

## *The role of the private sector in fostering peace, justice and strong institutions*

Global Rule of Law Exchange annual conference

Wednesday 2 May, 2018

Jones Day, 21 Tudor Street, London EC4Y 0DJ

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The 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encompass a wide range of ambitious objectives, from ending poverty, to improving global health, providing education for all, and mitigating climate change. The private sector role in achieving these goals is widely understood; however, it is often viewed as consisting exclusively of financing development initiatives, generating economic growth, job creation, or tax revenue.

SDG 16, relating to peace, justice and strong institutions, presents a set of issues of particular salience to the private sector, including a number of factors that directly foster stable business environments. This conference will consider various questions arising from the intersection of business and SDG 16, including:

- Why should the business community engage to advance SDG 16's themes of peace, justice and strong institutions?
- In what ways might the SDGs generally, and SDG 16 in particular, be "good for business"?
- What is the business community's role in advancing SDG 16? What tools and instruments can help the private sector work to advance the Goal? How can the private sector engage with other stakeholders, including government and law firms, in advancing SDG 16?
- What are actions, both internal and external, that business can take to concretely advance SDG 16?
- Does commitment to SDG16 conflict with or complement other compliance and reporting requirements, including on human rights?
- How and where should the private sector deploy its resources in an effective way to meet these various obligations?

In considering these questions, the conference aims to generate greater understanding of the business case for private sector engagement on SDG 16, and concrete ideas for action. It will inform ongoing work of the Bingham Centre on international development, business and the rule of law. The conference also represents an important opportunity to discuss how the private sector – along with other key stakeholders – can play an influential role in advancing SDG 16, and to reflect on the most promising ways forward.

This conference is organised by the Global Rule of Law Exchange (law firm Jones Day is the global partner for the Exchange). Linkages to leading organisations working on SDG 16 (the UN/UNGC, the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies<sup>1</sup>, the OECD, etc) will ensure that conference outputs will contribute to informing ongoing policy discussions on the relationship between the private sector and SDG 16.

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

8.30-9.00 Welcome Coffee & Registration

9.00-9.15 **Welcome Comments**

- John Phillips, Partner-in-Charge, Jones Day London
- Ulysses Smith, Director of the Business and the Rule of Law Programme, Senior Research Fellow, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

9.15-9.45 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS - A GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE**

Harriett Baldwin MP, Minister of State for Africa at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Minister of State at the Department for International Development

*“Working together to foster peace, justice and strong institutions”*

Chair: Murray Hunt, Director, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

9.45-10.10 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS – A PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVE**

Manoelle Lepoutre, Senior Vice President, Civil Society Engagement, Total

*“What can the business community do to advance the implementation of the UN SDGs generally, and UN SDGs 16 (peace, justice and sustainable institutions) in particular?”*

Chair: Murray Hunt, Director, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

10.10-11.25 **Panel One – The Business Case: WHY should the private sector engage to advance peace, justice and strong institutions?**

Panellists will consider the business case for private sector engagement on SDG 16, why governance and the rule of law matter to business; and what responsibility business has to foster better governance. The panel will also highlight challenges that may be encountered in the process.

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<sup>1</sup> The Pathfinders is a group of member states, international organizations, global partnerships, and other partners, convened by the governments of Brazil, Switzerland, and Sierra Leone, and supported by the Center on International Cooperation.

**Speakers:**

- Esteban Mezzano, General Counsel Zone Americas & Legal in Sustainability & CSV, Nestlé
- Bob Cusumano, former Group General Counsel of ACE Ltd, CEO of Legal Horizons Foundation
- Ulysses Smith, Director of the Business and the Rule of Law Programme, Senior Research Fellow, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law
- Manoelle Lepoutre, Senior Vice President, Civil Society Engagement, Total
  
- Chair: Farooq Ullah, Co-Chair, UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development (UKSSD)

**11.25 -11.45 COFFEE BREAK**

**11.45-1.00 Panel Two – HOW should the private sector engage to advance peace, justice and strong institutions?**

The private sector can play a leading role in advancing peace, justice and strong institutions, both internally within their organisations and externally through international frameworks and initiatives. By providing concrete examples from across various industries, this panel will highlight specific contributions by the private sector, as well as strategies, tools and approaches that can be used to advance peace, justice and strong institutions.

- David Croft, Global Sustainable Development Director, Diageo
- Nadiya Aziz, in-house counsel, Safaricom Limited
- Michael Addo, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, Director, London Law Program, University of Notre Dame
- Oluseyi Ojurongbe, Manager, Sahara Foundation
  
- Chair: Mike Tuffrey, Co-Founder, Corporate Citizenship

**1.00-2.00 LUNCH**

**2.00-3.15 Panel Three – WHO can help the private sector engage to advance peace, justice and strong institutions?**

In addition to the private sector, the legal profession, third party advisers, justice innovators, civil society, governments and concerned citizens all play an important role in fostering peace, justice and strong institutions. This panel will consider how these stakeholders can engage with the business community to promote SDG 16.

- Dr Henry Mbawa, Coordinator, The Justice Sector Coordination Office, Ministry of Justice, Sierra Leone
- Prof. Maurits Barendrecht, Research Director, HiiL, Professor Tilburg University
- Yasmin Batliwala, JP, Chief Executive, Advocates for International

- Development (A4ID)
- Richard Morgan, Head of Government Relations, Anglo American
- Chair: Harriet Territt, Partner, Jones Day

### 3.15-3.35 **COFFEE BREAK**

#### 3.35-4.50 **Panel Four: A call to action - the role of the private sector in fostering peace, justice and strong institutions**

The panel will reflect on the day's discussions and consider ways in which the private sector can take concrete action to advance SDG 16, and key challenges thereto. It will also consider innovative ways to work with the private sector in SDG 16, reflect on long-term funding and policy implications, etc.

- Nicola Port, Senior Vice-President, International Counsel, Chubb
- David Steven, Senior Fellow, Associate Director, Center on International Cooperation (CIC), New York University
- Christina Koulias, Senior Manager, Anti-Corruption and Global Governance, UN Global Compact
- Alejandro Alvarez, Chief, Rule of Law Unit, Executive Office of UN Secretary-General
- Chair: Mat Tromme, Project Lead, Global Rule of Law Exchange, Senior Research Fellow in Development and the Rule of Law, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

#### 4.50-5.00 **Closing Remarks**

- Murray Hunt, Director, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law
- John Phillips, Partner-in-Charge, Jones Day London

#### 5.00-6.30 **Drinks Reception**