

## **Fact Finding Mission on the situation of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, 7 – 11 December, 2017**

### **Profiles of the Mission Members**

#### **Sultana Kamal – Bangladesh**

Ms. Kamal is a human rights lawyer and activist and is currently the chairperson of Transparency International-Bangladesh. She was appointed as an advisor to the caretaker government in October 2006 from which she resigned with 3 other colleagues in December the same year. She was active in *Kachi Kanchar Mela*, *Sanskriti Sangsad*, *Struggles for Cultural Autonomy* and the '69 mass upheaval as well as social activism, including as Executive Director of the national human rights organization *Ain o' Salish Kendra*. She is currently the Chairperson of SAHR.

#### **Bharat Bhushan – India**

Dr. Bhushan has been a journalist for over 25 years. He was the founding Editor of Mail Today. Earlier, he had been the Executive Editor of the Hindustan Times, Editor of The Telegraph in Delhi, the Express and an Assistant Editor with The Times of India as well as a News Service Washington Correspondent of the Indian Express. He was also a Visiting Scholar at Cambridge University. He has written extensively on India-Pakistan border disputes, on the failed Teesta River water sharing agreement between India and Bangladesh and conducted TV discussions on trans-border water utilization issues between India and its neighbours, including Pakistan, Nepal and China.

#### **Sara Hossain– Bangladesh**

Ms. Hossain is a lawyer and has been practicing in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, focusing on constitutional, public interest law and family law for 25 years. She is actively involved with human rights activism in Bangladesh and serves at the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust as Honorary Executive Director. She is a Bureau Member of SAHR.

#### **Jeehan Mahmood – Maldives**

Ms. Mahmood is a National Consultant to develop the National Gender Equality Action Plan, UNDP. She was a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives (HRCM) from August 2010 to 2015. During her tenure at the HRCM, she was also a mentoring Commission Member for the National Preventive Mechanism and Legal and Policy Department. She is also a Board Member of the Association for the Prevention of Torture, APT.

#### **Rajendra Ghimire - Nepal**

Mr. Ghimire is a practicing lawyer in the field of promoting access to justice for marginalised groups in Nepal, and currently serves as the Chairperson of the Executive Board of Forum for Protection of Peoples Rights Nepal (PPR Nepal), an NGO working on human rights and access to justice, which he co-founded in 2003, and is also conducting a PhD research at the University of Wollongong, Australia. Active in human rights and access to justice for 15 years in Nepal, he has worked with NGOs, governmental and UN agencies (UNDP/ FAO) and has served on high-level policy formulating committees such as the Juvenile Justice Five Year Action Plan Formulation Committee.

#### **Deekshya Illangasinghe – Sri Lanka**

Ms. Illangasinghe is the Executive Director of South Asians for Human Rights.