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**Seventh session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on  
transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect  
to human rights**

**Item 4: “General Statement (Monday AM)”  
October 26, 2021**

- Thank you, Chairperson
- USCIB supports the comments advanced by the international Organization of employers.
- On Paragraph 8 and in the spirit of an inclusive approach advanced by the EU and Argentina, we would like to add “gender expression, LGBTQI+” following the word “sex.”
- We all heard the many states, this year and in every previous year of this working group, clarifying that any legally binding instrument must align with the UNGPs. We agree. For this reason, on Paragraph 11, we propose deleting the word obligation and replacing it with the word “respect.” The UNGPs are clear that companies have the responsibility to respect.
- We also cannot support any proposals made to insert specific references to “transnational corporations.” UNGP article 14 states, “The responsibility of business enterprises to respect human rights applies to all enterprises regardless of their size, sector, operational context, ownership and structure.”



- All businesses means all businesses and questions about scope remain fundamental. If this text only references transnational corporations, this will remain a minimally supported exercise, void of the consensus enjoyed by the UNGPs.
- Thank you.