



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council

Twenty-sixth session

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

**Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Cuba, Ecuador,* South Africa, Venezuela
(Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution**

26/... Elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly through its resolution 41/128 on 4 December 1986,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/69 of 20 April 2005 in which the Commission established the mandate of Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, and all previous Human Rights Council resolutions on the issues of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, including Council resolutions 8/7 of 18 June 2008 and 17/4 of 16 June 2011,

Bearing in mind the approval of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 17/4,

Taking into account all the work undertaken by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the question of the responsibilities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises¹ with respect to human rights,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

¹ "Other business enterprises" denotes all business enterprises that have a transnational character in



Stressing that the obligations and primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms lie with the State, and that States must protect against human rights abuse within their territory and/or jurisdiction by third parties, including transnational corporations,

Emphasizing that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights,

Acknowledging that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have the capacity to foster economic well-being, development, technological improvement and wealth, as well as causing adverse impacts on human rights,

Bearing in mind the progressive development of this issue,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate to elaborate an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights;

2. *Also decides* that the working group shall hold its first session for five working days in 2015, before the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council;

3. *Recommends* that the first meeting of the working group will serve to collect inputs, including written inputs, from States and relevant stakeholders on possible principles and elements of such an international legally binding instrument;

4. *Affirms* the importance of providing the working group with independent expertise and expert advice in order for it to fulfil its mandate;

5. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the working group with all the assistance necessary for the effective fulfilment of its mandate;

6. *Requests* the working group to submit a report on progress made to the Human Rights Council for consideration at its thirty-first session;

7. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question in conformity with its annual programme of work.

their operational activities, and does not apply to local businesses registered in terms of relevant domestic law.