LAUTERPACHT CENTRE
FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW
and
FIRST AFRICA GROUP

CONFERENCE ON

CORPORATE COMPLICITY IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

15 & 16 December 2009

at the

Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge
10 West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DZ, UK

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Tuesday 15 December 2009

16:00-16:30 REGISTRATION, tea and coffee

16:30-16:45 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
Professor James Crawford, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law
Mr Kofi Adjepong-Boateng, First Africa Group

16:45-17:30 **PROJECT ON CORPORATE COMPLICITY IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS: TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS**
Professor James Crawford, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

17:30-18:30 **OPEN DISCUSSION**
Chair*:* *Professor Chester Crocker,* Georgetown University
Panellists: *Sif Thorgeirsson,* Business and Human Rights Resource Centre
Seema Joshi, Global Witness

19:00-19:30 PRE-DINNER DRINKS,
Garden Room, Clare College,
Trinity Lane, CB2 1TL

19:30 **DINNER AT CLARE COLLEGE**
Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TL
After-dinner Speech: *Mr Jeremy Carver CBE,* Clifford Chance LLP (London)

Wednesday 16 December 2009

09:00-10:30 **Session One:**
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND CORPORATIONS

This panel will debate the possibility of the direct application of international law to corporations, as well as the indirect relationship between treaty law and corporations.

Chair: *Professor James Crawford*, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law
Panellists: *Professor John Knox*, Wake Forest University
Professor Celia Wells, Bristol University

Other panellist to be confirmed.

10:30-11:00 Tea and coffee

11:00-12:30 **Session Two:**
THE ZONE OF LEGAL RISK ASSOCIATED WITH CORPORATE COMPLICITY IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

This panel will discuss the litigation against corporations in the USA under the Aliens Tort Claims Act and the notable October 2009 judgment in *Presbyterian Church of Sudan v. Talisman Energy* 07-0016-cv delivered in October 2009. Part of the discussion will also centre on litigation which has been initiated in the United Kingdom.

Chair: *Dr Guglielmo Verdirame*, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law
Panellists: *Ms Ingrid Gubbay*, Hausfeld LLP
Professor Sarah Joseph, Monash University
Ms Shubhaa Srinivasan, Leigh, Day & Co.

12:30-1:15 LIGHT LUNCH, Atrium, Faculty of Law

1:15-14:30 **Session Three:**
SOFT LAW MECHANISMS: A DEVELOPING LEGAL FRAMEWORK REGULATING CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS?

This panel will focus on the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights as well as the Montreux Document on Private Military and Security Companies.

Chair: *Mr Andre Pienaar*
Panellists: *Mr Richard Hermer QC*, Doughty Street Chambers
Ms Cordula Droege, International Committee of the Red Cross
Mr Chip Pitts, Stanford Law School

14:30-15:45 **Session Four:**
DUE DILIGENCE AND THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS

This panel will discuss policy considerations which corporations could take into account prior to and during their investment in weakly governed zones.

Chair: *Mr Kofi Adjepong-Boateng*, First Africa Group
Panellists: *Ms Ines Tofalo*, UN Division for South-to-South Co-operation
Ms Rae Lindsay, Partner, Clifford Chance LLP (London)
Mr John Bray, the Control Risks Group

15:45-16:15 **CONCLUSION AND CLOSING REMARKS**
Professor James Crawford, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

Notes:

1. A discussion paper and dossier of key documents will be circulated to participants in advance.

2. A summary of the discussion will be prepared and circulated on a "Not for attribution" basis.

Further information on the conference and how to register can be found on the Lauterpacht Centre's website at www.lcil.cam.ac.uk or by contacting Ms Vuyelwa Kuuya on 01223 748 988 or email vk264@cam.ac.uk.