

Selected legal experts for the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights

July 2024

In paragraph 31 (e) of the report of the ninth session ([A/HRC/55/59](#)) of the open-ended working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights (IGWG), the working group recommended that the Chair-Rapporteur convene intersessional thematic consultations to discuss the draft legally binding instrument, in line with the mandate established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 26/9, with the assistance of at least five legal experts, whose selection should be suggested by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

It is important to note that the above-mentioned recommendation from the 9th session of the IGWG was reflected in the [roadmap towards the 10th session of the IGWG](#), and in procedural decision 56/116 adopted by consensus by the Council at its 56th session.

On behalf of the Chair-Rapporteur, OHCHR, as Secretariat of the IGWG, issued in May 2024 a call for nominations for such legal experts to assist in their personal capacity. The call for nominations closed on 14 June 2024, at which point 102 applications were received. The Secretariat and the Chair-Rapporteur wish to convey their deepest appreciation for the number and quality of the applications received.

Of those applications that met the criteria set for selection, including the need to achieve a balanced representation, OHCHR recommended 17 people.

From those recommendations, careful and detailed analysis was undertaken by the Chair-Rapporteur with the aim of ensuring a balanced selection according to the relevant criteria agreed at the 9th session of the IGWG, as well as those elements put forward by different stakeholders during relevant consultations held during the intersessional period. Following this, the Chair-Rapporteur selected the following five main legal experts. Additionally, the Chair-Rapporteur selected five alternate legal experts who will be called upon if main legal experts are unable to perform their duties.

Region	Main Legal Expert	Alternate Legal Expert
African States	Mr Oyeniye Abe , Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Oil, Gas, Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development	Ms Archana Kotecha , Founder & CEO, The Remedy Project
Asia-Pacific States	Ms Kinda Mohamadieh , Senior Researcher & Legal Advisor, Third World Network	Mr Daisuke Takahashi , Partner, Shinwa Law
Eastern European States	Mr Ugljesa Grusic , Associate Professor, Faculty of Laws, University College London	Ms Mihaela Barnes , Founder, Nomos Strategy
Latin American and Caribbean States	Mr Humberto Cantú Rivera , Director, Institute for Human Rights and Business, University of Monterrey	Ms Clara Serva , Partner, TozziniFreire Advogados
Western European and other States	Ms Anita Ramasastry , Professor of Law & Director of the Sustainable International Development Program, University of Washington	Mr Richard Meeran , Partner, Leigh Day