



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: ks/CRC:

6 June 2013

Dear Mr. Sulyandziga,

Subject: Proposal of the Committee on the Rights of the Child for a Panel segment “On Measures for Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the context of State Obligations on the Impact of the Business Sector on Children’s Rights” at the 2nd Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights

The Committee on the Rights of the Child (‘the Committee’) released its General Comment No. 16 on State obligations regarding the impact of the business sector on children’s rights” in February 2013.

This General Comment constitutes the first document developed by a United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body containing comprehensive guidelines for States to follow in the context of the business sector.

The General Comment includes guidance to States on the measures of implementation they are required to take: to prevent and remedy violations of child rights by business actors; to ensure business enterprises carry out their responsibilities in the realisation of children’s rights; and, to encourage the business sector to contribute positively to the realisation of these rights.

Building on the Committee’s previous consultations with the United Nations Working Group (‘the Working Group’) on Business and Human Rights; the Committee proposes a Panel segment at the Second Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights to specifically engage in multi-stakeholder discussions on measures and approaches for implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the context of State obligations with regards to the impact of the business sector on children’s rights.

Mr. Pavel Sulyandziga
Chairperson
Working Group on the issue of transnational corporations and other business enterprises



If agreed to by the Working Group, such a Panel segment could, provisionally, entail presentations from a multi-sector set of panellists from (i) The Committee; (ii) Child Representatives (iii) Civil Society; (iv) UNICEF; (v) OHCHR; (vi) the Business Sector and, (vi) States parties to the Convention. Subject to the time frame that may be allocated, this Panel segment could begin with 10 minute presentations by each panellist followed by one hour of interactive dialogue.

For the Working Group's reference, the above-mentioned General Comment is attached. And, the Committee remains available to provide any further information, documentation and discussions that may help the Working Group in its deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Kirsten Sandberg
Chairperson

Committee on the Rights of the Child