

**Consultation in relation to the work of the open-ended
intergovernmental
working group on transnational corporations and other business
enterprises with respect to human rights (HRC resolution 26/9)**

ORAL STATEMENT

12 April 2024

Thank you, Mr. Chair-Rapporteur:

I am speaking on behalf of Fastenaktion, CIDSE, Broederlijk Delen, CAFOD, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, DKA-Austria, Focsiv, Manos Unidas, Misereor, SCIAF, Trócaire, Alboan.

Mr. Chair, thank you for the proposed roadmap towards the 10th session and for your openness to receive input on this open-ended intergovernmental working group's work. We would like to express some concerns in view of your proposed roadmap:

- While we welcome the call for legal experts to support the work of this open-ended working group, we want to highlight the need for **a balanced representation**. It is important to ensure a gender balance and the representation from different sectors, free from corporate interests, as this could jeopardize the progress and consensus achieved during the ten years of negotiations.
- Regarding the expected procedure for the 10th session, we would like Mr. Chair to clarify whether **discussions are expected to start from article 3 onwards**, as this was the last provision discussed during the 9th session.
- Finally, we would like to express our concern about the **lack of resources** impacting the whole process. To guarantee a transparent, balanced, and climate-sensitive process, we urge the Human Rights Council to ensure **hybrid participation** in the coming intersessional, interregional thematic consultations. This is essential to ensure the participation of various stakeholders who cannot afford to travel to Geneva.

Thank you so much, Chair!