Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business





Digital Rights Forum: the community and the agenda expands

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Second Myanmar Digital Rights Forum

On 18 January, over 130 participants attended the second digital rights forum in Yangon hosted and co-organised by Phandeeyar together with MIDO, Engage-Media, Free Expression Myanmar and MCRB, with support from the Government of Sweden. Participants discussed the current digital rights climate and were polled on digital rights themes including freedom of expression, online privacy and security and equality of online access.

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Comments wanted on handbook on "Employing People with Disabilities"

The deadline for comments on the draft handbook for employers on employing people with disabilities, a joint initiative between MCRB and the Association for Aid and Relief - Japan (AAR Japan), is 9 February. The draft is available on MCRB's website in English and Burmese and once finalised will be distributed to companies and Disabled People Organisations (DPOs).

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Pwint Thit Sa 2018 - draft scores now being sent to companies for review

MCRB, in partnership with Yever, launched <u>Pwint</u> <u>Thit Sa 2018</u> in October 2017. Around 175 medium-sized and large Myanmar companies have been benchmarked and draft scores are now being sent to companies for review



Forthcoming scoping study on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

Myanmar was one of three countries (the others being Ghana and Nigeria) selected in 2016 to have a 'pilot in-country implementation working group' for the <u>Voluntary Principles on Security</u> and Human Rights (VPs). David Nyheim will be working with MCRB and Myanmar-based VPs members, with the support of Peace Nexus, to undertake a scoping study on what a local VPs Group should focus on.



Evaluation of the Tourism sector-wide impact assessment (SWIA)

MCRB will evaluate the <u>2015 Tourism SWIA</u> to understand how stakeholders have used it and what impact it has had. Stakeholder interviews planned for early February.



MCRB at the Forum on Labour Law Reform

At the 3rd Multistakeholder Forum on Labour Law Reform in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 January, Vicky Bowman explained how companies could contribute to the labour law reform 'roadmap' through responsible business conduct. The forum followed adoption of a 5-point Roadmap on labour law reform at the previous day's National Tripartite Dialogue Forum to set the agenda for discussions between employers, trade unions and government in 2018.

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Workshop on Responsible Business in Rakhine State

In December and January, members of the MCRB team were involved in workshops for civil society organizations (CSOs) and government departments in Kyaukphyu and Sittwe in Rakhine State, working with local CSO Scholar Institute, with support from Oxfam. The workshops introduced responsible business conducts (RBCs) and discussed the role of environmental impact assessment (EIA).

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