

# MSBA

## Meeting Notice

### *Human Rights Committee*

Monday, November 17, 2008

12 noon

MSBA Offices, Honors Room

600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 380

Third Floor of City Center

Downtown Minneapolis

Chair: Peter Mikhail

### **AGENDA:**

- 1) Draft resolution/report calling for MSBA to petition the Minnesota Supreme Court for an amendment to Minnesota Rule of Criminal Procedure 26.02 (regarding Batson-type peremptory-challenge situations): Phil Duran from the MSBA Diversity Committee

- 2) Update on Divestment in Sudan and ICC motions (vote results; and next steps)

#### **Divestment in Sudan (MOTION PASSED)**

*The Human Rights Committee moves that the Minnesota State Bar Association take immediate and appropriate action to ensure that no association funds are invested in a targeted list of companies whose operations are deemed to be complicit with the Government of Sudan's genocidal activities in Darfur, Sudan. The list of targeted companies is available from the Sudan Divestment Task Force operated by the Genocide Intervention Network. The MSBA shall be prohibited from the purchase of such securities in the future and shall monitor the Divestment Task Force list semi-annually for any updates. Any current investment that is later connected to a scrutinized company shall be sold at the earliest opportunity. The MSBA shall inform the American Bar Association of this policy and recommend that the ABA undertake similar action. The MSBA shall also inform Governor Tim Pawlenty because Minnesota is one of 16 states that has adopted a Sudan divestment policy.*

#### **International Criminal Court (MOTION PASSED)**

*The Human Rights Committee moves that the Minnesota State Bar Association urge the United States of America to ratify the Rome Statute laying the basis for the establishment of an International Criminal Court. More than half the countries in the world have demonstrated their support for the ICC and the Human Rights Committee believes that the United States must ratify the Rome Statute in order to ensure that the court has the broadest possible jurisdiction. The ICC is charged with investigating and prosecuting genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes when national authorities are unable or unwilling to do so. The ICC accomplishes its work in accordance with the highest standards of international law. The MSBA shall inform the American Bar Association of this motion and recommend that the ABA to undertake similar action. The MSBA shall also inform all members of Minnesota's congressional delegation and the President of the United States.*

- 3) Other Business
- 4) Next Meeting: December 15 at Noon: Judge Myron Greenberg will speak to us about the rule of law project work he's been involved in Bosnia and Afghanistan.

Lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP to Tram Nguyen of the MSBA staff before November 13th at

[tnguyen@mnbar.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbar.org) | 612-278-6316 | 800-882-6722, ext 316

At the time you make your reservation, please note special accommodations, dietary needs, accessibility requirements, or requests for teleconferencing. Minnesota State Bar Association, City Center, 600 Nicollet Mall, #380, Minneapolis, MN 55402

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