIDS and other critical health issues, women's health knowledge remains extremely limited, underscoring an ongoing need for improving women's access to health education and services.

HERproject Kenya will work with local partners to provide health education to female workers in selected farms and processing plants. HERproject Kenya is expected to launch in summer 2011 and is currently welcoming expressions of interest.

During 2010, HERproject increased activity in China, Egypt, India and Vietnam and launched programme activities in Bangladesh. At the close of 2010, HERproject had completed or active programmes in 65 factories targeting over 90,000 women workers. In 2011 BSR and local partners will continue to expand HERproject activities in all participating countries, as well as launching a new programme in Indonesia.

HERproject delivers cost-effective solutions to raise female workers' health awareness and access to services along global supply chains. HERproject has found [business benefits](#) from women's health education programmes, and improved worker-management relations. Company partners include Abercrombie & Fitch, Clarks, Columbia Sportswear, HP, J.Crew, Levi Strauss & Co., Li & Fung, Marks & Spencer, Nordstrom, Primark, Talbots, and Timberland.

→ For general information about HERproject contact HERproject Manager Racheal Yeager ([ryeager \(at\) bsr.org](mailto:ryeager@bsr.org)). For information on HERproject Kenya, contact Ryan Flaherty ([rflaherty \(at\) bsr.org](mailto:rflaherty@bsr.org)). For Europe-based inquiries, contact Jennifer Schappert ([jschappert \(at\) bsr.org](mailto:jschappert@bsr.org)).

→ Contributed by Racheal Yeager, HERproject

### **17. Report on investments of Swiss mining companies in Dem. Rep. of Congo**

In March 2011, [Bread for all Switzerland](#) and [Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund](#), in collaboration with [Benchmark Foundation \(South Africa\)](#) will release a report on Swiss mining companies' investments in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The research will present the economic network – joint ventures, suppliers, etc – associated with those Swiss investors as well as the history of their investments. It will discuss the issue of mining licences that belonged to the state-owned Gécamine mining company and were attributed to foreign investors after the civil war. The report will also discuss the human rights and environmental issues in the copper and cobalt mines supplying Swiss companies.

→ For more information email Chantal Peyer, Bread for All ([peyer \(at\) bfa-ppp.ch](mailto:peyer@bfa-ppp.ch))

### **18. Study will question benefits of uranium mining investments for African countries**

While uranium mining investments in Africa are booming, the financial benefits for African countries remain low and are largely uncertain. In addition, there is wide disparity in the amount of revenue received by different African host states, with some countries benefiting far more than others from comparable mining operations. These are the main conclusions of a new report by the [Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations \(SOMO\)](#) and the [World Information Service on Energy \(WISE\)](#) that will be published in February 2011. The study examines the activities of the four largest uranium mining companies in Africa and analyses the financial flows between those companies and their African host countries.

→ For more information, contact Joseph Wilde-Ramsing, SOMO ([j.wilde \(at\) sono.nl](mailto:j.wilde@sono.nl))

### **19. Ghanaian civil society will seek to ensure revenue transparency provisions are in petroleum bill**

[unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from the French original]

The Ghanaian Parliament has been reviewing a draft of the Petroleum Revenue Management Bill since December 2010. Publish What You Pay coalition has convened a working group with 150 member organizations with the



aim of promoting transparency and civil society participation. Following the integration into the draft bill of 90% of the proposals made by the working group, civil society will stay mobilised to seek to ensure these proposals will be included in the final text when it comes to a vote; civil society groups hope that the bill will be voted on during 2011. Among the proposed language are provisions for the publication of contracts between companies and the government, and the establishment of an independent government agency to regulate petroleum operations. Oxfam supports the Publish What You Pay coalition in this initiative.

As a reminder, Ghana joined the club of oil-producing African nations in mid-December. The Anglo-Irish company Tullow is currently producing oil in Ghana.

→ *Contributed by Aliou Bassoum, Communications Officer, Oxfam America – West Africa ([abassoum \(at\) oxfamamerica.org](mailto:abassoum@oxfamamerica.org))*

### **20. Dakar CSR Forum – 22-24 Mar 2011**

*[unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from the French original]*

[RSE Sénégal](#) and the Embassy of Canada to Senegal are organising the [3<sup>rd</sup> Dakar CSR Forum](#), which will be held from 22-24 March 2011 around the theme “Anchoring companies in local conditions, within a CSR framework”. CSR highlights a variety of challenges, of which the most important are relations with local communities, the respect and promotion of local culture, and social investments. The Forum will present responses to these challenges.

The Forum will also serve as a platform for, first, officially launching the initial steps to create a regional network of companies for social responsibility; second, presenting to companies ISO 26000, the recently published international standard on social responsibility; and finally, to reflect on the creation of a framework of legal, regulatory and tax incentives to encourage companies to support micro-projects for community development. The programme contains a number of discussion topics, such as the reinforcement of dialogue between companies and local communities, and the scaling up of social investments by companies through public-private partnerships and a framework of legal and institutional incentives.

→ *Contributed by Philippe Barry, RSE Sénégal ([rse-senegal \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:rse-senegal@gmail.com))*

### **21. Research mission to Uganda – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

The Resource Centre is planning a mission to Uganda during the second half of 2011, to meet NGOs, companies and others, and to collect reports and statements that have been issued about the positive & negative human rights impacts of companies in the country. The mission will include meetings with Ugandan groups taking steps aimed at preventing abuses by the emerging oil industry there.

→ *Contributed by Abiola Okpechi, Anglophone Africa Researcher, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: [okpechi \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:okpechi@business-humanrights.org)*

### **22. Research mission to Democratic Republic of Congo – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

The Resource Centre is planning a mission to the Katanga region of Democratic Republic of Congo during the second half of 2011, to meet a range of NGOs, companies and others. The mission delegates will collect reports and statements that have been issued about positive initiatives taken by companies in that region, and about alleged abuses such as corporate complicity in massacres; displacement; and mineral supply chains that include child and forced labour.

→ *Contributed by Aliou Diouf, Francophone Africa Researcher, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: [diouf \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:diouf@business-humanrights.org)*

## **Americas**

### **23. Brazil's National Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor to develop further**

The mission of the [Brazilian National Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor](#) is to use innovative tools to help the Brazilian business sector and civil society implement their commitments to cease their business relations (buying and selling) with suppliers who have used slave labor. In May 2011 the National Pact will complete six years of

existence with over 140 signatories, including companies and civil society organizations, accounting for 25% of Brazilian GDP.

The main production chains using slave labor in Brazil are livestock, steel and charcoal. But other sectors such as textiles and cotton, and sugarcane, are also important. The involvement of the private sector in combating this practice has proven crucial, not only by including clauses in their contracts and codes of conduct that prohibit the use of slave labor in their supply chains, but also through their willingness to create decent jobs.

The National Pact initiative, coordinated by Ethos Institute, International Labour Organization (ILO), NGO Reporter Brasil, and Instituto Observatório Social, has also developed a digital platform for monitoring the agreements entered into by the parties. The initiative has become an international reference and has recently expanded into other countries, boosted by a study on the steel supply chain involving major automakers with headquarters outside Brazil.

→ *Contributed by Tábata Villares, Ethos Institute, email: [Tabata \(at\) ethos.org.br](mailto:Tabata@ethos.org.br)*

#### **24. Fairtrade and Fairmined gold will launch for Valentine's Day 2011**

Giving gold jewellery is about love, romance and beauty. But all too often, how gold is mined is not a pretty story. That's why the world's first Fairtrade and Fairmined gold from South America will be launched by the Fairtrade Foundation and the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) for Valentine's Day 2011 (14 Feb).

This groundbreaking move will open up new opportunities for thousands of impoverished small-scale and artisanal miners to sell under Fairtrade and Fairmined terms, and through the Fairtrade premium invest in business improvement and community projects. First Fairtrade and Fairmined gold will come from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, with a network of pilot projects being established in Africa, and later in Asia.

Fairtrade and Fairmined gold will be initially launched in the UK and then rolled out to other countries with a long term vision of capturing 5% of the gold jewellery market over a 15-year period. Fairtrade and Fairmined gold will be co-labelled, bearing both the FAIRTRADE Mark and the Fairmined Mark, demonstrating the strength of the partnership between the two organizations.

→ *For more information please visit [www.fairtrade.org.uk/gold](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/gold) and [www.communitymining.org](http://www.communitymining.org) or contact Martine Parry, Media and PR Manager at Fairtrade Foundation ([martine.parry \(at\) fairtrade.org.uk](mailto:martine.parry@fairtrade.org.uk); Tel: +44-(0)20 7440 7695)*

#### **25. Canadian Commission seeks comments on Framework for Documenting Equality Rights**

The [Canadian Human Rights Commission](#) has completed a multi-year project to develop a [Framework for Documenting Equality Rights](#). The Framework is a tool for developing a consolidated portrait of equality in Canada. The Framework provides seven dimensions (economic well being, education, employment, health, housing, justice and safety, and political engagement and social inclusion) that can be used to document how members of protected groups fare with regard to their rights to equality.

We would appreciate receiving comments on any aspect of the Framework, be it the dimensions, indicators or measures. To that effect, we have created a special email address: [framework.cadre \(at\) chrc-ccdp.ca](mailto:framework.cadre@chrc-ccdp.ca)

→ *For further information, please contact Eric Diotte, Senior Researcher, Research and Statistical Analysis Division ([eric.diotte \(at\) chrc-ccdp.ca](mailto:eric.diotte@chrc-ccdp.ca); Tel: +1 613 943 9094)*

#### **26. Roundtable on "Human rights and business practices" – São Paulo, 31 Mar**

A one-day roundtable entitled "Human rights and business practices: understanding responsibilities" will be held 31 March 2011 in São Paulo, Brazil. It will be an exchange among senior business leaders in relation to a rapidly developing agenda on business and human rights. The session will bring together experiences of global businesses and experts to explore the relevance, challenges and ways forward for human rights and business in the Latin American context.

The event is held by the [Global Business Initiative on Human Rights](#) in partnership with Instituto Ethos, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Centro Regional para América Latina y el Caribe en apoyo del Pacto Mundial de las Naciones Unidas, and Levy & Salomão Advogados. Participation in the event is by invitation only.

→ Contributed by Joanna Clark, Global Business Initiative on Human Rights ([jo.clark \(at\) global-business-initiative.org](mailto:jo.clark@global-business-initiative.org))

### **27. Planned events in Latin America on poverty reduction, human rights and the nuclear Industry**

After the Chernobyl and Three Miles Island accidents, increasing pressure from civil society has forced governments and the uranium industry to look for safer ways of going nuclear, or else to stop it completely.

The [Generation IV International Forum \(GIF\)](#) is a way of becoming environmentally and socially safer, plutonium-free, and out of the reach of the [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty \(NPT\)](#). Its first annual report can be seen [here](#).

[Latin-American Science & Technology Development Programme \(CYTED\)](#) and [International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#) are joining efforts in order to foster and develop workshops and seminars on thorium fuelled reactors, one of the safer and more promising GIF technologies in development. Such endeavor will allow small, large, developed and undeveloped countries, as well as companies in relevant sectors such as geological analysis, mining, engineering, equipment manufacturing, environmental consultancy, etc, to seek socially and environmentally responsible energy solutions at smaller costs. For example, Nobel Prize winner Carlo Rubia is quite emphatic on thorium advantages and its applications. Planned events will happen in May in Havana (Cuba) and in August in Santiago (Chile).

Last December the first such CYTED/IAEA seminar series, the Iberoeka Thorium Miniforum, was held at [CETEM \(Centro de Tecnologia Mineral\)](#) headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with subsequent visits to nuclear plant facilities nearby Rio. Presentations and conclusions can be seen on the CETEM website.

→ For more information on the subject please email Prof. Roberto C. Villas-Bôas ([villasboas \(at\) cetem.gov.br](mailto:villasboas@cetem.gov.br)) or Harikrishnan ([T.Harikrishnan \(at\) iaea.org](mailto:T.Harikrishnan@iaea.org))

### **28. Briefing paper on gender aspects in the Latin American garment industry**

[SOMO](#), in collaboration with Fundación El Otro / Interrupción, Plades and GMIES, will publish a briefing paper on gender aspects in the Latin American garment industry in February 2011. The study examines three countries, Argentina, Peru and El Salvador, in which gender related problems in garment production facilities differ considerably. Issues analyzed include women's double burden, the situation of (female) domestic workers, gender and immigration, female participation in trade unions, and discrimination against pregnant workers. The paper also gives an overview of (the lack of) gender issues taken up in codes of conduct and global CSR standards and initiatives.

→ For more information contact Martje Theuws, SOMO ([m.theuws \(at\) sono.nl](mailto:m.theuws@sono.nl))

### **29. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to recruit a Latin America Researcher**

Beginning later this month or in March, the Resource Centre will launch recruitment of a part-time, Spanish-speaking regional researcher based in Latin America, probably Colombia or Peru. The job announcement will appear on the Resource Centre's website and in its [Weekly Updates](#). Anyone wishing to receive the job announcement as soon as it is issued should contact Mauricio Lazala: [lazala \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:lazala@business-humanrights.org)

→ Contributed by Mauricio Lazala, Deputy Director, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

## **Asia/Pacific**

### **30. Consultation on child labour in the garment sector – India, 11 May**

The [Global March Against Child Labour](#) is organising a stakeholder consultation to be held in New Delhi on 11 May 2011 to ensure greater coherence and solidarity in combating child labour and ensuring decent working conditions in the garment sector.

The consultation, "Roadmap 2016 and the Garment Sector", will be held at the India Habitat Centre 12 months after the acclamation of the Roadmap for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2016 on 11 May 2010. The one-day event will be open to participation of all stakeholder groups, including relevant government departments, domestic and international manufacturing and garment retail companies, trade unions, civil society organisations, certification and social compliance initiatives, UN agencies and relevant international organisations.

The objective will be to bring together all the different interest groups to discuss a way forward in tackling child labour and promoting the application of core labour standards at all levels of the supply chain in garment manufacturing.

→ Contributed by Priyanka, Global March Against Child Labour ([priyanka \(at\) globalmarch.org](mailto:priyanka@globalmarch.org))

### **31. Celebration of indigenous people's resistance to mining & militarization – Philippines, 26-27 Apr**

On 26-27 April 2011 the [Cordillera Peoples Alliance \(CPA\)](#) will hold the 27<sup>th</sup> Cordillera Day celebration in the province of Abra, Philippines, as a regionally centralized celebration. Since its take-off in 1985 from the earlier Macliing Memorials (1980-1984), the Cordillera Day celebration has been an annual tradition vital to affirming the Cordillera people's unity in defending their ancestral domain and in struggling for self determination and national democracy.

Cordillera Day 2011 will focus on burning issues of the Cordillera peoples, including mining, militarization, and human rights violations. Mining remains a big issue as nearly a million hectares or 51% of the Cordillera land area is currently covered by the licensed operations and pending applications of transnational corporations and their Filipino partners. Mining plunder and development aggression have caused environmental disasters and aggravated the vulnerability of indigenous Cordillera communities to climate change. To suppress community resistance to large mining projects, the state has deployed four regular battalions and three special battalions of the Philippine Army to mining areas. As in the past, militarization has resulted in countless human rights violations. Thus this 27<sup>th</sup> Cordillera Day elders and tribal leaders will preside over the forging of a multilateral unity pact to resist mining plunder and human rights violations. This historic event has the theme "Live out our glorious history of struggle. Fight for land, life and honor!"

→ For further information, email Windel Bolinget, Chairperson, Cordillera Peoples Alliance ([windel \(at\) cpaphils.org](mailto:windel@cpaphils.org))

### **32. "Disability and Corporate Social Responsibility" summit – India, 11-14 Feb**

A four-day national summit on the theme of "Disability and Corporate Social Responsibility" is to be organized by [Society for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies \(SDRS\)](#), as a sequel to its nationwide social awareness campaign, at Auditorium, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, from 11-14 February 2011. The basic objective of the summit is to assess the role and importance of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in empowering persons with disabilities, and thereby suggesting remedial measures for streamlining the delivery system.

During the four-day summit the proceedings will emphasize the importance of CSR disability initiatives with a rights-based approach. Themes to be discussed range from formulation of CSR policies to comparison of CSR policy in India and Western Countries; planning, implementation and monitoring mechanism for CSR activities; and the role of media, NGOs, civil society and advocacy groups in advancing CSR.

→ Contributed by Dr G. N. Karna, Honorary President and Programme Convener ([drgnkarna \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:drgnkarna@gmail.com))

### **33. makeITfair report on working conditions at Chinese electronics factories**

In February 2011, the [makeITfair project](#) will publish a research report on working conditions at four electronics factories operating in the Chinese province Guangdong, namely Celestica Technology, Flextronics International (and their Multek unit), and Hong Fu Jin Precision of Foxconn. They manufacture or deliver components to portable music player, multimedia phone and video game console companies, namely Apple, Microsoft, Motorola, Philips and Sony. In recent years the growth of both the market for and production of portable music players and video game consoles has been dramatic. Also, multimedia phones with music players are becoming commonplace among Western consumers. Most game consoles and portable music players as well as one of every two mobile phones are manufactured in China. Many workers in China's electronics sector are denied many of their basic rights.

→ For more information contact makeITfair ([info \(at\) makeitfair.org](mailto:info@makeitfair.org))

### **34. Seminar on "Vulture Funds", debt relief & human rights – Melbourne, 10 Feb**

On 10 February 2011, the [Human Rights Law Resource Centre](#) and the [Castan Centre for Human Rights Law](#) will host a seminar in Melbourne, Australia, with Dr Lumina, the UN Independent Expert on Foreign Debt and Human Rights. The seminar is entitled "Preying on the Poor: 'Vulture Funds', Debt Relief & Human Rights in Developing

Countries". In his capacity as Independent Expert, Dr Lumina has been a leading advocate of debt relief to heavily indebted poor countries and of legislation to prevent profiteering by "vulture funds".

→ Contributed by Phil Lynch, Human Rights Law Resource Centre. For more information, contact: [castan.centre \(at\) monash.edu](mailto:castan.centre@monash.edu)

### **35. 6th National Conference of Global Compact Network of India**

The Global Compact Network of India will be hosting their 6<sup>th</sup> National Conference on 4 February 2011 in Hyderabad, India. The conference will highlight comprehensive strategies and actions to be adopted by businesses for reaching full potential with respect to environmental and labour challenges. The convention will entail two panel discussions: one on vendor selection criteria, reporting standards, and related issues; and the other one on challenges with administration of the law, government departments and enforcement agencies. The convention will highlight the need to adopt sustainable and environmentally-friendly technologies which can generate benefits for the companies.

Global Compact Network of India is part of the United Nations Global Compact initiative. More than 250 Indian companies and organizations are already participating in the UN Global Compact.

→ Contributed by Pragya D Varma, Global Compact Network of India ([gcnindia \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:gcnindia@gmail.com))

### **36. Conference on ESG & Impact Investing – Tokyo, 26-27 May**

[TBLI Conference](#)<sup>TM</sup> is the world's largest annual international education and networking event on ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) and Impact Investing. Conference participants are afforded plenty of opportunities to network, which is one of the conference's main *raison d'être*. Topics of sessions include subjects such as: Corporate Governance, Carbon Finance, Sustainable Private Equity, Alternative Energy Finance, TBLI Research, Green Real Estate, Transparency, Human Rights, ESG Integration into Portfolios, Fund Performance and Strategy, Public Private Partnerships and many more. The Tokyo conference will be held at Four Seasons at Chinzan-so Hotel.

→ Contributed by Frank Stevens, TBLI Conference ([frank \(at\) tbli.org](mailto:frank@tbli.org))

### **37. Research mission to Bangladesh – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

The Resource Centre is planning a mission to Bangladesh during the first half of 2011, to broaden its range of contacts among NGOs, companies and others. The mission delegate will collect reports and statements that have been issued about the positive & negative human rights impacts of companies in Bangladesh, including in relation to labour rights in the textile sector, environmental and safety issues in the ship-breaking sector, and industrial pollution.

→ Contributed by Harpreet Kaur, South Asia Researcher, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: [kaur \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:kaur@business-humanrights.org)

## **Europe & Central Asia**

### **38. UK Commission requests tenders to review guidance on business & human rights for UK firms**

The UK [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) requests tenders to review guidance on business & human rights aimed at UK businesses. The aims of the project are to map out and evaluate existing guidance on business and human rights and specifically to examine key recent guidance available in English on the subject; highlight guidance relating specifically to the UK or indicate if no such guidance can be found; outline gaps in the guidance; and indicate key areas for future research work. The deadline for submitting proposals is 11 February 2011. For more information see the Research Brief available [here](#).

In recent inquiries, the Commission has highlighted that there are substantial business and human rights issues within the UK borders. It established a Working Group on Business and Human Rights with a key priority to produce practical guidance aimed at UK businesses, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises. The review will shape the Working Group's decision on how to proceed.

→ Submitted by Susanna Kalitowski, Equality and Human Rights Commission ([susanna.kalitowski \(at\) equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:susanna.kalitowski@equalityhumanrights.com))



### **39. UK: Call for better regulation to protect workers from abuse by labour providers**

Extensive evidence has demonstrated the widespread exploitation of workers, including forced labour, by unregulated labour providers operating across a number of sectors in the UK. Sectors particularly at risk of abuse include hospitality, care services and construction.

In order to strengthen the protection of the rights of vulnerable workers in these and other sectors, a coalition of non-governmental and business organisations is calling for the Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate to merge with the Gangmasters Licensing Authority. As well as offering greater protection for vulnerable workers, the extension of the successful GLA enforcement model of intelligence led and proportionate enforcement to affected sectors would provide a level and competitive playing field for business, reduce regulatory burdens and help combat tax evasion and exchequer fraud.

The proposal is supported by Anti-Slavery International, Association of Labour Providers, Ethical Trading Initiative, Ecumenical Council on Corporate Responsibility, Institute for Human Rights and Business and Oxfam GB. We welcome support for this proposal from business and non-governmental organizations from all sectors.

→ For more information or to express your organization's support please contact Neill Wilkins, Project Co-ordinator, Institute for Human Rights and Business ([neill.wilkins \(at\) institutehrb.org](mailto:neill.wilkins@institutehrb.org)) or Joanna Ewart-James, Anti-Slavery International ([j.ewart-james \(at\) antislavery.org](mailto:j.ewart-james@antislavery.org))

### **40. Job posting: Coordinator of UK Parliamentary Group on Business, Human Rights & the Environment**

A new all party parliamentary group (APPG) has been established to improve Government oversight of UK companies through increased prominence of corporate accountability issues in Parliament and enhanced civil society influence on relevant political and legal processes. This exciting new part time position, based in Lisa Nandy MP's office in Parliament, will drive forward the work of the APPG through managing and co-ordinating all aspects of the APPG's work. The deadline for applications is 14 February.

The main purpose of the Coordinator role is to lead and manage the work of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Business, Human Rights & the Environment. This includes managing relationships with members of the group and external partners effectively, managing projects to time and specification, and contributing to the sustained growth and development of the group.

For more information, including details of how to apply, click [here](#).

→ Contributed by Hannah Ellis, CORE Coalition ([hannah.ellis \(at\) foe.co.uk](mailto:hannah.ellis@foe.co.uk))

### **41. Research mission to Czech Republic, Slovakia & Hungary – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

In April the Resource Centre is planning a mission to these three countries, to broaden its range of NGO and company contacts. The mission delegates will collect reports and statements that have been issued about the positive & negative human rights impacts of companies, including in relation to pollution, health & safety, labour rights, and discrimination against Roma in employment.

→ Contributed by Ella Skybenko, Eastern Europe & Central Asia Researcher, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: [skybenko \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:skybenko@business-humanrights.org)

## **Middle East & North Africa**

### **42. Forthcoming panel discussion on legal case against Riwal over alleged complicity with Israeli war crimes in West Bank**

In March 2010 [Al Haq](#) and Liesbeth Zegveld of the Dutch law firm Böhler Advocaten lodged a criminal complaint against the Dutch private rental company, Riwal. The complaint alleges that the company is complicit in war crimes and crimes against humanity because it supplies cranes and platforms for the construction of the "Wall" and settlements in the Occupied West Bank. The lodging of the complaint against Riwal is part of Al Haq's ongoing efforts to ensure accountability for the many corporations that are allegedly complicit in violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The investigations of the Dutch prosecutor into Riwal are ongoing.

In an effort to raise awareness about this case and generate a wider discussion about corporate accountability and the benefits and challenges of pursuing companies for violations of international law and human rights abuses, Al Haq is organising a panel discussion in which the issues can be debated and discussed. The panel discussion will take place in London in March 2011, the exact date and place are still being finalised.

→ For more information please contact Salma Karmy at Al Haq ([salma.alhaq \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:salma.alhaq@gmail.com); Tel: +972-2-295-4646)

#### **43. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to recruit a Middle East Researcher**

The Resource Centre plans to recruit a part-time, Arabic-speaking regional researcher based in the Middle East, in the second half of 2011. The job announcement will appear on the Resource Centre's website and in its [Weekly Updates](#) when the recruitment is launched. Anyone wishing to receive the job announcement as soon as it is issued should contact Malena Bengtsson: [bengtsson \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:bengtsson (at) business-humanrights.org)

→ Contributed by Malena Bengtsson, Researcher, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

### **Español**

#### **44. Lanzamiento de oro Fairtrade y Fairmined para el Día de San Valentín, 2011**

Regalar joyas de oro es un bello gesto de amor. Sin embargo, muchas veces la extracción del oro no es una historia bonita. Por eso, el primer oro Fairtrade y Fairmined producido en Latinoamérica será lanzado al mundo por la Fairtrade Foundation y la Alianza por la Minería Responsable (ARM) para el Día de San Valentín, 2011 (14 de febrero).

Será un acontecimiento pionero que abrirá un mundo de oportunidades para miles de mineros artesanales y de pequeña escala permitiéndoles vender su oro en condiciones Fairtrade y Fairmined e invertir la prima que recibirán por vender dentro del sistema de comercio justo en el mejoramiento de prácticas empresariales y en proyectos de sus comunidades. El primer oro Fairtrade y Fairmined será producido por mineros de Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador y Perú, países que forman parte de una red de proyectos piloto que también incluyen pilotos en África y posteriormente en Asia.

El oro Fairtrade y Fairmined será inicialmente lanzado en el Reino Unido y luego se expandirá en otros países, con la visión a largo plazo de captar 5% del mercado joyero de oro en los próximos 15 años. El oro de comercio justo será co-etiquetado con los sellos de Fairtrade y Fairmined lo que demostrará la fuerza de la alianza entre las dos organizaciones.

→ Para más información visite [www.fairtrade.org.uk/gold](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/gold) y [www.communitymining.org](http://www.communitymining.org)

#### **45. El Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos (CIEDH) contratará un/a investigador/a en América Latina**

A finales de febrero o en marzo, el CIEDH lanzará el aviso de un nuevo puesto de trabajo para un/a investigador/a regional hispanoparlante y de tiempo parcial basado/a en América Latina, probablemente en Colombia o Perú. El anuncio de empleo aparecerá en la [página web del CIEDH](#) y en su boletín de [Actualizaciones Semanales](#). Cualquier persona que desee recibir el aviso de trabajo tan pronto como se emita debe comunicarse con Mauricio Lazala en [lazala \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:lazala (at) business-humanrights.org)

→ Contribuido por Mauricio Lazala, Sub-Director, Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos

### **Français**

#### **46. Rapport sur les investissements d'industries minières suisses en République Démocratique du Congo (RDC)**

En mars 2011, Pain pour le prochain et Action de Carême, en collaboration avec la Benchmarks Foundation (Afrique du Sud) vont publier un rapport sur les investissements d'entreprises transnationales suisses, actives dans le secteur minier, en République Démocratique du Congo. La recherche fera le portrait du réseau économique – fait de joint ventures et de fournisseurs – de ces entreprises. Elle présentera également les enjeux

liés à l'attribution de licences ayant appartenu à l'entreprise d'Etat Gécamine au sortir de la guerre civile – entre 2000 et 2006 – ainsi que le processus de revisitation de ces contrats de 2007 à 2009. L'enquête enfin fera le point sur la situation en matière de droits humains et d'environnement, dans les mines de cuivre et de cobalt qui fournissent ces entreprises suisses.

→ Pour plus d'informations contacter Chantal Peyer, Pain pour le prochain ([peyer \(at\) bfa-ppp.ch](mailto:peyer(at)bfa-ppp.ch))

#### **47. Sénégal : Constitution d'un nouveau réseau de la société civile pour le suivi des activités extractives**

La société civile sénégalaise est découragée du fait qu'en dépit des codes de conduite, des directives minières et des engagements pris par les sociétés extractives, il semble que peu de choses changent réellement pour les collectivités locales. C'est la raison pour laquelle, le Groupe AGORA pour l'Education aux Droits de l'Enfant et à la paix "GRA-REDEP" – en collaboration avec la Rencontre Africaine pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO), l'Organisation Nationale des Droits de l'Homme (ONDH), le Forum Civil, l'ONG La Lumière, l'Association Kédougou Action Développement, etc. – tiendra le 12 février 2011 une Assemblée Générale constitutive pour la mise en place d'un Réseau des Acteurs de la Société civile pour le Suivi des Activités Extractives au Sénégal. Ce Réseau aura pour objectifs, entre autres, de sensibiliser les communautés minières aux enjeux des activités extractives et à leurs droits de participer activement à la surveillance de progrès réalisés sur le terrain par les industries extractives, aux véritables améliorations liées aux intérêts des collectivités locales. Le Réseau favorisera également la responsabilisation, la transparence, l'efficacité du développement et le dialogue constructif entre les communautés locales en changeant les pratiques existantes dans le domaine social et environnemental.

→ Contribution de Gaspard Onokoko Onosal, Président du GRA-REDEP ([gaspano \(at\) yahoo.fr](mailto:gaspano(at)yahoo.fr))

#### **48. Forum de Dakar sur la RSE – du 22 au 24 mars 2011**

[RSE Sénégal](#) et l'Ambassade du Canada au Sénégal organisent la [3<sup>ème</sup> édition du Forum de Dakar sur la RSE](#) qui se tiendra du 22 au 24 mars 2011 autour du thème central : « l'ancrage territorial des entreprises dans le cadre de la RSE ». La RSE fait ressortir diverses problématiques dont les plus importantes sont les relations avec les communautés locales, le respect et la promotion de la culture locale et les investissements sociaux. Le Forum apportera une réponse à ces problématiques.

Cet évènement servira également de tribune pour d'une part, lancer officiellement le processus de création d'un réseau régional d'entreprises pour la Responsabilité sociétale, d'autre part, présenter aux entreprises la norme sur la RSE (ISO 26000) tout récemment publié et enfin, réfléchir à la mise en place d'un cadre légal, réglementaire et fiscal incitatif pour le soutien par les entreprises de micro projets de développement communautaire. Le programme contient de nombreux thèmes de discussion tels que le renforcement du dialogue entre les entreprises et les collectivités locales et la démultiplication de l'investissement social des entreprises grâce aux PPP et à un cadre juridique et institutionnel incitatif.

→ Contribution de Philippe Barry, RSE Sénégal ([rsesenegal \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:rsesenegal(at)gmail.com))

#### **49. Ghana : La société civile restera mobilisée pour que le projet de loi sur les revenus pétroliers intègre des dispositions assurant la transparence**

Le parlement Ghanéen est en train d'examiner un projet de loi sur la gestion des revenus pétroliers depuis Décembre 2010. La coalition Publiez Ce Que Vous Payez a mis en place un groupe de travail de 150 organisations membres dans le but de promouvoir la transparence et la participation de la société civile. Suite à l'intégration dans le projet de loi de 90% des propositions faites par ce groupe de travail, la société civile reste mobilisée pour que ses propositions soient intégrées dans le texte qui sera voté ; la société civile espère que le projet sera voté au cours de l'année 2011. Parmi ses propositions figurent entre autres la publication des contrats signés entre les compagnies et l'Etat et la mise en place d'une autorité indépendante de régulation des opérations pétrolières.

Oxfam soutient la coalition Publiez Ce Que Vous Payez dans cette initiative.

Pour rappel, le Ghana a rejoint le cercle restreint des pays africains producteurs de pétrole depuis mi-décembre. C'est la compagnie anglo-irlandaise Tullow qui exploite le pétrole ghanéen.

→ Contribution d'Aliou Bassoum, Chargé de communication, Oxfam America – Afrique de l'ouest ([abassoum \(at\) oxfamamerica.org](mailto:abassoum(at)oxfamamerica.org))

## **50. Mission de recherche en République Démocratique du Congo – Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises et les Droits de l’Homme**

Le Centre de Ressources prépare une mission au Katanga, en RDC, dans la seconde moitié de l’année 2011, pour y rencontrer diverses ONG, entreprises et autres parties prenantes. Les délégués rassembleront des rapports et des déclarations concernant des initiatives positives lancées par des entreprises de la région mais aussi des abus tels que la complicité des entreprises dans des massacres, le déplacement des communautés ainsi que le travail forcé et le travail des enfants qui alimentent la chaîne d’approvisionnement en minerais.

→ *Contribution d’Aliou Diouf, Chercheur pour l’Afrique Francophone, Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l’Homme* ([diouf \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:diouf@business-humanrights.org))

## **Portuguese**

### **51. Brasil: O Pacto Nacional pela Erradicação do Trabalho Escravo**

Em maio de 2011, o Pacto Nacional pela Erradicação do Trabalho Escravo que tem a missão de implementar ferramentas para que o setor empresarial e a sociedade brasileira não comercializem produtos de fornecedores que usaram trabalho escravo, completará 6 anos de existência com mais de 140 empresas, entidades e organizações da sociedade civil signatárias. Tais organizações respondem por 25% do PIB do país.

As principais cadeias produtivas flagradas com trabalho escravo no Brasil são a da pecuária e a do aço (carvão vegetal). Mas outras cadeias como têxtil/algodão e cana de açúcar são também importantes. O envolvimento do setor empresarial no combate a essa prática tem se demonstrado fundamental, não somente pela inclusão de cláusulas em seus códigos de conduta e contratos que proíbem o uso de mão-de-obra escrava em suas cadeias de valor, mas também por sua disposição na criação de postos de trabalho decente.

A iniciativa do Pacto Nacional, liderada pelo Instituto Ethos, Organização Internacional do Trabalho (OIT), ONG Repórter Brasil e Instituto Observatório Social, desenvolveu também uma plataforma digital de monitoramento dos acordos assumidos pelas signatárias. Tornou-se ainda referência internacional e, no momento, a partir de um estudo sobre a cadeia produtiva do aço que implicou as grandes montadoras de automóveis, vem avançando fortemente em sua expansão para os países onde as empresas do setor mantém suas matrizes.

→ *Para saber mais:* [www.pactonacional.com.br](http://www.pactonacional.com.br)

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