

# Media Update

7 December 2016

## UNITED NATIONS

Media Advisory

### Human Rights Day 2016: Rights of Transgender People

**When:** *Thursday, 08 December, 2016, 11:00 hrs* (Lunch to follow)

**Where:** UN Information Centre, ILO Building, G-5/2, Islamabad.

**What:** Join us for a debate on the rights of transgender people jointly organized by the High Commission of Canada and the United Nations. Honourable Minister of Human Rights Kamran Michael will participate as Chief Guest.

Community representatives, government representatives, diplomats, UN experts will participate in two interactive panel discussions on education and economic empowerment and on healthcare and protection. James Clark, High Commission of Canada will moderate the panels.

The panel discussions will be followed by lunch and then by the screening of the documentary "Kumu Hina".

#### Program

11:00 – Welcome remarks: Mr Vittorio Cammarota, UN Information Centre

11:05 – Remarks: Mr Perry Calderwood, High Commissioner of Canada

11:10 – Remarks: Mr Neil Buhne, UN Resident Coordinator

11:15 – Mr Kamran Michael, Federal Minister of Human Rights

11:25 – Video message by Mr Vitit Muntarbhorn, UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

11:30 – Panel discussion: Education and Economic Empowerment

- Ms Vibeke Jensen, Country Director, UNESCO
- Ms Uzma Yaqoob, Executive Director, Forum for Dignity Initiatives-FDI
- Ms Maya Zaman, Community representative
- Mr Saghir Bukhari, Senior Program Officer, ILO
- Mr Chaudhry Shafique, National Commission for Human Rights
- Mr Zubair Ahmed Malik, Chairman Finance and Member Executive Committee Saarc

12:15 – Live video link with Mr Michael van Gelderen, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland

12:30 – Panel discussion: Healthcare and Protection

- Mr Jean-François Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union



- Mr Qamar Naseem, Program Coordinator, Blue Veins
- Ms Anaya Malik, Community Representative
- Mr. Mamadou Sahko, UNAIDS Country Representative
- Ms. Fauzia Yazdani – Gender Advisor UNDP

13:15 – Lunch

14:15 – Screening of Kumu Hina, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson, 2014, USA, Fiji, 77', English subtitles

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**Background:** Though officially accepted and even recognized in the identity cards, the transgender community in Pakistan suffers from serious stigma and discrimination. Often rejected by their families, transgender people have very little access to the labour market and proper healthcare. Therefore transgender people end up living in very difficult conditions and are frequently subject to violence in many different ways.

**Kumu Hina:** Directed and produced by Dean Hamer in 2011, it is the real story of Hina Wong-Kalu, a Native Hawaiian māhū, or transgender, teacher who uses traditional culture to inspire a student to claim her place as leader of the school's all-male hula troupe. But despite her success as a teacher, Hina longs for love and a committed relationship. As Hina's arduous journey unfolds, her Hawaiian roots and values give her the strength and wisdom to persevere, offering a new perspective on the true meaning of aloha.

