



## ORGANIZERS



# Migrant Children: Unprotected and Neglected in Migration Policies?

Side Event to the UN Human Rights Council

Thursday 4 June 2009

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Room 27, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Migrant children throughout the world may be living with members of their families but can also be unaccompanied, living alone without their parents or guardians. Whatever their condition and their migration status, these children are affected by migration policies that are increasingly being developed within a framework prioritizing state security over concerns for the fundamental rights, well-being and safety of children.

Coinciding with the submission by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Mr. Jorge Bustamante, of a report on migrant children during the June 2009 session of the UN Human Rights Council, this side event aims to provide more visibility and recognition of the inherent rights of children within various aspects of migration policies throughout the world, with concrete examples from Europe and Asia.

The guest speaker for the program is Jorge Bustamante, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants. Michele LeVoy of the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) will speak about undocumented children in Europe. Naoto Higuchi from Solidarity for Migrants Japan (SMJ) will discuss issues concerning children of migrants (both regular and undocumented) in countries of destination in Asia and civil society initiatives in addressing their issues. Andrea Anolin of Batis Center for Women will discuss issues faced by children of women migrants in Japan and initiatives of Batis in organizing Japanese Filipino children, the Batis Yogi.

This event is co-organized by Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Migrants Rights International (MRI), Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), and National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR).

### **Chair:**

**Colin Rajah**, National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR), a member of Migrants Rights International (MRI)

### **Speakers:**

**Jorge Bustamante**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants

**Michele LeVoy**, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), member of Migrants Rights International (MRI)

**Naoto Higuchi**, Solidarity for Migrants Japan (SMJ), member of Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)

**Andrea Anolin**, Batis Center for Women, member of Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)