

Letter to United Nations' Member States

Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on a Legally Binding Instrument on TNCs and OBEs with respect to human rights- OEIGWG

We, members of the Treaty Alliance, a broad platform of civil society organizations and social movements in support of the adoption of an international human rights treaty on transnational corporations (TNCs) and other business enterprises (OBEs), and other undersigned organizations call on all UN Member States to engage without delay in this stage of the process in active and constructive negotiations of the substance of the treaty to improve the human rights of communities and people affected by the operations of TNCs and OBEs and their access to effective remedy, and to put an end to corporate impunity for human rights abuses.

We consider that talks among member States as well as with CSOs are key to move the process forward. We envision this work advancing along two tracks, both of extreme importance for the process: one on the content of the future Treaty and another on how the discussion will be organized ("way forward").

To this end, we first call on States to provide substantive comments during the informal consultations which are currently taking place in Geneva and be prepared to contribute with concrete language and substantive proposals on the draft treaty once this is released as foreseen in the report of the 3rd session of the OEIGWG.

Second, to support the active and substantive engagement in the negotiations by the Member States, we emphasize the high importance of the timely release of the draft treaty to allow government delegations and other stakeholders sufficient time to prepare for the discussions. It should take into consideration the elements paper released before the third session and the oral and written contributions made during the first three sessions.

Third, in order to move forward in the second track, regarding the negotiation process, we call also on the active participation of States in bringing concrete and clear proposals to the Chair on how the programme of work on the negotiation process, including that of the upcoming 4th session, should be organized to achieve the mandate in the shortest time possible. We also call on the Chair of the IGWG to give due consideration to all those proposals and renew efforts towards a negotiated outcome.

We underline our strong commitment to the objective of establishing an international treaty. A set of binding obligations and enforcement mechanisms is the next necessary and logical step in the process that started several decades ago to ensure access to justice for affected individuals and communities and put an end to corporate impunity.

1. 11.11.11, Belgium
2. ActionAid International
3. Africa Development Interchange Network (ADIN)
4. Afrikagrupperna
5. Agricultural Missions, Inc, USA
6. Alliance des Femmes Tunisienne Agriculture, Tunisie
7. Al-Haq
8. ALTSEAN-Burma
9. Ambiente, Desarrollo y Capacitación (ADC), Honduras
10. Amigos de la Tierra (FoE) América Latina y Caribe (ATALC)
11. Asamblea Veracruzana de Iniciativas y Defensa Ambiental, Mexico
12. Asian Peoples Movement on Debt and Development
13. Association For Promotion Sustainable Development, India
14. Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)
15. ATTAC France
16. ATTAC Norway
17. Banana Link
18. Ban Asbestos Network of India (BANI)
19. Basel Institute of Commons and Economics
20. Belgian Support Committee to the Saharawi People
21. Biowatch, South Africa
22. Brazilian Working Group for the 2030 Agenda
23. BUND / Friends of the Earth Germany
24. Burma Human Rights Network
25. Catholic Agency For Overseas Development (CAFOD)
26. Campaign for Human Rights and Development International (CHRDI), Sierra Leone/UK
27. CCFD - Terre Solidaire
28. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
29. Center of Concern, USA
30. Center for Research and Documentation Chile-Latin America (FDCL)
31. Centre national de coopération au développement-11.11.11 (CNCD)
32. Centro de Derechos Económicos y Sociales-CDES (Ecuador)
33. Centro de Documentación en Derechos Humanos "Segundo Montes Mozo S.J."
(CSMM)
34. Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS)
35. CESTA, Amigos de la Tierra El Salvador
36. CIDSE
37. Civil Society Organization of Small Island Developing States (SIDS CSO)
38. Clean Clothes Campaign International
39. Comité Ambiental en Defensa de la Vida, Colombia
40. Comisiones Obreras (CCOO), Spain
41. Confederación Sindical de Trabajadores/as de las Américas (CSA)
42. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
43. Coordination nationale de la Marche Mondiale des Femmes, Tunisie
44. Corporación SOS Ambiental
45. Corporate Accountability International
46. Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
47. Diverse Voices and Action (DIVA) for Equality, Fiji

48. DKA Austria
49. Dominican Leadership Conference
50. Dominicans for Justice and Peace
51. Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF)
52. Edmund Rice International
53. Enlaces por la Sostenibilidad, El Salvador
54. Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia (Gender Equity: Citizenship, Work and Family), México
55. Fenntarthatóság Felé Egyesület /Towards Sustainability Association, Hungary
56. FIAN Austria
57. FIAN Belgium
58. FIAN Brazil
59. FIAN Colombia
60. FIAN Germany
61. FIAN Honduras
62. FIAN International
63. FIAN Mexico
64. FIAN Sweden
65. FIAN Switzerland
66. Focsiv, Italy
67. Foro Ciudadano de Participación por la Justicia y los Derechos Humanos (FOCO)
68. Franciscans International
69. Friends of the Earth Brazil
70. Friends of the Earth Europe
71. Friends of the Earth France
72. Friends of the Earth International (FOEI)
73. Fundación de Estudios para la Aplicación del Derecho (FESPAD), El Salvador
74. Fundación Etnica Integral (FEI), Republica Dominicana
75. Fundación para el Desarrollo de Políticas Sustentables (FUNDEPS), Peru
76. Gestos, Brazil
77. Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
78. Global Justice Now
79. Global Policy Forum
80. Grupo de Estudio Sobre El Derecho Internacional Privado y los Derechos Humanos (Research Group on Private International Law and Human Rights)
81. Grupo Tacuba, Mexico
82. Homa-Human Rights and Business Centre
83. Humanistas por la Salud
84. Humanitaire Plus, Togo
85. Human Rights International Corner
86. IBON International
87. Inclusive Development International
88. Indonesia Focal Point for Legally Binding Instrument
89. Indonesia for Global Justice (IGJ)
90. International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)
91. International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
92. International Presentation Association
93. International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAW –AP)

94. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN)
95. Justiça Ambiental / Friends of the Earth Mozambique
96. KRuHA Indonesia - people's coalition for the right to water
97. Lakeshore & Help Relief Zambia
98. La Oficina Ecu mica por la Paz y la Justicia
99. Living Law, UK
100. Lumiere Synergie pour le D veloppement (LSD), S n gal
101. Manushya Foundation
102. MIJARC Asia
103. Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
104. Mission EineWelt
105. Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens (MAB)
106. MTVSZ / Friends of the Earth Hungary
107. National Coordinating Organization for Farmers Association The Gambia
(NACOFAG)
108. NeSoVe - Network Social Responsibility
109. Nigerian Women Agro Allied Farmers Association
110. NOAH, Friends of the Earth Denmark
111. Pacific Partnerships on Gender, Climate Change and Sustainable Development
(PPGCCSD)
112. Pro Ethical Trade Finland
113. Pro Natura – Friends of the Earth Switzerland
114. Radha Paudel Foundation, Nepal
115. Red de Educacion Popular entre Mujeres (REPEM –LAC)
116. Regions Refocus
117. Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
118. R seau Genre et Droits de la Femme (GEDROFE), R publique D mocratique du
Congo
119. REDES-Amigos de la Tierra Uruguay
120. Red Internacional de Derechos Humanos (RIDH)
121. Rural Community Development Organisation, Malawi
122. Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)
123. Servicios Ecuemicos para la Reconstruccion y Reconciliacion (SERR), USA
124. Sherpa
125. Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
126. Society for International Development (SID)
127. SOMO (Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations)
128. Spanish Development NGO Platform
129. Stamp Out Poverty
130. Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM)
131. S DWIND e.V., Germany
132. Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)
133. The Bretton Woods Project, UK
134. The Project on Organizing, Development, Education, and Research (PODER)
135. The Temple of Understanding
136. ToxicsWatch Alliance (TWA)
137. Transnational Institute (TNI)
138. Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development

139. Unanima International
140. Unión Sindical Obrera (USO), Spain
141. United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY)
142. Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF)
143. Women's UN Report Network (WUNRN)
144. WSM-World Solidarity