

Working Group Work Programme

Kendyl Salcito

Dear Members of the Working Group on Human Rights and Business,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the work you have set out to do. We were actively engaged in discussions with Ruggie's team during his mandate and look forward to interacting with you in any way we can be helpful.

NomoGaia has spent the past four years building and testing a methodology for Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) on capital-intensive corporate projects around the world. From our vantage point, implementation of Ruggie's principles is contingent on companies understanding how. To that end, the Working Group is well positioned to help companies, by providing them access to information that is currently largely proprietary or client-protected.

We see an important role for the Working Group in promoting transparency around human rights due diligence, very much in line with the transparency that surrounds environmental assessment and monitoring worldwide. The more that companies know about human rights due diligence in other enterprises, the better equipped they will be to implement appropriate policies and practices in their own operations.

The Working Group can urge companies to publish their HRIAs and monitoring programs. The Business and Human Rights Resource Center already provides a clearinghouse online where these can be stored and viewed by interested parties. Until human rights are demystified for companies, human rights due diligence will remain opaque. The Working Group can solve that problem.

We look forward to following the Working Group's progress and are happy to interact and support their efforts where our expertise is of use.

Kind regards,

Kendyl Salcito

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