

Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations

Intervention By

Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

7th Session of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (Third revised version of legally binding instrument)

(October 25, 2021)

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,

My delegation congratulates you for assuming the Chair of the Working Group and thank you for presenting third revised legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

Iran supports the work of Working Group and is of the view that the work of Working Group should be fully in line with mandate of Resolution 26/9;

We studied the third revised version of legally binding instrument and stand ready to engage constructively in elaboration of the draft during the 7th session of working Group.

We believe that setting a legal instrument and implementing practical measures are important to ensuring respect for human rights bytransnational corporations.

There is no question that transnational enterprises should be expected to respect human dignity and fulfil their role in protection and promotion of the human rights in their business activities. Meantime, transnational enterprises, including social platforms, should be also expected to respect the sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States;

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur

We recognize that transnational enterprises are key component for achieving to realization of the right to development. The centric essence to the realization of the right to development as articulated in Article 1(3) of the UN Charter is to achieving international co-operation to solve international problems and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. They should undertake duediligence in their role in this important aspect of their business activities.

In this context, we would like to emphasize that such regulatory approaches not suffice to secure victims of human rights without addressing the negative consequences of over-compliance by transnational enterprises to the UCMs.

Unilateral coercive measures directly and indirectly impeded and continue to violate the fundamental rights of targeted populations as well as impede the realization of all human rights including but not limited to the right to developmentand and violated the norms and principles of International Law.

Unlawful UCMs and subsequent compliance and over compliance by transnational enterprises limit the ability of targeted populations to effectively enjoy their fundamental rights.

We encourage the Working Group to pay due attention to this important aspect of the work of transnational enterprises during the elaboration of the legally binding instrument.

I thank you.