



## ***Building an Access to Justice Network for Business and Human Rights in Asia***

Date: Sunday, 28 October 2018 (2-5pm)

Venue: P5401, 5/F, Yeung Kin Man Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong

The Human Rights Law and Policy Forum (HRLF) of the School of Law of City University Hong Kong in collaboration with the Research Center for Sustainable Peace, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo will organise a roundtable on 25 October 2018 to explore building a multi-stakeholder access to justice network in Asia to deal with business-related human rights abuses.

The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) provide an authoritative global standard to promote business respect for human rights. Pillar III of the UNGPs underlines the importance of access to effective remedy for victims adversely affected by business enterprises and envisages a role for both states and businesses. Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda also stresses the need to “provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” to achieve sustainable development. Establishing a multi-stakeholder transnational network can contribute to realising this access to justice aspiration of the UNGPs as well as the 2030 Agenda. Such a network should also strengthen the civic space and promote the rule of law in Asia.

The Roundtable – which will be held immediately after the 7<sup>th</sup> Asia Pro Bono Conference – will bring together lawyers, scholars, civil society organisations (CSOs), companies, and business consultants to discuss the need for building such a transnational network in Asia to strengthen access to justice for individuals and communities affected by business activities. The Roundtable will also provide an opportunity to companies, lawyers and CSOs to share good practices as to what works in providing victims effective remedies in cases of business-related human rights abuses.