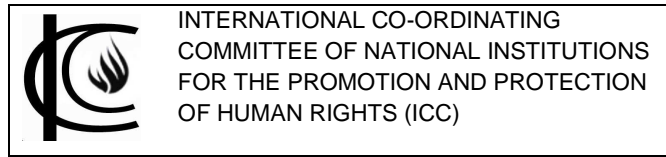


International Coordinating Committee
of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection
of Human Rights

**Submission to the United Nations Working Group on
Transnational Corporations and Other Business
Enterprises**

December 2011



Effective national human rights institutions are the cornerstone of a strong human rights protection system at the national level, and an important relay mechanism at country level to ensure the application of international human rights norms.

- United Nations Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon¹

Introduction

The International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC) is pleased to present this submission to the United Nations Working Group on Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises (tUNWG) for its review and consideration.

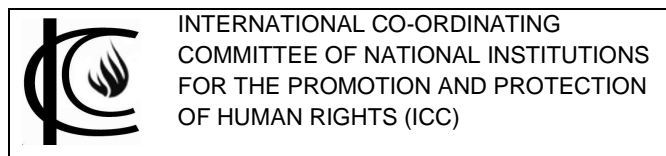
Section 1 outlines the legitimate and critical role of national human rights institutions in the realm of business and human rights, and in relation to each of the three pillars of the United Nations *Protect, Respect, and Remedy* Framework.

Section 2 speaks to the achievements and activities of the ICC in relation to business and human rights.

Section 3 provides a consolidation of recommendations relating to the mandate of the United Nations Working Group on Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises. This section also speaks to the challenges and opportunities from an ICC lens that this Working Group may encounter and seek to act upon.

Several case studies, featured in the **annexes** along with other core resource material, demonstrate the real challenges and opportunities national human rights institutions navigate on the ground relating promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and communities that are both positively and negatively affected by business activity.

¹ ICC Chair Statement, 11 November, 2011



SECTION 1: National Human Rights Institutions

NHRIs: Independent, National Expert Bodies in Human Rights

National human rights institutions (NHRIs) are independent, expert human rights bodies established by national law or Constitution. NHRIs have a legal mandate to promote and protect human rights. They are distinct and independent from Government and non-governmental organizations.

Over 100 countries have NHRIs. Over two-thirds of NHRIs are accredited with an 'A' status, which means that they meet the requirements for independence, objectivity and pluralism set out by the United Nations (UN) *Paris Principles*.²

NHRIs play a central role in ensuring effective implementation of international human rights standards at national levels. The role of NHRIs is gaining increasing international recognition and support, as demonstrated by:

- the UN Human Rights Council review outcomes (e.g. independent NHRI participation in UN Human Rights Council proceedings including the Universal Periodic Review)³,
- requests by Treaty Bodies for NHRI participation;
- State actions to establish or strengthen NHRI legal frameworks further to their Universal Periodic Review; and
- UN Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/17/9 and UN General Assembly Resolutions A/RES/64/161 and A/RES/66/169⁴.

NHRIs also engage in cooperation and capacity building with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and other partners such as the UN Development Programme in emerging economies, and in some countries UN Global Compact Local Networks or other actors.

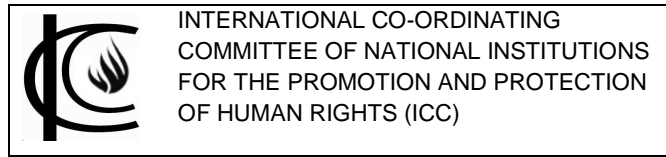
The Work of NHRIs in Relation to Business and Human Rights

According to the UN *Paris Principles*, NHRIs are required to have a broad mandate to protect and promote human rights. This mandate encompasses both the public and private sectors, and all three pillars of the *Protect, Respect, Remedy* framework. As UN High Commissioner for

² See UN General Assembly Resolution 48/134, 4 March 1994 at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N94/116/24/PDF/N9411624.pdf?OpenElement>.

³ See e.g. <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/nhri.htm>.

⁴ See <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/66/169>



Human Rights, Ms. Navi Pillay, affirmed in March 2010, this mandate includes business and human rights (BHR) as a core element.⁵

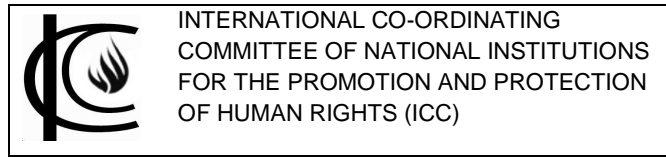
NHRIs are carrying out their roles and mandates relating to BHR in meaningful ways. For instance, they are initiating sector and country-specific baseline surveys, issuing advisories and position papers, and conducting public inquiries. They are acting as independent observers and mediators in potential and real conflict situations, developing best practice guidance and policies for businesses and other actors on human rights issues, preventing discrimination, and investigating and conciliating communications and complaints from individuals. Some NHRIs make legislative review and recommendations to ensure compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The ICC has conducted an extensive baseline survey of NHRIs to identify and assess the interest, current activities, and capacity, and future engagement opportunities for NHRIs in respect of business and Human Rights issues. The detailed survey results, which will be published in 2012, confirm that:

- “issues of most widespread concern amongst respondents and across regions include discrimination, workers rights, issues relating to environment, food and water, and child labour;
- the NHRIs of most respondents in each region include business and human rights in their strategic priorities;
- the NHRIs of more than half of respondents across regions have engaged with the work of the SRSG;
- nearly all respondents have concerns regarding the privatization of public services, and the impacts in their country of the activities of transnational and multinational corporations and also small and medium sized enterprises;
- fewer respondents, particularly those from Asia Pacific, are concerned about the impacts in other countries of the activities of transnational and multinational corporations domiciled in their country;
- although there was some variation across regions, most respondents are concerned about the activities in each of the identified business sectors, and in particular, those of the extractive and energy, retail and consumer goods, and pharmaceutical and chemical sectors; and
- most respondents across regions are interested in being more active in relation to the sector-specific concerns they identified.

Respondents indicated an interest in a range of future activities, encompassing the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights, community participation in decision making, NHRI

⁵ See http://www.asiapacificforum.net/services/international-regional/icc/icc-meetings/downloads/icc-23-speeches-and-documents/ICC23_Navi_Pillay.pdf.



mandate and resourcing constraints, the relationship between states and companies, norm clarification and the activities of financial institutions.”⁶

Illustrations of NHRI case studies that have been brought forth in this consultation for the UNWG’s consideration are enclosed at **Annex A**. A number of other case studies may be made available upon request at this time through the Chair of the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights at ICC-BHR.CIC-EDH@CHRC-CCDP.GC.CA and by contacting NHRIs directly. The ICC will also be creating a space on its website for these and other leading practices by NHRIs in Business and Human Rights.

NHRIs: Key Actors in the UN ‘Protect, Respect, Remedy’ Framework and Guiding Principles

NHRIs, individually and through the ICC, have contributed to the development of the "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework and Guiding Principles, as well as to its application and convergence with other international standards related to corporate social responsibility.

The adoption of the UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4 on the *Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights*⁷ reinforced the role of NHRIs in supporting and leading action across all three pillars of the UN *‘Protect, Respect, Remedy’* Framework.

The role of NHRIs is explicitly mentioned in each of the three pillars:

In relation to Pillar I, the State duty to protect human rights through its regulatory and policy functions,

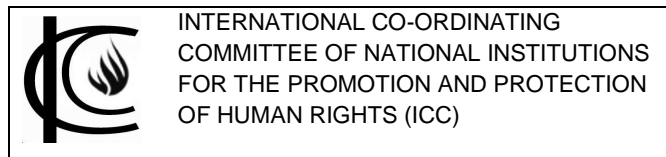
"National human rights institutions that comply with the Paris Principles have an important role to play in helping States identify whether relevant laws are aligned with their human rights obligations and are being effectively enforced, and in providing guidance on human rights also to business enterprises and other non-State actors" (Guiding Principle 3)⁸.

Pillar I highlights the unique role NHRIs play in preventing the occurrence or escalation of corporate human rights abuses.

⁶ ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights Baseline Assessment Questionnaire Report (forthcoming, 2012)

⁷ UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4, Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises, UN Doc. A/HRC/Res/17/4, 6 July 2011.

⁸ Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie. Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, UN Doc. A/HRC/17/31, 21 March 2011.



In relation to the corporate responsibility to respect in Pillar II, NHRIs are identified as a source of credible, independent expertise and guidance that businesses may consult with on human rights issues, for instance when assessing how to meet their responsibilities on issues of national and local context in complying with international human rights standards (Guiding Principle 23).⁹ This again highlights the preventive and promotional role of NHRIs.

Within the access to remedy pillar, NHRIs are once again included as one of the State-based grievance mechanisms that are administered by an independent body on a statutory or constitutional basis (Guiding Principle 25). NHRIs are also said to have a particularly important role in providing effective and appropriate non-judicial grievance mechanisms (Guiding Principle 27).¹⁰

In addition to providing strong guidance to states and companies, the *Protect, Respect and Remedy* provides a strong platform for NHRIs to reaffirm and strengthen their mandates and expertise in relation to business and human rights.

Focus on NHRIs in UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4

The United Nations Human Rights Council provided full endorsement to the Guiding Principles in June 2011 with the adoption of Resolution 17/4 on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises. Resolution 17/4 makes several explicit references to the role and contributions that NHRIs make in relation to business and human rights and to the UNWG's mandate and forum:

6 (b) To identify, exchange, and promote good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Guiding Principles and to assess and make recommendations thereon and, in that context, to seek and receive information from all relevant sources, including ...**national human rights institutions**;

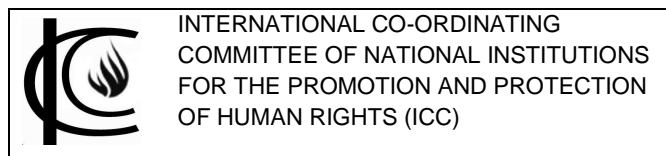
6 (h) To develop a regular dialogue and discuss possible areas of cooperation with Governments and relevant actors, including ... **national human rights institutions**;

13 Also decides that the Forum shall be open to the participation of ... **national human rights institutions**....¹¹

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4, Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises, A/HRC/Res/17/4, 6 July 2011.



Of particular importance, the Human Rights Council highlights that it:

10 Welcomes the important role of **national human rights institutions** established in accordance with the Paris Principles in relation to business and human rights, and encourages national human rights institutions to develop further their capacity to fulfil that role effectively, including with the support of the office of the High Commissioner and in addressing all relevant actors.”¹²

SECTION 2: The International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC)

NHRIs are not working in isolation on the business and human rights agenda. The ICC, established in 1993 as the representative body of NHRIs globally, facilitates collective action by NHRIs worldwide.

The ICC aims to assist countries in establishing and strengthening effective, independent NHRIs in line with the *Paris Principles*. Among other roles, the ICC facilitates joint activities and cooperation among NHRIs and with other international organizations.¹³

Given that the ICC is a coordinating body for NHRIs, whose primary focus and expertise is to promote and protect human rights within their countries, the ICC may be considered another important partner for the UNWG in fulfilling its mandate.

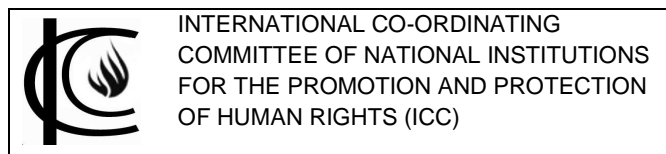
Highlights of ICC Achievements and Activities in Business and Human Rights

The ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights

The ICC established a Working Group on Business and Human Rights (BHR) as its first thematic Working Group in 2009. The Working Group coordinates NHRI actions relating to BHR and works to further develop NHRI capacities in BHR at individual and regional levels. The Working Group has supported NHRI engagement on BHR with the UN Human Rights Council, UN Special Procedures including throughout the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, Professor John Ruggie, and the UN Global Compact.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Further information on the ICC is available via <http://nhri.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/default.aspx>. See also: Network of African NHRIs (http://www.nanhri.org/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1); Asia Pacific Forum (<http://www.asiapacificforum.net/>) and Network of National Institutions of the American Continent (<http://www.rindhca.org.ve/>).



The ICC Working Group on BHR has achieved significant results since 2009, including:

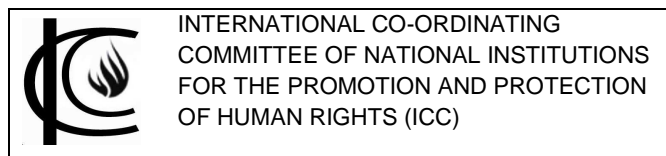
- securing acknowledgement of NHRIs in the UN Guiding Principles through appropriate references,
- securing affirmation of NHRI mandates and continuing roles in business and human rights by the UN Human Rights Council in its June 2011 Resolution,
- recognition of NHRIs by the OECD in connection with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, submissions to the associated Resource Guide and OECD Common Approaches on Export Credit Guarantees, and a formalized statement of ICC-OECD cooperation now in prospect,
- initiation of a programme of NHRI capacity building on business and human rights,
- institutional cooperation between the UN Global Compact and ICC, with a formalized statement of cooperation in prospect,
- initiation of dialogue on NHRIs, human rights and business within the context of the OSCE,
- statements and submissions on key issues to the UN Human Rights Council and Special Procedures, as well as to the European Commission,
- the holding of an international biennial conference on the theme of Business and Human Rights: The Role of NHRIs (“the Edinburgh Conference”),
- the development and piloting of a training tool for NHRIs on BHR,
- the promotion of collaboration among NHRIs, and
- advocacy and awareness-raising around the roles of NHRIs with other national, regional, and international actors including civil society, in particular through the organization of side events and regional seminars on business and human rights.

The overriding goal for the Working Group moving ahead is to strengthen regional capacity in business and human rights. To this end, the ICC Working Group has developed a draft strategic action plan (SAP) for 2011-2013 in consultation with the ICC’s four regions. The SAP, enclosed at **Annex B**, builds upon the three original mandate areas of the Working Group, including strategic planning, capacity building and resource sharing, and agenda setting and outreach. The SAP has four main areas of activity, being to:

- provide guidance and tools to NHRIs on Business and Human Rights;
- engage with stakeholders on human rights and the role of NHRIs in implementing international and regional initiatives in Business and Human Rights;
- produce and deliver awareness and outreach activities and products; and
- develop, pilot, implement and evaluate regional training and tools in collaboration with regional networks.

The SAP draws upon the Edinburgh Declaration (**Annex C**)¹⁴, which resulted from the 2010 International Biennial Conference of NHRIs on BHR. The Declaration confirms the expanding role of NHRIs in addressing and preventing the escalation of potential corporate-related human rights violations

¹⁴ Source: ICC WG Chair Reports. See <http://nhri.ohchr.org/EN/Themes/BusinessHR/Pages/default.aspx>.



In the Edinburgh Declaration, NHRIs agreed “to actively consider how their mandates under the Paris Principles can be applied, or where necessary strengthened, in order to promote and protect human rights as they relate to business, including to”:

- monitor compliance by states and non-state actors - including businesses - with human rights standards,
- advise relevant actors how to prevent and remedy human rights abuses by business,
- provide and/or facilitate access to judicial and non-judicial remedies,
- undertake research, education, promotion and awareness-raising,
- integrate human rights and business issues when interacting with international human rights bodies.

NHRIs also agreed to proactively consider how to use NHRI mandates to advance the Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework while recognizing the need for its further development and alignment with international human rights standards. They agreed to strengthen and broaden their own activities by:

- creating focal points within their institutions
- developing platforms to convene dialogues among relevant actors, and engaging with business, trade unions, civil society and the UN Global Compact
- supporting victims of corporate abuses, empowering human rights defenders, and securing participation of civil society,
- sharing knowledge and expertise,
- incorporating business and human rights in strategic plans and work plans, and
- working collaboratively with NGOs and civil society.”¹⁵

Most recently, three of four regional strategic planning workshops on Business and Human Rights have been held, and priorities identified by the regional groupings of NHRIs for action:

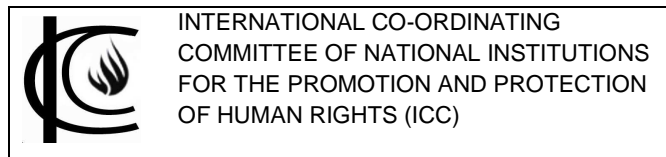
- by the Network of African NHRIs in Yaounde, Cameroon, October 2011¹⁶;
- by the Asia-Pacific Forum of NHRIs in Seoul, Republic of Korea, October 2011¹⁷; and
- by the Network of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the American Continent in Antigua, Guatemala, November 2011.

The regional outcome statements and action plans are presented for ease of reference at **Annexes D, E and F**. The European Region of NHRIs will hold its event in early 2012.

¹⁵ http://www.humanrightsbusiness.org/files/1127669666/file/edinburgh_declaration.pdf and 2011 ICC Chair statements

¹⁶ <http://www.nanhri.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=226>.

¹⁷ <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/carousel/news/building-human-rights-into-business-bottom-line>.



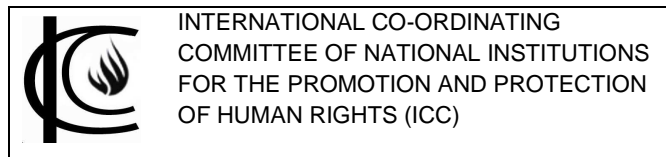
SECTION 3

Preliminary ICC Recommendations Relating to the UNWG Mandate

Drawing from input received by ICC members, this section presents both general and specific recommendations relating to the UNWG's mandate and plan of work. A detailed consolidation of the NHRI inputs to the ten individual mandate areas are enclosed at **Annex G**.

Key Structures, Networks and Partnerships

- While the 10 points of the mandate present a broad and ambitious set of objectives, each with its own opportunities and challenges, they seem somewhat complementary and interrelated. For this reason, it may be useful to think about **building upon existing structures, networks and partnerships** that can maximize the resources of the 5-person working group. Some of these have been initiated during the mandate of the UN Special Representative, John Ruggie; however, the UNWG has an opportunity to broaden and deepen a collective understanding, action, and engagement on BHR.
- As a number of the points in the mandate are aimed at a national level, it may be useful for the UNWG to **establish national focal points or networks** to support its mandate. The UNWG could establish some basic criteria to select the national focal point or network (e.g. expertise in BHR, independence, ability to serve as or convene a multi-stakeholder forum for dialogue among government, business, NHRIs, labour and civil society). As many NHRIs have already established focal points internally in accordance with the Edinburgh Declaration, some of these may be interested and qualified to serve as the national focal point, or included in such a network. Other national arrangements that might be considered relate to the ILO's Decent Work agenda and the OECD Multinational Guidelines.
- Given the regional representation on the UNWG; that there are regional nuances to human rights promotion and protection; and often regional concentrations of industry and business, the UNWG may also consider **establishing regional partnerships or networks** as a strategy of addressing priority issues, lessons-learned and best practices that are most relevant in a region. The ICC and the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights are also divided into regional networks and could be partners with the UNWG for activities, learning events and capacity-building. Some of the institutions / organizations listed in points (g) and (h) of the UN WG mandate in Resolution 17/4 have regional structures that could also contribute to a regional strategy for the UNWG.
- To develop the second pillar of the UN Framework and Guiding Principles, it could also be useful to **establish, broaden, or strengthen networks for specific business sectors and industries**. Part of the strategy could be to form partnerships with leading industry associations and companies along with relevant and interested NGOs, labour associations, professional associations and multilateral organizations or initiatives whose standards and

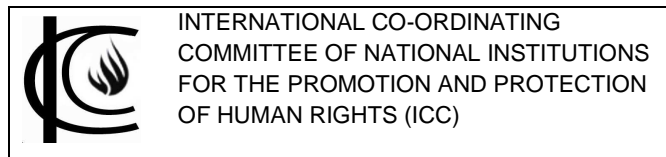


activities are relevant to the industry. These industry-specific networks could be particularly useful for promoting the Guiding Principles, sharing lessons-learned and best practices and capacity-building. To the extent that they engage in a meaningful and sustained manner with the UNWG, they could also become vehicles to promote a gender perspective and attention to vulnerable situations and priority human rights themes. NHRIs might wish to contribute to these networks - especially if a particular industry is active, controversial, or subject to human rights complaints in their country.

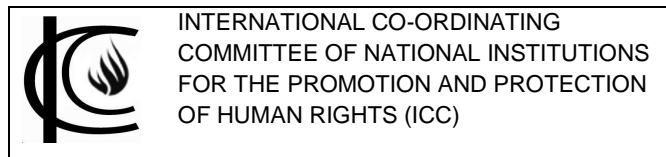
- To promote cross-cutting discussion, learning, capacity-building and tool development on priority human rights issues or specific vulnerable groups, it would be valuable for the UNWG to **tap into existing thematic networks** that UN Special Procedures and other specialized UN agencies have created - in order to introduce industry and business to the existing expertise and knowledge that exists on human rights issues; and vice-versa. In addition to women and children, other groups that could be covered by the work of the UNWG include indigenous peoples and migrant workers. On the issue of gender, one important partner would be UN Women given its' work with the UN Global Compact on the Women's Empowerment Principles.
- The annual **Forum on Business and Human Rights** can be the place, and the moment in the calendar year, to bring the work of these different structures, networks and partnerships together for a major event. It would be extremely useful if the Forum could serve the following functions:
 - to share information, through presentations, kiosks, publications, etc. (perhaps one day could be dedicated to this purpose)
 - to address priority thematic issues and to encourage written commitments to act upon these issues (perhaps a theme that may be considered across different industries and business sectors)
 - to maintain a tone of consensus-building and principled pragmatism that was initiated during the Special Representative's mandate, i.e. a less hierarchical and informal discussion format than in UN Human Rights Council sessions, as results of the Forum are still to be formally reported on
 - to promote accessibility to all stakeholders through low/no cost for participation; webcasting the forum; providing support for NHRIs, civil society organizations and experts from developing countries

Key Challenges

- **Duplication:** It will be a challenge to coordinate all the activities that will be taking place globally that have some relation to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Through adopting some structures, networks and partnerships as suggested above, the UNWG has a better chance to have some contact with and influence on these activities and to ensure progressive development of the UN Guiding Principles, and avoiding as much as possible duplication (or multiplication) of overlapping or contradictory guidance.

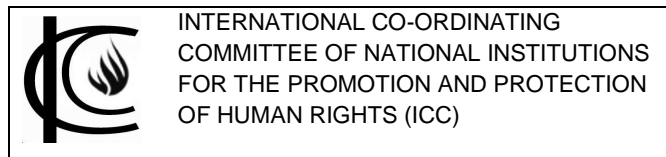


- **Confidentiality:** It will be important for the UNWG to examine the legitimate balance between corporate confidentiality and rights-based principles such as accountability, transparency and information-sharing. If the UNWG is going to promote the sharing of lessons-learned and good practices, many of the corporate initiatives that are currently taking place (e.g. company-sponsored human rights impact assessments) could be disclosed to a greater extent.
- **Communication:** While the Forum may be an excellent opportunity for information-sharing on an annual basis, it will be useful to have tools for transparent communications on an on-going basis. The internet portal established for the UNWG on the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre's website (<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Documents/UNWorkingGrouponbusinesshumanrights>) is a very useful starting point. Its effectiveness and responsiveness to stakeholder needs could be reviewed from time to time.
- **Cost:** The costs associated with all the potential activities to implement the UNWG's mandate are considerable. The issue of costs and resources are particularly important for developing countries. Hopefully, resources can be maximized through partnership activities and financial and in-kind contributions from other organizations. As discussed below, finding an appropriate formula to receive corporate contributions is an opportunity to generate additional resources to address the issue of cost.
- **Cooperation from States and Companies:** As underscored in the UN Guiding Principles, States have the primary responsibility for regulating business enterprises and for ensuring policy coherence with respect to business and human rights. Therefore, the UN needs the cooperation of States in order to further develop and implement the UN Guiding Principles. There may be additional challenges around cooperation since businesses are regulated by different levels of government (State / provincial / municipal). It is encouraging that the UN Guiding Principles were unanimously adopted by the UN Human Rights Council, and hopefully the UNWG can count upon the cooperation of all member States, particularly for national-level activities and country visits. Similarly, the UNWG will benefit from the active engagement and endorsement of the UN Guiding Principles by many leading companies; however, it will have to face the challenge of "laggards" and companies that are dismissive of human rights.
- **Capacity-Building:** As appropriately identified as a priority for the Working Group to address, and as detailed by some of the submissions at Annex G, NHRIs among other actors face significant challenges in terms of capacity in BHR. NHRIs have a central role to play in advancing, supporting and operationalizing all three pillars of the framework; including through preventive and promotional activities, measures, and tools that prevent disputes from arising or escalating, and which serve to foster corporate cultures respectful of human rights. States need to adequately resource NHRIs to handle business and human rights violations falling within their mandates.



Opportunities

- **UNWG Members:** The UNWG can build upon the specific expertise and existing networks of the UNWG Members. In particular, the regional connections and knowledge of the UNWG Members will presumably be valuable to establish regional networks and national focal points or networks. The ICC also strongly encourages the UNWG to actively engage the ICC regions through their representatives on the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights.
- **Appropriate Corporate Contributions:** Subject to UN rules and practices, the UNWG could consider how to enlist corporations in support to its mandate, to the Forum and to global, regional or national initiatives that promote the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles. Independently administered funds or foundations are options for receiving corporate contributions and distributing them on an equitable, principled and transparent basis. Corporations will naturally want public acknowledgment of their contributions; but this can likely be managed in a discrete and appropriate manner.
- **Momentum:** In consultation with the UN Special Representative and his team, the UNWG could identify sectoral or thematic areas that have forward momentum and invest some of its early efforts in building upon that momentum. While it is incumbent on the UNWG to tackle systemic and difficult issues, it is important to have success and visibility in some areas to draw laggards along. The results of these efforts could be a deepening of the UN Guiding Principles over the course of the UNWG's mandate. One such area could be that of prevention- insofar as opportunities exist to engage all actors in awareness, dialogue, and commitment around proactive and constructive ways to avoid the creation or escalation of human rights abuses.
- **Deepening and broadening of issues that the Special Representative of the Secretary General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, either did not treat, or treated in a cursory manner:** prioritizing specific areas for additional research and action would be welcome- for instance in relation to vulnerable populations, financial institutions and export credit agencies; and access to remedy.
- **Coordination, Performance Tracking and Measurement:** Coordination of efforts will be key to avoiding duplication and streamline UNWG efforts. Similarly, identifying specific time frames for priorities and measuring progress and achievements made in all facets of the Working Group's work will lay the groundwork for its eventual successes. The WG may wish to implement, test, and report on selected elements of the Guiding Principles identified with local actors. The WG may wish to develop a tracking system and a database for collective use during and after its mandate.



Additional Specific Recommendations relating to the UNWG mandate: This list is not exhaustive. It draws in part from the individual NHRI submissions presented at Annex G. Additional ideas specific to other areas of the mandate are enclosed at Annex G.

a. Effective dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles

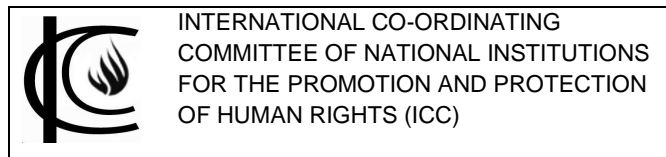
- Engage NHRIs in relation to human rights education and promoting the implementation of UN human rights standards and norms as this is their practice in other areas.
- Seek written commitments to accept and develop individual policies in line with UN Guiding Principles by various stakeholders (government departments, agencies, companies, industry associations, etc.)
- Audit the promotion and implementation of the UN Guiding Principles by different member States of the UN. National focal points or networks could assist in providing up-to-date information from each country.

b. Identification, exchange, and promotion of good practices and lessons learned

- NHRIs are a source of first-hand information about developments and leading practices on the ground. NHRIs may be relay mechanisms of the UNWG at the domestic level, and are supported by NHRI regional coordinators at a regional level and the ICC at an international level.
- The UN WG/OHCHR may serve as clearing house to compile and publish best practices, and NHRIs will be key in turn in disseminating these practices at the domestic level.
- Focus on the responsibilities of investors and financial institutions (including Export Credit Agencies) given their important role in supporting business enterprises.

c. Support for efforts to promote capacity building

- In light of paragraph 10 of Resolution 17/4, it is particularly relevant to engage NHRIs in this area of the UNWG mandate. (Ideas are presented at Annex G).
- Update the research and guidance on human rights impact assessment methodology that the Special Representative initiated in his report on "Key Methodological Questions" of 5 February 2007 (<http://www.reports-and-materials.org/Ruggie-report-human-rights-impact-assessments-5-Feb-2007.pdf>)
- Continue to work towards the development of binding norms, laws and regulations at the national-level that are consistent with the three pillars of the UN Guiding Principles. An evolving human rights analysis of existing corporate law instruments could lead to progressive law reforms.
- Develop specific guidance for the informal sector, micro enterprises and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- Promote the development of training materials on the UN Guiding Principles and on different human rights issues for businesses.



- Find incentives, rewards and support for positive business initiatives as a preventive measure.

d. Country visits:

- NHRIs can have a key role in cooperating w the UN WG prior, during and after a country visit. They may recommend the UN WG people or organizations they may consider meeting, arrange meetings, provide information and documentation prior to the visit, serve as platform for meetings, and have an important role in follow up after the visit: dissemination of recommendations to concerned parties, reporting/ monitoring on implementation of recommendations, hosting consultation meetings at the national level to promote implementation and more.

e. Access to effective remedies

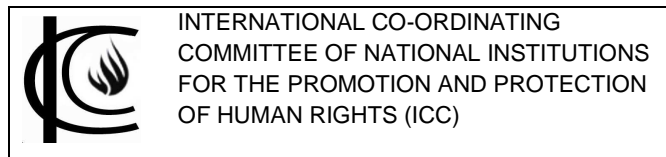
- In light of NHRI roles under Pillar III this point too is very relevant, for instance: developing the Wiki project on remedies; publishing information on available remedies, NHRI roles in facilitating victims' access to remedies, NHRIs themselves being remedies; effective use of Treaty Bodies' communication procedures.
- We invite the UNWG to make recommendations, where relevant, to strengthen NHRI complaints-handling.
- Include the judiciary and legal profession as key groups for implementation of the UN Guiding Principles, particularly around issues of remedy.

f. Gender Perspective

- Consider the role of UN Women, particularly as the agency is promoting internationally the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) in partnership with the UN Global Compact. The WEP is based around the business case for women's participation, covers supply chain issues, and involves CEOs of major corporations signing up on a voluntary basis. It will be a lost opportunity re both gender integration and UN Agency co-operation if the Guiding Principles are not referred to and specifically connected to this work.

g. Cooperation and coordination

- In 2007, the ICC and UN Special Procedures (SP) have developed a joint discussion paper on how NHRIs and Special procedures may effectively cooperate and partner. Though general in nature, you may wish to refer to this paper in the ICC's submission too, as it provides useful guidance on various entry points for NHRI-SP cooperation.
- Work with the UN Human Rights Council, the Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures to include information about business and human rights issues in their reports.
- Actors could be encouraged to address business and human rights during the Universal Periodic Review.



Concluding Remarks

National human rights institutions are recognized as part of a strong national human rights protection system, along with an independent judiciary, a properly functioning administration of justice, a representative national parliament, and strong and dynamic civil society organizations. They are key to ensuring prevention of human rights abuses, the rule of law, the administration of justice, and respect for human rights¹⁸. NHRIs and the ICC welcome your consideration of this submission and look forward to engaging in dialogue and action with you.

Annexes

Annex A: Examples of NHRI Case Studies

Annex B: ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights- 2011-2013 Strategic Action Plan

Annex C: The Edinburgh Declaration

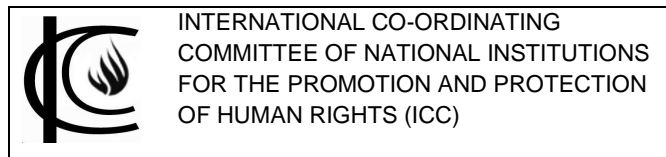
Annex D: Network of African National Human Rights Institutions - Recommendations on the Plan of Action on Business and Human Rights

Annex E: Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions Regional Conference on Business and Human Rights Outcome Statement

Annex F: Americas Regional Action Plan

Annex G: Consolidation of NHRI Inputs to the UNWG Mandate

¹⁸ ICC Chair Statements; Annual Report of the UN HCHR and Reports of the OHCHR and the UN Secretary-General on NHRIs (A/HRC/10/54)



ANNEX A

Select NHRI Case Studies

In addition to the table at Annex F, which offers some insight into NHRI level activities, case studies that have been brought forth in our internal consultation specifically for the UNWG's consideration are from the NHRIs of Colombia, Ecuador, and New Zealand.

1. **Colombia: Input from the Colombian Ombudsman's Office**

I have been asked to provide additional information on experiences to report to the United Nations Working Group. I therefore feel that it is appropriate to comment to you on two initiatives aimed at disseminating the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, as well as the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, and making them operational. I am referring to "*Guías Colombia*" and the Mining and Energy Committee on Security and Human Rights.

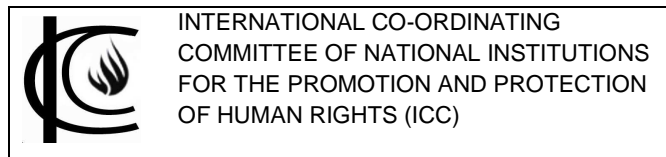
Guías Colombia is an experiment promoted by civil society organizations and business associations that is also supported by the national government through the Office of the Vice-President of the Republic. As a result of the work carried out since 2006, two of several expected strategic guidelines have materialized.

The first guideline concerns the general issue of security, and serves as a guide for enterprises and companies in their relationships with the private security and public security offered by the State, as well as with regard to business activity within the framework of international humanitarian law.

The second strategic guideline seeks to provide effective guidance to enterprises on efficient mechanisms for complaints and claims based on the Guiding Principles designed by the United Nations so that customer service becomes a process that is respectful of the rights of consumers and of the communities that are part of the enterprise's operational environment.

Today, this program works on the design of strategic guidelines that guide enterprises on dialogue with communities and on matters related to transparency processes (the fight against corruption) and to environmental, institution-building and labour rights aspects.

Another experience worth noting has to do with the functioning of the Mining and Energy Committee on Security and Human Rights. The Committee was established as a forum for studying, reflecting on and recommending respectful human rights practices in the field of



security; dialogue between enterprises, government and civil society organizations has been encouraged to that end.

The Mining and Energy Committee is guided by the voluntary principles of security and human rights, which have been adopted by 12 enterprises, both national and transnational. Also participating in this committee is the national government through the Office of the President of the Republic; the Office of the Vice-President; the Ministry of Defence, Army and Foreign Affairs; the Superintendence of Surveillance and Private Security; the General Command of the Armed Forces; and the National Police.

The main challenge today with experiences such as these is to have an increasingly more representative number of enterprises join their ranks to make the world of business an environment respectful of human rights by voluntarily adhering to the various instruments of the international system on the subject.

2. Ecuador NHRI

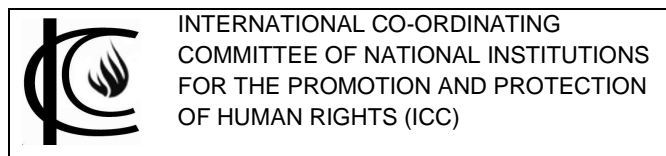
(1 of 2) THE PAMBILAR FOREST

In April 2010, rural inhabitants living in the communities of Las Golondrinas and Malimpia in the district of Quinindé (Esmeraldas), which border the protected “El Pambilar” area, filed a complaint with the Ombudsman’s Office (DPE) asking for protection due to the violation of various rights, including the right to life, to live in a healthy environment, to water, to health, to freedom of movement, to mobility, to education, to housing, to security; that is to say, the right to live. The lumber company ENDESA BOTROSA operates in that zone.

El Pambilar is one of the last western primary forests in Ecuador and there has been a lengthy dispute over the 3000 hectares of this forest in Esmeraldas that is rich in biodiversity. It is a case of nature versus capital, represented here by the financial conglomerate Peña Durini.

The DPE opened an investigative file and ordered that an institutional team travel to the site to conduct an inspection and collect testimony from the villagers for the purpose of issuing a ruling. The inspection revealed problems such as a lack of educational and health centres, indiscriminate lumbering, acts of violence and criminalization of community leaders.

The inspection helped determine that of the 16,702 hectares owned by the lumber company, 3,123.84 correspond to the wildlife refuge “El Pambilar”, lands that reverted to the Ecuadorian government by judicial order in December 2010. The Constitutional Court has ruled this time in favour of the Rights to Nature and in defence of the communities of rural inhabitants in the



country's Northwest. We hope that that will be how they proceed in 2011, i.e., respecting the Constitution of Montecristi.¹⁹

In its Ombudsman's decision, the DPE recommends:

- ✦ That police posts be built and that the law enforcement authorities be ordered to control acts of violence.
- ✦ That the enterprise BOTROSA facilitate the transporting of persons on the Canandé river.
- ✦ That the Ministry of Public Works ensure the free movement of persons by river, by any means of river transport, and look into the possibility of building a bridge. Financing of the construction of public access roads into the communities of Hoja Blanca, Zapallo, Chonta Duro, Puerto Nuevo and other surrounding areas should also be incorporated into its budget.
- ✦ That the Ministry of Health incorporate the construction of health centres and the provision of medical staff into its budget to ensure the health of inhabitants in the communities along the river.
- ✦ That the Ministry of the Environment draft an Environmental Action Plan to guarantee effective use of the "El Pambilar" wildlife reserve; and
- ✦ That residents, owners of the lumber company and other stakeholders who have expectations as to the possession and ownership of land seek legal and institutional means of ensuring effective ownership and avoiding conflicts.

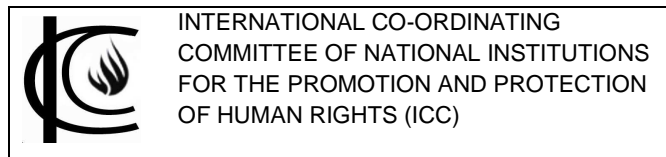
(2 of 2)

NATIONAL CONTROL TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN UNDER 12 ARE NOT ADMITTED TO BULLFIGHTS

To protect the rights of children with respect to violent entertainment such as bullfighting, the Office of the Ombudsman of Ecuador (DPE) issued an Ombudsman's Decision in November 2009 to safeguard the rights of children under the age of 12; i.e., they may exercise their legitimate right to recreation and an overall upbringing that does not include activities or shows in which they are exposed to violent imagery and scenes, such as the killing of an animal. That decision called upon both the competent authorities and the organizers of bullfighting fairs (CITOTUSA) to not admit children under 12 to such events. Various child protection and anti-bullfighting collectives submitted a petition to the Office of the Ombudsman to achieve that goal.

The Ombudsman's Decision was remitted to the National Council for Children and Adolescents in order to strengthen inter-agency work on behalf of exercise of the rights of children, and to initiate the actions deemed necessary to disseminate knowledge and respect of children's human rights in Ecuador amongst the private companies that organize public entertainment.

¹⁹ www.accionecologica.org



The Ministry of Government, Police and Religion was urged to adopt the Ombudsman's Decision and to make use of its high public office to help guarantee the rights of children mentioned in that document by ordering actions and measures at the national level to prevent children under 12 from attending bullfights held in bullrings and at fairs that end with the death of the animal.

The Metropolitan Council and the Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Quito were also urged to order the necessary measures so that children under 12 are not admitted to bullfights and do not witness the violent and cruel death of the animal.

The Police Intendancy of Pichincha was asked to monitor and ensure that children under 12 do not enter the Quito Bullring during the Jesús del Gran Poder bullfighting fair.

The commander of the Pichincha No.1 Provincial Command was asked to provide the necessary cooperation for strict compliance with this Ombudsman's Decision with respect to protection of the rights of children under 12.

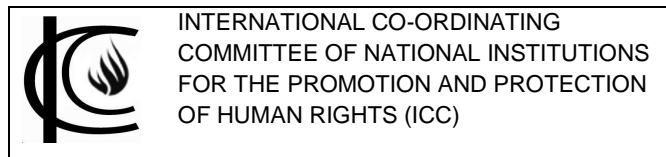
The decision was not respected by the organizers (CITOTUSA) and sponsors of the events, was met with contempt, and was not backed by the authorities responsible for control. However, in November 2010, the Judge of the Fourth Labour Court of Pichincha accepted the protection action put forth by DPE and decided to ban the entry of children under 12 years into bullfights at the national level.

This was the beginning of a new task for the Ombudsman's Office, as a contingent of officials was dispatched to bullfighting events held throughout the country to prevent the exposure of children under 12 to all acts of violence and death and thereby ensure faithful compliance with the measure. The measure also provides that National Police intendants, chiefs and commanders in each province must cooperate to ensure compliance with the above-mentioned ruling and pronouncement by the Judge.

3. New Zealand Human Rights Commission

1.1 The New Zealand Human Rights Commission wishes to provide the following additional information on the Guiding Principles. It has used the Guiding Principles in regional co-operation between human rights institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and in their domestic application in the Ministerial Inquiry into Foreign Charter Vessels, which is currently underway.

1.2 The Commission has recently used the Guiding Principles in its submissions and work with the Ministerial Inquiry into Foreign Charter Vessels (FCVs), established by the New



Zealand Government as the result of public concern at the human rights abuses and labour conditions on FCVs operating in New Zealand waters.

1.3 The vessels are owned by foreign companies and operate under joint venture agreements with New Zealand businesses.¹ There are currently 26 foreign vessels flagged to four countries: South Korea, Ukraine, Japan and Dominica. Korean vessels in particular, hire low paid labour from countries such as Indonesia, Nepal, Malaysia and Burma to crew the boats and in some cases fish processing is undertaken onboard.

¹ Typically the joint venture is between a foreign vessel owner and a New Zealand company that has access to a quota of fish. The vessels are owned and operated by overseas companies and come with crews. The crew members' contracts of employment are with the foreign owner.

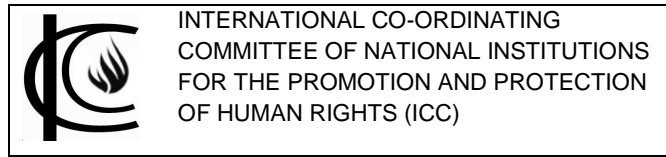
1.4 The human rights abuses of foreign fishing crews have over the years resulted in deaths from maritime accidents in international waters, men overboard and missing presumed drowned, crew desertion at New Zealand ports and costly repatriation processes, other health and safety issues, bonded labour and unscrupulous manning agents operating in flag countries and elsewhere, low wages, very long hours of work, and inadequate rest and leisure. Both supply chain and business relationship issues are complicated by the problematic nature of the international law of the sea and jurisdictional issues.

1.5 New Zealand as a coastal island nation relies heavily on economic returns from fishing exports, and its indigenous peoples, Māori, have been allocated a fishing quota as a significant element in the historic Treaty of Waitangi settlement process, aimed at redressing historic wrongs.

1.6 The New Zealand Human Rights Commission has liaised with its regional and international connections including the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights and the Chair of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Human Rights Commission at the 2011 Annual Conference of the Asia Pacific Forum in Bangkok. The NZHRC consulted on its draft submission and incorporated suggestions from these other countries.

1.7. The Commission told the Ministerial Inquiry that New Zealand could consolidate and retain its international reputation by encouraging, or even requiring, New Zealand companies involved in joint fishing ventures to adopt the Guiding Principles, largely because they apply to the whole supply chain. The Commission recommended that they are made a requirement when entering into arrangements with foreign-owned businesses.

1.8. The Commission's submission, particularly the reference to the Guiding Principles, was noted by the chair and members of the Ministerial Inquiry which reports in 2012. The Commission's submission is available at <http://www.hrc.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Submission-to-Inquiry-into-Foreign-Charter-Vessels.doc>



ANNEX B

The Edinburgh Declaration

1. The Tenth International Conference of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights addressed the theme of *Business and Human Rights, the role of national human rights institutions (NHRIs)*.

2. The Conference took place in Edinburgh, Scotland between October 8 –10, 2010 and was hosted by the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC) and its Working Group on Business and Human Rights.

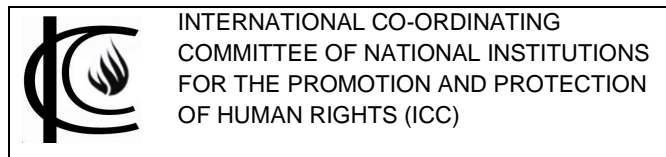
3. Participants thanked the SHRC, OHCHR, the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish and UK Governments for their support and dedication to the organisation of the Conference. The Conference was also enriched by the participation of the Advocate-General for Scotland, UK Government and by the Justice Secretary, Scottish Government.

4. Participants welcomed the statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (SRSG), Professor John Ruggie, former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson and Professor Olivier Maurel. Keynote addresses were followed by interactive and productive discussions which reflected the experience, diversity and perspectives of all NHRIs as well as those of non-governmental, trade union and business representatives.

5. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) from around the world organised a pre-conference NGO Forum. The Forum delivered a highly constructive statement to the Conference which enriched the debate, participants' collective thinking and deliberations. The Tenth International Conference adopted the following Declaration:

6. *Reaffirming* the inherent dignity, equal and inalienable rights of all human beings, the need for universal and effective recognition of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to promote social progress and better standards of living, as expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; further reaffirming the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights as expressed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action on Human Rights.

7. *Welcoming* the UN Human Rights Council's continuing engagement with the business and human rights agenda, and noting its support by consensus for the "protect, respect, remedy" framework proposed by the SRSG. The greater understanding, clarity and consensus about the appropriate roles and responsibilities of states and business, and the right of victims to access remedy as regards corporate abuses was welcomed by participants.



8. *Noting* that the Human Rights Council has tasked the SRSB with operationalising and promoting the framework and welcoming the opportunity for NHRIs' and other actors' involvement in the consultation process and in the development of the Guiding Principles.

9. *Acknowledging* that businesses can have impacts on human rights. National and transnational business activities can generate harm on human rights. In certain regions inappropriate models of privatization have prevented the realisation of human rights. However, the responsible operation of business and effective regulation can also contribute to promoting respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights.

10. *Noting* with concern that weak governance systems, national legislation and implementation mechanisms cannot effectively prevent the negative impacts of globalisation on vulnerable societies, cultures, economies and peoples, including indigenous peoples

11. *Reaffirming* the importance of effective and independent national human rights institutions with broad mandates to promote and protect all human rights, in accordance with the *Principles relating to the status of national institutions under UN General Assembly Resolution 48/134* 20 December 1993 (Paris Principles).

12. *Emphasising* the important role national human rights institutions can play in addressing corporate-related human rights challenges at the international level, including through the ICC, and at the regional and national levels.

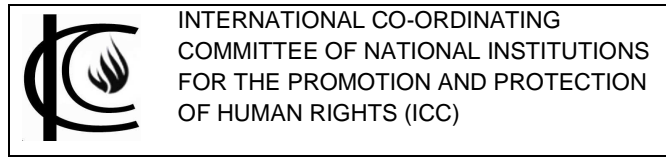
13. *Welcoming* the valuable discussions of the Conference's Regional Working Groups addressing human rights and business through the four thematic areas of: child labour and young workers (Africa); safe and healthy environment (Americas); human trafficking (Asia Pacific); and privatisation and public procurement (Europe).

14. *Acknowledging* the independence and autonomy of all NHRIs, the diversity of their regional and national contexts and the need to define strategic objectives and programmes informed by local circumstances and resources.

15. *Noting* that the Paris Principles oblige States to ensure adequate funding and an appropriate infrastructure to NHRIs to fulfil their mandates including human rights and business and urging states and the international community to cooperate to achieve this end. The NHRIs here assembled agree:

16. To actively consider how their mandates under the Paris Principles can be applied, or where necessary strengthened, in order to promote and protect human rights as they relate to business, including through:

- monitoring states' and non-state actors', including businesses' compliance with human rights
- advising all relevant actors on how to prevent and remedy such abuses
- providing and/or facilitating access to judicial and/or non-judicial remedies, for example by supporting victims, handling complaints and/or undertaking mediation and conciliation



- conducting research and undertaking education, promotion and awareness-raising activities
- integrating human rights and business issues when interacting with international human rights bodies, including UN treaty bodies, Special Procedures, the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review, as well as regional human rights mechanisms.

17. To proactively consider new ways in which NHRIs' mandates can be used to advance the "protect, respect and remedy" framework while recognising the need for its further development and alignment with international human rights standards.

18. To call on the SRSG in his Guiding Principles to recognise the centrality of NHRIs in business and human rights under all three pillars of the "protect, respect, remedy framework".

19. To urge States to identify and establish a properly resourced focal point within the UN to provide guidance and support capacity building as recommended by the SRSG (UN Doc A/HRC/14/27).

20. To broaden NHRIs' activities by means such as:

- creating focal points on business and human rights within their institutions and developing platforms to convene dialogue among relevant actors
- engaging with organisations and stakeholders at national, regional and international levels, such as business, including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), trade unions, civil society and the UN Global Compact
- supporting victims of corporate abuses, and facilitating their access to effective judicial and non-judicial remedies
- empowering human rights defenders and securing the effective participation of civil society in business and human rights, in particular vulnerable groups.

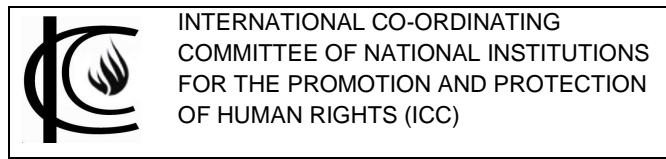
21. To renew efforts to work collaboratively with NGOs and civil society in implementing NHRIs' mandates as regards business and human rights, including through sharing knowledge and expertise and institutionalising exchanges and interactions.

Further agree that NHRIs will:

22. Undertake activities, commencing in 2011, in coordination with the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights and with the support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, including if possible a workshop on business and human rights in each ICC Region to be held during 2011.

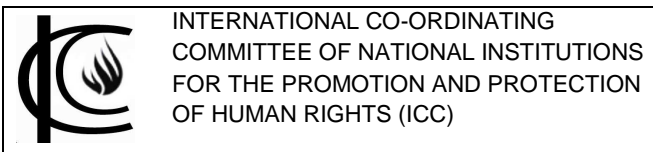
23. Incorporate business and human rights in strategic plans and workplans in each NHRI and ICC Region.

24. Engage with and support the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights, and in all activities encourage participation from relevant stakeholders including government, legislatures, trade unions, business including SMEs, NGOs and civil society.



25. Report, including via Regional Chairs and the ICC Working Group, to ICC General Meeting in 2011 on regional, sub-regional and national activities on business and human rights.

Adopted on 10 October 2010
Edinburgh

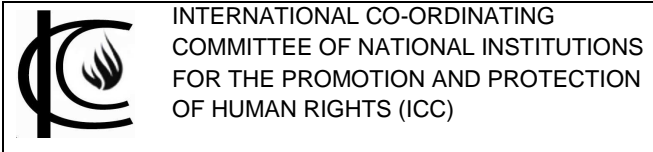


ANNEX C ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights – Draft 2011-2013 Strategic Action Plan

Area of Activity 1: Provide Guidance and Tools for National Human Rights Institutions on Business and Human Rights					
Activities	Deliverables (Outputs)	Timeline	Lead²⁰	Cost	Possible Success Indicators
Develop guidance and tools for basic awareness, advocacy, and capacity building around Edinburgh Declaration commitments for individual NHRIs and regions	Provision of subject matter expertise for BHR Regional Workshops Provision of subject matter expertise for Regional Action Plans Guidance to NHRIs, e.g “ICC Working Group on BHR Clinics” at ICC Regional Seminars One page briefing note on key actions arising from the Edinburgh Declaration	2011-2013	ICC WG on BHR ²¹ members with regional networks	No additional financial cost to the ICC.	Declaration commitments are implemented commensurate with needs of NHRIs and regions Tools are developed, tested, and disseminated ICC member use of tools for national and regional outreach A commitment to BHR is demonstrated in regional action plans An active link to OHCHR’s efforts on country engagement on BHR is established and implemented. Legitimacy of action on BHR is reinforced as a core element of NHRI mandates BHR issues are included in baseline research and strategic and operational planning of NHRIs

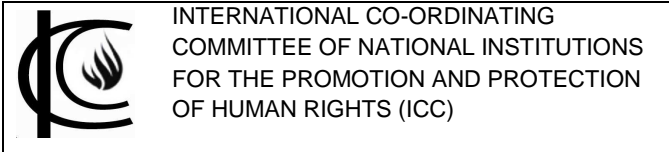
²⁰ All activities fall under the accountability and responsibility of the Working Group. As such, “Lead” denotes the national institution that is leading an activity on the Working Group’s behalf; always in liaison with the Working Group Chair.

²¹ ICC WG on BHR refers to the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights

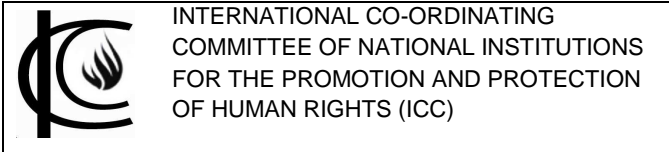


Finalize detailed 2010 BHR Baseline Survey Report with regional findings	Detailed baseline survey report	September 2011	DIHR ²²	Efforts provided through NHRI staff; no additional cost to the ICC	Report is completed and disseminated to ICC members
	Present findings for optional use in regional action planning and ICC Working Group on BHR action planning	October 2011-March 2012	Regional networks ICC WG on BHR		Findings are considered for integration into regional action planning Findings are considered for integration into ICC Working Group on BHR action planning
Area of Activity 2: Engage with stakeholders around human rights and the role of NHRIs in implementing international, regional, and domestic initiatives and frameworks in BHR					
Activities	Deliverables (Outputs)	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Possible Success Indicators
Support NHRI engagement with stakeholders around the Edinburgh Declaration (e.g. government, legislatures, trade unions, business including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society)	Guidance and tools for NHRIs Notice of regional activities and achievements in BHR in annual regional reports to the ICC	2011-2013 2012 and 2013 Sessions of the ICC	WG WG members in support of ICC Regional Chairs	Efforts are provided through NHRI staff; no additional financial cost to the ICC	Nature of guidance provided Nature and number of tools provided ICC member use of tools for national and regional outreach ICC and NHRI participation in key domestic, regional and international developments in the BHR field Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs

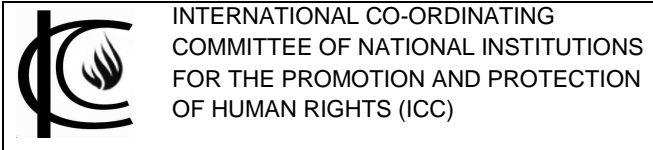
²² DIHR - Danish Institute for Human Rights



<p>Support ICC engagement with stakeholders regarding role of NHRIs in implementation of UN Framework and Guiding Principles on BHR (e.g. UN Working Group on BHR, UN Annual Forum, UN Human Rights Council (HRC), and Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR), OECD, European Union, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, United Nations Children's Fund, and national and regional stakeholders)</p>	<p>Guidance to NHRIs and the ICC Chair</p> <p>ICC and/or joint NHRI statements and submissions</p> <p>Organization and/or participation in events</p>	<p>2011-2013</p>	<p>WG</p>	<p>Efforts are provided through NHRI staff; no additional financial cost to the ICC</p>	<p>Nature of ICC and NHRI engagement achieved in the follow up to the SRSG mandate on BHR</p> <p>Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs</p> <p>UN OHCHR country engagement strategy is considered in NHRI and ICC initiatives to implement BHR</p> <p>ICC member use of statements and submissions for national and regional outreach</p>
<p>Support ICC / NHRI engagement with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) regarding the role of NHRIs in implementation of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Common Approaches</p>	<p>Completion of an ICC-OECD MOU</p> <p>Draft submission to OECD Investment Committee on a proactive agenda to support implementation of OECD Guidelines</p> <p>Draft submission to Review of OECD Common Approaches on Export Credit Guarantees</p>	<p>December 2011</p> <p>December 2011</p> <p>December 2011</p>	<p>DIHR in liaison with the WG Chair</p>	<p>Efforts are provided through NHRI staff; no additional financial cost to the ICC</p>	<p>Nature of engagement by the ICC and NHRIs with the OECD</p> <p>Recognition of NHRI role in implementation</p> <p>ICC member awareness</p> <p>ICC member use of statements and submissions for national and regional outreach</p> <p>Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs</p>



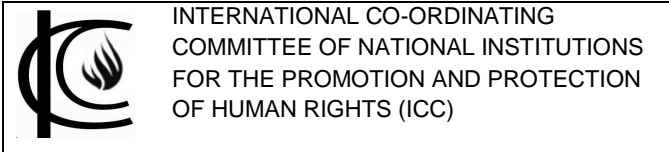
<p>Undertake activities to raise the profile and understanding of the functions of and possibility of partnerships with NHRIs with UN Global Compact members</p>	<p>Information note on NHRIs for UNGC</p> <p>Information on NHRI participation in UNGC meetings</p> <p>Information on NHRI participation in and development of statements for UNGC/ STC/ UNICEF Childrens' Business Principles consultation process.</p>	<p>September 2011</p> <p>September- November 2011</p> <p>Timeline to be determined</p>	<p>DIHR- WG Chair</p> <p>WG members</p> <p>WG members</p>	<p>No additional cost to the ICC</p>	<p>Information note is developed and presented</p> <p>NHRIs participate in UNGC meetings</p> <p>NHRIs invite UNGC representative participation in ICC regional workshops</p> <p># and nature of other activities held, e.g. organisation of side events</p> <p>ICC member use of statements and submissions for national and regional outreach</p> <p>Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs</p>
<p>Identify opportunities for engagement with Treaty Bodies and regional mechanisms to heighten awareness of roles of NHRIs in relation to BHR</p>	<p>ICC statements and/or submissions to Treaty Bodies (TBs) and regional mechanisms on NHRIs and BHR</p>	<p>2011-2013</p>	<p>WG Chair with WG members</p>	<p>No additional cost to the ICC</p>	<p>Number and nature of engagements with TBs/ regional mechanisms</p> <p>Impact of engagement</p> <p>ICC member awareness of engagements</p> <p>ICC member use of statements and submissions for national and regional outreach</p> <p>Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs</p>



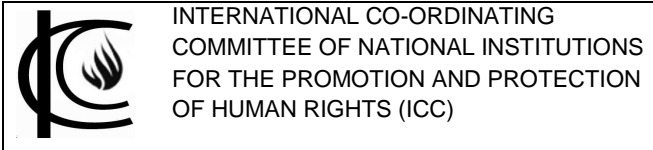
Make submissions to UN Special Procedures on behalf of the ICC, on the roles of NHRIs in relation to BHR	ICC statements and /or submissions to UN Special Procedures on NHRIs and BHR	2011-2013	WG Chair in collaboration with WG members	No additional cost to the ICC	# submissions made to Special Procedures Impact of engagement ICC member awareness of engagements ICC member use of statements/submissions for national outreach Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs
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Area of Activity 3: Produce and deliver awareness and outreach activities and products

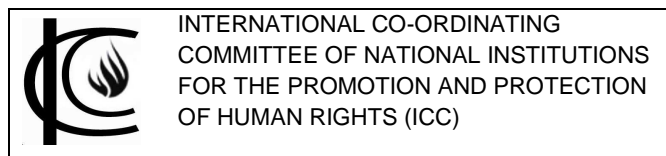
Activities	Deliverables (Outputs)	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Possible Success Indicators
Transfer existing content to ICC website	Intranet material on BHR	September 2011	DIHR/ OHCHR	Efforts are provided through NHR staff; no additional financial cost to the ICC.	A platform for ICC members to exchange expertise, resources and promising practices is provided
Make continuous updates of WG content to the ICC website	Intranet material on BHR	2011-2013	WG		# promising practices obtained, shared, and integrated to the Guidebook and website
Liaise with OHCHR-NIRMS to ensure provision on ICC website for NHRIs to provide content on best practices	Regional pages for WG website on BHR (e.g. a discussion forum)	September 2011	DIHR/ OHCHR		Ability of ICC members to access and provide content on best practices to the website Website responsibility is assumed by OHCHR



Develop basic awareness materials for NHRIs on BHR	Basic awareness materials, e.g. information / fact sheets	2011-2013	WG and Regional networks	Efforts are through NHRI staff; no additional financial cost to the ICC.	# and nature of materials produced Awareness and use by ICC members of materials Effectiveness of materials
Organize additional events on BHR/ NHRIs to raise the profile of NHRIs amongst relevant stakeholders in relation to business and human rights	Events relating to NHRIs and BHR	2011-2013	WG Chair in collaboration with WG members and regional networks	TBD in collaboration with OHCHR and regional networks	# of events held # and type of participants Participant satisfaction with events Impact of events Stakeholders are aware of and supportive of a role for the ICC and NHRIs
Develop incentives for NHRI innovation	<i>CSR Award</i>	2012-2013	WG	TBD	Development of the award



Area of Activity 4: Develop, pilot, implement and evaluate regional training and tools in collaboration with regional networks					
Activities	Deliverables (Outputs)	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Possible Success Indicators
<p>Complete development of core modules for a Training Programme and Guide Book for NHRIs for regional adaptation</p> <p>(Note: this includes compilation and integration of NHRI best practices, mapping of regional legal frameworks, regional input, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation between NHRIs on BHR issues)</p> <p>Pilot the NHRI Training modules and tools</p> <p>Support ICC regions in planning of regional workshops on BHR</p> <p>Support training delivery</p> <p>Evaluate training delivery and tools</p>	<p>Core Modules of a Training Programme for NHRIs on BHR</p> <p>Guidebook for NHRIs on BHR</p> <p>Piloting of training</p> <p>Content development for regional frameworks</p> <p>Evaluation of training delivery and tools</p>	2011-2013	DIHR in collaboration with WG Chair, WG members, regional networks, and OHCHR	Costs are TBD in collaboration with regions and OHCHR	<p>A Training Programme and Guide Book are developed and piloted</p> <p>Regional inputs and best practices are incorporated to products</p> <p>Funding is identified for regional workshops</p> <p>NHRI capacity and staff skills are developed in relation to BHR</p> <p>Training evaluation is designed and implemented</p> <p># sessions delivered</p> <p># participants reached</p> <p>Impact of training</p> <p>User satisfaction</p> <p>A platform for joint NHRI and/or regional collaboration on BHR issues is provided</p> <p>An active link to OHCHR's efforts on country engagement on BHR is established and implemented.</p>



ANNEX D



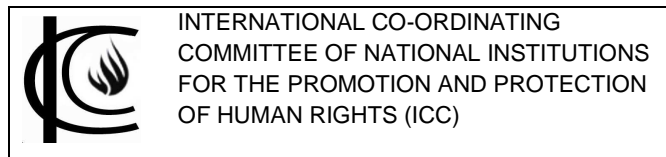
Network of African National Human Rights Institutions

Recommendations on the Plan of Action on Business and Human Rights

1. The Network of African National Human Rights Institutions held its first Regional Workshop on Business and Human Rights in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 29 September to 1 October 2011, in line with the ICC's Edinburgh Declaration of October 2010.
2. The Workshop was hosted by the Cameroon National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms, in cooperation with the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions, its Working Group on Business and Human Rights, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
3. *Welcoming* UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4, the recognition it accords to the role of National Human Rights Institutions on business and human rights, and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the UN three-pillar framework of the state duty to protect human rights, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and the right to access to an effective remedy for human rights abuses
4. Following expert presentations and discussion amongst participating institutions, and observers from civil society, business and government, representatives of participating NHRIs agreed upon the following NANHRI Action Plan:

A. Priority themes

Within the broader field of business and human rights, thematic areas to be considered as being of high priority for supporting actions by NHRIs, individually and in their collective actions via the NANHRI, within the next three year period would be:



- Labour rights and working conditions
- Land-related human rights
- Environment-related human rights.

B. Priority actions for national human rights institutions

NANHRI members identified three priority areas for actions to be undertaken by individual NHRIs within the African Region, as critical to making progress towards fulfillment of their mandates to address business-related human rights issues:

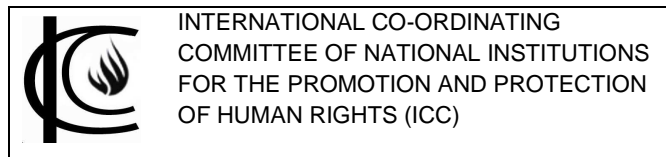
- Capacity-building of individual NHRIs concerning business and human rights, starting with the establishment of a business and human rights focal point within each institution, in line with the Edinburgh Declaration
- Human rights education, outreach and sensitization with relevant stakeholders regarding the UN framework and Guiding Principles on Business and Human rights, and the Paris Principles mandate of NHRIs to address business and human rights issues
- Integrating human rights and business issues into strategic planning and programmes of each NHRI, with a view to ensuring adequate legal frameworks and funding for full and effective implementation of respect for human rights in all business activities.

NANHRI members undertook to initiate one concrete action in each of the three areas within the next twelve month period and to report back on these to NANHRI.

C. Actions to be taken by the African Network collectively to support its members towards implementation of the UN “protect, respect, remedy” framework in their respective contexts

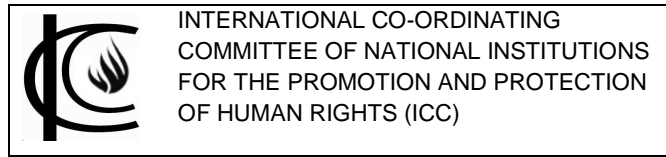
NANHRI members further resolved that the following actions should be taken at regional level:

1. Give support to members of the Network to strengthen their legal mandates, where necessary, to be able to act effectively on business and human rights, including assisting with review of the status of Network members to ensure compliance with the Paris Principles.
2. Cooperate with the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights to support capacity building of individual NHRIs, including by producing an African Regional Supplement to the ICC Training Course on business and human rights



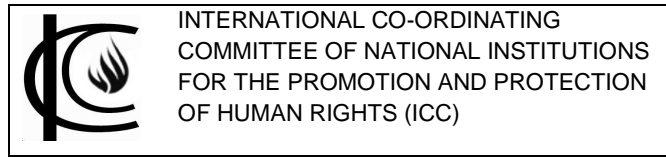
3. In liaison with sub regional groups, conduct a survey and mapping on business and human rights, to lead to publication of a NANHRI report on business and human rights in Africa, to be launched at a high profile public event by end of 2012
4. Take steps to source technical and financial assistance from UN Agencies, African Union and other relevant actors to support NHRIs in developing their capacity and work relating to business and human rights
5. Establish a business and human rights section on the NANHRI website to allow for experience-sharing and peer learning, and produce guidance notes for NHRIs drawing on experiences of working on business and human rights from NHRIs within the region
6. Cooperate with the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights towards the development of indicators for performance of the state duty to protect against corporate human rights abuses with reference to national, regional and international human rights instruments
7. Assess opportunities for NANHRI to engage strategically with relevant actors at regional level, such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, UN Global Compact, African Development Bank, World Bank, African Union and NEPAD
8. Undertake outreach to the UN Working Group on Business and Human rights, including sharing with them this Action Plan
9. NANHRI and the national human rights institutions commit to use all regional human rights mechanisms such as the African Court and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child to effectively carry out their mandates as well as to strengthen capacity at the national level.
10. Organize events to raise awareness and understanding of the role of NHRIs within the African Region on business and human rights, their expertise, needs and priorities, such as:
 - a. Side event to UN Annual Multistakeholder Forum required under UN Human Rights Council Resolution 17/4
 - b. Side event to sessions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.
11. NANHRI will require African Regional Members on the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights to liaise with NANHRI member institutions' business and human rights Focal Points, and to report to the NANHRI Steering Committee on Business and Human Rights issues annually

The NANHRI tasked the African Regional members of the ICC Working Group, in consultation with the focal points of NANHRI member institutions and the NANHRI Secretariat, to draft a



basic logical framework analysis relating to the themes, individual and regional actions described above and to present this to the NANHRI Steering Committee and thereafter to report annually to NANHRI on progress towards its achievement.

Adopted in Yaounde, this 1st day of October 2011



ANNEX E

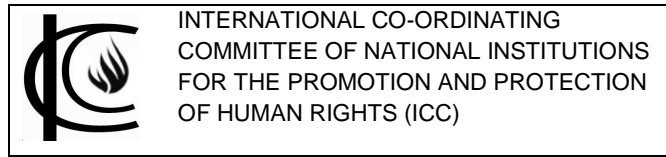
Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Regional Conference on Business and Human Rights

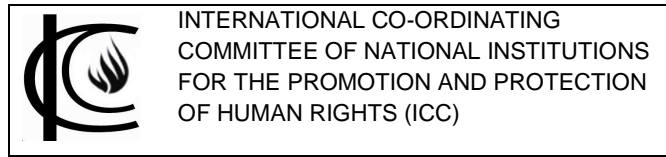
Outcome Statement

1. The Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions held its Regional Conference on Business and Human Rights in Seoul, Korea on 11 – 13 October 2011.
2. The Conference was hosted by the National Human Rights Commission of Korea and the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Business and Human Rights Working Group of the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions, and was attended by national human rights institutions from the Asia Pacific, Africa, Americas and Europe.²³
3. The Conference followed the recent adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and was convened as part of the Asia Pacific's regional response to the Edinburgh Conference and Declaration, which called upon National Human Rights Institutions to hold regional workshops to consider how they can utilise their mandates to address corporate related human rights violations.
4. Conference participants received welcoming addresses from the United Nations Secretary General and the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, each of whom recognised the unique role of National Human Rights Institutions, and called upon them to play an active role in promoting respect for human rights by business.
5. Keynote presentations by representatives from government, business, civil society and national human rights institutions highlighted the importance of the United Nations Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework and Guiding Principle on Business and Human Rights, the benefits associated with corporate compliance with human rights, chronicled human rights violations by business, and reflected on the fundamental role that national human rights institutions can play in promoting and protecting human rights through their monitoring, education, advocacy and complaint handling functions.

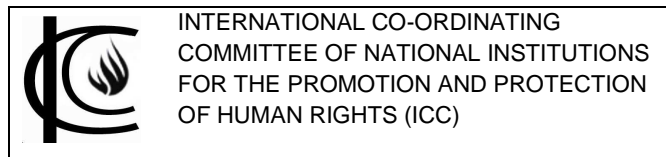
²³National human rights institutions from Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Togo, Philippines, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Qatar, Russian Federation, Scotland, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste were in attendance. In addition, representatives from the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions, the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights also attended.



6. Subsequent presentations by transnational and Korean corporations provided examples of an enlightened approach by business, promoting human rights observance not only in parent corporations, but also in their subsidiaries, and supply chains.
7. Presentations by national human rights institutions also highlighted both the opportunities and the very positive actions already undertaken by them in promoting respect for human rights by business.
8. Participants benefited from information provided by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions' Working Group on Business and Human Rights, as well as reports on developments in other regions. In particular they welcomed the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions' draft Plan of Action on Business and Human Rights, and look forward to hearing the outcomes from the two remaining regional consultations that will take place in the Americas and in Europe in the near future.
9. Members of the Asia Pacific Forum were particularly grateful for the opportunity to trial aspects of the training material developed by the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights which, when completed, will provide national human rights institutions with a coherent framework to develop their programs to promote respect for human rights by business.
10. Participants acknowledged the benefit of the earlier initiative of the APFs Advisory Council of Jurists, whose report on Human Rights, Corporate Accountability and Government responsibility provides indicative examples of good practice that may be undertaken by national human rights institutions.
11. Participants also appreciated the opportunity to share their experiences in promoting and protecting human rights against violations by business, noting that the majority of institutions are already undertaking both direct and indirect action in this regard. Examples of good practice extend across the whole spectrum of institutional mandates and include:
 - a. Broad based educational activities promoting a greater understanding of the human rights regime and the implications for corporate behaviour, for example in the development of general and sector specific fact sheets to advise business of its obligations;
 - b. Advocacy and dialogue with government to ensure the enactment of appropriate statutory and administrative rules to govern the activities of the corporate sector;
 - c. Ensuring the implementation of existing statutory and administrative regimes, for example by monitoring the approval processes for infrastructure development projects to ensure that the requisite consultation and decision making practices provide an opportunity for the concerns of all stakeholders to be considered;
 - d. Complaint handling, including conciliation and mediation of complaints with regard to human rights violations and discrimination by business;

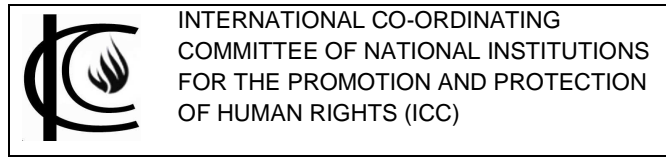


- e. Conducting national inquiries to consider widespread, systemic or egregious violations of human rights, for example in relation to the impact of land acquisition on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights of citizens and in particular indigenous peoples;
 - f. Intervening in judicial proceedings, as both a friend of the court or an intervenor, to ensure that judicial decision makers are made aware, and give consideration to all relevant human rights issues.
12. An innovative practice undertaken by several members involved the recognition of good practice by business, in one case through the creation of an annual award and in another, through a regular electronic publication.
 13. Following the presentations, working groups and discussion sessions, members of the Asia Pacific Forum re-endorsed the Edinburgh Declaration and the objectives outlined therein, and agreed to consider action at the domestic, regional and international level to promote corporate respect for human rights.
 14. **At the national level**, members agreed to:
 - a. Review, and as necessary revise NHRIs existing Strategic Plans to ensure that, in the context of their domestic priorities, they identify and promote effective action to address human rights violations by business;
 - b. Review, and as necessary advocate for the revision of their State's Human Rights National Action Plan to ensure that it identifies and promotes effective action to address human rights violations by business;
 - c. Review their existing institutional capacity and identify the training needs required to assist them in effectively addressing their strategic objectives in relation to business and human rights;
 - d. Where they have not already done so, create a focal point for Business and Human Rights within their institutions;
 - e. Develop relationships with key stakeholder groups, including government, business, civil society, National Contact Points under the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and others in order to develop and facilitate an ongoing dialogue on business and human rights;
 - f. Encourage their government to become parties to relevant international human rights instrument to which they have not yet agreed to be bound.
 - g. Encourage their governments to fully implement relevant international human rights instrument to which they have already agreed to be bound,



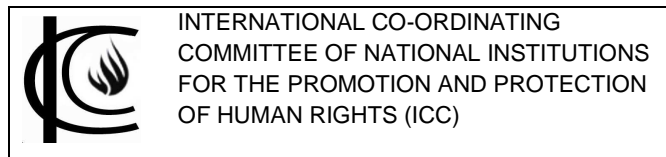
- h. Promote awareness and domestic implementation of relevant international and regional guidelines, codes and other instruments, particularly those developed in cooperation with governments;²⁴
 - i. Consider integrating business and human rights in periodic reporting processes;
 - j. Consider opportunities for bilateral and multilateral cooperation between NHRIs on relevant business and human rights issues;
15. **At the regional level**, members agreed to:
- a. request that Asia Pacific Forum representatives on the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights proactively engage with all regional member institutions both prior to and following meetings in order to facilitate the full engagement of all members with the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights;
 - b. Actively cooperate with the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights through their regional representatives, particularly in the context of the development of region specific training materials;
 - c. Proactively engage with relevant regional and/or sub-regional mechanisms as appropriate to their strategic priorities, and in particular with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission for Human Rights, which will shortly undertake a baseline study into corporate social responsibility and human rights;
 - d. Engage with international agencies, especially the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant UN bodies, to seek support for the Business and Human Rights activities of NHRI's in the region;
 - e. Request the APF secretariat to:
 - i. collect and collate the resources of regional national human rights institutions to create a shared resource available to all.
 - ii. develop a business and human rights page on the APFs website to facilitate the exchange of regional experiences and information and to provide a link to the ICC BHR and other relevant websites;
 - iii. Engage with the ICC Working Group, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and others to facilitate the provision of the ICC Working Group's training program for members within the region when this becomes available.

²⁴For example the ILO Tripartite Declaration and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises



16. **At the international level**, members agreed to:

- a. actively support ICC activities, particularly through those initiatives identified or undertaken by the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights; and
- b. engage with the newly established UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights.



ANNEX F



Red de Instituciones Nacionales
para la Promoción y Protección
de los Derechos Humanos del
Continente Americano

Regional Seminar of the Americas on Business and Human Rights

Declaration and Action Plan

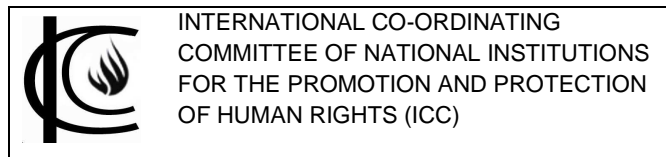
The Network of National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas held its Regional Seminar on Business and Human Rights in the city of Antigua, Guatemala, on November 9 and 10, 2011, following up on the commitment made in the Edinburgh Declaration.

The seminar was organized by the Attorney General's Office for Human Rights of Guatemala, the Secretariat of the Network and the NHRIs of Canada and Venezuela as representatives of the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights, in collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

This activity was attended by the National Human Rights Institutions making up the Network of the Americas, together with the institutions of Puerto Rico, Antigua and Barbuda, and the OHCHR.

The seminar allowed discussion of the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework and guiding principles; corporate responsibility and environmental rights; corporate responsibility and economic, social and cultural rights; and the development of a Business and Human Rights action plan for the NHRIs in the Americas.

This activity combined presentations on theoretical elements and the analysis of specific experiences of NHRIs in the region. It also shed light on the progress with the business and human rights training project carried out by the ICC Working Group with the collaboration of the Danish Human Rights Institute. It likewise included work panels to craft the Business and Human Rights action plan for the NHRIs of the Americas.



Shared regional vision

The participants welcomed the unanimous approval by the Human Right Council of the Guiding Principles of the Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework proposed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Business and Human Rights. They also praised the adoption of Resolution 17/4 of the United Nations Human Rights Council, which recognized the role of NHRIs in the field of business and human rights and established the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights.

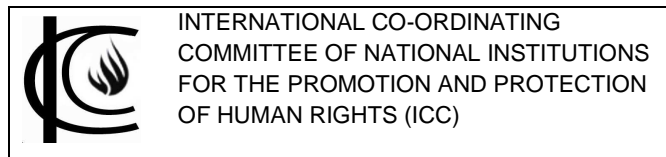
The participating NHRIs agreed that the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework and its guiding principles should be the starting point for developing a strategy to prevent human rights violations by businesses and to establish the legal obligation of the latter to respect those rights. They should also facilitate strengthening of the role of the State in the supervision of business activities and the protection of human rights.

The participants identified several factors that lead to human rights violations by businesses. In that regard, some NHRIs claimed that phenomena such as globalization and mass privatization of services have reduced the State's capacity to meet its obligation to protect human rights and eroded the rights of their inhabitants. Other NHRIs stated that businesses could positively contribute to national development and generate opportunities to improve the enjoyment of human rights.

The NHRIs also identified various obstacles that prevent or make it difficult to prevent, investigate and punish human rights violations committed by companies. Along those lines, some NHRIs argued that the lack of an explicit mandate to monitor the performance of private companies sometimes makes it difficult to take action to prevent human rights violations and to seek remedy for them. However, they recognized that in many cases, based on the jurisprudence of their national courts and a broad interpretation of the provisions governing the functioning of NHRIs, institutional action in this areas is valid.

They also admitted that in some cases, the absence of adequate national and international standards to regulate the work of private companies with respect to human rights or poor enforcement of the existing regulatory framework allows human rights violations to persist in the business sector.

The participants likewise concurred that strengthening the technical and financial capacities of NHRIs will help address the issue of business and human rights more efficiently.

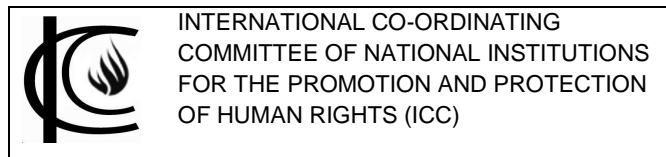


They also recognized that the lack of transparency and accountability on the part of the government and businesses can be a barrier to preventing human rights violations arising from the business sector.

Strategic Objectives

Within this framework, the participating institutions agreed on the need for action guided by the following strategic objectives:

- Strengthening government management supervision measures to ensure that it fulfills its responsibility to protect people with respect to activities in the business sector.
- Advocating the strengthening of performance frameworks for NHRIs that is required to address the issue of business and human rights.
- Promoting strengthening of domestic legal frameworks applicable to the relationship between business and human rights, while promoting regional or universal mechanisms to expand the protection of the people against human rights violations committed by the corporate sector.
- Developing programs and mechanisms for education and training in the field of business and human rights that include the exchange of experiences between NHRIs in our region and the ICC, as well as the collaboration of the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights and the OHCHR.
- Identifying focal points on business and human rights in each of the NHRIs to facilitate information exchange and joint activities in this area.
- Considering the subject of business and human rights in its reports, as well as their relationship to regional mechanisms and treaty bodies, e.g., the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the UN Special Procedures, and the Universal Periodic Review, taking into consideration to that end the collaboration of the OHCHR.
- Actively participating in monitoring the implementation of the framework and guiding principles, especially in the activities of the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights, for example by submitting input and drafting declarations during its annual forum.
- Permanently incorporating the issue of business and human rights into the agenda of the Network of National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas and its regional sub-groups, and advocating its inclusion in the framework of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman.

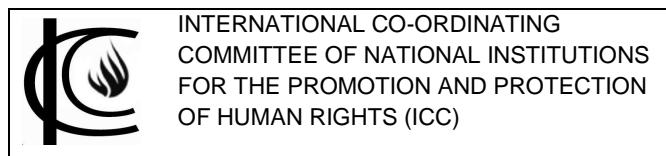


- Sharing the progress of the region and its institutions in the area of business and human rights with the ICC, its Working Group and the OHCHR, for example through regular reporting at its annual meetings.

In that sense, the participating NHRIs committed to making efforts to develop these strategic objectives at the national level, consider including them in their institutional plans and ensure proper follow-up. They also stated that this seminar marks the beginning of a new stage in the evolution of human rights protection.

The participants thanked the Attorney General's Office for Human Rights of Guatemala for its hospitality and recognized its efforts together with the NHRIs of Canada and Venezuela as representatives of the ICC Working Group, the Network Secretariat and the OHCHR in providing a forum for discussion on this important issue and progress in the eradication of human rights violations by the business sector.

Approved in the city of Antigua, Guatemala, as part of the Assembly of the Network of National Human Rights Institutions in the Americas, held on November 11, 2011.



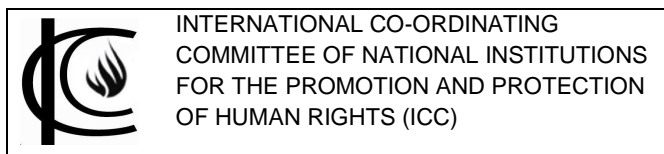
ANNEX G

Consolidation of NHRI Inputs

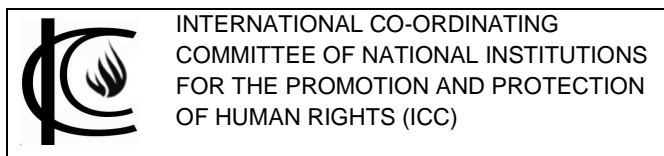
Enclosed is the consolidation of individual NHRI inputs received, in their original languages. As you will note, some of the responses address national or regional NHRI implementation in support of the UNWG Mandate, while others address the UNWG mandate itself directly. While these submissions reflect the positions of individual NHRIs who have responded, they do not necessarily reflect the positions of the ICC itself.

a. To promote the effective and comprehensive dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles

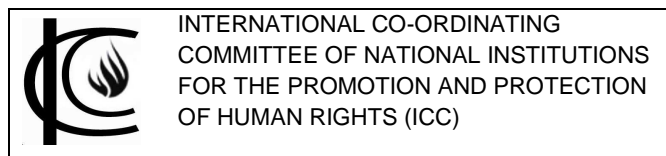
Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	<p>The CHRC has a unique assessment and capacity building tool that it is using as a vehicle to promote the UN Framework and Guiding Principles: Human Rights Maturity Model (HRMM).</p> <p>The HRMM helps organizations create and sustain a workplace culture based on equality, dignity and respect. It is a step-by-step process that improves an organization's capacity to prevent and address human rights-related issues. Five key areas are used to build an organization's competency in human rights management and to create the foundation for a respectful workplace that supports an organization's human rights responsibilities. The Maturity Model organizes the five elements into manageable steps. The "steps"</p>		<p>It may be useful to involve a national level multi-stakeholder network or contact point that is inclusive of the State given their responsibility to "protect" under Pillar I of the UN Framework.</p> <p>Seek to understand the local and national context and actors (federated states, for instance with multiple jurisdictions).</p> <p>Tying into regional networks will also be key to longer-term success and viability of change.</p>	



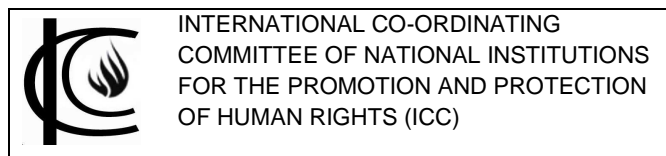
	<p>are five levels of maturity, each with indicators and outcomes. The indicators help an organization identify its current level of maturity for each element. In turn, this allows the organization to identify and prioritize its needs. The outcomes at each level help an organization determine when it has reached that level and monitor progress. This approach also allows organizations to easily tailor the Maturity Model to their distinct needs. The objective of the Maturity Model is for organizations to continually improve their competency within each of the five elements. Organizations that reach level five have learned how to achieve, and have implemented, an inclusive and sustainable workplace culture. The Commission piloted the Model in 2011, and expects to launch it publicly in 2012. More information on the Model is available at http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/hrmm_mmdp/default-eng.aspx.</p>			
Ecuador	It is important that these activities be incorporated into the mandates and ongoing activities of NHRIs of the American Continent.	<p>Lack of budget</p> <p>Lack of knowledge about the Guiding Principles</p>	<p>Make use of the experiences from the Antigua workshop</p> <p>The Regional Secretariats are able to coordinate actions and follow ups with the UNWG</p>	It will be necessary to secure budgets or external assistance for NHRIs to perform this task
Kenya	Dissemination is the natural starting point since the GPs are	Business objectives to	NHRIs and Global Compact Chapters	NHRIs, Professional



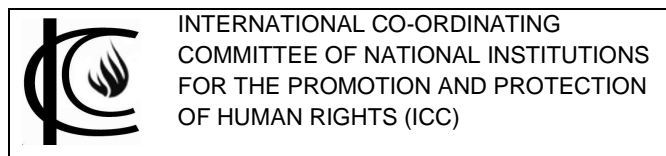
	a recent development and the level of awareness is low.	<p>maximize profits and shareholder value may view the GPs as adding to their costs.</p> <p>Challenge- to convince business of the long term benefits of compliance</p>	<p>would be useful avenues for dissemination especially to government and business</p> <p>KNCHR has prepared an advisory on the GPs and disseminated to key government ministries</p>	<p>Associations, Business Associations, National Global Compact Networks, employer associations</p>
Malaysia	This would be the first step forward in getting the buy in from stakeholders	<p>1. There could be reservations from Governments and companies.</p> <p>2. Is there a mechanism to measure this task of the working group.</p>	<p>1. There should be written commitments to accept and develop individual policies in line with the framework from various stakeholders individually this would include government agencies.</p> <p>2. We don't need "politically" correct statements, rather a firm clear, written commitments. This then would indicate the effectiveness in the dissemination of the Guiding principles</p> <p>3. The need for a tracking system to ensure the dissemination of the information on its</p>	<p>NHRI, Business councils</p>



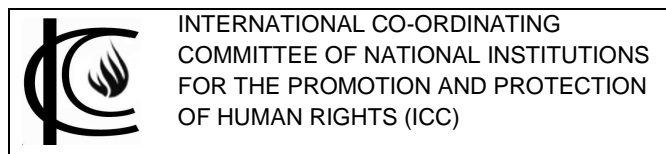
			effectiveness 4. Develop a data base	
Nepal	It is not easy to implement in developing countries.	Limited resource of developing world is major challenges.	Progressive realization can bring the changes.	
Nicaragua	Policies of deregulation and privatization have allowed market forces to replace democracy and the State	<p>Governance gaps are a common cause for HR abuses by business</p> <p>Non-binding nature of the Framework and Guiding Principles</p> <p>Lack of a universal regulatory framework that applies to all business activity, which allows States to develop and apply their own normative framework.</p> <p>Imbalance between the State and the market as result of the protections demanded by capital.</p>	<p>Reaffirm the prerogatives of the State by subjecting the market to serving the common good.</p> <p>Promote mechanisms for the participation of groups within civil society who claim that human rights abuses have been committed by business, and for matters to be brought before the International Court of Justice.</p> <p>Develop a universal, legally binding framework that is applicable in the same way to all companies without exception.</p> <p>Incorporate “the process of due diligence” as part of a universal, legally binding human rights</p>	-



		Accepting the theory that companies do not voluntarily abuse human rights but are obliged to do it.	framework for businesses. Define "the process of due diligence" in the specific context of the universal, legally binding human rights framework for businesses.	
Qatar	We welcome the work and contribution of the guiding principles on human rights and Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises and endorses the guiding principles on business and human rights implementing the United Nations "protect, respect and remedy" framework. The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) has to identify the abuse related to human rights and businesses which is in human trafficking as a result to trading in visa, financial harm, Job switching, withholding of pay ,restrictions on freedom of movement related to sponsorship system, exit permit and deportation.	Worker's right in Qatar constitute one of the most important challenges that face the society in general and the National Human Rights Committee in particular. Despite law no 15 of 2011 for combating trafficking in persons and the existence of the Department of labor, however the rights of workers sometimes subject to some restrictions due to the sponsorship system	NHRC has written a booklet on labor's Rights, operates a hotline and conducts training for some 2,000 community leaders. According to the National Human Rights Committee, it began conducting oversees meetings with union leaders and others in countries like India, Sri Lanka, Philippines , Nepal in an effort to devise ways to prepare visiting workers for the Legal and social conditions, they can expect in Qatar. There is a new Recommendation that NHRC will start training courses and seminars to spread the guiding principles to all business sectors in Qatar and the Governmental	The National Human Rights Committee's 6 th annual report on Human Rights (2010).

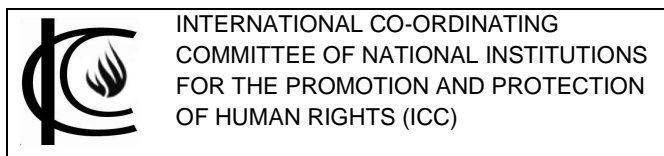


			Departments.	
Togo	Nothing to report; no objection.	Material and financial means.	Creation of regional sub committees. Engagement of NHRIs	-
New Zealand			The NZHRC believes it would be useful for the UNWG to audit the promotion of the Guiding Principles by States Parties. While the NZHRC has promoted the Guiding Principles within its own policy submission work, it has not yet seen any visible promotion of the principles by the government to business or other state agencies. There has been one academic discussion of the GPs but to a limited university/policy audience. Given the tripartite arrangements around the ILOs Decent Work agenda and the OECD Multinational Guidelines in New Zealand there could be a joined-up comprehensive approach from the Guiding Principles but this requires State party leadership and communication.	

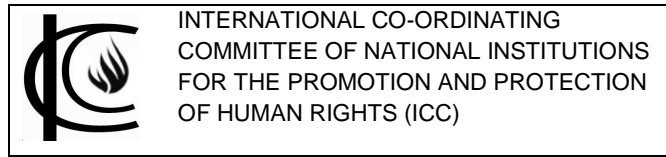


b. To identify, exchange and promote good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Guiding Principles and to assess and make recommendations thereon and, in that context, to seek and receive information from all relevant sources, including Governments, transnational corporations and other business enterprises, national human rights institutions, civil society and rights-holders

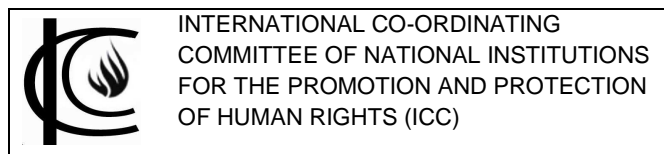
Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	Update the research and guidance on HRIA methodology that the Special Representative initiated in his report on "Key Methodological Questions" of 5 February 2007 (http://www.reports-and-materials.org/Ruggie-report-human-rights-impact-assessments-5-Feb-2007.pdf)		It may be useful to ask States to establish formal mechanisms or national focal points/ networks to engage with transnational corporations and members of civil society at the national level.	
Ecuador	This task is necessary in order for this work to be done, and to support NHRIs with less experience	Possible lack of availability by NHRIs to get involved in lengthy processes on regional matters	Take advantage of virtual resources such as the Network of the Americas's website page to disseminate and share experiences	
Kenya	It may not be possible to find many companies with good practices especially in regions where overall enforcement of law and regulations is weak. However, examples maybe found of good practice in some aspects in a particular business or sector, even if they are only intentions. They should be used as the building	In the south a significant number of business enterprises in the informal sector and micro enterprises which call for a different, yet to be clarified strategy of implementing certain elements of the GPs progressively.	Identify and support together with local actors- selected business sectors or actors to implement various elements of the GPs and report on the same. Piggy back on existing or emerging opportunities to popularize GPs. Find creative ways to recognize and award	Leading business, communities affected by business activities



	blocks.		<p>good practice.</p> <p>KNCHR is for example working together with civil society initiative with partners such as React Africa and supported by HIVOs led Campaign on Women at Work, which is working at developing operational level grievance mechanisms in Flower and Horticulture Sectors in East Africa. Kenya is a leading exporter of flowers.</p> <p>It has also worked with Magadi Soda Company who have been recognized for their corporate social responsibility, to provide lessons to other salt manufacturers.</p>	
Malaysia	<p>1.This would be unique to each country's situation.</p> <p>2.Would involve the meeting of various stakeholders, including workers, migrant workers and specific groups eg women, disabled persons</p> <p>3.it would be good if the community is also included in this exercise, especially</p>	Time and commitment of the committee would be a factor	<p>1.To have a one year plan to do this</p> <p>2.To go on line and use the Internet facilities as well</p>	NGO's CSOs



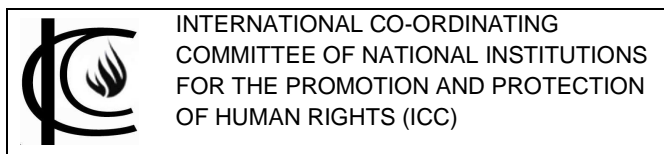
	foreign investors n companies currently working in another country			
Nepal	Urgently conceptual clarity on the Business and human rights is needed to developing countries.	Proper expertise on subject matter	Best practices can be shared within the NHRIs and civil society. Advocacy with the Government Agencies and multinational companies.	
Nicaragua	The three pillar Framework effectively buries the hope for a legally binding instrument on companies.			
Qatar	The NHRC will exchange and promote good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Guiding Principles by spreading those principles to all related parties and then to receive feedback information from those parties on the implementation of the guiding principles.	There is a routine in governmental department and the superficial information might be given by the companies or the transnational corporations.	Qatar has also launched a human trafficking campaign to highlight the threat of forced labor and abuse to the country's legion of foreign worker's . The NHRC says that the campaign has good impact on the migrant workers and local Qataris.	Human Rights files.
Togo	Reformulate the activity as follows: identify, discuss and promote exemplary practices for implementing guidelines.	Business diversity and pluralism Reluctance of business representatives and transnational	Sample businesses and transnational corporations Gather data Organize coordination meetings and visits to	



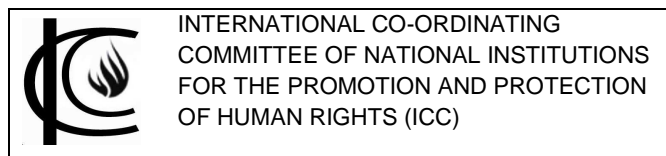
	What remains is what needs to be done to get there: solicit information, weigh it and make recommendations.	corporations Lack of experience in this area among NHRIs Financial and technical means	all parties involved	
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c. To provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and the use of the Guiding Principles, as well as, upon request, to provide advice and recommendations regarding the development of domestic legislation and policies relating to business and human rights

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	It may be useful to ask States to establish formal mechanisms to interact with transnational corporations, members of civil society and others at the national level.		NHRIs are uniquely positioned to serve as intermediary and source of expertise to states and to businesses on business and human rights (BHR). The CHRC already does so, for instance, through application of its Human Rights Maturity Model (HRMM).	
Ecuador	Create a permanent support team that provides assistance to NHRIs that will take on these responsibilities	Willingness of NHRIs to take on these commitments.	Have ongoing incentives and demonstrations of results to motivate other institutions to act. This could be one aspect of the ongoing work of the Network of NHRIs of the American Continent, together with the WG.	
Kenya		Dearth of expertise	Have a dedicated site on this and link to others who are resourceful in their own respect.	Organizations active in the area of business and human rights e.g. The Danish



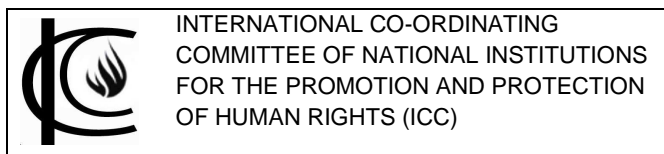
			The capacity of NHRIs and National Global Compact Network need to be strengthened so that they act as drivers of capacity building	Institute for Human Rights, Institute on Human Rights and Business, Bases Wiki, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre
Malaysia	<p>1. There be a visible ready support team</p> <p>2. Effective response and assistance by the team would be of essence</p>	Getting the right n correct members of the team	<p>1. There could be a time frame to have this available</p> <p>To have a feedback form</p>	NGOs, CSOs
Maldives	<p>The HRCM planned to conduct an sensitization program on BHR to key stakeholders including business enterprises.</p> <p>However, due to funding constraints and lack of capacity, the commission was unable to conduct it in this year. Also please note that HRCM is planning to build the capacity of staff to work for this area in the future.</p>		As there is no legal framework and a human rights focused mechanism for CSR to provide guidance for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse human rights impacts linked to business activities it is vital to have such mechanism for this area. Hence, we believe that we could make good use of the technical and capacity building support through the UNWG.	
Nepal	This will be the best idea to promote the rights and guiding principles.			
Nicaragua	The three pillar Framework effectively buries the hope for a legally			



	binding instrument on companies.			
Qatar	Signing the International Covenant on Prevention of Human Trafficking in Qatar and signing or issuing the law no-15 of 2011 for combating human trafficking is an access to start capacity- building to all relevant parties.	There is a lack of professionals and experts who are working in the human rights field like professional trainers who are also involved in the capacity- building program and we are trying to cope up with it.	Many courses, seminars and media campaigns will be held and focused on the human rights and businesses for certain categories such as role of women and persons with disabilities and labors.	Human Rights Strategy 2012-2014.
Togo	Reformulate as: Support promotion and capacity building efforts and use of guidelines Tasks: provide advice and recommendations on refining national legislation and policy on businesses and human rights	Financial means	Find the required funding Planning of training programs by region	-

d. To conduct country visits and to respond promptly to invitations from States

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada		There may be a need to establish mechanisms by which States can request visits or respond to proposals for	It may be useful to consult United Nations mandate holders on how to establish such mechanisms, since they have considerable	

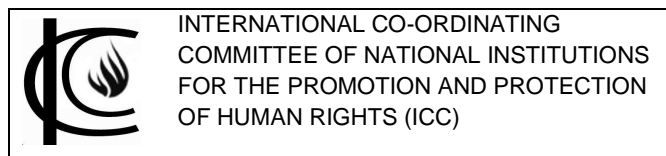


		visits.	experience in that area.	
Ecuador	It is a valid proposal, provided that the dialogue takes into account continental reality and solutions are known to be effective in countries visited.	Sufficient resources will have to be available to the WG to finance the visits.	It could lead to the creation of a forum to address the subject of business responsibility for human rights from the perspective of NHRIs and the WG.	
Kenya	Encourage NHRIs together with willing business actors to do joint invitations based on clear plans.	No Comment	The visits could be organized by regions to optimize reach and time given the short mandate of the Working Group. In the East African sub-region. KNCHR in partnership with OHCHR, Institute for Human Rights and Business and Uganda Human Rights Commission will have undertaken a training of 8 (eight) NHRIs (January 2012) on the GPs and how they could operationalize them. The platform of NHRIs could be used to reach the their countries with one convening	No comment
Malaysia	There could be a schedule	Time is of essence	During visits To ensure the meeting of all stakeholders	Govt,NGOs,CSO,s
Nicaragua	This is not necessary.			



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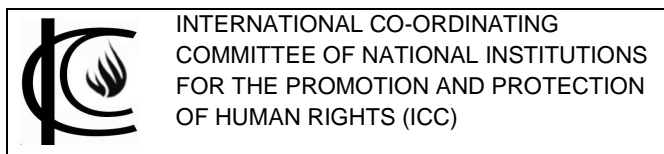
<p>Qatar</p>	<p>The NHRC build relations with human rights or trade union organizations in the countries of origin of migrant workers. Last year together, with the representatives of the respective community groups in Qatar, our representatives visited India, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Nepal. There we met with the representatives of the trade unions of human rights and migrant workers organizations of governmental institutions related to labor. The discussions were very frank and heated. We learned a lot from the participation of former migrant workers in Qatar, who spoke about their problems. We have plans of meeting of representatives of Nepal, Sri Lanka and Philippines this year in Qatar, so we can continue our discussion on the</p>		<p>We are interested to involve some of the Governmental parties who are willing to reconsider domestic legislation As the NHRC has the suitable budget and good funding, we can extend our visits not only to Asia but also to Europe to meet with the unions and to learn from the different sources and the practices to combat human trafficking to execute the guiding principles.</p>	<p>The NHRC Annual Report for Activities 2010</p>
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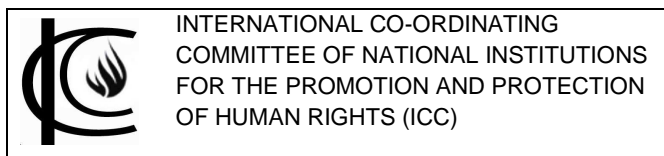
	ways and means to prevent many of the problems of the migrant workers.			
Togo	This activity relates to the recommendation made in point b: coordination meetings	Financial means	Delete this	-

e. To continue to explore options and make recommendations at the national, regional and international levels for enhancing access to effective remedies available to those whose human rights are affected by corporate activities, including those in conflict areas

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada		Many States do not have NHRIs. Those that do may have given them a mandate that does not encompass the entire spectrum of the UN Framework and Guiding Principles on BHR.	Work with States to ensure that they establish a NHRI with a mandate broad enough to encompass the entire spectrum of the UN Framework and Guiding Principles. Building from gap analyses of existing national remedies, seek to identify and address gaps in recourse.	
Ecuador	This should be an ongoing activity of the WG with the support of NHRIs and the Network of NHRIs of the American Continent.	Possible lack of willingness of NHRIs to adopt the resulting proposals.	Success stories will lead to good practices in advancing the subject of human rights.	



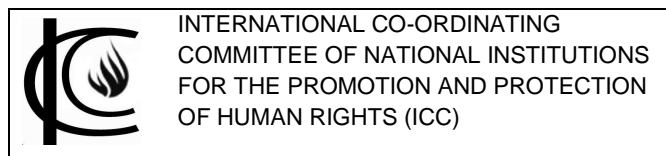
Kenya	The remedy pillar is what will give the GPs traction and support among victims and CSOs. It is also critical as it will provide sustainable institutional mechanisms for implementing the GPs	Difficulty of providing remedies in the absence of laws that do not incorporate GPs.	KNCHR suggests this priority should be accorded to finding ways to incorporate the GPs into existing national laws (e.g. Company Law), policies and standards as well as in processes such as the African Union's peer review mechanism. CSOs should be mobilized around remedy function to the GPs momentum.	
Malaysia	A thorough knowledge of existing situation of each country's situation n issues is needed	lack of knowledge n understanding n cooperation with various stakeholders	A continued working relationship with various stakeholders	NHRI
Nepal	agreed			
Nicaragua	The three pillar Framework effectively buries the hope for a legally binding instrument on companies.			
Qatar	The NHRC will follow up all progresses and recommendations on Regional and International level with the APF and the ICC.	The NHRC will recommend on the National level to work with the Qatari Government to issue the Ministerial Degree to explain the Law no -15 of 2011 and to apply some of the articles in the	To handle and to participate at workshops on human trafficking especially for policemen, judges, public prosecutor officer and all Workers and Human Rights Defenders in order to learn how to identify human trafficking situations and to investigate and deal with	Formal newspaper of Qatar Legislation NHRC's Strategic Plan 2012-2014.



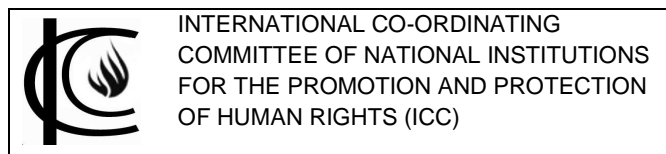
		law.	victims.	
Togo	<p>Same. Reformulation:</p> <p>Continue studying options for improving access to available effective solutions for those whose rights have been violated</p> <p>Tasks: formulate recommendations at the national, regional and international levels</p>	<p>High cost of studies</p> <p>Varied fields of businesses and corporations</p>	<p>Find necessary and sufficient funding</p> <p>Conduct a study by region and support local structures in continuing their work on the basis of the results</p>	-

f. **To integrate a gender perspective throughout the work of the mandate and to give special attention to persons living in vulnerable situations, in particular children**

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	We support this as a priority area of focus.			
Ecuador	Gender and generational perspectives are cross-cutting perspectives for all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights.	Possible persistence of non-gender perspectives within NHRIs.	Increase the participation and recognition of human rights in the private sector.	
Kenya	No comment		Involve agencies dealing with issues of Gender, disability and other areas of Vulnerability	Relevant International Conventions eg CRC



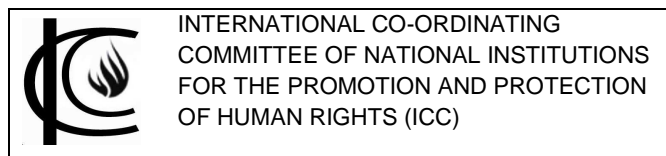
Malaysia	Especially women, aged, disabled community, migrant women, Indigenous people	Companies response to various communities	To ensure that the implementing and practice of CEDAW and CRC	Various conventions and international treaties
Nicaragua	The three pillar Framework effectively buries the hope for a legally binding instrument on companies.			
Qatar	The existence of the Qatari Institution for combating human trafficking which gives special care for women and children by providing medical services for the victims who are suffering from physical and mental problems and also providing them with accommodation and Care Home.	The NHRC have observed that this accommodation and Care Home is receiving only women and children and most of the labors cannot find shelter or places to live in case of being a victim of human trafficking.	As long as the new law no-15 for 2011 identifies labor's as subject for human trafficking: therefore there must be some opportunity to open new shelters for a big amount of workers in Qatar.	Human Rights files.
New Zealand			In relation to the integration of a gender perspective the UNWG may want to consider the role of UN Women, particularly as the agency is promoting internationally the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) in partnership with the UN Global Compact. The WEP is based around the business case for	



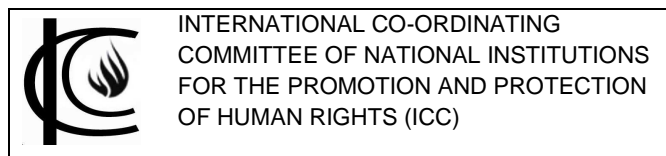
			women's participation, covers supply chain issues, and involves CEOs of major corporations signing up on a voluntary basis. It will be a lost opportunity re both gender integration and UN Agency co-operation if the Guiding principles are not referred to and specifically connected to this work. For example, New Zealand will launch the WEP at Government House on February 13th, 2012, to an audience of government officials and corporate business.	
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g. To work in close cooperation and coordination with other relevant special procedures of the Human Rights Council, relevant United Nations and other international bodies, the treaty bodies, and regional human rights organizations /

Country	General Observations / Observaciones generales	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	This mandate is important to avoid duplication of efforts.			
Ecuador	It is necessary insofar as human rights promotion and protection activities are recognized as being international.	Knowledge of international norms applicable to each country might be insufficient.	NHRIs might be more inclined to apply international norms to their activities as a result.	
Kenya	WG to ensure that special procedure require that reports include reporting on business and human	No comment	NHRIs should be strengthened to effectively play the important role envisaged by the	



	rights		GPs across the three pillars especially in relation to utilizing special procedures to get governments to focus on business and human rights.	
Malaysia	Good effective networking	Willingness of groups to work together	Set up a network at a regional level	Databank of such agencies
Nicaragua	The three pillar Framework effectively buries the hope for a legally binding instrument on companies.			
Qatar	The NHRI considers its partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum (APF) and the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) and it also respond to ILO and to any other N.G.O's query to participate at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).		On March 17, 2009, The Solidarity Center and the Qatar National Human Rights Committee signed a groundbreaking memorandum of understanding in Doha aimed at strengthening cooperation around human and worker rights issues and fighting human trafficking	National Human Rights Committee Files.
Togo	Nothing to state; no objection	Inconsistency of mandates and objectives assigned	Analyse each organ or agency before deciding on type of cooperation	-



- h. To develop a regular dialogue and discuss possible areas of cooperation with Governments and all relevant actors, including relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Global Compact, the International Labour Organization, the World Bank and its International Finance Corporation, the United Nations Development Programme and the International Organization for Migration, as well as transnational corporations and other business enterprises, national human rights institutions, representatives of indigenous peoples, civil society organizations and other regional and subregional international organizations**

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	Agreed. See how to best optimize work during the short duration of this mandate by building upon existing resources and networks.			
Ecuador	This coordinating function requires officials within the WG and NHRIs, with the appropriate specialized expertise, to implement this principle effectively.	It may be challenging for all NHRIs to support this activity as a common objective with the required resources.	Better positioning and leadership of NHRIs. These activities can also further consolidate NHRI actions in their countries and region.	
Kenya	No comment	No comment	Efforts should be made to involve professional organizations such as Law Societies, Institutes of Engineers, Architectural Associations, Accountants bodies to regulatory 'authorities' at the point of	Professional associations



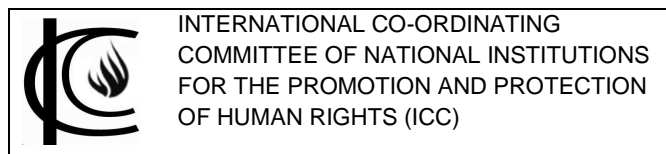
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			<p>implementation. Their members are largely business entities and are often privy to practices that violate rights including corruption.</p> <p>Professional associations are regulators and hold great potential in creating awareness, implementation and even in providing remedies.</p>	
Malaysia	To include the judiciary as well	most judges may not be aware of the guiding principles n treaties their countries are signatory to.	meeting up and providing training of the Judiciary	Justice ministry
Nicaragua			Open a new dialogue with these stakeholders that is not based on Ruggie's three pillars.	
Qatar	A continuous dialogue with all related parties is fundamental to keep up the work on the guiding principles.		The inauguration of the United Nations Regional Center for training and Documentation was a result of bilateral cooperation between the State of Qatar and the United Nations. The center and the National Human Rights Committee will together form a strong	Human Rights Files.



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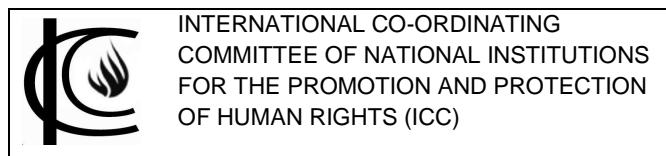
			<p>alliance for the advancement of the human rights in Qatar</p> <p>The Speakers on the 7TH forum for future of G8 and countries of the broader middle east and North Africa gave a call for closer cooperation and civil society organizations at different levels on human trafficking and it got underway at the Ritz Carlton Doha.</p>	
Togo	<p>Activity to be reformulated or divided into two parts:</p> <p>Reformulate or divide into two parts:</p> <p>a) Start an ongoing dialogue and discuss potential areas of cooperation with governments and all relevant actors, including NHRIs, CSOs, Aboriginal representatives, transnational corporations and businesses</p> <p>b) Launch ongoing dialogue with United Nations organs, specialized agencies, funds and programs, in</p>	<p>Lack of political will on the part of governments</p> <p>Distrust and indifference among economic operators</p> <p>Vast number of United Nations and other organs and systems</p> <p>Risk of turf wars</p> <p>Cross-disciplinary nature of the subject matter and possibility of duplication</p>	<p>Involve local NHRIs in organizing and conducting dialogue</p> <p>Develop some kind of forum for international actors to harmonize their viewpoints</p>	



	particular the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Global Compact, ILO, the World Bank, UNDP, etc.			
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i. To guide the work of the Forum on Business and Human Rights

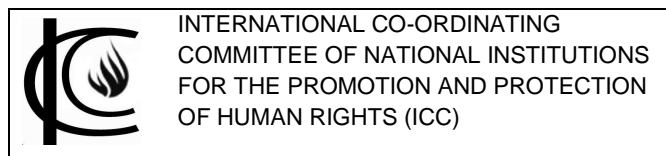
Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Canada	Setting a constructive tone and maintaining a multi-party dialogue will be critical to maintaining momentum and securing the success of implementation of the UN Framework & Guiding Principles.			
Ecuador	This should be an ongoing activity that demonstrates regional progress in this area.	To turn the activity into an ongoing one for NHRIs.	Encourage ongoing sharing of success stories and experiences relating to the protection and promotion of human rights linked with corporate and state responsibility and activity.	
Kenya		No comment	KNCHR suggests that priority be given to the Financial sector- given its pervasive influence on other	



			sectors and its tendency to cause crises	
Malaysia	Need a tracking system	time is of essence	develop a tracking system	NHRI
Nicaragua			Allow the forum to initiate its own dialogue, which would not be based on Ruggie's three pillars.	
Qatar	The National Human Rights Committee of Qatar will observe and follow up the program on the forum mentioned.			
Togo	Nothing to report; no objective	Time factor	Draw up a schedule	-

j. To report annually to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly

Country	General Observations	Obstacles and Challenges	Opportunities and Recommendations	Resources
Ecuador	This should be a permanent objective of the WG	To obtain data on progress made, and to generate new and better standards of protection.	Get NHRIs with best practices to appear during the presentation of reports.	
Kenya	Important for accountability purposes	No comment	Working Group should also report to key stakeholders	



Malaysia	Ensure effectiveness	nil	each region to have regional report To meet all stakeholders to discuss as to the content of the report	stakeholders
Qatar	The NHRC of Qatar welcomes any queries regarding the implementation of the guiding principles.			
Togo	Nothing to report; no objection	Respect timetables	Copy NHRIs and other partners involved	-