

# UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN A BUSINESS CONTEXT

## A CONFERENCE FOR BUSINESS LEADERS

Thursday 6 November 2014 – Jakarta, Indonesia



On Thursday 6 November 2014 a unique and timely conference was held in Jakarta to explore the responsibilities of business regarding human rights – including good practices, innovations and challenges.

Over 200 representatives from Indonesian private and state-owned enterprises, multinational companies, and civil society experts convened to exchange experiences, share challenges, and suggest ways forward regarding human rights in a business context.

Featured speakers included representatives from Acuatico, Adidas, Asia Pulp & Paper, APRIL Indonesia, Bank Negara Indonesia, BASF, Better Work Indonesia, Chevron, GE, HP, Motorola Mobility, Novo Nordisk, Sampoerna, Shell, Sintesa Group, Sime Darby, Total, the United Nations. A full report of the conference will follow.

*“Indonesia could be a leader in implementing the UN Guiding Principles for two reasons: we are nation with a population over 240 million with economic potential in the context of growing democratization; and there is a reposition of economic giants and leadership globally... We are looking to the Indonesia business community to align itself to best practices on business and human rights and to follow the UNGPs.”*

Marzuki Darusman, Executive Director, Human Rights Resource Centre



*“Human rights is being mainstreamed into the business discourse. Human rights will become innate in our cultural DNA. Doing well, doing good – it makes business sense.”*  
*Felia Salim, Vice President Director, Bank Negara Indonesia*

The conference involved plenary and small group discussion sessions and explored:

- Recent context and developments, including the value of international standards and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Business perspectives on what respect for human rights means in practice, including how companies get started, what the business case is, and how to integrate human rights into business operations
- Issues and priorities for Indonesia and ASEAN from the perspective of civil society – including human rights challenges and common issues and impacts
- Practices to address particular impacts including: core labour rights; impacts via business relationships, including supply chain, joint ventures and customers; and communities, indigenous peoples and security practices

*“This is a new beginning for us, a new journey. Companies need to learn from each other. The journey will require business learning and sharing of experiences.”*  
*Shinta Widjaja Kamdani, CEO, Sintesa Group*



*“KADIN is pleased to discuss respect for human rights, dignity and the relationship of this to the private sector. Throughout all activities we recognize that companies should consider the implications of their activities on human rights. Today is only the beginning and it is my hope that it paves the path for future.”*  
*Suryo Bambang Sulisto, Chairman, KADIN.*

The objectives of the conference were to:

- Convene a committed group of business representatives from Indonesia to discuss corporate action around the corporate responsibility to respect human rights
- Demonstrate the business benefits of integrating respect for human rights into operations, products and services
- Introduce the UN Guiding Principles, and tools and resources to assist businesses in their human rights journey
- Explore common human rights challenges that businesses face around the world
- Share business experiences and approaches to implementing corporate respect for human rights in policies, processes and systems

*"Indonesia and ASEAN have vibrant, market-based economies operating in diverse industries. Economic progress must be matched with social progress so that Indonesia is a good place to invest. This issue is a strategic necessity for our prosperity and growth."*

*Makarim Wibisono, formerly Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation*

**Convened by:**



HUMAN RIGHTS  
RESOURCE CENTRE



GLOBAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS



**Kamar Dagang dan Industri (KADIN)**

<http://www.kadin-indonesia.or.id>

**The Human Rights Resource Centre**

[www.hrrca.org](http://www.hrrca.org)

**Praxity Member Firms in Indonesia**

<http://www.praxity.com/participating-firms/Pages/Firm-Locator.aspx?country=Indonesia>

**The Global Business Initiative on Human Rights**

[www.global-business-initiative.org](http://www.global-business-initiative.org)