



The Chemical Company

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UN Working Group on Human Rights  
and Transnational Corporations and  
Other Business Enterprises

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### **Submission: Proposals for thematic priorities & activities of UN Working Group**

BASF – The Chemical Company – highly welcomes the endorsement of the UN Guiding Principles and the establishment of the UN Working Group on human rights and business by the UN Human Rights Council.

Taking into account the comprehensive request by the UN Human Rights Council's resolution (A/HRC/17/L.17/Rev.1) we propose to the UN Working Group to focus on the following aspects:

- Ensure a consistent level playing field on human rights and business through
  - Seek for public policy coherence and policy enforcement at international and national level
  - Provide guidance and best practice examples on dilemma situations like conflicting standards or weak governance zones
  - Act as authoritative focal point to assess the outcome of various initiatives defining human rights responsibilities of business enterprises
  - Develop a set of qualitative criteria as guidance for business enterprises to evaluate their due diligence processes

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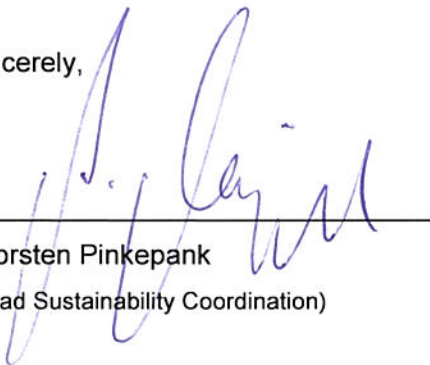
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- Get directly engaged with business sectors and enterprises to learn about
  - Already existing due diligence approaches
  - Mechanisms for access to remedies
  - Business challenges to assume the responsibility to respect human rights in daily work
  - Make best practice examples public available
  
- Continue multi-stakeholder meetings on human rights and business incl. workshops to discuss specific aspects in more detail
  
- Raise awareness and build capacity on human rights and business among
  - Public authorities
  - Civil society institutions
  - Workers' representatives
  - Business enterprises

BASF closely followed the work of the SRSG Prof. John Ruggie through participation in stakeholder meetings and submission to his work. As The Chemical Company we offer the UN Working Group our active support to fulfill its challenging task during the next three years.

Sincerely,



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Thorsten Pinkepank  
(Head Sustainability Coordination)



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Christian Heller  
(Sustainability Coordination – Human Rights)