



**Pilot of Constitution Building Training Programme
(Pilot in Asia)
13 – 18 June 2010
Hong Kong**

BIONOTES

Pilot Participants

Arachapon Nimitkulpon (Thailand)

Arachapon Nimitkulpon has been working in a human rights organization since 2008 after obtaining a Political Science degree from Thammasat University. She started her career as an intern at Forum-Asia, a regional human rights organization based in Bangkok, wherein she focused on the human rights issue of Burma and Thailand. She was later assigned in the southern border of Thailand where there is an ongoing violent-conflict and many human rights abuses. She then worked with the peace group for one year under the project called “Peace Witness Volunteer”. After that, she became a local coordinator of Protection International, an international human rights organization working under the pilot project “security and protection training for human rights defender”. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of HRD who facing threat and intimidation because of their work to be able to protect themselves, their colleagues, the witnesses and the villagers from any harm. At present, she is a project officer of the Working Group on Justice for Peace, a national human rights organization that mainly focuses on the work of human rights issue in the three southern border of Thailand but also do have other areas of work in other part of the country. They monitor the abuses, campaign to promote and protect human rights as well as strengthen the local people to know their rights and stand up to protect it.

Brian Barbour (Hong Kong)

Brian Barbour is currently serving as the Executive Director of the Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre, a non-governmental organization that works to protect refugee rights, and strives to ensure all refugees in Hong Kong have access to high-quality legal aid, fair refugee status determination procedures, and human rights. Brian has worked in education, international development and refugee protection over the past 10 years in Japan, Nepal, Italy, the United States and Hong Kong. Brian received his Juris Doctor degree from Brooklyn Law School where he focused on international human rights and refugee law and policy. Brian is licensed and admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counselor-at-Law in the State of New York.

Catherine Ruiz (The Philippines)

Catherine M.A. Ruiz is the executive director of the Center for Participatory Governance (CPaG), a Cebu-based capability-building, resource center promoting active citizenship and participatory governance initiatives. She has served with the organization since its inception 10 years ago in various capacities as a member of its Board of Directors, Chairperson, and has been managing the organization since January 2008. She is a skilled marketing communications person and once managed a local advertising agency. She is an active

member of the political party, Akbayan Citizen's Action Party, formerly serving as division chairperson for Cebu City and as a representative to the party's national council for nine years. She is currently the vice-chairperson of Kaabag sa Sugbu, a network of 28 non-government, development organizations in Cebu.

Chalida Tajaroensuk (Thailand)

Chalida Tajaroensuk obtained her Bachelor's degree from Thammasat University and Master's degree from the National Institute For Development and Administration (NIDA). She has been working with Human Rights NGOs for more than 30 years. She started her human rights activity when she was a student in the university. She is currently the director of People's Empowerment Foundation (PEF). PEF was registered under the Thai law on July 2008. It was set up after the coup 19 September 2006. They have 4 main projects, namely Grassroots Democracy, ASEAN people's project, Southern Thailand project and Cross border project.

Chameera Perera (Sri Lanka)

Chameera Perera's origins were very much political. He was born into a left family. His grand father was a strong character who was a pioneer member of Lanka Sama Samaja party (first Marxist party of Sri Lanka) and devoted his youth to the freedom struggle of the country. He started his sociopolitical life soon as he left school, the moment where the country was drawn to the vortex of despotism. He was inevitably engaged with the socio-political movement which enacted against the existed government of U.N.P. (United National Party). He successfully completed a master's degree with magna cum laude in modern history with a thesis of modernity, nation and besieging the nation state. He got an opportunity to join national anti war front as a project director which was the start of his professional career. Currently, he is a consultant at the center for society and religion, which articulates citizen forum network (already established 10 citizen forums in 10 districts in the country) to create common sense for the public to expose their actions and activities which would converge under the consent of democratic citizenship.

Herbin Siahaan (Indonesia)

Herbin Marulak Siahaan is an Indonesian Lawyer. He is the Executive Director of the Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (ICJR), which is based in Jakarta, Indonesia. He has a lot of experience in working in the field of Law Reform, Security Sector Reform, Peace Building, Counter Trafficking in Women and Children, Community Legal Service, Legal Empowerment, Human Rights, and Criminal Justice Reform. He has previously worked for some international organizations, i.e. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), The Asia Foundation, International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP), and International Organization for Migration (IOM). He graduated from Satya Wacana Christian University in Salatiga Indonesia and obtained a Master's Degree in Criminal Law from Padjadjaran University Bandung Indonesia.

Joy Alcantara (The Philippines)

Joy Alcantara is a Doctor of Medicine, a staunch advocate of children's rights who joined politics to promote pro-child advocacies. A specialist in dermatology and geriatrics, she hops to and from Skincellance, an aesthetic clinic she owns, and Akap Bata (Embrace the Child), where she volunteers her services for children. She was chosen first nominee of Akap Bata Party List during the recently held Philippine elections in May 2010.

James Francis Lugtu (The Philippines)

James Francis Lugtu graduated from the Philippine Military Academy and is currently working under the Department of National Defence. His functional experience has been further enhanced by his able participation in international missions that are focused on human rights and international humanitarian law. One such mission is the Philippines' participation in the first-ever review session under the UN's Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

on April 11, 2008, in Geneva, Switzerland. Ltsg Lugtu was Observer and Special Technical Assistant to the Head of Delegation, then Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, who was also the chairman of the Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC). The UPR is a unique process which involves a review of the human rights records of all 192 UN Member States once every four years. Another mission which Ltsg. Lugtu was involved in was the consideration by the United Nations Committee Against Torture of the Philippines' 2nd to 5th Consolidated Report on the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading Treatment and Punishment on April 28-29, 2009, at the said Committee's 42nd Session. Again, as Special Technical Assistant to the same Head of Delegation and Observer, Ltsg. Lugtu was involved in discussions in the technical working group convened by the Presidential Human Rights Committee Secretariat to prepare for the Country Report for consideration.

Jayampathy Wickramaratne (Sri Lanka)

Jayampathy Wickramaratne, P.C. counts over 32 years as a legal practitioner in Sri Lanka and specializes in constitutional law, human rights litigation, administrative law and criminal law. In 2001, he was appointed President's Counsel, equivalent to Queen's Counsel in England. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration and was awarded a Ph. D. degree for his thesis titled "Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka". He served as Consultant and Senior Advisor in the Ministries of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Sri Lanka and was a member of the team that drafted the Constitution Bill of 2000. He was also a member of the panel of experts appointed by the President to service the All Party Representative Committee (APRC) and was a signatory to the "majority report" which proposed a strong power-sharing arrangement as a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis. Dr. Wickramaratne has done several assignments for UNDP, UNODC and Sida in Lao PDR relating to law reform, human rights, criminal justice, human trafficking, international law etc. He is a Director of the Institute for Constitutional Studies, a non-governmental organization working on constitutional issues including constitutionalism, devolution, power-sharing and human rights.

Khushee Tharu (Nepal)

Khushee Tharu has been working with International IDEA's Nepal Office as Constitution Building Coordinator since 2009. With LL.M degree in constitutional laws, he is coordinating constitution building programme of Nepal office through national partners, constitutional experts, CA Secretariat and CA members as well as supporting CA caucuses and procedural committees including Public Opinion Collection and Coordination Committee. Previously, he worked in UN systems (UNMIN, OHCHR, UNDP) for four years until 2008 where he supported peace process in Nepal by monitoring Comprehensive Peace Accord between the Government of Nepal and CPN-Maoist 2006, Election Code of Conduct of CA election as well as public security environment favorable for CA election. He conducted investigation of human rights violation and abuses when working with the OHCHR/Nepal office. He practiced law for ten years in different courts of Nepal until 2001. Likewise he volunteered on social services in backward areas in Nepal.

Liza Maza (The Philippines)

Liza Maza has been a member of the Philippine Congress as representative of the party list "Bayan Muna" in 2001. From 2004 to 2010, she represents the Gabriela Women's Party, the biggest and strongest women's party in the country. She authored/co-authored legislations such as the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act, the Juvenile Justice Act and the Magna Carta of Women, among others. She has been a feminist activist for 23 years and for more than 30 years involved with the movement for social change in the Philippines. She has been a delegate to various United Nations conferences and invited to over 35 countries to speak about Filipino women, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) and the national situation. Like most mothers, she strives to balance her role as a social activist and public servant as well as mother to her two sons.

Margiyono (Indonesia)

Margiyono is a journalist-cum-lawyer. He studied law in University of Indonesia and holds a Bachelor of law. He works as journalist since 2003, focusing on law and human rights issues. He is the Advocacy and Legal coordinator of The Alliance of Independent Journalists, wherein he coordinates legal and policy advocacy for media in Indonesia. Their main objective is to develop constitutional and legal protection for press freedom in Indonesia. Their midterm goal is to encourage Indonesian parliament to include press freedom protection in Indonesian Constitution.

Mohamed Nizam Kariapper (Sri Lanka)

Mohamed Nizam Kariapper is an attorney-at-Law by profession and is the Deputy Secretary General of Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, a political party in Sri Lanka which has eight members in the present Parliament. He is also a member of Constitutional Committee of the party and represented the party at the All Party Representative Committee convened by the President to formulate constitutional principles for home grown new constitution for the country. He also holds a diploma for Conflict Resolution and Skills development awarded by UPEACE (University of Peace of UN) and Diploma certificate awarded by UPSALA University for Peace and Security. He is presently studying for his master of Laws Programme conducted by Faculty of Law of University of Colombo and is offering the subject of Administrative Law, Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian law. He had also held the post of State Counsel in the Attorney Generals Department of Sri Lanka and former member of Public Service Commission of Sri Lanka.

Muji Kartika Rahayu (Indonesia)

Muji Kartika Rahayu is a public lawyer and social activist, who is involved in human rights and corruption issues. She works as Deputy of Chair at the National Consortium for Legal Reform, a NGO in Indonesia that is formed in 1998. They follow the developments of the Indonesia constitution amendment moment. While the house of representative revised constitution, they led civil societies participation by drafting constitution public version then endorsed it to the house of representative. After the amendment was finished, next civil society participation is drafting a Law on Constitutional Court and creating an excellence Constitutional Court by designing a blue print of Constitutional Court. Lastly, when the Constitutional Court is established, the National Consortium for Legal Reform's concern is exercising the Constitutional Court to defend citizen constitutional right such as Law on Truth and Reconciliation Commission, article about defamation, etc. It happens that the NGO gets disappointed with Constitutional Court's verdict. Right now, they are advocating the legislation and establishing anti corruption Court as a follow up to the Constitutional Court , decided in 2006. Besides working in National Consortium for Legal Reform, Muji is also a volunteer in solidarity committee for Munir, who was a human rights activist who died on board to Amsterdam, 7th September 2004.

Nattapat Lertprapotekul (Thailand)

Nattapat Lertprapotekul has been working with FORUM-ASIA since October 2008 as an intern for Human Rights Defenders Programme. He continued his work in FORUM-ASIA as the Human Rights Defenders Fellow in the beginning of 2010. Apart from his human rights work at FORUM-ASIA, Nattapat Lertprapotekul is also studying for the Masters of Laws at the Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University. He takes a major in international law.

Paisarn Likhitpreechakul (Thailand)

With support from Thailand's National Human Rights Commission, Paisarn translated into the Thai language the Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. The document was used by LGBT activists in their meetings with the Constitution Drafting Assembly in 2007 to guarantee equality for LGBT Thais. Since then, he has also been actively involved in LGBT movement building, working with the NHRC, HIV/AIDS non-government organizations and individual

LGBT activists. In addition to his gay column which first appeared in the English-language newspaper The Nation in 2002, he also writes opinion pieces on LGBT-related issues and Buddhism.

Paolo Romero (The Philippines)

Paolo Romero started working as a police reporter in 1996 with The Philippine STAR newspaper and covered various beats and foreign events, including conflicts as well as international forums. He also covered three Philippine presidents, all of whom pushed for amendments to the country's constitution. He is also active in promoting press freedom in the Philippines, considered to be one of the world's most dangerous places for journalists. He is the President of the Malacanang (Office of the President of the Philippines) Press Corps, and member of the National Press Club and the Defense Press Corps.

Purna Man Shakya (Sri Lanka)

Purna Man Shakya is a constitutional lawyer with varied experience in constitutional law. He did his higher education from Delhi University and then from Columbia University at New York. He holds Masters' degree from Faculty of Law in Delhi (GOLD MEDALIST) and Columbia University Law School in New York (FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR). He has twenty five years of experience in teaching constitutional law in Tribhuvan University. He is also extensively involved in legal research and consultancies on development and constitutional law matters. He is a Reader in the Faculty of Law (TU) and consulting legal advisor to many World Bank and Asian Development Bank projects and institutions such as Rashtriya Banijya Bank, Nepal SBI Bank and Nepal Airlines Corporation. He has an extensive practice in banking, corporate and business law as well. He has published more than 50 research articles in national and international law journals in the matters of constitutional law. He was a lead member in consultant drafting team for rules of procedure of constituent assembly. He has already contributed his views as a constitutional expert in most of the thematic committees of constituent assembly.

Pushpa Bhusal (Nepal)

Pushpa Bhusal is the member of Constituent Assembly from Nepali Congress. Hon. Bhusal is the leading advocate of the Supreme Court of Nepal. She is the General Secretary of Nepal Women's Association of Nepali congress. She was a member of Interim Constitution Drafting Committee 2007 as well as a member of Truth Commission Drafting committee.

Ramiah Yogarajan (Sri Lanka)

Ramiah Yogarajan is an Engineer by profession, with a Bachelor of Science degree specialising in Production Engineering. He was an entrepreneur in the Textile and Garments Industry with over 2000 employees and entered the field of politics through the Ceylon Workers Congress, which is a political party and trade union representing the Sri Lankan populace of recent Indian origin who were brought to Ceylon as plantation workers in the 19th century. This group of people have a distinct identity and issues typical to the group. He was a Provincial council member from May '93 to Oct 1994 and was elected to Parliament in Oct '94. He has served in the Parliament 1994-2004 and has re-entered in 2010 after the April elections. He has been the spokesman for the party and community in most forums discussing a political role for the community. In November, he quit the Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC) and joined the United National party, after he felt that the CWC was not articulating the needs of the Indian origin community in an effective way due to obligations as a member of the government alliance.

Sriyana (Indonesia)

Sriyana has a background education in Criminal Law and a Master Degree of Human Rights from The Hong Kong University. He also has a Diploma Degree in Forensic from Groningen University, Netherlands. He joined the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM) in 1993. He is now the Head of the Division of Monitoring and Investigation

of Komnas HAM). He has extensive experience in studies and research, prepares draft of the law, conducts monitoring and investigation of human rights violations. In the area of public awareness, he also has experiences as a facilitator and resources person in human rights trainings.

Sudarshan Khadka (Nepal)

Sudarsha Khadka has a Master's Degree in both Public Administration and Economics. He is currently an Under Secretary (July 2002 - present) for the Committee for Protecting the Rights and Interests of Minority and Marginalized Community, Constituent Assembly, Public Accounts Committee & Women Caucus, Legislature-parliament. Prior to that, he was Section Officer at the State Affairs Committee, House of Representative. He has written many articles that were published in different daily national newspapers about the parliamentary and other current affairs.

Usha Kala Rai (Nepal)

Usha Kala Rai is a Member of the Constituent Assembly (Legislative Parliament) in Nepal. She finished M.Sc.in Botany, M.A in Sociology & Anthropology and LL.B. She was a former Professor in Tribhuvan University, Nepal. Her responsibilities in the Constituent Assembly includes: member of the Fundamental Rights & directive principle thematic committee; gender coordinator in the same committee; member of the Legislative committee; parliamentarian member in the National Development Council; member of the Advisory committee in CA and executive member of the Women Caucus-Constitution Assembly, Nepal

Facilitators

Yan-yan Yip

Yan-yan Yip is the Chief Operating Officer of Civic Exchange, an independent non-profit public policy think tank based in Hong Kong. She joined Civic Exchange in 2001 initially as project co-ordinator responsible for projects related to civil society development and constitutional reform. She managed many research projects focused on Hong Kong, Mainland China, and Asia, and continue to coordinate Civic Exchange's relations with many research and civil society organisations in and outside Hong Kong. She is currently a co-trainer providing conflict transformation skills training in various Mainland cities, such as Beijing, Shanghai and Nanjing. She has extensive experience in facilitation and civic engagement processes and has helped public, private and civil society sectors and has designed, organised and facilitated many multi-stakeholder engagements. She is a regular newspaper columnist. She has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Hong Kong Baptist University (First Class Honour) and a Master's degree in International Relations from London School of Economics, UK. She also has a diploma in multimedia graphic design and is a certified Master NLP Practitioner.

Johny Barliyanta (Indonesia)

Johny Barliyanta was born in a small town called Klaten in Central Java, Indonesia. This 40 year-old male is always passionate about education and training. For two years in the past five years of his career in training and education, he was a director of studies to an English course in Jakarta, Indonesia. He was involved in the curriculum as well as human resources development. He joined the Australian Electoral Commissions as a training advisor in 2003. While working with the AEC, he received the BRIDGE certification and was a facilitator to BRIDGE in Brisbane, Australia and in Liberia, West Africa. Working with AEC, from 2008 to 2009, he coordinated the writing of several election-related modules for the Indonesian Election Management Body, such as the Election Logistics, Election Socialisation, Election Dispute Resolution, Polling Staff Manual, and a few more. He joined International IDEA for the Workshop on Indonesian and Asian Democratic Transition and Reform Experiences in

February 2010 conducted in Bali, Indonesia. And recently, he has been contracted as a facilitator by the International IDEA for another workshop conducted in Hongkong on the Constitution Building Curriculum.

Roddy Shaw (Hong Kong)

Roddy Shaw is Principal Consultant for Diversity Factor, where he gives talks to promote equality and non-discrimination in higher education and private sectors, build advisory network of academic and NGO experts and represented individual cases at tribunal level, among others. He also conducts human rights law and equality training for individuals and corporations. He is also a part-time lecturer at the City University of Hong Kong wherein he designed a course “Human Rights in Asia” to be taught to an MA programme in Fall 2010. He has an LLM (Human Rights) and MA Literary and Cultural Studies, both from the University of Hong Kong.

Curriculum Team

Christie Warren (Curriculum Developer)

Dr Warren is Professor of the Practice of International and Comparative Law and Director of the Comparative Legal Studies and Post-Conflict Justice Program at William and Mary Law School. Her courses include Comparative Law, Comparative Constitutional Systems, Post-Conflict Justice and the Rule of Law, International Human Rights Law, Litigation in Civil Code Systems, Islamic Law, and Introduction to Common Law Methodologies.

Professor Warren has designed, implemented, monitored and assessed constitutional, judicial and legal development and training projects in 34 countries throughout Africa, Central and East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Russia and the Newly Independent States, the Balkans and East Timor. She was named the 1998 – 1999 Supreme Court Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States and received the Supreme Court Fellows Alumni Association’s Administration of Justice Award for “significant contributions to the international administration of justice.”

Wachira Maina (Curriculum Writer)

Mr. Wachira Maina is a Kenyan constitutional lawyer, currently working as Senior Advisor, Coach and Head of the Governance and Legal Cluster of the Strategy and Policy Unit, SPU, in the Office of the President in Rwanda. Previously, Mr. Maina worked both as an independent consultant and a senior staff of donor agencies on Peace-Building and Reconstruction and Governance and Legal issues in many parts of Africa including Southern Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya, Ethiopia and Mozambique. The agencies he has consulted for include the World Bank; the United Nations Development Programme; the Government of Tanzania, the Government of Rwanda, the New Partnership for African Development, NEPAD, numerous human rights NGOs and the State University of New York, SUNY. Among the positions he has previously held is that of Senior Programme Specialist on Peace Building and Reconstruction, PBR, for the International Development Research Centre, IDRC with overall responsibility for the Sub-Saharan Portfolio; Governance and Gender Advisor for the United States Agency for International Development, USAID, Mission to Kenya and founding Chief Executive of the Institute of Economic Affairs, IEA, one of Kenya’s leading NGOs. Mr Maina also served on the adjunct faculty of the Widener University Comparative Law Programme where he taught comparative constitutionalism and covered constitutional transitions in Africa and Eastern Europe. Mr. Maina has also published books chapters and articles on law, politics and governance.

Greg Moran (Curriculum Writer)

Greg Moran is an international consultant from South Africa. He has worked as a prosecutor, advocate (barrister) and with the South African Constitutional Assembly and Human Rights Commissions, as well as assisting the Truth and Reconciliation Commission with its public education and awareness campaign. Since 2000, he has worked as a senior international consultant in a wide variety of issues including constitutional reform, good governance, human rights, access to justice and judicial reform, gender and related issues. He has conducted numerous project identification, formulation, mid term review and final evaluation missions for a variety of international development partners. He is currently a curriculum development specialist for the constitution building programme being developed by International IDEA.

Peer Reviewers

Vivienne O'Connor (Lead Reviewer)

Vivienne O'Connor is a senior rule of law adviser who joined the United States Institute of Peace's Rule of Law Program in 2007. Her focus is on criminal justice reform and rule of law training. She co-directs the Model Codes for Post-Conflict Criminal Justice Project and directs the Rule of Law Training Project. She also works on a project providing technical support and assistance to the criminal law reform process in Haiti. Before joining USIP, she worked at the Irish Centre for Human Rights as its Rule of Law Project Officer. In 2005, she has taught international human rights law at the National University of Ireland. She has also taught a course on criminal law and development at the University of Melbourne Law School, where she was a senior fellow from 2006-2007. Vivienne has worked as a consultant for the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Officer on Drugs and Crime. Vivienne holds a bachelor's of civil law from the University College Dublin and a master's degree and a Ph.D. in international human rights law from the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Raul Avila

Raul Avila Ortiz is a consultant and a commissioner of the Oaxaca State Institute for Access to Public Information. He has 25 years experience as a law professor in various Mexican universities and has also held diverse public positions in both the Mexican Federal and Local governments. From 1997 to 2004, he was both a Legal Advisor and the International Affairs Coordinator in the Electoral Tribunal of the Judicial Branch of the Federation. He was also the coordinator of the National Autonomous University of Mexico PhD Research Program. He is the founder and current President of the Mexican NGO "Law, Education and Culture", and the "Centre for Constitutional and Multicultural Studies of the State of Oaxaca". He holds an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas, Austin (1998) and PhD in law from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Okumba Miruka

Okumba Miruka is an international consultant with expertise on gender mainstreaming, strategic planning, participatory training, research and documentation. He has consulted for various national and international non-governmental organizations as well as United Nations agencies in Africa and beyond. Miruka is a well known scholar on Oral Literature with various books in use in secondary schools and universities. He has also written various training manuals on gender mainstreaming, gender based violence and facilitation skills. Miruka has also worked as a special correspondent on culture, gender and literary issues for leading Kenyan newspapers and radio stations. He is a founder member of Men for Gender Equality Now, the premier movement of men combating gender based violence in Kenya.

Nikki Naylor (TBC)

Nikki Naylor, a South African human rights attorney, was appointed to the post of Program Officer for Human Rights in the Ford Foundation's Office for Southern Africa in January, 2007. Naylor's grant-making focuses on advancing socio-economic rights for vulnerable and marginalized populations, such as, people living with HIV/AIDS, women, refugees and undocumented migrants and gay and lesbian populations. In addition, Naylor focuses on combating gender-based violence in Southern Africa. Naylor has two law degrees in South Africa (B.Proc. and LL.B) and an LLM (with distinction) in International Human Rights at the University of London. Naylor's areas of specialty include women's rights and issues surrounding violence against women. Nikki has also practiced law within one of the largest commercial law firms in South Africa, Sonnenberh Hoffmann and Galombik Inc (now ENS inc). Prior to joining the Ford Foundation, Nikki worked as a lawyer on the Equality Program of Interights in London where she, amongst other things, worked on submitting *amicus curiae* briefs before the European Court of Human Rights as well as the African Commission for Human & People's Rights. She also worked for several years at the Women's Legal Centre, a public interest law firm that protects and promotes women's rights and gender equality.

Cheryl Saunders

Cheryl Saunders is a Laureate Professor at the University of Melbourne and the founding Director of its Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies. Prof. Saunders has specialist research interests in constitutional and administrative law and comparative public law, with particular reference to federalism, intergovernmental relations, constitution-making and comparative constitutional method and design. She has held visiting positions at the Universities of Cambridge, Paris II, Indiana (Bloomington), Hong Kong, Copenhagen, Fribourg, Cape Town, Auckland and Oxford and has an honorary doctorate from the University of Cordoba, Argentina. She is President of the International Association of Centres for Federal Studies, President Emeritus of the International Association of Constitutional Law, and a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. She is a member of the Advisory Board of International IDEA and of the Program Committee of the Forum of Federations.

Jenny Tuhaika

Jenny Tuhaika is the Chairlady of the Constitutional Congress and Eminent Persons Advisory Council of the Constitutional Reform Program of the Solomon Islands. She is also the President of the National Council of Women of the Solomon Islands.

Wilfrido Villacorta

Dr. Wilfrido V. Villacorta is Professor Emeritus of De La Salle University. He was the Deputy Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) from 2003-2006, with the rank of Ambassador. He was responsible for external relations and functional cooperation, which included education, environment, labor, health, rural development and poverty reduction, women and youth. Before his appointment to ASEAN, Dr. Villacorta was President of the Yuchengco Centre, a think tank based at his university. He was also Dean and Senior Vice-President of De La Salle University. He was a delegate to the 1987 Constitutional Commission which drafted the present Philippine Constitution. He has extensively published in the fields of international relations, comparative politics and political economy. Dr. Villacorta completed his bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of the Philippines, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Politics, major in International Law and Relations, at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Yanyan Yip

Pls see bionote under "Facilitators"

International IDEA

Winluck Wahiu

Winluck Wahiu is a lawyer who joined International IDEA in September 2006 and became the Project Manager for the Constitutional Building Programme in October 2008. Previously (2001 -2005), he worked as the Programme Officer of the African Human Rights and Access to Justice Programme, a regional initiative of the Kenyan and Swedish Sections in collaboration with the Geneva Secretariat of the International Commission of Jurists. He managed the Programme's work in 16 Africa countries to support the national implementation of international human rights standards through funding litigation and framing legal opinions on comparative constitutional law and practice for national litigation teams. He was involved in technical legal team advising the Kenyan bipartisan parliamentary consensus committee on the constitution making process leading to a referendum on the draft constitution in 2005. He was also involved in constitutional amendment process in Uganda and the legal drafting process in Swaziland after being invited in both cases by umbrella civil society organizations. Mr. Wahiu holds an LL.B (Hons) degree from the University of Nairobi and a Diploma from Kenya School of Law.

Melanie Allen

Melanie Allen is an Assistant Programme Officer in the Constitution Building Programme of International IDEA. Her work focuses on policy development for international partnerships and constitution building. Prior to joining the CBP programme, she worked in the Political Parties programme on issues related to the internal functioning of political parties and on the South Asia region component. She later joined the Electoral Processes programme. She has held internships with IFES and the International Labour Organization. Ms. Allen holds an A.B. in Government from Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts and completed coursework at the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.

Jenny Isberg

Jenny Isberg is Administrative Assistant in the Constitution Building Processes Programme at International IDEA. Prior to joining IDEA, she was a Swedish/English translator in the Embassy of Tanzania in Stockholm for nearly six years. Ms. Isberg's experiences in the Philippines include Market Research Supervisor in Duty Free Philippines (1994-1997); Community Development Officer in an NGO which was providing livelihood projects to the victims of the Mt. Pinatubo eruption in 1993; PR representative and newsletter contributor (later editor) in the Canadian-Filipino owned Marcopper Mining Company in 1991-1993; and Development Management Officer for a UNDP-funded project on poverty alleviation at the National Economic and Development Agency (NEDA). Ms Isberg holds a Masters degree in Swedish Social Studies under the International Graduate Program of Stockholm University, 2000 and a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of the Philippines, 1990. She also attended the MBA Program at Ateneo de Manila University (1994-1996) and has a Diploma in Journalism and Professional Writing (1993).