Organization of the 8th session of OEIGWG on TNCs and OBEs (24-28 October 2022) Technical note

The purpose of this note is to provide information on the proposed modalities and organization of the 8th session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights (OEIGWG).

FORMAT OF THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE OEIGWG

The <u>8th session of the OEIGWG (24 to 28 October 2022)</u> will take place in person in room XX, Palais des Nations. Kindly note that in-person participation is strongly encouraged in light of the State-led negotiations. Participants unable to attend in person will be able to connect remotely through the Zoom platform, and a live <u>webcast</u> will be available in all six UN languages. Please note that UNOG implements a 30-minute limit on the interpretation of remote interventions. Once this limit is reached, any remaining remote interventions will not be interpreted. Thus, it is highly encouraged to participate in person.

Registration is mandatory (to participate in person or remotely) and needs to be done through <u>UNOG's Indico system</u>. Please consult the <u>8th session accreditation page</u> for information on registration requirements. Participants should register even if they possess a valid UN badge.

PARTICIPATION, LIST OF SPEAKERS, RULES GOVERNING INTERVENTIONS, SUBMISSION OF STATEMENTS TO THE SECRETARIAT AND COMPILATIONS

Please consult the <u>8th session participation page</u> for information about how interventions are to take place during the session, as well as how to submit statements to the Secretariat, including for the compilations to be produced. The below information summarizes the main points.

<u>Participation</u>: Those who are accredited to participate in the 8th session may do so in the following ways:

- <u>In person in Room XX</u>: This is the preferred method.
- Remote participation through the Zoom platform: Those unable to attend the meeting in person will receive an email with a link and instructions on how to join the meeting.
- Remote participation through video message (for general statements only): In light of the format of the session and the dynamics of the negotiation, the possibility to deliver statements by pre-recorded video messages exists only for the General Statements segment of the Programme of Work (on Monday, 24 October). Video statements must be sent to ohchrigwg-intervention@un.org by 10am CET on Sunday, 23 October. There will not be the possibility to participate through video message during the other portions of the programme.

All members of the public will be able to watch the session through the webcast available on <u>UN Web TV</u> and listen to <u>the live audio stream</u> in all UN languages.

<u>List of speakers</u>: Instructions for when to sign up to make an intervention and how to sign up to be on the list of speakers is available on the <u>8th session participation page</u>.

Rules governing interventions: Given the State-led negotiations, the Chair encourages delegations to make textual proposals on the various provisions of the third revised text with concrete textual suggestions and of the Chair's proposals in English, whereas general comments and explanations can be in any UN language. Please consult the 8th session participation page for further details, including about time limits and how to help the Secretariat ensure that textual proposals are accurately captured in real time.

<u>Submissions of statements to the Secretariat and compilations</u>: It is <u>strongly</u> encouraged that all statements be sent to the Secretariat <u>before the intervention</u>. This will greatly facilitate interpretation, the accurate capture of textual proposals in real time, and the development of compilations following the session.

It is envisaged that, after the eighth session, the following compilations will be produced:

- A compilation of the general statements from all stakeholders;
- A compilation of the statements delivered by States during State-led negotiations;
- A compilation of the statements delivered by non-State stakeholders during State-led negotiations.

Additionally, the Secretariat will share the documents to be developed in real time during the session:

- Textual proposals by States on the text of the third revised draft legally binding instrument, including the proposals submitted by States during the seventh session;
- Textual proposals by States on the Chair's proposals for select articles.

For more detailed information, please see the 8th session participation page.

SIDE EVENTS

In light of the impact of the Strategic Heritage Plan on the availability of rooms, the Secretariat has been provided with only one room to host side events, available during lunchtime on the Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the session. Proposals for side events must be submitted by 14 October 2022 through this online form.

The table of side events will be made available on the 8th session page when it is available.

HEALTH AND SECURITY

Please note that while there is no requirement for a COVID certificate for UN meetings, all persons physically present in the Palais des Nations will be required, for their safety and the safety of others, to be **free of COVID-19 symptoms**. Additionally, **the wearing of facemasks is mandatory in all UN Geneva conference rooms**. Masks will not be provided; thus, delegates should bring their own masks.