

**Report on Geneva Dialogue  
between  
East Asian Scholars and Senior Officials of the United Nations and  
Other International Organizations  
Geneva  
July 16-17, 2018**



The scholars, experts and reserchers of China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia visited UN and International Organizations on July 16 and 17, 2018 and engaged in a series of dialogue with senior officials of UN Office at Geneva, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Internaitonal Committee on Red Cross, International Organization for Mingration, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Geneva Peacebuilding Planform.

## First Day: Visit to the Human Rights Council



### 1. East Asian Scholars' Dialogue: Opening Session

#### **David Chikvaidze, Chef de Cabinet of the Office of Director-General Michael Møller**

In opening the Geneva Dialogue, Professor Sukehiro Hasegawa, former Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Director of ACUNS Tokyo Office, informed the participants that the Geneva Dialogue was organized to enable the scholars and practitioners of UN activities to engage in genuine dialogue with senior officials of the UN and international organizations. He hoped the participants will hold frank exchanges of views and opinions that reflected different perspectives and understandings of human rights, refugees, migrations and peacebuilding which, he thought, were essential for enhancing the roles of the UN system in facing intensifying global challenges. He explained the procedure of each session that starts with the presentations followed by comments by pre-selected discussants and free discussions of participants as a whole.

In his opening statement on behalf of Mr. Michael Møller, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva. Mr David Chikvaidze, Chef de Cabinet of the Director-General, expressed condolences to Japanese colleagues for the significant loss of life recently in the western part of Japan due to sudden massive rainfalls. He welcomed the scholars of East Asian countries in Geneva noting that Director-General Michael Møller was not in Geneva, otherwise he would have welcomed them personally. He attached great importance to collaboration with academics, who were vital partners for the UN. Their contributions enabled the UN to respond to international crises. He thanked the ACUNS Tokyo



office for organizing the event and he looked forward to constructive exchanges of views on such issues as human rights, refugees, migration, security and peacebuilding that were dealt with by the United Nations system.

Mr. Chikvaidze noted that it was fitting that this conversation on human rights was taking place in Geneva. No city had a richer history of collaboration than Geneva. He reminded that humanitarian cooperation was born there with the Red Cross. As much as New York was the political centre of the international community, Geneva was the operational heart with more than 100 UN and other international organizations, notwithstanding academics as well as businesses. This city was a laboratory. Proximity fostered collaboration and stakeholders were willing to experiment. This new collaborative way was essential in tackling contemporary challenges which were often interconnected. The mind-set was embedded in the sustainable development goals for a safer and more prosperous future. In an effort to leverage this potential, the Director- General had launched the SDG lab, which provided a space for interdisciplinary practice. It brought together parties in conflict or competition that would not have met to collaborate otherwise. The SDG embraced technology, recognizing its potential. Geneva's concentration of actors allowed it to claim a central role in the SG's ambitious reform of the UN in the areas of peace and security, repositioning of development system and internal management.



He identified four fields of action in Geneva: human rights, humanitarian aid, disarmament and trade. Geneva was a prime place for human rights with the Human Rights Council, which addressed human rights in every member. Its profile had attracted political disputes normally reserved for the Security Council. He mentioned also the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Geneva was also the heart of humanitarian action since 1863 and the ICRC had been joined by the High Commissioner for Refugees and Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF). With the World Trade Organization, Geneva remained the global centre for trade promotion and negotiation. Geneva would likely emerge as the hub for settling growing disputes. Geneva was also a global hub for disarmament with the only permanent multilateral negotiating body on disarmament. After years of deadlock, the conference had stirred to life. In new geopolitical context and with Switzerland's commitment to neutrality, Geneva was well placed to remain the convening location in all these

four areas.

Following the introductory remarks by David Chickvaidze, Mr. Daniel Feakes, Head of the ISU of the Geneva Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs introduced the topic of disarmament. His team was overseeing the application of the convention on biological weapons. The Secretary-General came here in May and launched a new disarmament agenda: securing our common future, within the broader UN agenda of the sustainable goals. He then enumerated the contemporary challenges: rising military expenditure, new weapons technologies, the use of conventional weapons in populated areas, most conflicts taking place inside states with small arms and light weapons, the majority of victims being civilians, the trend of terrorism with a large rise in the number of deaths, the erosion of norms which is a challenge for disarmament regimes.



Regarding disarmament, he explains the three categories: weapons of mass destruction and other strategic weapons, conventional weapons, emerging means of warfare and new technology. Disarmament contributes to reducing the effects of wars and conflicts, to eliminating some key incentives to new conflicts such as arms race, and liberating resources for development. Disarmament has been a key issue for the UN since the beginning. The office was established in 2007 as the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. UNODA works for several objectives. While the main office was based in New York, the Geneva branch served over 135 countries and three UN Regional Centres based in Lima for Latin America, Kathmandu for Asia and Lomé for Africa. The branches included an information branch, a conventional weapons branch, and mass destruction weapons branch. The Conference in Geneva consists of about 15 people.

He then explained the treaty making process. When the international community agrees that there is a particular issue and that a weapon must be banned, the problem is therefore identified. Lots of negotiations take place in the conference and they may take a very long time, the end result being a treaty signed and ratified by states and implemented by them. He then listed the various conventions such as the chemical weapons convention finalised in 1993 and the comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty in 1996 as well as the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. There is a good track record of negotiated treaties. Concerning challenges, he mentioned the existing stalemate since 1996 to agree on a programme of work because it was based on consensus. He added that 65 states are involved. He mentioned finally a UN disarmament fellowship programme aimed at officials of developing countries to train them in the field of disarmament. Almost a 1000 officials have participated from over 160 states with a 50% balance between men and women.



Professor Tadanori Inomata of Japan, Former Ambassador to Costa Rica and Strategic Advisor of Nagasaki University's Center for International Collaborative Research then pointed out the importance of creating confidence among nations and peoples which should be made via the second-track consultation among non-state actors. He noted that “disarmament” has been inadvertently translated “arms reduction” in Japanese, which was similar to “arms control” reflecting a sense of distrust and deterrence philosophy rather than confidence built to disarm. He thought the UN should work much more in Geneva than in New York where the Security Council in New York was paralyzed by the veto power. Geneva is full of varied non-state actors and stakeholders reflecting peace loving culture of peoples who might positively influence on the CD's work.



Professor Hong-sheng SHENG, Professor, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law Director, OBOR Judicial Research Institute, the Supreme People's Court, China, and Ex- United Nations Expert on Mission, MONUC observed that the speakers introduced new elements of the UN approaches. He then raised the issue of new technology of warfare. As far as he knew, there was no international convention, no prohibition on this matter. He invokes the Martens clause. No

matter what the new strategy was, the new means of warfare, the international community needed to follow the dictate of public conscious and impose limits on the conduct of warfare. He wondered whether or not there was any possibility for reaching an agreement on a convention on such issue.



Professor Soh Chang-rok of Korea University Graduate School of International Studies and a member of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) Advisory Committee observed that there was a challenge to integrate non-state actors in the UN system, especially in the field of human rights. There was no human rights regime in East Asia. Without human rights, they cannot expect peace and security. It is part of the infrastructure. He thought it was important to have cooperation between Asian countries. He asked how to enhance the collaboration among them. He explained that they could use existing mechanisms such as UPR and SDG. UPR is a country specific review exercise but could be extended into a regional mechanism. He thought that with the OHCHR they might collaborate in an inclusive approach in East Asia.

Mr. Chikvaidze responded to observations and explained that the important thing was for the member states to read the books of academicians. The disarmament conference was the only major intergovernmental forum that did not have a mandate with the civil society. In order to address this issue, the Director-General created the concept of member states and civil society forum. He then mentioned hypersonic weapons, which were extremely dangerous from the standpoint of lowering the threshold of weapons leaving long term effects.

Daniel Feakes recognized the issue of confidence building as constituting a basis in building disarmament process. Concerning chemical weapons, the UN lacked resources but had ways of building confidence. Referring to the Martens clause, he mentioned there was no convention in the field of cybersecurity. Some countries wanted the current discussions to lead to a convention, while others did not agree. In each treaty, there was a general purpose. It was the idea to ban the use of chemical and biological weapons. Conventions did not only ban a certain kind of technology but a mean of warfare. Considering non-state actors, there was a room for very active participation from civil society, especially academics. The UN could also maintain an active relationship with NGO. About Syria, the issue of chemical weapons has been addressed by the convention of chemical weapons. The process to attribute the use of chemical weapons was different, with reports putting the blame on ISIS, some on the Syrian government, but that process did not move forward on anymore.



## 2. Session 1 on UNHCR

### Senior Legal Coordinator and Head of Protection Policy Madeline Garlick explains the role of UNHCR in Protection of Refugees

According to Madeline Garlick, addressing challenges around protracted refugees, situation of conflict, finding solutions, responsibility sharing are key conditions for successful refugee protection. People fleeing from persecution should not be penalized for moving illegally.



In her presentation, Dr. Madeline Garlick first quoted from Secretary-General António Guterres, who had been the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for ten years. In 2015, at a meeting of political leaders, he said: *'We can't deter people fleeing for their lives. They will come. **The choice we have is how well we manage their arrival, and how humanely.***' She then noted that this highlights the fact that states make decisions on how they respond to the issue of refugees. A refugee under the 1951 Convention is defined as a person facing persecution because of his race, nationality, religion, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. A protocol has since expanded the scope of the refugee convention to removal any temporal limitation; and it applies in all regions of the world. Some principles are recognized as customary international law such as **non-refoulement** for people facing persecution, torture or inhuman or degrading treatment in their home country. Refugee protection is dealing with an exceptional situation in which states have failed to protect the human rights of their citizens in their own territory. It engages the responsibility of another state as people flee across borders. There are many refugees moving as well as people moving for other reasons such as fleeing natural disasters or looking for better economic opportunities. Many of these people are fleeing without legal title. They should not be penalized for moving illegally. Refugees are entitled to human rights but migrants are also entitled to human rights protection.

She mentioned four challenges that need to be addressed in to ensure effective responses for refugees: protracted refugee situations, situation of conflict, finding solutions, responsibility sharing. Protracted refugee situations are defined by UNHCR involved at least 25 000 people displaced for 5 years or more. Among 25 million refugees at the end of 2017, half had remained in a protracted situation while 3 million people have been displaced for 38 years or more. These phenomena are closely linked to the protracted nature of conflicts throughout the world. In 2017, scholars identified 55 conflicts raging worldwide. The world refugee population is now 50 percent higher than a decade ago. UNHCR had issued guidance for states on how to deal with refugees. Most people fleeing violence were likely to fall into the category of refugees. She added that refugee status was supposed to be temporary, but where protracted situations persist, there is a need for redoubled efforts to achieve solutions.

In that regard, UNHCR has identified three durable solutions: voluntary repatriation once substantial and durable change has taken place to permit refugees to return home; integration in the place where the refugees have been granted protection; and resettlement in a third party state. With the long-standing refugee population, there was an urgent need to achieve better access to solutions for refugees. She mentioned that 80 percent of refugees are hosted in developing countries and 63 percent of them in 10 countries alone with major burdens falling on countries like Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon, the last of which hosts 1 refugee for its population of 4 persons. She then mentioned the New York Declaration of September 2016 on the Global Compact for Refugees. It consisted of concrete proposals that aimed at bringing states together to discuss refugee issues.



Following Dr. Madeline Garlick's presentation, Mr. Karim Amer explained that geographically, the largest refugee crisis was taking place in Asia with Afghan and Rohingya refugees. Six million Afghan refugees were still in Iran and Pakistan for more than four decades. Now 5 million Afghan refugees were in Iran and Pakistan, roughly 2,4 million having some refugee protection and the others holding different types of status. They were trying to find out how they could develop a solidarity with Iran and Pakistan. Amer also mentioned the Myanmar-Bangladesh situation. Rohingya refugees who fled to Bangladesh reached almost one million by the end of last year, putting an extreme pressure on southern Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh has responded generously by keeping its borders open and the UNHCR has been attempting to provide for basic needs in the short term in anticipation of the monsoon season. They are also working with the Burmese government for a potential repatriation in the Rakhine state. Additionally, the World Bank had provided Bangladesh with a 480 million US dollar grant aid. She noted that the UNHCR was trying to support a broader solidarity approach with trade concessions for Bangladesh such as



lowering trade tariffs. Traditional solutions remain such as resettlement but, she mentioned, the role of non-state actors and the private sector such as Uniqlo in Japan was emerging as promising. The academia should also play a larger role.



Following Madeline Garlick's presentation, Professor Zhang Guihong, Director of the Center for UN Studies, Fudan University, and Vice President & Secretary-General of the Shanghai UN Research Association noted that China had a tradition of welcoming refugees. He mentioned China had protected more than 10,000 Jewish refugees in Shanghai and other areas in China during World War II. He pointed out the need for global governance for addressing the issue of refugees, and solving the root causes instead of just addressing the symptoms. He also noted the importance of the spirit of international cooperation as well as the principles of objectivity and neutrality. The Chinese perspective consisted of trying to prevent interference and political instrumentalization of refugees. The UN Secretary-General regarded the prevention of conflict as the top priority of the UN for his experience with refugee assistance. He asked if UNHCR had an active working relationship with UN bodies for on conflict prevention, for the need to institutionalize the global compact on refugees.



Professor Takaaki Mizuno of the Kanda University of International Studies referred to his own

experience as an Asahi Shimbun reporter in East Asian refugee crises. In the late 70s, Japan faced humanitarian crisis for the first time. When war broke out in and around Vietnam and Cambodia, refugees fled to neighboring places and even reached Japan. The arrival of “boat people” posed a soul-searching problem for Japan because the Japanese had not had any experience before. While Japan needed to raise their attitude to the global standard, Japan has kept a very narrow view. Mizuno added that the sense of homogeneity was very strong in East Asia countries of Japan, China and Korea. It is now a crucial moment because of the influx of people toward Europe. If refugees and migrants were mixed up as apples and oranges, there might be a confusion and backlash in treatment. A distinction should be made between refugees and migrants, while everyone must be treated decently.



Professor Changrok Soh, Director of Human Rights Center of Korea University, found global initiatives were critically important. Refugee issue had not been of much concern in Korea for a long time. However, the recent arrival of refugees from Yemen in Jeju Island off the coast of Korea created fierce debate regarding their handling by the Government. The issue became politicized and newspapers constructed a negative image of refugees. South Korea might benefit from sharing information and knowledge gained from refugee handling in Japan as Europe.



Ms. Reina Motegi, Student from the University of Tokyo indicated that only very few refugees had been accepted in Japan 2017 and they numbered only 20 in 2017. She thought the main problem lay in the political realm. Many people were aware the situation of refugees but were not concerned with it. Sadly, the refugee issue has not been a priority concern of the Japanese Government.

In response to the observations made by the commentators, Dr. Garlick stressed that academics could influence governments by their research and publication of their findings and recommendations. It was the stark fact that 40 million people are displaced within their own countries. UNHCR had been very active in a number of countries to provide assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs). If the international community could help IDPs before they cross international borders, it could avert challenging refugee situations. As the role of conflict prevention and sustaining peace are important, UNHCR is working closely with other UN organizations, especially on peacebuilding in post-conflict countries.

Concerning the attitude of people in transit and asylum countries toward refugees, Dr. Garlick noted that in a number of countries there was an increased political rhetoric reflecting xenophobia. In Europe although political parties speak against refugees, many people have welcomed refugees. The movement of people across borders cannot be stopped; it thus needs to be managed more effectively.

While their concern was genuine and legitimate, the key to successful solution was to help states to respond to the arrival of refugees. She thought that states could collectively manage these refugee matters by looking historically at the contributions made by public and private institutions. There was tremendous opening for civil society to play a critical role.

Concerning the global compact on safely orderly migration, Dr. Garlick found the need to regard migrant crisis separately from refugee crisis. Refugees are treated already within an existing framework. She suggested that we should know what the migration compact would bring about and how states could share the responsibility of handling refugees as well as migrants. Camps were not a solution as refugees could contribute to the society. The assistance of the international community to education of refugees is critically important to help them find solutions; yet this is a question of resources, as 85 percent of them are not in the developed countries. Therefore, there is a need for solidarity among all nations to address challenges are that different in character. In Asia, there are now few camps except in the Bangladesh/Myanmar border region where there are challenges as well as opportunities.



In conclusion, Dr. Garlick stated that given the extent of tensions among communities, there is a need for comprehensive assistance not only to one community but all of them to achieve the goals of reconciliation and harmony among them.

### **3. Session 2: IOM Director General Ambassador William Swing points to “Mega-trend” in Migration**

The following is a full text of IOM Director General Ambassador William Lacy Swing during the second session on migration held at the Geneva Dialogue between East Asian Scholars and Students with Senior Officials of UN and International Organizations. The statement was delivered by Mr. Gervais Appave, Senior Advisor, on behalf the Director General who had to go to Bangladesh for inspection tours to Rohingya camps.



#### **Introduction**

It is a distinct honor and privilege to address you here today, to speak on current issues of international migration, a topic rarely absent from headline news, political discourse or community debate. Over the past several months, I have had the opportunity to visit Japan, Korea, and China, among other IOM Member States, where I met with both government officials and academics alike to respond to and discuss a way forward for migration in Asia and the Pacific. The region faces a series of challenges, from the integration of foreign nationals to managing safe labour migration channels. Thankfully, we have a great many partners dedicated to addressing the most pressing issues, as they arise.

Today, I would like to focus specifically on three points/three different worlds—two in which we live; one which we have to create:

#### **I. A World on the Move**

##### **A. The Global Migration Context**

We live in a world on the move. Numerically, there are more people migrating than at any other time in recorded history.

There are nearly 250 million international migrants, and some 750 million domestic migrants. In other words, there are 1 billion migrants in our 7 billion world; one in every seven person on the

globe is a migrant. Unfortunately, although the majority migrate regularly without difficulty, nearly a quarter of the international migrants were forced to move.

Migration is a “mega-trend” of our time. Were the international migrants to form themselves into a country, the population of “Migration-land” would be slightly less than that of Indonesia and slightly greater than the population of Brazil.

The “GDP” of these migrants in the form of remittances or money sent home is \$613 billion, roughly equivalent to the GDP of a small- to medium-size European country. At any rate, annual migrant remittances far exceed total foreign aid and are almost equal to all foreign direct investment. For a considerable number of developing countries, migrant remittances are the major source of GDP. In the Asia-Pacific region, for example, the Philippines receives USD 32.7 billion annually and Indonesia receives USD 16.5 billion. While these figures are large, it is in smaller countries that the economic impact of remittances is felt most strongly: remittances account for more than a quarter of Tonga’s GDP. The corresponding figures for Samoa and the Marshall Islands are 17.6% and 14%, respectively.

With regard to internal migration, China alone has more domestic migrants than the world has international migrants. Some of China’s internal migrants face similar challenges as do international migrants, such as anti-migrant sentiment, language barriers, and family separation.

#### B. “Drivers” or root causes of migration

The motives for migrating are multiple and complex. For simplicity’s sake, I have reduced them to eight, all of which start with the letter “D”:

- Demography: ageing industrialized countries in need of workers at all skill levels; and developing countries in need of jobs;
- Demand: labor shortages versus labor surplus;
- Disparities: socio – economic imbalances between developed and developing countries;
- Degradation of the environment – due in large part to rapid climate change;
- Distance – shrinking technology: cheap, rapid means of transport;
- Digital revolution: instant communication and information;
- Desperation: “survival” migration;
- Disasters: natural and man-made.

IOM has long-held that migration is not a problem or a crisis to be resolved, but rather a human reality to be managed.

Our simple thesis has been that – – given all that we know – – migration is:

- Inevitable in view of the driving forces and root causes in an interconnected and interdependent world;
- Necessary, if skills are to be available, jobs to be filled and economies to flourish; and,
- Desirable for the contributions that migrants make both to countries of origin and destination and, most of all the benefits to migrants themselves and their families.

This is IOM’s vision for a world in which migration is well- governed. Today, however, the world in which we live is vastly different. And, this brings me to my second point.

## II. A World in Disarray (“perfect storm”)

Unfortunately, the “migratory world” at present is in disarray and finds itself in the middle of a “perfect storm.” Among the elements are:

- We are witnessing the greatest forced migration since World War II: some 65 million persons have been forced to migrate. Of these, about 23 million are refugees and 42 million internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- An unprecedented series of simultaneous, complex and protracted crises, armed conflicts, and humanitarian emergencies – stretching from the Western bulge of Africa to armed conflicts in Yemen, and Syria, as well as the displacement of a millions Rohingyas, with an absence of any viable political processes or active negotiations that offer any hope of a short to medium-term solution.
- Unprecedented anti-migrant sentiment and xenophobia that manifests itself in anti-migrant policies and actions that perpetuate stereotypes and endanger migrants.
- A decline in public confidence in government’s ability to manage the increasing migration movements.
- An appalling dearth of political courage and leadership; a serious erosion of international moral authority; and violation of international humanitarian law by all sides in these conflicts.

These, then, are some elements that constitute a “perfect storm”- one that has reached gale-force levels.

### III. A World on the “High Ground”

This is a man-made storm. It, therefore, doesn’t have to be. How then — in this age of humanitarian crises — can the international community respond more effectively to these disasters? These people are seeking jobs or safety – often both – life’s essentials denied to them by the places they are fleeing or the states that have failed them, in one way or another.

We need answers for them and for millions of others caught in mass irregular movements. The challenge we face goes beyond emergency situations. The vast majority of migrants are simply looking for employment opportunities in a world that does not yet have an agreed framework to address the multi-faceted aspects of contemporary mobility. Our migration policies are out of date, and our leaders too often play to the fears of people rather than addressing their fears.

When you’re in a storm, it is wise to seek the “high ground” — in regard to migration, this means to try to capture the “moral high ground”. A high road scenario is based on an understanding that migration, if properly managed, can contribute to economic growth and development. Such a policy serves three overarching objectives:

- To address the drivers of migration to reduce forced and irregular migration;
- To facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration; and,
- To respect the human rights of all migrants, whatever their status, whether regular or irregular.

In the midst of the migration storm, the “high ground” lies first and foremost in well-managed migration. Each country needs to develop a comprehensive, long-term, multi-faceted, “whole-of-government” and “whole-of-society” migration and asylum policy. Allow me to point to some essential components:

- Giving top priority to saving lives. The numbers of migrants who die or go missing every year is alarming. In our annual report called “Fatal Journeys”, IOM has documented 50,000 migrant deaths along migratory paths since the year 2000. (This is probably a gross underestimation since most governments do not maintain statistics on migrant deaths.)



- Opening more regular channels of migration as viable alternatives to irregular migration channels.
- Streamlining border procedures to facilitate the movement of bona fide travelers.
- Establishing humanitarian border management. In so doing, law enforcement agencies meet the dual objective of managing risks to public security while ensuring that protection is made available to those who deserve it. The world needs to acknowledge and commend the six neighbors of Libya and the four neighbors of Syria for keeping their border open in the time of crises and conflict in these two countries.
- Tackling migrant smuggling and trafficking. This global and lucrative industry is run by brutal and exploitative criminal networks. These smugglers are truly “travel agents of death.” Migrants are their vulnerable victims, especially in the aftermath of disaster.
- Strengthening capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies. Emergencies are, by their very nature, difficult to predict. Hence the need to develop institutional readiness to react quickly. This requires close coordination among all humanitarian actors such as government agencies, international organizations, the business sector and civil society organizations.
- Developing effective integration programs. Many are the social problems that arise because migrants are alienated and marginalized. The populations of all countries are increasingly characterized by cultural, linguistic and religious diversity. We need to help host communities and migrants constituencies to develop mutual tolerance and to develop mutual respect for each other’s rights and responsibilities.
- Establishing public education and public information programs to enable local communities to come to an accurate understanding of the reasons that compel to move, to provide them with advice on how to respond to migrants in need and to lend support during the integration process.
- Tackling the dangerous stereotypes and mythology that (a) endanger the lives of migrants; and (b) prevent migrants from contributing to our societies.

As we address these priorities, it is heartening to bear in mind that world leaders will be gathering in December to formally adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Morocco — to move us closer to a comprehensive approach to migration governance including full respect for the human rights of migrants; — to establish safe, regular channels for migration and the development of effective integration policies.

The Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (GCM) is grounded in the SDGs and existing human rights instruments, thereby underscoring the importance of a holistic approach to migration. It is intended to:

- Address all aspects of international migration, including the humanitarian, developmental, human rights-related and other aspects.
- Present a framework for comprehensive international cooperation on migrants and human mobility;
- Set out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimension.

As one whose country was built on the backs of migrants, I can attest that, historically, migration has always been overwhelmingly positive. We need to return public discourse to a more balanced and historically accurate narrative. We can help to do so through informed and open dialogue such as the one we are having today; one that recognizes that migration has been an agent of development for centuries, that migration and development belong together and that migration is humankind’s oldest poverty reduction strategy.

## Conclusion

Migration is as old as humankind. On the “high road,” migration can be a key to a world in tune with itself. As we face the continuation of simultaneous, unprecedented and complex emergencies the international community needs to tackle the root causes actively and promote commonly shared values and interests. Our work on the global compact for safe, regular and orderly migration is capturing this and focuses on turning migration challenges into opportunities for all. This requires good migration governance; a broad, durable consensus among a wide constituency; and coherent, coordinated policies among partners.

**4. Session 3: ICRC’s humanitarian mission and neutrality emphasized by Director of Operations Dominik Stillhart, and Coordinators Simon Schorno for Asia and the Pacific and Valerie Petitpierre for Syria**



Mr. Stillhart explained that he had been working for the ICRC for 27 years. ICRC was established more than 150 years following the battle of Solferino in Italy in 1859. The whole red cross was born after that battle due to the presence of Henri Dunant, who witnessed the battlefield and realized the overwhelmed situation of the medical service. He organized medical care with the local inhabitants regardless of the combatants’ side. He then pushed for the creation of an impartial organization to assist wounded of war, namely the International Committee of the Red Cross. The idea consisted of pushing for regulation of warfare. The issue regards how to balance military necessity and protection of civilians. The ICRC does not take side and acts regardless of political opinions. They do not only provide assistance in conflict but they also have a mandate of the international community to spread the rules of humanitarian law. They employ about 18 000 staff and a budget of 1,8 billion dollars.

Regarding Syria, he said that there was no doubt that it is the worst conflict in the 21st century. It has generated 5 million refugees but it had also generated 6 million internally displaced people. This year alone, an additional million people were displaced. It is also a very complex conflict. The roots of conflict were not only located in the region but also manipulated by great powers. Syria had received the largest ICRC response with 600 staff, 5 permanent offices with the head office in

Damascus. They provided food, care and visit detention places.

ICRC had three areas of priority. First, the manner in which states and proxies behave on the ground, reconstruction, foreign fighters and their families. He mentioned the states and proxies. Looking at the first decade of the century, there has been a huge amount of international troops based in Afghanistan. Today, regional and global powers have a much smaller footprint on the ground. Their influence goes through unconventional warfare, drones, special units or operating through partners, states and non-states. It creates risk of diluting responsibility under international humanitarian law. When states operate with armed groups, it gives them an excuse not to respect the rules. Under IHL, states have an obligation to abide by its rules and states need to ensure respect for them. If they engage with other states or armed groups, they must apply the rules. ICRC reminds the states of their responsibility and gives them guidance about how to apply the rules, for instance to establish responsibility, investigate violations, pursue proper training and instruction to ensure protection of the population. ICRC discusses with all the states involved and partners with other states or armed groups. Concerning reconstruction, it has become politically loaded. Many countries have refused to engage in such a process before political change. The country has been destroyed by conflict but the reconstruction is trapped in a political dispute, while people are dependent on basic infrastructures for survival. ICRC is working therefore on electricity, water supply without touching full reconstruction. The conflict is not over. As they speak, heavy fighting is taking place. People are displaced and need assistance. It leads to the issue of return. There is obviously no clear answer. Areas like Damascus are safer than others. In the end, it must be up to the people who fled their home to decide whether or not they want to return. He added that they had to return peacefully and in security. He insisted that nobody wanted to leave his country. From 2015 onwards, people started leaving the country as they saw the conflict becoming more protracted.

He then discusses the third issue: foreign fighters and their families, which added a layer of complexity. The ICRC has been providing humanitarian assistance to hundreds of foreign fighters. The vast majority is composed of women and the children are very young but they may legitimately represent a threat. IHL also applies to this critical group. Foreign fighters who have committed war crimes should be judged but no one should be tortured or executed without a trial. The ICRC is then looking after women and children. The treatment of foreign fighters will be observed by their supporters. Foreign fighters are considered as the worst of all but they cannot be labelled as terrorists. In an interconnected world, states can promote IHL. East Asian states can play a role in that regard. The search for a political solution should be paramount in Syria and elsewhere. In conclusion, the ICRC is about neutral and impartial action for humanitarian assistance. The Geneva Conventions are a vital element striking a balance between military necessity and humanity. Syrians need to be provided with the basic to survive.

Professor Kulnazarova of Tama University first commented on the detailed account of the ongoing Syrian crisis, noting that the Red Cross was originally created to help the wounded on the battlefield, which is now being transformed and expanded functionally and operationally. However, it seems that such changes, although perhaps absolutely necessary due to the changing type of conflicts, the nature of humanitarian crisis and the global commitment to SDGs, are not so obvious or at least not so obvious to the public. The two following questions are: 1) why does the ICRC continue to adhere to its original principles, including the provision of needs-based assistance, rather than moving to more proactive development-based humanitarian work? 2) Does the ICRC, as a global humanitarian organization, take into account the cultural dimension of local assistance activities on the ground, especially when addressing/solving regional, national and local humanitarian problems, such as in Syria?

Professor Yasushi Katsuma of Waseda and Professor Zhang Guihong of Fudan University provided their comments. Professor Zhang Guihong said the civil war in Syria has caused the worst



humanitarian tragedy since the end of World War II. The international community including ICRC has been providing with various assistance for refugees and displaced people from Syria. While the assistance itself is not able to solve the systemic crisis in Syria, it does constitute the foundation of “the greatest common divisor” of the final solution of Syria dilemma. Given the fact that major powers (The United States and Russia in particular) have conflicting interests and strategies in Syria, the United Nations needs to play a more substantial role in the political solution of Syria crisis. Professor Zhang also asked if the ICRC has the plan to cooperate with Chinese government in terms of co-construction of BRI, and what is ICRC’s expectation for the cooperation.



Dr. Sijeong Lim, Assistant Professor of the University of Amsterdam added her comment which centered on public support building for the ICRC, or Western-born humanitarian organizations in general, in the context of East Asia. She pointed out that the narratives often employed in the West to garner citizen support and willingness to contribute to such organizations might not work as effectively in the Asian region. For instance, in Asia, the discourse emphasizing “violations against universal human rights and international humanitarian laws” or “moral obligation of other-regarding individuals” alone might have limited effectiveness in generating broad-based support for the works the ICRC carries out in third countries. She suggested that ICRC might want to explore other narratives such as the ones emphasizing “self-centered and national benefits” or “international reciprocity”. She also criticized the fundraising strategy of the Korean RC (i.e., sending out a GIRO form to all heads of household). Doing so is expensive, ineffective, and most importantly, damaging to the organization’s reputation as many Koreans confuse the form with tax/utility invoices. In conclusion, she called for better public relations strategies that cater to Asian citizens.



Colonel Amarsaikhan of the Mongolian Armed Forces said that the international community and humanitarian actors should be prepared to see more people being displaced, and more civilians being killed in conflict zones as modern armed conflicts are taking place in urban environment rather than open field. There is an expectation that this trend will continue in the future. In urban areas it is very difficult to identify who is a friend and who is a foe, and who is a combatant and who is an innocent civilian. Therefore collateral damage is unavoidable on modern battlefields. He went on to say that the use of chemical weapons should not be tolerated anywhere in the world. There have been reports of chemical weapons attack in Syria, and some western countries led by the US took military action to "punish" the government of Bashar al Assad. Though the chemical attacks are strongly condemned, the international community should continue to investigate the incidents.



Mr. Icchiku Yamada of Tokyo University insisted that Syrians are disappointed with the international community's inaction and there has been a huge gap between the Syrian civil society and the international community. He highlighted the importance of the whole society approach in which Syrian civilians are placed at its center. He questioned about the negative impact potentially caused by the ICRC's principle of neutrality.



Professor Kihara-Hunt emphasized about the difference between impartiality and neutrality and asked how ICRC perceives the difference. She also wondered how ICRC sees prosecution of persons suspected of international crimes and how that influences humanitarian space available to organizations like ICRC.



Ms. Maja LIECHTI said that the needs and fears of all sides involved, including the residents of the country of migration, have to be addressed, so that all parties become perceptible for dialogue on how to ameliorate the situation.

In response to questions made by the discussants and other participants, Mr. Stillhart explained that labelling an actor as a terrorist group allowed states to disregard the IHL. Concerning the relationship between development assistance and humanitarian aid, ICRC had just been through a process of strategy building, and one of the major discussions was about that topic. When he joined the ICRC, he thought he would work for an emergency organization but today there is hardly a peace agreement signed because major and regional powers cannot agree on the conditions for peace. They are dealing with protracted conflicts all over the world. The war wounded only

represent a tiny part of the population concerned by conflicts. Reconstruction without security is doomed to fail. About OBOR, the ICRC is already talking to the Chinese government because the project will affect countries devastated by conflict. Trying to stand on a moral high ground will not take them anywhere. If they want to engage and sit at table where people start to be interested in important issues, they can not simply show up with the Geneva Conventions. They need to address issues debated in the countries in conflict. When Syrian refugees started coming in masses to Europe, the ICRC could engage with European states as it provided a platform of discussion. They need to try to craft a narrative that speaks to politicians, who care about their re-election.

On the criticism about their organization engaging with terrorists or governments that are reportedly engaged in large scale violations of IHL, their job consists of engaging with anybody who has control over territory and people in a conflict. Their job does not consist of judging people on moral standards, otherwise they could not even think of providing humanitarian assistance. They try to influence these people to treat their prisoners more humanely. As soon as they move from an impartial organization to shaming and blaming, they will not be able to accomplish their mission. He admits that it is very difficult not to speak out when they see atrocities, but they also know that the moment when they cross that line the price will be high. They are confronted to this dilemma on a daily base. Regarding women and children, humanitarian action has changed over time. When he joined ICRC, it was all about physical needs. In the past decade, they realized that people are displaced for an average of 20 years. Therefore, they are dealing with all these protractive situations. People are perhaps affected even more by psychological traumas than physical ones. If someone has gone missing during a conflict, one can not know if that person is alive or dead. The psychological needs of the affected people are tremendous. They have also incorporated reaction to sexual violence in their programme.

At the conclusion of the session, Professor Hasegawa observed the universal principle that human life and dignity were sacro-saint and overrode any other concerns. All the actors engaged in this field must cooperate with this principle in mind. He thanked the representatives of the ICRC for their presence.



**5. Session 4: Human Rights is NOT in Retreat insisted by Deputy UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Kate Gilmore, while Importance of Universal Periodic Review emphasized by UPR Chief Mr. Gianni Magazzeni**

Deputy High Commissioner Gilmore saw benefit of the academic collaboration with East Asian scholars and first opened the floor for the commentators.





Prof. Ai Kihara-Hunt of the University of Tokyo, Japan, inquired with the Deputy High Commissioner how the UN-OHCHR is dealing the global trend of retreat of human rights, and what its strategy is in tackling the issue of globally shrinking space to speak up for human rights. In particular, the speaker asked, if there is a way of collaborating with the group, who share two common features: they are East Asians, and they are academics.



In presenting the trend of retreat, Prof. Kihara-Hunt mentioned that, in more States, vindictive and xenophobic rhetoric of populism are more apparently and bluntly in the face of the general population. It is at multiple levels, from the government policies to the public's attitude toward outsiders, and worryingly, this trend is even in the laws and regulations, through which more discrimination appears to be legitimized. This appears the case in Japan, too. She questioned, in particular, if the idea and mechanisms of human rights is appropriately presented. She gave

examples of the government's negative response to the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression's visit, and the method of the government's survey on the public awareness of human rights, which lacks topics of substance that can indicate people's awareness on the rights linked to democratic space.

Prof. Sheng of China explained that there is still a wide gap between the office and the people in the field, referring to the human rights situation of women and children in Central African Republic. He also asked how much impact the US's withdrawal from the Human Rights Council has.



Professor Changrok Soh of Korea University thought there should be an East Asian dialogue about human rights, even when at the State-level not much happens. He recommended that Universal Periodic Review (UPR) be used as a topic of discussion among the East Asian scholars.



Mr. Inuzuka, former Senator in the House of Councilors of the Diet of Japan discussed the implications of the Responsibility to Protect concept in relation to peacekeeping in the era of President Trump.

Deputy High Commissioner questioned whether human rights are really in a retreat, and if so, by what measure we are assessing it. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed 70 years ago and has since been included in almost every national constitution. There are laws in every country that reference the contents and purpose of the Declaration. Human rights cascade and national authorities are interacting. Universal Periodic Review (UPR) has had two cycles and all States cooperated. With the Rome Statute, the International Criminal Court has binding jurisdiction over international crimes. Never before has the world been so aware of human rights. These are comprehensive evidence of people lost and of casualties, as well as States' abuse of power. Never before have they known so much about human suffering, has evidence been collected about the violations/abuses of human rights, have there been so many forums in which evidence has been put before member states, has this office been so important. Last year, they received the highest contribution ever from the United States.



In this circumstance, she stressed that we do not have to assume the stance of defeat. It is true that political discourse has changed in the last few years. It is also important to assess what the pattern of political paradigm is across the world. However, human rights are certainly not in retreat. Political narrative of the authority has definitely worsened. It is the narrative that is failing. Human rights are not well defended. Claims for rights to be upheld are not in retreat. Human rights defenders are demanding for rights. The number of those people documenting evidence have become bigger. There is a clash between the demand for rights and the State's struggle to uphold the standard. She expressed her opinion that it is important to challenge tools and narratives, and to build coalitions to have a loud voice. What is under assault is not only values but also facts and evidences. The idea that policy should be based on evidence and on impartial standard is under assault.





How retreat from discipline and evidence based policy making has an impact is clear in peacekeeping. The UN is overdependent on the US money. There is the aspect of political economy and economy based policy making. Multilateral mechanisms require much higher decision making, which many governments find difficult to understand. There are more people than ever on the move. There is an issue of climate change. Inequality is a major problem. The concern for poverty links with human rights. They need to do more on the demand for rights, including in East Asia. Geneva itself is not the answer. The answer will always be among local social movements. She concludes that they all have rights but not everyone has responsibility. The more power one has, the more responsibility comes with it.





Concerning the Universal Periodic Review, Mr. Gianni MAGAZZENI, Chief of the UPR Branch, Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division (CTMD), explained that the Office is also involved at the country level for human rights, which leads to the Universal Periodic Review. It is a peer review of every member state. If independent human rights associations are active in a country, they can submit parallel reports. In the process, hundreds of pages are summarized in a maximum of 10 pages. Concerning documents, they receive them from UN bodies, civil society organizations and regional human rights mechanisms, in addition to state reports. The UPR has entered a third cycle in 2017. Each delegation is led by ministers with an average number of 20 state officials, sometimes more than 30, and about a 100 states participate for each review. The review takes place in Geneva but the UPR focuses on the implementation in the member states. States need to do more about addressing root causes, and this has been said many times. The UPR is accepted by all member states, which come to Geneva for the review. In order to enhance prevention, to ensure the success and sustainability of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Office needs to work more with actors on the ground. If human rights are not at the core of the SDGs, he is afraid that they would not be successful. In that connection, he reminded the three pillars of the UN: peace and security, development, human rights.



## 6. Session 5: Peacebuilding and Development

**Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, and other Peace and Development Experts present their perspectives to Asian Scholars**

Three other speakers were: Robert Watkins, Former Resident Coordinator of the United Nations Operational Activities in Bangladesh, Delidji Eric Degila, Adjunct Professor of International Relations at Benin Ecole Nationale d'Administration, and Mark Downes, Assistant Director and Head of DCAF's Operations Department contributed to the Geneva Dialogue with their insightful presentations.



Achim Wennmann first presented his views on SG Guterres' UN Reform process, including reorganization of the peace and security sector and the peacebuilding architecture. He proposed to discuss the concept of peacebuilding out of the post-conflict context and include all stages of conflict as well as the concept of sustaining peace, stressing the importance of mediation of conflict parties.

Three emerging trends were then identified in conflict and peacebuilding that included first the need to address all stakeholders in subnational micro-type negotiations. Colombia was an example. Wennmann identified as the second one the shift of conflict area to battle city, meaning the urbanization of conflict. Thirdly, changing actors. Diplomats are no longer the sole negotiators. Many started to act diplomatically. The business group in Kenya have proved effective because they had access. Also, Chinese companies and investors are now playing their role. Wennmann also

identified organized criminals and illicit global business of crime posing delicate and sensitive elements in violence and stability. In conclusion, he said the key was not to label the actors as “good and bad” and engage with them to produce positive result of reducing violence, noting conflict was growing faster than solutions.

Robert Watkins presented first an overview of the activities of the Center for Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) at GIIDS, and then on the project that he is collaborating on. The project looks at Chinese, Japanese, and Russian approaches to Peacebuilding and how the norms of peacebuilding are evolving. He talked about how the current peacebuilding architecture was formed largely by Western countries, particularly the US and UK, after WWII. It is an approach centred on liberal democracy, rule of law, and human rights and has been perpetuated essentially from the top down. Increasingly, however, as new powers are evolving and taking on a more active peacebuilding role in international relations, there appears to be more of a bottom up approach whereby the values of those powers are reshaping traditional peacebuilding concepts and practices. East Asian countries such as Japan and China appear to be having an impact in world peacebuilding, even though their approaches, and that of Russia, are quite different. They do not necessarily reject the traditional approach to peacebuilding, but those values are prioritized differently, with more emphasis on economic development and political stabilisation. In many ways this reflects the changes which are underway in each country.

Delidji Eric Degila explained the changing nature of African political architecture and found it critical to focus on modern African states to understand security challenges on the continent. He mentioned historical legacy such as colonization, the Berlin conference (1884) and the Balkanization of Africa. Citing Cote d’Ivoire as an example, he mentioned the identity aspect as a key element to understand African conflictuality. However, he underlined it critically important to look at the whole picture and to understand how conflict dynamics works in Africa by focusing on their multifactorial dimensions.

Mr. Degila also underlined horizontal inequalities as key variables to understand conflict dynamics within the continent and identified four horizontal inequalities: economic, social, political and cultural factors for peace and conflict. He stressed the need to go beyond national level. Internationalization of internal conflict is common in Africa. Identify has become critical as seen in the case of Cote d’Ivoire. ‘Warrior normadism’ which creates a real “system of conflict”. Finally, he identified several elements for sustaining peace. They included (1) reinforcement of good governance and modern state apparatus; (2) designing and implementing sustainable development; (3) integration, beyond an institutional perspective; (4) reinforcing sub-regional organizations and (5) silencing the Guns designed in the framework of the AU Agenda 2063.

Mark Downes stressed that an effective and accountable security and justice sector represented the foundation on which political, social and economic development takes place. If states are to break the cycle wherein insecurity, under-development and criminalization were mutually reinforcing; then security and development issues needed to be tackled in tandem.

The achievement of MDGs requires recognition of the security-development nexus. DCAF works with i) providers of security and justice, ii) those how manage those services (like line Ministries) and iii) those that hold providers to account (parliament, human rights organizations, civil society and the media) to support efforts to make the security and justice sector more effective and accountable. Hard lessons have be learned over the last few decades of what happens when the capacity of security actors is built without the requisite governance safeguards. Security Sector Governance and Reform (SSG/R) puts the emphasis on the system of governance that holds the security and justice sector to account. As such, SSG/R is highly political as well as technical, it goes to the heart of sovereignty and the allocation of resources – so it cannot be tackled by purely

technical mans.

Ultimately, all of the SDGs are interconnected and this is part of what makes the global goals a transformative agenda for sustainable development. Recognizing the enabling effect of inclusive security for sustainable development will be a crucial step to realize the transformative potential of the SDGs.

Following the presentations by four speakers, there discussants made comments and several participants made observations and questions.

The first discussants, Mr. Takashi KAMISHIRO, Head of Field Office Miravalle, UN Verification Mission in Colombia spoke about the UN Mission in Colombia. The government signed an agreement about 2 years ago with the FARC. The incoming government wants to punish harder the former combatants than what was concluded in the agreement. The speed of the implementation of the agreement is also quite slow as the new government was not prepared to do so. Presently, he would like to know what sort of role the UN can play. Currently, the mandate of the UN Mission in Colombia is to observe the implementation of the agreement. There is no rule to advise or push the government to implement the peace agreement. In that context, he asked about the role of the UN or other international organizations.

Professor SHENG Hongsheng, of Shanghai University of Political Science and Law, Director, the Judicial Research Institute of the Supreme People's Court of China, and former Team Leader of the Military Observers of MONUC, explained that without sustainable peace there would no sustainable development. Sustainable development could be hierarchical and with priorities. They need to understand the concept of sustainable development in Asia and in the Western World. In China, it means to provide basic needs, while in Western countries, it is a far longer term perspective. They need to consider the special features when discussing the issues such as peace, security, development.

Dr. Sijeong Lim, Assistant Professor, the University of Amsterdam noted that it is not common to hear about sustainable development and peace building at the same time. They need more dialogue and a common framework to engage in a productive dialogue. She also reminded about the importance of a locally constructed solution rather than at the international level.

Following the comments by the three discussants, Robert Atkins there were very different approaches toward peace building and a different prioritization from China, Japan, Russia on one side, the West on another. However, the issues go hand by hand.

Mr. Djeli noted that the African Union wants to push for a very inclusive approach of peace. The link between promotion peace and development is intertwined. He then discussed normative frameworks linked to peace and security. One of the key challenges for African countries was to strengthen state apparatus. Considering inequalities, if a state is not able to provide for basic needs, that state is therefore producing inequalities. In Cote d'Ivoire, if the state promotes only the cultural traditions of the north of the country for the national day, it produces feelings of injustice, which can fuel conflict dynamics.

Mr. Downes said that he could not foresee an expansion of the UN mandate in Colombia. However, if we are to learn the lessons from previous peace agreements, one of the main reasons of progress has been the establishment of robust systems to monitor the implementation of security commitments.

Mr. Wennmann found it interesting to look how governments tactically make use of the UN for their



interests. On the issue of sustainable peace and development, the issue of space must be tackled. Most of the issues take place in cities. In most cities in the world, people live in communities, particularly middle class and wealthy people. On the procedural and distributional aspects, he would focus on place, space and time: place the specific configuration; space the structural configuration; how it is reconfigured over time. It is interesting how much work of architects exist and has never been considered by people working on peace building.

Professor Hasegawa observed that the vision of peace in Europe follows the principles of Kant in his essay on perpetual peace and it has been followed almost as a Bible. Kant and Rawls emphasized that what is just and right must prevail over its consequences. In the East, peace is an accommodation of different groups with different understandings to coexist and respect each other. The UN is pushing now both identity and diversity, while in China and Japan emphasis was placed on the responsibility of governments and people for the community. He asked how these conflicting ideas can be reconciled.

Mr. Djeli said he would like to expand the dichotomy West-East to the South. In the local communities, when a dispute occurred, the parties would traditionally gather around the oldest man to find a settlement. The idea of peace is not unique to the West. Any idea of peace must include foremost the local people. Peace is related to people and the nature of the political framework of the place where they live, whether it is a state, a kingdom, a clan.

Mr. Wennmann explained that he frequently asked what peace building is. He declared that peace building is not only Western. The practice to building peace goes way back to talks, palabres and victory. If one wants to build an economy, then he needs ports, roads, institutions, rights, stock exchange, money. The terminology around the architecture for peace is useful because it is about understanding the management of peace without recourse to violence. When people gather under a tree, it reconnects to the idea of space. This is a cross-cultural understanding. He would be very cautious about playing the game of East-West-South oppositions. One has to deal with his neighbour. It leads to the conceptualization of the other.

Mr. Atkins mentioned that cultural differences were very real but everybody wanted to have justice, freedom, human rights. It is about how to prioritize the dimensions. All actors have been engaged in peace building within the context of post-Cold War, but as more non-western actors are involved, they will bring their own values with them and it will have an impact. Peace building is not a static process. Concerning more robust peace building, means more resources: more financial support, more human resources, etc.

Mr. Wennmann concluded the discussion by thanking all for their valuable contributions.

July 17, 2018

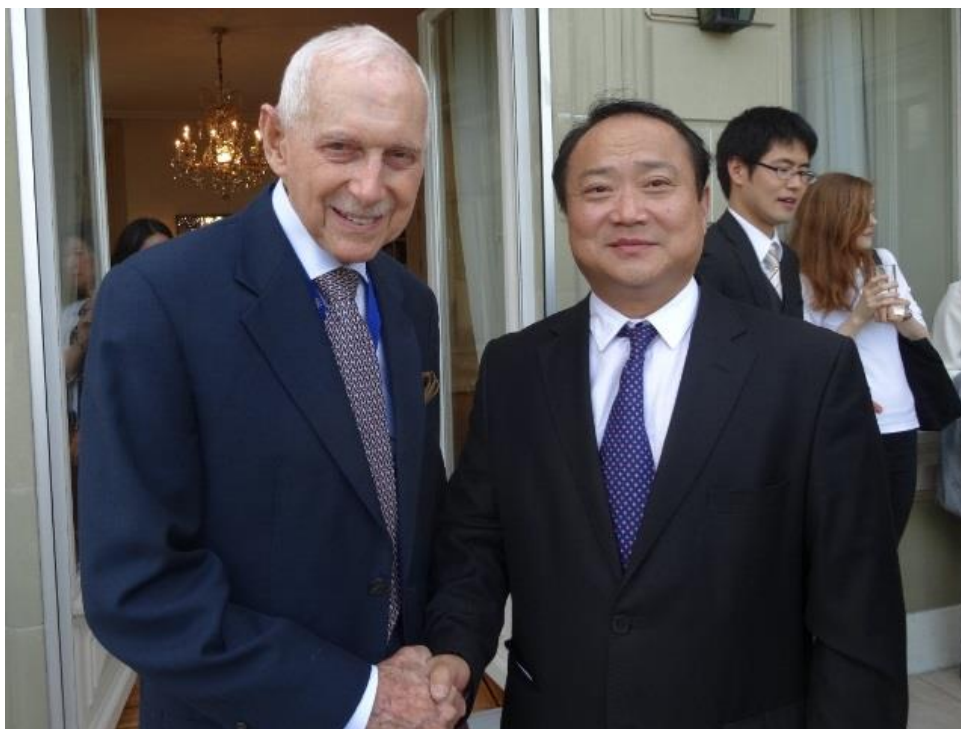
Reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Junichi Iihara, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva



In opening the reception, Japanese Ambassador Junichi Ihara said that it was significant that the scholars from not only Japan but also China, Republic of Korea and Mongolia held such an extensive dialogue with senior officials of the UN and other international organizations.



It was his understanding that the discussions were comprehensive, substantive and fruitful on issues of global concern including refugees, migration, human rights and peacebuilding. He was pleased to note the presence at the reception of Ambassador Lundeg Purevsuren of Mongolia and Ambassador Jangkeun Lee of the Republic of Korea, IOM Director General Ambassador William Swing and other senior officials of permanent missions, the UN and other international organizations as well as academic institutions. He expressed his hope that this kind of dialogue will continue in future.



IOM Director-General William Swing and Professor SHENG Hongsheng

## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

### **CHINA**

1. SHENG Hongsheng, Professor, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law Director, OBOR Judicial Research Institute, the Supreme People's Court, China, Ex- United Nations Expert on Mission, MONUC, DR Congo
2. ZHANG Guihong, Professor and Director, Center for UN Studies, Fudan University and Vice President & Secretary-General, Shanghai UN Research Association

### **JAPAN**

3. Sukehiro HASEGAWA, President of the Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan and Former Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Timor-Leste
4. Ai KIHARA-HUNT, Associate Professor, Graduate Program on Human Security, the University of Tokyo; Deputy Director, Research Center for Sustainable Peace; Deputy Director, ACUNS Tokyo Office
5. Tadashi INUZUKA, former member of the House of Councilors of the Diet of Japan
6. Tadanori INOMATA, Former Ambassador to Costa Rica, Strategic Advisor of Nagasaki University's Center for International Collaborative Research, and Visiting Professor of UNU-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
7. Takashi KAMISHIRO, Head of Field Office Miravalle, UN Verification Mission in Colombia
8. Yasushi KATSUMA, Professor, Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies (GSAPS), Waseda University; Director, Department of Global Health Affairs & Governance, Institute for Global Health Policy Research (iGHP), the National Center for Global Health & Medicine (NCGM)
9. Aigul KULNAZAROVA, Professor of International Relations and International Law, School of Global Studies (SGS), Tama University, Shonan Campus
10. Takaaki MIZUNO, Professor, Kanda University of International Studies (KUIS)
11. Misako TAKIZAWA, Professor, Oberlin University
12. Masakuni TANIMOTO, Secretary-General, Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan (GPAJ) and Chief for Administration, ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office

13. Erika FREY, University of Teacher Education Zug, Switzerland, Personal Assistant to ACUNS Tokyo Office Director

#### KOREA, Republic of

14. SOH Changrok, President of the Korea Council on the United Nations System (KACUNS), Professor of Korea University Graduate School of International Studies, a member of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) Advisory Committee Professor
15. Taehee WHANG, Professor of Political Science and International Studies and Associate Dean of College of Social Science, Yonsei University
16. Sijeong Lim, Assistant Professor, the University of Amsterdam
17. Sara Lim, Lawyer, Yeouleum Law Office

#### MONGOLIA

18. Amarsaikhan SERDARI, Colonel and Chief of Special Plans Office, the General Staff HQ of the Mongolian Armed Forces

### STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

#### CHINA

19. Ms. LIU Jiajia, Ph.D. Candidate, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement, Geneva (Second day only)

#### JAPAN

20. Icchiku YAMADA, MA Student, Graduate Program on Human Security, the University of Tokyo
21. Yuki SAITO, MA Student, Graduate Program on Human Security, the University of Tokyo
22. Hibiki TAKEDA, MA student, Kyoto University.
23. Ryotaro TAKEHARA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
24. Eisuke KIMURA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
25. Kana YOKOYAMA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
26. Maja LIECHTI, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
27. Mizuki ARITA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
28. Reina MOTEGI, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
29. Moeka TAWADA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo
30. Suzuka YAMADA, Undergraduate Student, the University of Tokyo

#### Korea, Republic of

31. Ms. Yoonjae LEE, Undergraduate Student, Korea University
32. Ms. Woojin YOON, Undergraduate Student, Korea University
33. Ms. Jiyoung PARK, Undergraduate Student, Korea University



**East Asian Scholars` Dialogue**  
**With**  
**Senior Officials of**  
**the United Nations and International Organizations**  
**in**  
**Geneva, Switzerland**  
**16-17 July 2018**

**Topic: *Human Rights, Migration and Peacebuilding in a Turbulent Age***

Organized by  
ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office  
And  
The United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG)

With the support of:  
UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR)  
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)  
Geneva Peacebuilding Platform  
And  
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung of Germany  
Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan

This is a first dialogue meeting between East Asian Scholars and senior officials of the UN and International Organizations headquartered in Geneva. We will address contemporary issues related to the protection of human rights, migration and peacebuilding situation of the globalized world and examine what East Asian countries should and can do. The participants from Japan, China, Republic of Korea and Mongolia will assemble in Geneva on Sunday, 15 July, for dialogue meetings to be held on 16 and 17 July at the Palais des Nations, the Palais Wilson and the Maison de la Paix. Organized by the ACUNS Tokyo Office and the UN Office in Geneva.

Sunday 15 July, Arrive in Geneva  
(Please see the Administrative and Logistic Information)

Day 1: Monday 16 July

VENUE: UN Headquarters in Geneva, Palais des Nations  
8-14, Avenue de La paix  
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

8:30 Assemble at the Porte Pregny entrance located at 14, Avenue de la paix, Geneva  
(Passport information needed for entry permits to be arranged by the Office of the Chef de Cabinet, UNOG)

9:00 Guided tour arranged by the Office of the Chef de Cabinet, UNOG)

10:30 Meeting with Director-General Michael Moller

Venue: Room IV, the Romanian room, on the 3rd floor of building C

“Role of the UN Office in Geneva, three clusters of UN and International Organizations in Human Rights, Humanitarian Affairs, Trade and Disarmament”  
(Keynote speech 20 minutes)

Moderator:

Mr. David A Chikvaidze, Chef de Cabinet, UN Office in Geneva

**Discussants** (5 minutes each)

Japan: Professor Sukehiro Hasegawa, President, Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan

Ambassador Tadanori INOMATA, Former Ambassador to Costa Rica,  
Strategic Advisor of Nagasaki University

China: Professor SHENG Hongsheng, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law

Korea: Professor Changrok Soh, Ph.D. Professor of Politics and International Relations, Director of Human Rights Center, Korea University

Discussion by Participants: Questions and Answers

11:30 UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Venue: Room IV, the Romanian room, on the 3rd floor of building C

Ms. Madeline Garlick (Senior Legal Coordinator and Head of Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section, Division of International Protection

“Contemporary issues faced by UNHCR - What can or should East Asian countries do? “(Keynote speech 20 minutes)

**Discussants** (5 minutes each)

Japan: Prof. Takaaki Mizuno, Professor, Kanda University of International Studies

South Korea: Professor

China: Professor Zhang Guihong, Director, Center for UN Studies, Fudan University,  
and Vice President & Secretary-General, Shanghai UN Research Association

Student: Ms. Reina Motegi, Student, the University of Tokyo

Discussion by Participants: Questions and Answers

(please prepare in advance a question you may pose)

13:00 Lunch at restaurants and cafeteria, Palais des Nations

14:30 IOM International Organization for Migration

Venue: Room IV, the Romanian room, on the 3rd floor of building C

Mr. Gervais APPAVE, Special Advisor to Director General William Swing    Venue: Room IV, the Romanian room, on the 3rd floor of building C

“Inclusive and Innovative Partnership Possible – What can, or should East Asian countries do?” (Keynote speech 20 minutes)

Multilevel partnership – Global, Regional, National and Local Challenges

Inclusive partnership – Civil society, private sector

Innovative partnership – Ethical recruitment, integration

Discussants (5 minutes each)

Japan: Aigul Kulnazarova, Professor, Tama University

Korea: Professor Taehee Whang, Yonsei University

China: Professor SHENG Hongsheng, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law

Discussion by Participants: Question and Answer Session  
(please prepare a question you may pose)

16:00 ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross

Mr. Dominik Stillhart, Director of Operations and

Valerie Petitpierre, Coordinator for Syria

Venue: Room IV, the Romanian room, on the 3rd floor of building C

“Syria: Implications of the breaches of humanitarian law – what can or should East Asian countries do?” (Keynote speech 20 minutes)

Discussants (5 minutes each)

Japan: Aigul Kulnazarova, Professor, Tama University

Yasushi KATSUMA, Professor, Waseda University

China: Professor Zhang Guihong, Fudan University

Korea: Dr. Sijeong Lim, Assistant Professor, the University of Amsterdam

Mongolia: Amarsaikhan Serdari, Colonel and Chief of Special Plans Office, the General Staff HQ of the Mongolian Armed Forces

Student: Mr. Icchiku Yamada, masters student, the University of Tokyo

18:30 Informal Dinner at Café du Soleil in Petit Saconnex at a 15-minute pleasant walking distance from the Palais des Nations. Please contact Ms. Erika Frey as only 10 seats are reserved. A seat is reserved on the first come first basis.

Day 2: Tuesday 17 July

VENUE: Palais Wilson, Quai Wilson 47, 1201 Genève, Switzerland

9:30 Assemble at Palais Wilson, Quai Wilson 47, 1201 Genève, Switzerland Bus stop: Butini

10:00 Meeting with the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Kate Gilmore

Venue: Room PW 1-016

“Retreat in human rights all over the world – what can, or should East Asian countries do?”

Discussants (5 minutes each)

Japan: Ai Kihara-Hunt, Associate Professor, University of Tokyo

China: Professor SHENG Hongsheng, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law

Korea: Prof. Changrok Soh, Korea University

11:30 Briefing Session on Universal Periodic Review  
Mr. MAGAZZENI Gianni, Chief of the UPR Branch, Council and Treaty  
Mechanisms Division (CTMD)  
Briefing on China, Japan and Korea

12:30 Lunch at Palais Wilson and move to the Palais de la paix, Chemin Eugene-Rigot 2, CH-1211 Geneva 21

14:30 Academic session on Sustainable Development Goal 16  
Topics: SDG Goal 16  
Venue: Room S5, Pillar 1, Maison de la Paix  
Chemin Eugene-Rigot 2, CH-1211 Geneva 21

Contemporary Peacebuilding Issues, or Any prospect for providing access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Moderator: Sukehiro Hasegawa, President, Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan (GPAJ) and Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Presentations by (10-15 minutes each):

- Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
- Robert Watkins, Research Associate of the Centre for Conflict, Development, and Peacebuilding and Former Resident Coordinator of the United Nations Operational Activities in Bangladesh
- Delidji Eric Degila, Delidji Eric Degila, Research Associate at the CCDP, Senior Researcher at the Graduate Institute's Global Migration Centre (GMC) and Adjunct Professor of International Relations at Benin Ecole Nationale d'Administration, ENA
- Mark Downes, Assistant Director and Head of DCAF's Operations Department. He was previously head of DCAF's International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT)

15:30 Break

15:45 Discussion Session

Discussants

Japan: Takashi KAMISHIRO, UN Mission in Colombia

China: Professor SHENG Hongsheng, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law

Korea: Dr. Sijeong Lim, Assistant Professor, the University of Amsterdam

Questions and answers

17:00 Presentation and discussion of the "Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Initiative (NEA-NWFZ)"

H.E. Mr. Tadashi INUZUKA, a former Senator in the House of Councillors of the Diet of Japan

17:30 Concluding remarks by Professor Sukehiro Hasegawa

17:45 End of the consultation meetings

18:00 Departure for the official residence of the Japanese Ambassador

18:30 Buffet dinner reception hosted by Ambassador Junichi IHARA, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations and International Organizations in Geneva

Wednesday, 18 July Asian scholars depart Geneva



## Secretariat

### ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office

Sukehiro Hasegawa	Director, ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office, and President, Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan Erika Frey, Assistant to Professor Hasegawa
Kihara-Hunt Ai	Deputy Director, ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office and Professor, University of Tokyo
Masakuni Tanimoto	Chief for Administration

### UN Office in Geneva

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Harriet Donkor, Personal Assistant  
Guillaume Simard-Morissette, Political Affairs Officer  
Ingrid MOCANU, Associate Political Affairs Officer  
Nathalie Derudet, Political Affairs and Partnerships Section