

Social movements demand access to justice for those

affected by corporate human rights violations

and ecological crimes!

During the UNHRC 26th Session 23-27 June 2014 / In Geneva (Switzerland) and in decentralized actions around the world



list of signatories of Joint Statement

The organisations listed in the margins of this Week of Mobilization flyer are those who are the signatories of the Joint Treaty Alliance Statement.

Accountability Counsel, USA

Action Contre l'Impunite pour les Droits Humains (ACIDH)

Actions pour les Droits, l'Environnement et la Vie , ADEV

ADC Memorial, Russia ADHOC (Cambodia)

Afghanistan Watch

Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network - AEFJN

Africa Freedom of Information Centre

Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger Sierra Leone

African Law Foundation (AFRILAW), Nigeria

African Resources Watch (AFREWATCH)

AGORA Espacio Civil, Paraguay

Al-Hag

Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (Alt-SEAN Burma)

Alyansya Tigil Mina -Alliance Against Mining (Philippines)

Amigos da Terra Brasil / Friends of the Earth Brazil

Anti-POSCO People's Movement, India

APRODEH, Peru

Armanshahr/OPEN ASIA (Afghanistan)

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

Associação Mama Mater/ IBFAN, Portugal

Association For Women's Rights in Development (AWID)

Association of Religious Liberty & Languages of Sri Lanka

In June 2014, the United Nations Human Rights Council

(UNHRC) will discuss the adoption of a resolution to establish a legally binding instrument to enforce binding rules regarding human rights and Transnational Corporations (TNCs).

As a result of ongoing violations of human rights by TNCs such as the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster in Bangladesh that killed 1,132 factory (mostly female) workers, the 2012 Marikana massacre of 34 miners in South Africa, the ongoing destruction caused by Shell in Nigeria's Ogoniland and by Chevron in the Ecuadorean Amazon as well as the human rights violations linked to the Cerrejon Coal mine in Colombia – along with countless others – the need for radical action to control the devastating violations by TNCs has never been more urgent.

In order to push the UNHRC to adopt this type of binding Treaty, a coalition of social movements, networks and civil society organizations is organizing a full week of mobilization.

The goal of the week of mobilization is not only to pressure the UNHRC on the issue of binding norms for TNCs but also to expose the global political and economic 'Architecture of Impunity' that has been protecting the operations of TNCs at the expense of human rights for decades through Investment Agreements (and arbitration tribunals such as World Bank's ICSID), through the WTO, and a long history of IMF imposed structural adjustment programs now replicated in Europe through the Troika & Competitiveness Pact policies and a number of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), as well as bilateral FTAs such as NAFTA, FTA EU-Colombia, TTIP, TPP and TISA, among others.

In the face of intensifying and increasingly egregious corporate human rights violations and ecological crimes, impacted communities and social movements demand access to justice and a definitive end to the systematic impunity which prevails for transnational corporations.

We invite all of you who are interested in turning the tide to come and join us in Geneva (Switzerland), June 23-27, 2014.

The Week of Mobilization to Stop Corporate Crimes and Impunity

will take place from 23 to 27 June 2014 in Geneva during the last week of the 26th session of the UNHRC, when the Council will be deciding on this initiative.

This week of activities represents an important convergence moment for social movements and Civil Society Organizations to collectively work for a more profound and effective system to defend human rights from corporate violations, especially the rights of those affected by the environmental crimes and other human rights violations of transnational corporations.

Co-convenors

International / Regional / National movements, networks or organizations outside of Swtizerland Treaty Alliance, Campaign Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity, ESCR-net, Friends of the Earth International (FOEI), World March of Women, FIAN International, Transnational Institute, Franciscans International, Working Group on Investment in the Americas, Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos Democracia y Desarrollo (PIDHDD), Oidhaco (Oficina Internacional de Derechos Humanos - Acción Colombia), Social Movements for an Alternative Asia (SMAA), Comité pour l'Annulation du Tiers Monde (CADTM), ODG (Observatorio de la Deuda en la Globalización) Catalunya, OMAL (Observatorio de Multinacionales en América Latina), Ecologistas en Acción, Polaris Institute Canada, Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) - Global Economy Project, Alternative Information & Development Center (AIDC) South Africa, Col.lectiu RETS Catalunya, WoMin (Women in Mining) South Africa, Centre for Trade and Policy Development in Zambia, Tax Justice Network - Africa in Kenya, Jubilee South-Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development, Alyansa Tigil Mina (ATM) Philippines, SENTRO Trade Union Center Philippines, ATTAC Japan, Migrant Forum Asia, Transnational Migrant Platform, Platform of Filipino Migrants in Europe, Focus on the Global South, EU-ASEAN FTA Campaign Network, Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO), War on Want, Stop the Wall Campaign and Palestinian National Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Committee (BNC), International Network of Human Rights.

Swiss movements and organizations Comité du Forum Social Lémanique, ATTAC Switzerland, SolidaritéS, Coordination Climat Justice Sociale, CETIM, L'Autre Syndicat, UNITERRE.

Avocats Sans Frontieres

Birendra Adhikari Rural Reconstruction Nepal

> Brot fuer die Welt Burma Partnership

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Egypt

CAJAR (Colectivo de Abogados José Alvear Restrepo), Colombia

Canada Tibet Committee

CAOI

Casa y Ciudad CATAPA

Cátedra Seminario de Política Ambiental Latinoamericana. Facultad de Ciencia Política. Universidad Nacional de Rosario

CCS, Panama

CEDAL- Centro de Derechos y Desarrollo CEDH (Centre

Oecuménique des Droits Humain), Haïti CEDHU (La Comisión

Ecuménica de Derechos Humanos)

CENIDH, Nicaragua

Center for Human Rights Law Studies (HRLS) Faculty of Law, Universitas Airlangga

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

> Center for Women's Global Leadership

Center of Concern, USA

Central America Women's Network

> Centre d'Appui à la Gestion Durable des Forêts Tropicales (CAGDFT)

Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS), South Africa

Centre for human rights and development/ Urantsooj Gombosuren

Centro de Documentación en Derechos Humanos "Segundo Montes Mozo S.J." (CSMM)

Centro de Estudios Ecuménicos (México)

Centro de Estudios Sociales y Culturales Antonio de Montesinos (CAM) Centro de Investigación y Promoción Social (CIPROSOC)

Centro de Políticas Públicas y Derechos Humanos - Perú EQUIDAD

Centro de Promoción v Desarrollo Rural Ámazónico - CEPODRA

Centro de Reflexión y Acción Laboral de Fómento Cultural y Educativo (CEREAL)

CERAI (Centro De Estudios Rurales Y De Agricultura Internacional)

CIDSF

Citizens' alliance for equitable and efficient development (creed) pakistan

Citizens for Justice-(CFJ). Malawi

Citizens Watch Russia

Clean Clothes Campaign

Coalición de Organizaciones Mexicanas por el Derecho al Agua (COMDA)

Col·lectiu RETS

Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (CMDPDH)

Comision Nacional de Enlace (CNE)

Comite Nacional De Los 63 Pueblos Indigenas, A.C.

Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (CPDH), Colombie

Commission for the Disapeared and Victim of Violence (KontraS)

Commission Justice et Paix Belgique francophone

Committee for the Defence of Iranian People's Rights

Community Resource Centre (CRC). Thailand

Conectas Direitos Humanos

CONF.NAL.DE.UNIDAD SIND.INDE. (C.O.N.U.S.I.)

Conseil Régionales des Organisations Non Gouvernementales de Développement en sigle CRONGD KASAI ORIENTAL

Consultoría Especializada en Justiciabilidad de los DESC (CEJUDESC)



Week of **M**obilization Program

Thursday, June 19

12 - 2pm - Side event Palais des Nations - Room XXV

Why a treaty on Human Rights and TNCs Co-sponsored by: FIDH, FIAN, CIEL, IBFAN and Friends of the Earth International and Franciscans International. The aim of this event is to show why binding standards are needed and why existing voluntary guidelines are not sufficient. After the presentation of the cases, an analysis that makes evident the common aspects justifying the creation of the OEWG for the treaty drafting will be made.

Contact: Ana Maria Suarez (Suarez-Franco@fian.org)

Monday, June 23

9am - 6pm Maison des Associations - Ghandi Room (15 Rue Savoises 1205 Genève)

Permanent Peoples Tribunal (PPT) Hearing The Global Campaign to Dismantle Corporate Power & Stop Impunity is working with the Permanent Peoples Tribunal (PPT) and with Swiss-based social organizations and movements to organize a one-day event of the PPT in order to examine cases where victims of human rights violations perpetrated by TNCs would have increased their potential of access to justice and remediation/compensation if a binding international treaty existed. Some of the cases that will be heard include Chevron in Ecuadorean Amazon, Shell in Nigeria, Glencore in several countries (such as the Philippines, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Peru and Colombia), Pacific Rim in El Salvador, Lonmin in South Africa, Coca-cola in Colombia. Mekorot in Palestine and Hidralia in Guatemala. The PPT is one of the few international institutions where affected communities can directly present cases of violations of human rights perpetrated by

Contact: Diana Aguiar (d.aguiar@tni.org)

Transnational Corporations.

The PPT will close with the Launch of the Base document of the Peoples Treaty "Rights to People & Obligations to TNCs" and its

Global Consultation Process Organized by Dismantle Corporate Power Campaign. The PPT provides an excellent opportunity to launch of the base document of the Peoples Treaty "Rights to People & Obligations to TNCs" and to formally begin a Global Consultation Process to social movements, grassroots organizations, campaigns and social networks. The Peoples Treaty is a radical alternative proposal which aims, on one hand, to establish control mechanisms to halt human rights violations committed by transnational corporations and, on the other hand, to offer a framework for popular education and alliance building between communities and social movements in order to reclaim public space for alternatives to the corporate regime. The Peoples Treaty is a political and regulatory project for justice from below that draws its meaning from concrete examples of resistance and alternatives to corporate power. This global consultation intends to further enrich and consolidate the Peoples Treaty, culminating with a Peoples' Assembly in the last quarter of 2015.

Contact: Gonzalo Berron (gonzalo.berron@tni.org)

Tuesday, June 24

9am - 5pm Maison des Associations

Human rights compliant and sustainable food systems

(Strategy meeting for a predetermined group of participants. It will be open to a limited number of additional participants upon prior application (deadline June 17). The seminar will bring together social movements and other relevant civil society actors to analyse from different perspectives, including those of peasants, women and agricultural workers, the human rights-challenges related to current agribusiness-dominated food systems and strategize how alternative, human rights-compliant and sustainable models can be achieved. Day one and two will explore how the right to adequate food and nutrition as well as other human rights are affected at the different stages of the production chain while day three will concentrate on the extraterritorial obligations States have with regard to transnational corporations operating in the food and nutrition sector.

Contact & Applications: Rolf Künnemann (kuennemann@fian.org)

CorA Network for Corporate Accountability

Defenders of Human Rights Centre - DHRC

Defensoría del Derecho a la Salud

Dejusticia

Democracy Center
DESCA Equipo Pueblo,

Development and Civilisations Lebret-IRFED (DCLI)

Dhaatri Resource Centre for Women and Children, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh,India

Dignity International

DKA Austria – Hilfswerk der Katholischen Jungschar, Austria

> Due Process of Law Foundation

> > Earthsavers Movement

Ecologistas en Acción

EcoNexus

Económicos, Sociales y Culturales (Espacio DESC)

Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights,

entraide et fraternité

EOHR - Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights

Equitable Cambodia

Espacio de Coordinación de Organizaciones Civiles sobre Derechos

> EU-ASEAN FTA Campaign Network

European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ)

European Network of Archbishop Oscar Romero Committees

Europe-Third World Centre (CETIM)

FEMNET -Feministische Perspektiven auf Politik, Wirtschaft & Gesellschaft

FIAN Austria

FIAN Belgium

FIAN International

FIAN Nepal

FIAN Sección México

FIAN Sweden

FIAN Switzerland for the Right to Adequate Food

Fiery Hearts Club, Uzbekistan/ France

Finnish League for Human Rights

FOCO Foro Ciudadano de Participación por la Justicia y los Derechos Humanos

Focus on the Global South

FOF MAURITIUS

Food & Water Watch

Food Systems Integrity/Molly D. Anderson, P

Forum Menschenrechte, Germany

Foundation For The Conservation Of The Earth (FOCONE)

Franciscans International

Freedom from Debt Coalition-FDC, Philippines

Friends of the Earth International

Friends of the Earth US

Fundación Comunidad Esperanza y Justicia Internacional (FUNCEJI)

Gemeinschaft für Menschenrechte im Freistaat Sachsen (GMS)

Gidest - Mundo Construyendo Hábitat

Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Global Policy Forum

Global Rights: Partners for Justice, USA

Gong Gam Human Rights Law Foundation, South Korea

Goud:Eerlijk?

Green Advocates International

Groupe de Recheche et de Plaidoyer sur les Industries Extractives (GRPIE)

Gulf Civil Society Association Forum, Bahrein

Habi Center for Environmental Rights

Hadiza Mahaman/Centre Nigerien des Droits de L'Homme pour la Paix et le Developpement

Horizont3000 / Diego Santos-Santiago 11am - 12.30pm Swiss press club (CSP)

Contact: Laurent Gaberell (contact@cetim.ch) and Richard Girard (richard@polarisinstitute.org)

Press conference (Route de Ferney, 106)

Side event - 12 - 2pm Palais des Nations - Room XXIV

Human Rights Violations and Extractive Activities Cosponsored by: FI, Fastenopfer, Tampakan Forum, CIDSE, MISEREOR (TBC) - The side event will aim to address major human rights violations related to the extractive industry in Latin American and Asian Countries.

Contact: Budi Tjahjono (b.tjahjono@fiop.org)

Side event - 2 - 4pm Palais des Nations - Room XXIV

A binding Treaty on Transnational Corporations: the urgency to ensure access to justice to those affected by

Corporate violations Organized by the Global Campaign Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity - A number of Campaign members have submitted written statements to the UNHRC on landmark cases of corporate human rights violations that remain unpunished (Chevron in Ecuadorean Amazon, Shell in Nigeria, Glencore in the Philippines, Pacific Rim in El Salvador, Coca-cola in Colombia), where access to justice was denied. The statements emphasize the need for binding international norms on TNCs that will increase the potential for access to justice for victims. In this side event, representatives of the victims of such violations will present testimonies. In addition to hearing testimonies, the final statement of the Permanent Peoples Tribunal will be

Contacto: Diana Aguiar (d.aguiar@tni.org)
y Laurent (contact@cetim.ch)

Peoples Tribunal will be presented during the event.

Public event - 8pm Maison des Associations

Testimonies from the Global South against Corporate

Impunity Organized by Swiss co-convenors - In this public event, victims of corporate violations from the Global South will give testimonies and have a moment to exchange with the audience.

Contact: Laurent (contact@cetim.ch), Olivier de Marcellus (elviejo@greenmail.ch) and Juan Tortosa (juan.tortosa@sunrise.ch)

Wednesday, June 25

9am - 5pm Maison des Associations Human rights compliant and sustainable food systems (second day) See above.

4pm in front of the Palais des Nations - entrance at Place des Nations

"STOP CORPORATE CRIMES AND IMPUNITY" Picket

As UN delegates and representatives from country missions leave the UN building, social movements will voice the need for binding norms on the activities of transnational corporations and to demand an end

to systematic corporate human rights violations. Contact: Olivier de Marcellus (elviejo@greenmail.ch) and Juan Tortosa (juan.tortosa@sunrise.ch)

6pm leaving the Palais des Nations

Impunity tour The tour of social movements will go to landmark Transnational Corporations headquarters in Geneva denouncing their roles in human rights violations Contact: Olivier de Marcellus (elviejo@greenmail.ch) that remain unpunished.

and Juan Tortosa (juan.tortosa@sunrise.ch)

Thursday, June 26

9am - 12pm Maison des Associations

Human rights compliant and sustainable food systems (third day) See above.

Side event - 10am - 12pm Palais des Nations - Room XXIV

We defend the environment, we defend human rights

Organized by Friends of the Earth International. Denouncing violence against environmental defenders from the experience of Friends of the Earth International. Contact: Lucia Ortiz (lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

Housing International

HRD-Pilipinas (Philippines)

Human Dignity

Human Rights Commission of Pakistan - HRCP (Pakistan)

Human Rights Foundation of Aotearoa New Zealand

Human Rights Movement 'Bir Duino – Kirgizstan'

Human Rights Online Philippines (Philippines)

ILSA - Instituto Latinoamericano para una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos

> Inclusive Development International

Indian Social Action Forum

Indigenous Peoples Links (PIPİ inks), UK

Initiative bessere Zukunft/ Bernhard Völk

> **INKOTA-netzwerk** e.V.

> > **INSTITUT PEREMPUAN**

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

Institute for **Ecology and Action** Anthropology (INFOE)

Instituto de Derechos Humanos Ignacio Ellacuria (ĬDHIE)

Instituto Mexicano de Derechos Humanos y Democracia (IMDHD)

Instituto Mexicano para el Desarrollo Comunitario (IMDEC)

Interfaith Cooperation

Internacional para el Hábitat (HIC AL)

International baby Food Action network

International Campaign for Tibet - ICT (Tibet)

International Children's Center

International Commission of Jurists

International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) International Indian Treaty

International Service for Human Rights

Jamaa Resource Initiatives

JASS (Just Associates) / JASS (Asociadas por lo Justo) -Mesoamerica

Justica Global

JUSTICIA Ashl

Kampanya para sa Makataong Pamumuhay (KAMP) -Campaign for Life of Dignity for All-Philippines (Philippines)

Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law

Kenyan Human Rights Commission

Kerio Valley Community Organization (KVCO)

KILOS KA (Kilusang Maralita sa Kanayunan), The Philippines

Kirchlcihe Arbeitsstelle Südliches Afrika

Koalisi Rakyat untuk Hak atas Air (KRuHA) / people's coalition for the right to water

KontraS (Indonesia)

Korean House of International Solidarity (KHIS)

La Comisión Nacional de los Derchos Humanos

La Oficina Jurídica Para la Mujer de Cochabamba, Bolivia

LAHRA (Lanao Alliance of Human Rights Advocates, The Philippines

Lao Movement for Human Rights - MLDH (Laos)

Lawyers without Borders

League for the Defence of Human Rights in Iran -LDDHI (Iran)

Legal Aid Society, Uzbekistan

Legal Resources Centre

Legrand Anthony

Liga lidských práv / League of Human Rights, Czech Republic

Liga Mexicana por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (LIMEDDH)

Ligue algérienne pour la défense des droits de l'Homme (LADDH)

Friday, June 27

(Time and Venue TBC)

Treaty Alliance assessment and Next Steps

(Time and Venue TBC)

Follow up of UNCHR voting process (See below in Permanent)

Permanent Palais des Nations

Photo Exhibition Organized by Friends of the Earth International.

Monitoring Desk Follow the negotiations & Process in the UNHRC.

19
Thursday

Side Event at UNHRC: Why a treaty on Human Rights and TNCs

23 Monday Permanent Peoples Tribunal Hearing / Launch of the Base document of the Peoples Treaty "Rights to People & Obligations to TNCs" and its Global Consultation Process

24 Tuesday

Human rights compliant and sustainable

food systems

M

(formal sign up with FIAN necessary in advance) Side Event at UNHRC: A binding Treaty on Transnational Corporations: the urgency to ensure access to justice to those affected by corporate violations Public event: Testimonies from the Global South against Corporate Impunity

25 Wednesday

ces-

Impunity Picket & Tour

Side Event at UNHRC: We defend the environment, we defend human rights

M

Maison des Associations

2 *l* Friday

Thursday

Last Day of UNHRC Session.

Decisions on the Treaty.



Palais des Nations

* Joint Statement *

Call for an international legally binding instrument on human rights, transnational corporations and other business enterprises

www.treatymovement.com/sign-on

This statement has been endorsed by a wide alliance of international networks, organizations and social movements, listed below.* It represents the collective expression of a growing mobilization of global civil society calling for further enhancement of international legal standards to address corporate infringements of human rights. It welcomes the recent initiatives by States in the United Nations Human Rights Council to develop an international treaty on legally binding rules for TNCs on human rights issues.

We, the undersigned organisations,

Concerned about the continuing abuses and violations of human rights occurring all over the world which directly or indirectly engage the responsibility of business enterprises; Concerned also that such abusive conduct often disproportionately impacts women, who comprise the majority of workers in the most vulnerable sectors, peasants, indigenous peoples, racialized communities, persons living in poverty, children among others, and especially concerned by the fact that justice is denied to those who suffer harm,

Considering the invaluable work done by human rights defenders and organisations, trade unions, indigenous rights and women rights defenders and others defending and protecting human rights in the face of corporate-related abuses,

*

This statement was originaly drafted by participants in the first annual Peoples' Forum on Human Rights and Business. The Forum was convened jointly by ESCR-Net and Forum-Asia from 5 to 7 November in Bangkok, Thailand.

Loyola Human Rights Advocacy Project

LuaLua Center for Human Rights (LCHR), Bahrein

Lumiere Synergie pour le Developpement

Manitese

Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM), The Philippines

Mindanao Tripeople Women Resource Center (MTWRC), The Philippines

mines, minerals & PEOPLE

MiningWatch, Canada

National Centre For Advocacy Studies, India

Network for Justice and Development, Sierra Leone

Network Social Responsibility

NGO Citizens' Watch

Nicaragua -United States Friendship Office

Norwegian People's Aid

O Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens, Brazil

Observatorio Ciudadano, Chile

Observatorio de Multinacionales en América Latina - Paz con Dignidad

Observatorio Sociolaboral y del Diálogo Social en el Ecuador OSLADE - Dick Sellán Bajaña - Director Ejecutivo

Odhikar (Bangladesh)

Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe de la Coalición

OIDHACO - Oficina Internacional de Derechos Humanos - Acción Colombia - red de 35 Ongs europeas

PDHRE, People's Movment for Human Rights Learning People's Health Movement

Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA)

Philippine Human Rights Information Center (PHIL RIGHTS)

> Philippine Misereor Partneship Inc.

philippinenbuero e.V.

PINK Armenia

Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo (PIDHDD)

Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo (PIDHDD)

POSCO Pratirodh Sangram Samiti (Anti-POSCO peoples movement). India

Positive Peace Group

Pradžių pradžia (Promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding), Lithuania

Project on Organizing, Development, Education, and Research (PODER), Mexico

PUMC-UNAM; Mexico

Radar-Colectivo de Estudios Críticos en Derecho

RAID, UK

REDES-Friends of the Earth Uruguay

Réseau national de défense des droits humains (RNDDH), Haití

Rural Reconstruction Nepal

Russian Research Center for Human Rights

Sakum Teang Tnaut (STT)

Salam Bahrain for Human Rights

SAVEGREEKWATER Initiative for the non privatization of water in Greece

Servicio Internacional Cristiano de Solidaridad con los Pueblos de América Latina - SICSAL / Armando Márquez Ochoa

Share The World's Resources

Social Justice Connection

Social Justice Ireland

Social Research and Development Center

Society for Environmental Actions, Re-Construction & Humanitarian response (SEARCH)

SOMO

Sose Women's Issues

Stop the Wall Campaign (Palestinian grassroots Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign)

SUMPAY Mindanao, Inc., The Philippines

Taiwan Association for Human Rights

Task Force Detainees of the Philippines - TFDP (Philippines) Concerned at the incidence of attacks, harassment, restrictions, intimidation and reprisals against these human rights defenders,

Considering the initiatives taken by some States within and outside the United Nations human rights bodies as well as the action and work undertaken by human rights experts and bodies of the United Nations to provide better protection of human rights in the context of business operations,

Recalling existing States' obligations under global and regional human rights treaties and the need to implement and complement those treaties to make them effective in the context of the operations of transnational corporations.

Convinced of the need to enhance the international legal framework, including international remedies, applicable to State action to protect rights in the context of business operations, and mindful of the urgent need to ensure access to justice and remedy and reparations for victims of corporate human rights abuse,

- 1. Call upon the States to elaborate an international treaty that:
- a) Affirms the applicability of human rights obligations to the operations of transnational corporations and other business enterprises;
 - b) Requires States Parties to monitor and regulate the operations of business enterprises under their jurisdiction, including when acting outside their

national territory, with a view to prevent the occurrence of abuses of human rights in the course of those operations,

- c) Requires States Parties to provide for legal liability for business enterprises for acts or omissions that infringe human rights;
- d) Requires States Parties to provide for access to an effective remedy by any State concerned, including access to justice for foreign victims that suffered harm from acts or omissions of a business enterprise in situations where there are bases for the States involved to exercise their territorial or extraterritorial protect- obligations.
- e) Provides for an international monitoring and accountability mechanism.
- f) Provides for protection of victims, whistle-blowers and human rights defenders that seek to prevent, expose or ensure accountability in cases of corporate abuse and guarantees their right to access to information relevant in this context.
- 2. Call on the United Nations Human Rights Council to take step towards the elaboration of this treaty, and to that end establish an open ended working group tasked with a drafting mandate.
- 3. Call on civil society organisations to take measures towards the establishment of a joint initiative to achieve the objective of a legally binding instrument within the United Nations without delay.

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)

The Institute for Ecosoc Rights

The Jus Semper Global Alliance

The Network Stop Rönnbäck Nickel Mining Project in Ume river, Tärnaby, Sweden

ToxicsWatch Alliance (TWA)

Traidcraft, UK

Transnational Institute

Universal Rights Network

Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation

Vietnam Committee on Human Rights - VCHR (Vietnam)

VIVAT International (Geneva)

Welthaus Diözese Graz-Seckau, Austria

WIDE - Network for Women's Rights and Feminist Perspectives in Development (Austria)

WomanHealth Philippines

Women's Environment and Development Organization

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Netherlands

World Forum Of Fisher People (WFFP)

World March of Women

World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)

> WUNRN - Women's UN Report Network

> > YAC Nepal

Sign on to this statement

