



**28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and
BIENNIAL CONFERENCE of the**

ASIA PACIFIC FORUM OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS

20 – 21 September, 2023

Vigyan Bhavan

New Delhi, INDIA

Wednesday 20th September 2023 OPENING CEREMONY – 2023 CONFERENCE		
09:00 – 09:30	Transfer to venue	From Hyatt Regency
09:30 – 10:00	Arrival – Security and Seating	
11:00 – 12:00	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrival of Hon'ble President of India - National Anthem - Lighting of the Lamp - Presentation of Bouquet to the Hon'ble President by Justice Arun Mishra - Welcome address: Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General NHRC India, Welcome Speech - Address by: Ms Amina Bouayach, Secretary, Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions - Address by: Mr. Doo-Hwan Song, Chairperson, Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions - Keynote address: Justice Arun Mishra, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of India 	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor)

	Inaugural address by Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India - National Anthem	
12:00 – 12:30	High Tea	Atrium, (Ground Floor)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Restricted meeting of Forum Councillors, APF members and invited observers only)		
12:00 – 12:30	REGISTRATION (AGM delegates only)	Hall 2 &3 (First Floor)
12:30 – 13:30	Chair: Mr. Khunan Jargalsaikhan Deputy Chairperson, APF Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia The Dialogue will provide an opportunity for NHRIs and civil society representatives to discuss developments and challenges in the region; to consider opportunities for partnership and collaboration; and to share and learn good practice. Discussion, Questions & Answers session 1. CSOs, in partnership with NHRIs, play a vital role in the national protection and promotion of human rights. How can this partnership, at the national and regional level, be strengthened? 2. How can CSOs and NHRIs work together to respond to, and mitigate the human rights impacts of climate change and environmental harm?	Hall 2 & 3
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch	Atrium (Ground Floor)
14:30 – 16:00	APF Forum Councillors and Annual General Meeting Chair: Mr. Doo-Hwan Song , Chairperson, APF and Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of Korea Agenda - Confirmation of Attendance and Apologies - Adoption of Agenda - APF Chairperson's Welcome - Host (NHRC India) Chairperson's welcome - APF Performance Report - Gender Mainstreaming - Audited Accounts - Status of APF members following GANHRI accreditation - Election of APF Governance Committee - International engagement o GANHRI (Chairperson's video message)	Hall 2 & 3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ United Nations Agencies - General Business 	
16:00 – 16:30	Afternoon Tea	Outside Hall 2 & 3 (First Floor)
16:30 – 17:30	Continuation of business items (if required)	
17:30	Transfer to hotel	
19:00 – 21:00	Cultural programme and Dinner (invited delegates only) Hosted by the National Human Rights Commission of India	Regency Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Hotel

Thursday 21st September BIENNIAL CONFERENCE ‘Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the adoption of the Paris Principles, along with the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’		
09:00 – 09:45	Transfer to Vigyan Bhavan (Venue) from Hotel	
10:00 – 11:15	<p style="text-align: center;">Session – 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Setting the Scene: 30 years of promoting and protecting Human Rights across Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Sureni Jayaweera Perera Commissioner, Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission</p> <p>Keynote Address: Justice Arun Mishra Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of India</p> <p>Pre-recorded Video message: Mr. Volker Türk United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Samar Haj Hasan Chairperson, Jordan National Centre for Human Rights - Mr. Vladlen Stefanov Chief, National Institutions, Regional Mechanisms and Civil Society Section, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) - Mr. Khunan Jargalsaikhan Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia - Mr. Suhas Chakma Director, Rights & Risks Analysis Group <p>Discussion – Q & A</p>	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor) <p>(10 mins)</p> <p>(10 mins)</p> <p>(10 mins)</p> <p>(10 mins)</p> <p>(15 mins)</p>

<p>Objective: We'll set the scene and discuss the role of NHRIs in protecting and promoting human rights; and take stock of their achievements across the Asia Pacific region. We'll also hear about the importance of partnerships and collaborating with stakeholders such as CSOs and UN agencies.</p>		
11:15 – 11:45	High Tea	Atrium (Ground Floor)
11:45 – 13:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Session – 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advancing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its promise of freedom, equality, and justice for all</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Mohammed Al-Kuwari Vice-Chairperson, National Human Rights Committee of Qatar</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dynaneshwar M. Mulay Member, National Human Rights Commission of India (10 mins) • Ms. Pornprapai Ganjanarintr Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (10 mins) • Mr. Rory Mungoven Chief, Asia Pacific Section, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (10 mins) • Dr. Sakuntala Kadirgamar Executive Director, Law and Society Trust (10 mins) • Ms. Ola Adawi International Relations & Programme Development Officer, Palestine Independent Commission for Human Rights (10 mins) • Mr. Syed Akbaradduddin Dean, Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad (10 mins) <p>Discussion – Q & A (15 mins)</p>	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor)
<p>Objective: We'll dive into the importance of the UDHR and hear some of the challenging and difficult environments NHRIs have had to navigate. Speakers will share their experiences on how they continue to tackle present and/ or future challenges; and we'll consider how the network can collectively support its members.</p>		
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	Atrium (Ground Floor)
14:00 – 15:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Session – 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The role of NHRIs in responding to and mitigating the human rights impacts of climate change</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Rosalind Croucher President, Australian Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Video message: Dr. Ian Fry United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Context of Climate Change</p> <p>Panellists:</p>	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Rajiv Jain Member, National Human Rights Commission of India - Ms. Faydah Dumarpa Commissioner, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines - Ms. Amina Bouayach Secretary, Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions - Mr. Eunhyeon Mun Director of International Human Rights Division, National Human Rights Commission of Korea - Dr. Kundan Aryal Chairperson, Informal Sector Service Centre - Ms. Sunita Narain Director-General, Centre for Science & Environment <p>Discussion – Q & A</p>	<p>(10mins)</p> <p>(10mins)</p> <p>(10mins)</p> <p>(10mins)</p> <p>(10mins)</p> <p>(10mins)</p> <p>(20mins)</p>
<p>One of the most urgent human rights issues facing communities across the Asia Pacific region is the impact of climate change and environmental harm. Across the region, millions of people are at risk from rising sea levels, extreme weather events, increasing salination, drought, disease and other changes caused by a warming planet. In addition, the operations of national and transnational corporations can result in emissions, pollution and other environmental damage that compromises the health and livelihoods of communities.</p> <p>We also know that the human rights impact on vulnerable groups – including women, children, people with disabilities and indigenous peoples – is greatly magnified.</p> <p>This final session will consider the human rights impact of climate change and discuss the vital role of NHRIs in responding to and mitigating these impacts. Speakers will highlight case studies and share their experience on linking international commitments made by their State with national actions. Speakers will also highlight examples of regional and international actions and experiences; and consider recommendations on how we can support and partner with each other to further promote and protect human rights.</p>		
15:30– 16:00	Afternoon Tea	Atrium (Ground Floor)
16:00 – 16:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Presentation of Conference Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Anita Sinha, Joint Secretary, National Human Rights Commission of India - Mr. Kieren Fitzpatrick Director, Secretariat, Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions 	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor)
16:30 – 17:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closing remarks: Justice Arun Mishra Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of India - Closing remarks: Mr. Doo-Hwan Song Chairperson, APF 	Plenary Hall (Ground Floor)

	Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission of Korea - Vote of Thanks: Ms. Anita Sinha Joint Secretary, National Human Rights Commission of India	
17:30	Transfer back to hotel	