



19.06.2017

To

The Members Of The Press

This is to bring to your attention that the Executive Director of People's Watch, Mr. Henri Tiphagne, will be addressing an event at the United Nations Headquarters in New York today. Mr. Tiphagne will be representing the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) at the event titled 'The Committee on NGOs - Improving working methods encouraging civil society engagement'. Mr. Tiphagne serves on the Executive Committee of the IDSN. This event has been scheduled on the 19th June from 7:30pm (IST) onwards.

The event is particularly in the context of the [International Dalit Solidarity Network](http://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/IDSN-ECOSOC-Application-Fact-Sheet-June-2017.pdf) application made in the year 2007 which is still pending. (Refer to the fact sheet link below for more information on the same <http://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/IDSN-ECOSOC-Application-Fact-Sheet-June-2017.pdf>). India is a member of the UN Committee that accredits NGOs for ECOSOC status and has been blocking the success of this application.

Today's event is sponsored by three states, namely; the UK, France and Uruguay along with the International Service for Human Rights, the Observatory (OMCT & FIDH), CIVICUS, Amnesty International, Freedom Now, Connectas and the JBI.

The following will be the speakers at the event:

- The three state co. sponsors of the event - UK, France and Uruguay
- Robert Mahoney (Committee to Protect Journalists)
- Janet Love (Legal Resource Centre)
- Camila Asano (Conectas Direitos Humanos) - via Skype
- Henri Tiphagne (International Dalit Solidarity Network)
- Eleanor Openshaw, International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)

The event will also outline some options for reform of NGO Committee practice which are enclosed.

We request you all to follow the event here <http://webtv.un.org/>

You can even follow the event on Twitter @freedomnoworg @ISHRglobal and tweet using the official hashtag **#NGOCommittee**

Thank You.
People's Watch

For further details contact:

Ms. Alina Tiphagne 9717571075

Mr. Jeyakumar 9994368524