



Re: Workshop on Designated Representatives in the Canadian Asylum Process

On May 27, 2010 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will be hosting a half day workshop on “Designated Representatives in the Canadian Asylum Process” at the Osgoode Professional Development Centre on 1 Dundas Street West in Toronto.

The purpose of the Workshop is, inter alia, to:

- * Foster a better and more precise understanding of the policies and practices on the Designated Representative process as it applies to asylum seekers in Canada;
- * Share expertise and experience on the Designated Representative process from government, Immigration and Refugee Board [IRB] and non-governmental organization perspectives;
- * Explore ways of collaborating to ensure that best practices are in place with respect to the Designated Representative process;
- * Promote uniform practice regarding the Designated Representative process for all asylum seekers in Canada.

UNHCR has invited officials from the Government of Canada (CBSA, CIC), the IRB, child welfare authorities, non-government organizations and members of the legal community to participate in this workshop. It is our hope that through an informal, open and interactive approach participants will share and learn from each other’s experiences and promote best practices on this issue.

If you should have any questions about the workshop, please do not hesitate to contact the office by e-mail at coward@unhcr.org or by phone at 416-954-1188.

Yours truly,

Rana Khan
Legal Officer
UNHCR Representation in Canada