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The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIGWG) established by Human Rights Council Resolution 26/9, presents its compliments to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, H. E. Michelle Bachelet, and has the honour to make reference to the implementation of its mandate to “elaborate an international legally binding instruments to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and others business enterprises”.

At the final meeting of the sixth session of the OEIGWG, in one of the conclusions included in the final report, the OEIGWG took note with appreciation of the recommendations of the Chair-Rapporteur and looked forward to the third revised draft legally binding instrument.

In that sense, the Chair-Rapporteur was requested to prepare a third revised draft legally binding instrument on the basis of: -the discussions held during the session; - the compilation of the statements presented during the sixth session; and, - the two matrices with concrete textual suggestions and general comments.

Additionally, according to one of the recommendations of the referred final report, the Chair-Rapporteur invited a group of experts to provide independent expertise and advice in relation to the preparation of the third revised draft legally binding instrument, in accordance with operative paragraph 6 of HRC resolution 26/9.

Finally, the Chairmanship held two virtual open informal consultations during the first semester of 2021, with the participation of delegations from Governments and representatives of intergovernmental organizations, human rights mechanisms, civil society and other relevant stakeholders.

The Chairmanship of the OEIGWG takes this opportunity to reiterate its gratitude for all comments, submissions and proposals received from States and stakeholders throughout all these mechanisms, and has the honour to present attached herewith, a third revised draft legally binding instrument on business activities and human rights, as follow up to the implementation of the mandate of HRC Resolution 26/9.

Therefore, the Chairmanship of the OEIGWG kindly request the Office of the High Commissioner to circulate it to all Permanent Missions and other relevant stakeholders, as the basis for State-led direct substantive intergovernmental negotiations to be held during the working group's seventh session (October 25-29, 2021), in a format that allows different stakeholders to present their views regarding the third revised draft legally binding instrument.

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIGWG) established by Human Rights Council Resolution 26/9, (OEIGWG), avails itself the opportunity to renew to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, H. E. Michelle Bachelet, the assurances of its highest considerations.



Geneva, 17 August 2021

To H.E. Michelle Bachelet
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva. -



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