



## **32nd regular session of Human Rights Council**

### **Side event – Panel discussion**

## **Into Thin Air: Vanishing space for freedom of assembly and association online and offline in Asia**

*16 June 2016, from 15:00 to 16:00 - Room IX, Palais des Nations, Geneva*

*Organised by the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) and the Association for Progressive Communications (APC)*

This panel discussion seeks to provide a platform for human rights defenders from Cambodia, Malaysia and Pakistan to engage in a conversation with the Special Rapporteur as well as the international community on the ongoing repression of rights to freedom of assembly and association in the region. This event will also see the launch of APC's research publication titled "*Freedom of assembly and association online in India, Malaysia and Pakistan: Trends, challenges and recommendations*".

*Moderator: **Adam Ahmed**, FORUM-ASIA*

*Panelists:*

- **Maina Kiai**, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
- **Sokunthea Chhan**, Cambodian Development and Human Rights Association (ADHOC), Cambodia
- **Shashi Devan**, human rights lawyer, Malaysia
- **Haroon Baloch**, Bytes for All, Pakistan
- **Gayathry Venkiteswaran**, author of "*Freedom of assembly and association online in India, Malaysia and Pakistan: Trends, challenges and recommendations*"