

**As the institutional representative of more than 45 million companies in over 130 countries, ICC recognises the critical importance of ensuring that businesses have the knowledge, skills, tools, and incentives to respect human rights.**

**With regard to the specific provisions of the draft, ICC recognises that points raised by delegations at the 7th session have been included in the new version of the 3rd revised text. Nevertheless, we believe that there are clearly still many areas where there is significant divergence of views.**

**We also note, and appreciate, the efforts of the Chair in sharing his own suggestions.**

**At the last session, ICC called for delegations to consider whether the revised draft was actually moving in the right direction, given the divergence of views expressed, and suggested consultations intersessionally to review alternative approaches.**

**ICC considered that the Friends of the Chair proposal that was accepted at the last session was a positive development. We hope that the initiative will soon be operational.**

**ICC stands ready to contribute constructively to this process, if requested, drawing on the experience of the many companies in our network who are leading in the field of human rights respect and protection**

**It is incumbent on us all to support the development of robust, effective, and coherent policy and legislative settings in the field of human rights and business, and to do so in ways that have real and positive impact on those most at risk of human rights abuses. We stand ready to work with all stakeholders to this end.**