Esteemed Delegates and Chair,

My name is Shayda Naficy, speaking on behalf of Corporate Accountability and CETIM, members of the Global Campaign to Reclaim People’s Sovereignty, Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity. -- and I will speak on Article 16.

One of the core concepts that we believe must be reflected here is the concept of protecting against corporate interference, or corporate capture, both in the making **and** implementing of policies and laws.

For this reason, in the Global Campaign proposal we have circulated, we suggest that the language of article 6 paragraph 7 should be broken out into a stand alone article that applies to the whole treaty, and the language should be modified to apply to the full range of institutions and processes at the national and international level.

Furthermore, I would like to underscore that these negotiations themselves should be protected from corporate interference.

We live in a world of vast power asymmetries, where transnational corporations wield more power than governments representing whole nations of people. The very need for this process demonstrates that corporations do not need a direct role in governance processes, in order to make their interests known and felt by governments across the globe.

Rather, we would propose that governments look to the precedent of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control to put in place clear measures that curb industry interference, protect against conflicts of interest, and bolster the participation of affected communities BOTH in these negotiations and during implementation.

That precedent includes **prohibitions** of: direct industry participation in policymaking and implementation -- both internationally and nationally -- and the prohibition of industry representation on government control bodies and revolving doors, among others.

In closing, I would call on governments to reclaim their role as regulators in the public interest, not just one among many stakeholders. We need you to fight for ***this version*** of the treaty -- one which provides a true hope for justice and the realization of human rights.

Thank you.