



Wilton Park

Programme

Burma / Myanmar, business and human rights: setting standards for responsible business

Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 November 2012 | WP1195

Over the past year, Burma / Myanmar has undergone changes at a pace not witnessed in five decades. These developments are leading to enhanced engagement with the international community. Foreign investors who have stayed out of Burma / Myanmar are now keen to explore opportunities. Several companies and governments would like to ensure that the impact of their investments is positive, and that their conduct does not harm human rights. The UN's Guiding Principles for the implementation of the 'Protect, Respect, Remedy' framework on business and human rights provide standards on how they can operate in ways consistent with international human rights standards. The conference aims to encourage businesses to work collectively and develop a set of principles to ensure that their conduct takes into account Burma's / Myanmar's specific situation.

By invitation only.

In partnership with:

The Institute of Human Rights and Business, London

With support from:

Ericsson AB and GE Foundation

(Speakers invited and themes proposed, * denotes to be confirmed)

Wednesday 7 November

1300-1430 Participants arrive and buffet lunch available

1500 **Welcome and introduction**

Isobelle Jaques

Programme Director, Wilton Park, Steyning

Aim and outcomes

John Morrison

Executive Director, Institute for Human Rights and Business, London

In Partnership with:



With support from:



GE Foundation

1515-1645

1. Understanding the context and the challenges

Soe Thane

Minister for the President's Office, Government of the Union of Myanmar, Naypyidaw

Vijay Nambiar

Secretary-General's Special Representative on Myanmar, United Nations, New York

John Murton

Head, ASEAN Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Robert S Pe

Personal Representative of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the National League for Democracy, Yangon

1645-1730

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1730-1900

2. Political context

Kyaw Yin Hlaing

Director of Academic and Research, Myanmar Egress

Robert Gordon

Former Ambassador to Burma (1995 to 1999); Chairman, Prospect Burma, London

The political context of economic reform: challenges of democratization beyond 2015

Tin Maung Than

Senior Research Fellow, Training and Communication, Myanmar Development Research Institute

1900

Reception

1900

Dinner

Welcome by

The Rt Hon Hugo Swire MP

Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Opening remarks by

The Rt Hon Alan Duncan MP

Minister of State, Department for International Development, London

Thursday 8 November

0800

Breakfast

0900-1030

3. Economic context

Moe Kyaw

Managing Director and Joint Secretary General, Myanmar Marketing Research & Development Research Services (MMRSRS), Yangon

Sean Turnell

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Macquarie University, Sydney

Elaine Weidman Grunewald

Vice President, Corporate Responsibility, Ericsson, Stockholm

1030-1100

Tea/coffee

1100-1230

4. Business environment

Serge Pun

Chairman, Serge Pun and Associates (Myanmar), Yangon

Salil Tripathi

Director of Policy, Institute for Human Rights and Business, London

Rae Lindsay

Partner, Clifford Chance, London

1245-1500

Lunch

1500-1630

5. Dealing with conflict and complex environments

Sai Aung Thein

Public Relations and Communication Officer, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD), Yangon

Donna Guest

Southeast Asia Programme Manager, Institute for Human Rights and Business, London

Anita Ramasastry

D. Wayne & Anne Gittinger Professor of Law, University of Washington

1630-1700

Tea/coffee

1700-1830

6. Dealing with labour rights

Stephen Marshall

Liaison Officer, International Labour Organisation Office, Yangon

Ed Potter

Director, Global Workplace Rights, The Coca Cola Company, Atlanta

Jeff Vogt

Legal Adviser, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Brussels

1930

Reception followed by dinner

Friday 9 November

0800-0845

Breakfast

0900-1045

7. Applying frameworks: the Guiding Principles (GPs)

Allan Jorgensen

Senior Adviser, Danish Institute for Human Rights, Copenhagen

Gérald Pachoud

Senior Adviser to the Assistant Secretary General, Peacebuilding Support Office, United Nations, New York

The Guiding Principles, local business law and practice

Daw Than Nwe

Retired Law Professor, Yangon

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

8. Applying frameworks:

i. Land rights

Win Myo Thu

Managing Partner, EcoDev, Yangon

ii. Corruption

David Allan

Director, Spectrum, Yangon

1315-1500

Lunch with remarks by:

Lord Howell of Guildford

House of Lords, London

1500-1630

9. Concluding session: what are the next steps?

Soe Thane

Minister for the President's Office, Government of the Union of Myanmar, Naypyidaw

John Murton

Head, ASEAN Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Robert San Pe

Personal Representative of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the National League for Democracy

John Morrison

Executive Director, Institute for Human Rights and Business, London

1645

Participants depart