



## **The process towards a treaty on business and human rights: a roundtable multistakeholder discussion**

Tuesday 25 October, 2016  
13:00 to 15:00 hrs  
Room XXVII- Palais des Nations

The second session of the *Open Ended Intergovernmental Working Group to elaborate a legally binding instrument on Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises in relation to human rights*, offers the opportunity [to significantly advance the process of establishing an effective treaty that assist in preventing and addressing business related human rights abuses. Advancing the process will require stakeholders to reach a common platform of understanding on some core concepts and foundational elements before textual details can be elaborated and negotiated.

The objective of the roundtable is to assist in this process by creating a space for various stakeholders to address issues of importance for the treaty process from diverse points of view with the goal of enhancing mutual understanding among stakeholders of concepts and element that can serve as the basis for possible agreement for the future. This panel has a multistakeholder nature with a view to create a space of dialogue and understanding among the most important actors of the process.

### Moderator:

Mr Ian Seiderman, Legal and Policy Director, International Commission of Jurists

### Speakers:

Mr Ariel Meyerstein- United States Council of International Business,  
representing the International Organization of Employers

Mrs Makbule Sahan, Legal Advisor, International Trade Union Confederation

Prof Douglas Cassel, School of Law, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, United States

Prof Surya Deva, member of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

Mr Humberto Cantú Rivera, Researcher at University of Panthéon-Assas, Paris II

Mrs Debbie Stothard, Secretary-General, International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH)

*Light refreshments will be served at 13:00 hrs*