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Ms. Deepa, Regional Programme Manager, CEDAW Southeast Asia Programme. With her extensive experience and exposure to the region – she overlooks and manages the Regional Programme “Facilitating CEDAW Implementation towards the Realization of Women’ Human Rights in Southeast Asia (CEDAW SEAP.) Supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada (DFATD), the programme covers eight countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. The programme also supports the Human Rights bodies in ASEAN – the ASEAN Commission on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and the ASEAN Inter- governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). Prior to this, Ms. Deepa served as a Regional Programme Manager – Empowering Migrant Workers in Asia. The UN Women Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrants Workers in Asia (EWMWA) is active across Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Lao PDR, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. Ms. Deepa also headed the Committee for Asian Women (CAW) as a Programme Manager.

She has also written widely on Empowering Women Migrants Workers; some of her published papers are ‘Forced Migration, Forced Labour and Trafficking: Women’s Issues, Knowledge for Daily Living’, ‘Reclaiming Dignity, Struggles of Local Domestic Workers’. She received her Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Mathematical Statistics from Delhi University, India



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Mr. Zia-Zarifi served as Amnesty International’s Director for Asia and the Pacific from 2008 to 2012. He was at Human Rights Watch after 2000, where he was deputy director of the Asia division. He was Senior Research Fellow at Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, from 1997 to 2000.

He has written widely on the impact of multinational corporations and economic globalization on human rights, including *Liability of Multinational Corporations for Violating International Law* (co-edited with Menno Kamminga, 2000). Saman practiced as a corporate litigator in Los Angeles after graduating from Cornell Law School in 1993. He was born and raised in Tehran, Iran, and received a BA from Cornell University in 1990 and an LL.M. in Public International Law from New York University School of Law in 1997.