

Statement by ***Gladice Pickering – Ministry of Justice and Office of the Attorney-General,*** 5th session of the WG on Transnational Corporations and Human Rights, Geneva, 17 October 2018

Thank you Mr. Chair and thanks to the panelists for their respected views and opinions. Our comments on Articles 13, Conference of the States Parties and the International Fund for victims are as follows:

On the number of members of the Committees – we would like to know what is the rationale for the increased number of members after ratification/accession?

Further, we would like to emphasize the provisions of Article 13(1)(b), which provides for equitable geographical distribution of membership and the gender balanced representation as well as the integrity element contained therein, which is welcomed.

We agree with Mr. Carlos Correa on the capacity building contribution that can be rendered by the Committee. Under Article 13(4)(c), we propose that the committee members also assist States specifically in education and awareness raising efforts. This can be done in conjunction with CSO and States as we can benefit from the expected expertise of these committee members.

On the Conference of the States Parties:

We propose that the WG investigate the possibility and viability of developing a review mechanism that will replace the conventional compiling of reports, which is usually the compliance duty of States. In this context of the LBI, we are looking at duties and responsibilities imposed upon businesses and States, thus, we should find a monitoring mechanism that provides for and is compatible with this peculiar situation. It is worthwhile to look at the implementation review mechanisms employed for the United Nations Convention against Corruption, with an added responsibility awarded to the businesses. Under the UNCAC the **Implementation Review Group** is a subsidiary body of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. It is responsible for having an overview of the review process and considers technical assistance requirements for the effective implementation of the Convention.

The proposals by Ms. Aparac on the International Fund for Victims are insightful and worthy of consideration.

I thank you.