

RULE OF LAW CENTRES

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PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE RULE OF LAW & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Moderator's Biographical Information

Peter Batchelor, UNDP Country Director for Myanmar

Mr. Batchelor has more than 20 years of experience in international development, and has worked in UN Headquarters (New York and Geneva) and in the field in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia Pacific.

Prior to his appointment as Country Director in Myanmar, Peter Batchelor served as UNDP Resident Representative in Sri Lanka. He also worked in various leadership capacities in UNDP and other organizations. His experience includes:

(1) Regional Manager at the UNDP Pacific Center in Suva, Fiji Islands, (2) Country Director for UNDP Iraq in Baghdad (3) Chief Conflict Prevention and Recovery Team at UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (UNDP/BCPR) in Geneva (Switzerland) and New York, USA (4) Project Director, Small Arms Survey at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, and (5) Project Coordinator at the Center for Conflict Resolution, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Peter was an advisor to the Mandela Government in South Africa between 1995 and 1999 on security and economic issues.

Peter holds a PhD and an MPhil in Economics from the University of Cambridge, UK and a BA/BA (Hons) from the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He is married with one son.



Panelist Biographical Information

Irene Khan, Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

Irene Khan is Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). The first woman to hold this office, she was elected by Member Parties on November 17, 2011 and took up her position formally on January 1, 2012.

An international thought leader on human rights, gender and social justice issues, Irene Khan was Secretary General of Amnesty International from 2001 - 2009. Prior to that, she worked for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees for 21 years at headquarters and in various field operations. She was Visiting Professor at the State University of New York Law School (Buffalo) in 2011.



Ms. Khan sits on the boards of several international human rights and development organizations. She is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and prestigious awards, including the City of Sydney Peace Prize in 2006 for her work to end violence against women and girls. Her book, *The Unheard Truth*:

Poverty and Human Rights, has been translated into seven languages. Born in Bangladesh, Irene Khan studied law at the University of Manchester and Harvard Law School.

Aung Myo Min, Executive Director of Equality Myanmar

Aung Myo Min was a student leader in Myanmar’s 1988 revolution and the first openly gay man among the democratic movement. While in exile on the Thai-Burma border, Aung Myo Min established human rights NGO Human Rights Education Institute of Burma, now known as Equality Myanmar, where he serves as Executive Director. In 2007, he created Colors Rainbow, which has grown under the auspices of Equality Myanmar to become the leading LGBT rights organization in Myanmar. Aung Myo Min also took part in the submission of the first LGBT report to Myanmar’s UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review (UPR) session in November 2015.



Aung Myo Min has been awarded seven international awards for his work in human and LGBT rights. He returned to Myanmar in 2013, after twenty-four years in exile. In Yangon he continues to train marginalized and vulnerable groups including LGBT peoples, children, women, and ethnic nationalities to empower them to recognize and tackle discrimination and abuse in their daily lives.

Kyaw Min San, Bago Region Minister of Natural Resources, Forest, and Environmental Conservation, Bago Region Hluttaw Representative

Kyaw Min San is a qualified lawyer in Myanmar and a member of both the Yangon and Bago Bar Associations. He has practiced as a trial lawyer since 2006, dealing with criminal and civil matters. He is the Founding Partner of ‘Justice For All,’ a law firm based in Yangon and Bago, and a founding member of the nationwide Myanmar Legal Aid Network. Kyaw Min San has provided legal advice to national and international actors -including the National League for Democracy (legal aid team of Bago) and Justice Base – on issues such as legal reform, access to justice, and human rights. He has served as a legal advisor to a renowned local NGO, Pyoe Pin, on a DFID funded project aimed at promoting the rule of law. Kyaw Min San also served as a legal adviser to the International Commission of Jurists from 2015-2016.



Kyaw Min San is widely published on Myanmar’s legal issues, and is a regular speaker at international conferences. He holds an LLB from University of Dagon and an LLM (Master of Laws in Human Rights) from the University of Hong Kong.

Pansy Tun Thein, National Advisor, Gender Equality Network

Daw Pansy Tun Thein is currently a National Advisor for the Gender Equality Network (GEN). GEN’s mission is to facilitate the transformation of norms, systems, structures and practices to enable gender equality and gender justice in Myanmar. It is a diverse network of more than 100 civil society organizations, national and international NGOs, and technical resource persons.

Previously, Pansy Tun Thein served as the Director of the Local Resource Center (LRC). LRC was first created as a partnership between Myanmar and International NGO’s to provide assistance to local organizations, communities, and civil society groups in their efforts to provide disaster relief after Cyclone Nargis. The LRC then developed a more holistic approach towards the development of indigenous civil society organizations. Pansy Tun Thein has also served as Assistant Representative at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She received her degree from the University of the Philippines.

