



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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5 April 2013

Dear Mr. Mokhiber,

I would like to thank you for the letter of 5 March 2013 transmitting the invitation of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, for input and suggestions for the 2013 Forum on Business and Human Rights.

In this context, on behalf of the Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, I would like to express our keen interest in participating in the Forum. As you will know, the Committee has shown interest in the issue, particularly in relation to the implementation of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

We believe the Forum may provide a good platform for the Committee to present its' views on the impact of the corporate sector on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. We would in particular see the opportunity as timely to reflect on the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights in the context of the economic and financial crisis. May I use this opportunity to draw the attention of the Working Group to the Open Letter to States parties on the subject, adopted at the 48<sup>th</sup> Session in May 2012.

The Committee looks forward to interaction with the Working Group on issues of mutual interest – and concern.

With my highest consideration,

Ariranga G. Pillay  
Chair

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Mr Craig Mokhiber, Chief,  
DESIB, RRDD

Att: Members of the Working Group  
on the issue of human rights and  
transnational corporations and other  
business enterprises