

Dear Chair

On behalf of DKA Austria, Child Rights Connect, ECPAT International, Clínica de Direitos Humanos UFMG and Clínica de Direitos Humanos PPGD/PUCPR.

We welcome the amendments to the draft legally binding instrument that bring us a step closer towards a child rights approach. We would like to extend our appreciation to the States that have contributed to changes in the text that promote the rights of children in the context of business activities.

As reported by the United Nations, human rights have been heavily impacted by the pandemic. We are also facing a climate crisis, a food crisis, a massive loss of biodiversity, among other crises, which are further aggravated by the activities of certain businesses. It has been recognised that these crises, together with the adverse impact of business activities, often have a disproportionate effect on children and their rights. We call on UN Member States to work towards a strong and solid legally binding treaty on business and human rights that addresses the often-disproportionate effect of business activities on children's rights.

We believe that some provisions in the draft legally binding instrument could still be improved to this end, including:

- to ensure that the activities and operations of business enterprises do not adversely impact on children's rights;
- to make sure that businesses respect children's rights throughout their global operations, and take action to prevent or mitigate impacts to children's rights that are linked to their operations, products or services by their business relationships;
- to guarantee access to effective remedy for children whose rights have been infringed by business enterprises, including State-owned enterprises, through child-friendly justice.

We will be making specific proposals during the session on how to best achieve the goals mentioned above and thank you in advance for taking our amendments into consideration.