



## Parliamentary Seminar

### *Protecting Human Rights, Combating Discrimination and Addressing HIV/AIDS of Persons with Diverse Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities*

#### Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
9-11 October, 2013

*With the kind support of:*  
**Arcus Foundation**  
**The Open Society Foundations**

#### FINAL AGENDA

##### WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9th

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Welcome reception  
*Venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel (swimming pool area, 2nd floor)*

##### THURSDAY OCTOBER 10th

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Registration of participants

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Opening Ceremony – Conference room, 5th floor, New Building (Edificio nuevo)**

**Dip. Mario Hidalgo**

On behalf of the President of the Chamber of Deputies  
Dominican Republic

**Dip. Magda Rodríguez**

Chair, Gender Equality Committee  
Chamber of Deputies of the Dominican Republic

**Mr. Colin Robinson**

*Caribbean Forum for Liberation and Acceptance of Genders and Sexualities (CariFLAGS) Secretariat & Coalition Advocating for Inclusion of Sexual Orientation (CAISO)*  
Trinidad and Tobago

**Ms. Navi Pillay (video message)**

High Commissioner for Human Rights  
United Nations

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

*Official Photograph*

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

**Session 1 - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in International Human Rights Law**

Moderator: **Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala**, Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka & Convenor of the Gender Equality and Population Program, PGA

**SPEAKERS:**

**Dip. Alexis Jiménez**

Chair, Youth Committee  
Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic

**Ms. Tracy Robinson**

Commissioner, Inter-American Human Rights Commission  
Professor of Law, University of West Indies

**Mr. Oscar Pabel Valdez Guillén**

Expert in International Public Law and Constitutional Law  
Dominican Republic

**Discussion**

11:45 – 12:00 p.m.

*Coffee Break*

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

**Session 2 – Addressing Stigma and Discrimination of LGBTI persons in the Health sector**

Moderator: **Dip. Juana Vicente**, Chair of Health Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Dominican Republic

**SPEAKERS:**

**Dr. Víctor Terrero**

Executive Director  
National Council on HIV/AIDS (CONAVIHSIDA)  
Dominican Republic

**Ms. Bethania Betances**

UNAIDS Representative  
Dominican Republic

**Dane Lewis**

Executive Director

J-Flag  
Jamaica

**Mr. Leonardo Sánchez**  
Executive Director  
Amigos siempre Amigos (ASA)  
Dominican Republic

**Discussion**

13:15 –2:30 p.m.

*Lunch at seminar venue*

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

**Session 3 – Engaging with Civil Society**

Moderator: **Mr. Wellington Amín Arnaud Bisonó**, Chair of Human Development Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Dominican Republic

**SPEAKERS:**

**Dip. Pilar Porras**  
Chair, Women, and Youth and Children Committees  
Legislative Assembly  
Costa Rica

**Ms. Zenita Nicholson**  
Secretary on the Board of Trustees, *Society against Sexual Orientation Discrimination (SASOD)* & Country Coordinator, *Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC)*  
Guyana

**Mr. Alex Mundaray**  
Dominican Republic

**Discussion**

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

**Session 4 – Exchanging Best Practices on Anti-discriminatory Legislation**

Moderator: **Dip. Eugenio Cedeño**, Chair, Human Rights Committee, Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic

**SPEAKERS:**

**Dip. Berta Sanseverino**  
Parliament of Uruguay

**Mr. Caleb Orozco**  
Executive Director

United Belize Advocacy Movement  
Belize

**Ms. Norma García de Paredes**

HIV Legal Advisor

UNDP Regional Service Center for Latin America and the Caribbean

5:00 p.m.

*Seminar adjourns for the day*

8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Dinner hosted by Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic  
*Venue: El Club del Legislador*

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 11, 2013**

09:30 – 11:00 a.m.

**Conversation on Overcoming Obstacles to Achieve Equality for All**

Small group discussions in English and Spanish

*English* – Moderator: Mr. Fox Odoi-Oywelowo, MP Uganda

*Room:* Hugo Tolentino Dipp

*Spanish* – Moderator: Dip. Berta Sanseverino, Uruguay

*Room:* Rafaela Albuquerque

11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

*Coffee break*

11:30 – 12:30p.m.

**Closing and Report back from small group discussions - Conference room, 5th floor, New Building (Edificio nuevo)**

Moderator: **Dip. Minou Tavárez Mirabal**, Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic  
Chair, International Council PGA

- Discussion and adoption of Commitments and Next Steps
- Launch of Global Allies Network (GAIN)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

*Lunch at seminar venue*