

Subject: Opportunity to provide input on OHCHR project on prosecutions of companies for severe human rights abuses

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is seeking to speak with prosecutors who have an interest in or experience with bringing cases against corporations for involvement in serious crimes (including e.g. corruption and bribery, environmental crimes, securities fraud, and international crimes).

The inputs will feed into OHCHR's ongoing '[Accountability and Remedy Project](#)', which aims to contribute to a fairer and more effective system of domestic law remedies in cases of business involvement in severe human rights abuses. The project is subject to a mandate from the Human Rights Council, and OHCHR will be submitting recommendations and findings to the Council in June 2016. The inputs will also feed into the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR) and Amnesty International's '[Commerce, Crime, and Human Rights](#)' project. OHCHR, Amnesty International, and ICAR are collaborating on collecting input and data for their respective projects, both of which seek to understand the challenges and opportunities that investigators and prosecutors experience in bringing cases in domestic courts for corporate involvement in severe human rights abuses. The projects will also seek to provide recommendations to States of how to overcome the identified challenges.

In particular, OHCHR, ICAR, and Amnesty International are interested in information regarding the legal, practical, and political challenges that investigators and prosecutors face when pursuing enforcement or prosecution actions against companies for violations of public law that are linked to human rights abuses. In addition, interviews may ask for feedback on draft recommendations.

If you are interested in sharing your experiences, OHCHR, ICAR, and Amnesty International would like to schedule a confidential telephone/Skype interview at your convenience. Please see the attached Word document for more information, including an outline of the questions that will be asked in the interview. Information collected from interviews will not be attributed to individuals by name and will only be cited in the aggregate. Interviews will take place between **June and end-August 2015**.

For more information, or to indicate your interest, please contact: Ragnhild Handagard at OHCHR via bhrconsultant-rrdd@ohchr.org.

Additionally, OHCHR has launched an online global consultation process for the Accountability and Remedy Project, to which all stakeholders are invited to respond. This consultation process aims to elicit information about tests for corporate liability, funding of legal claims, and sanctions and remedies under criminal and civil law. More information about this process can be found at

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/OHCHRstudyondomesticlawremedies.aspx>.