**Intervention on Article 2.1 of the Zero Draft Treaty**

I am Nonoi Hacbang Javines, speaking for the Institute of Policy Studies/Transnational Institute (TNI) and the Transnational Migrant Platform-Europe (TMP-E) which is part of the Global Campaign to Reclaim of Peoples Sovereignty, Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity. We express congratulations for the work done so far by the OEIGWG. In relation to the Zero Draft, I wish to address Subject 1, Art 2 & 8. It will be of the utmost importance that this Treaty will be developed as an international legally binding instrument for TNCs and their supply chains with regard to Human Rights.

We, organisations of Migrant and Refugee Peoples are among the affected communities and workers that are impacted by the operations of TNCs in every global region, including in Europe.

We are impacted by TNCs violations of Human Rights:

* in our forced displacement by corporate extractivist practices; by wars driving the profits of armament corporations; and by climate change resulting from the fossil fuel industries in particular;
* in our death filled journeys seeking a means of livelihood and human survival;
* and in our crossing of borders which have basically become sites without rights where criminalisation, detention and deportation are arenas for further profiteering by TNCs.

For us, this historic moment provides an unprecedented opportunity for governments to address the challenge of advancing the effective development of international human rights law. It is a time to address the gaps that exist in international law and to strengthen the protection of all human rights – economic, political, social, cultural, labour, migrant and refugee rights as well as the collective rights of indigenous peoples and communities – which are impacted daily by the operations of TNCs.

This body of the UN provides a space where sovereign governments can exercise their responsibility to protect and advance human rights protection of all peoples in respect to operations of TNCs and develop an instrument that will deliver access to justice and end corporate impunity.

Therefore, we organisations of migrant and refugee peoples want to underline the importance to address the gap in the current draft Zero in relation to the obligations of TNCs with respect to human rights that are already established by UN Conventions. It is vital that this Treaty will address the obligations and international responsibility of TNCs to respect Human Rights of communities and workers. We look to this Treaty to ensure that the obligations of States and TNCs established under international human rights law are effectively enforced.

Despite the challenges that face this OEIGWG in its historic task, we Migrant and Refugee Peoples respectfully ask you to look WITH us NOT AT us and to hear the voices of all affected communities and workers. We expect nothing less than Binding Obligations on TNCs – which are demanded to ensure the well being of peoples and the planet and are urgently needed to achieve access to justice and an end to corporate impunity.