

Article 13

Institutional arrangements

Committee, Conference of the Parties, International Fund for Victims

The creation of a Treaty Monitoring Body is one important avenue for victims of human rights abuses committed by TNCs and Other Business Enterprises to obtain redress. The establishment must go hand in hand with strong and clear rules governing legal liability for damage caused by these entities.

While we recognize that many civil society organizations propose other mechanisms, we would like to stress that regarding the Committee proposed in the current draft, in order to be effective, it cannot fall victim to the same institutional challenges currently facing the international human rights system.

Therefore, the mandate of the Committee should include:

- That it be given full mandate to issue urgent communications and undertake investigative inquiries, guaranteeing full participation of the victims of human rights abuses and affected communities;
- Being able to undertake country visits in direct cooperation with social movements, civil society organizations, and the regional human rights systems;
- Provide States with technical assistance and capacity building to domesticate the treaty.

On the composition of the Committee:

- An open and transparent selection process, with regional and gender balance and with a maximum of two terms;
- Experts should not be nominated or elected while they hold government or business positions
 or any other position that might expose them to conflict of interest or generate a real or perceived negative profile in terms of their independence.

Finally, we welcome the inclusion of the Conference of the Parties as an important mechanism to continue advancing international corporate law in the field of human rights.

I thank you.