Mr chair,

I am delivering this statement on behalf of CIDSE, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, Broederlijk Delen, CAFOD, Entraide et Fraternité, Fastenopfer, Focsiv, KOO, DKA Austria, Misereor, Trócaire and Alboan.

Dear Mr Chair Rapporteur,

Before we make our intervention on Art.10, we would like to add a short comment on article 9. In particular, we want to underline the importance of the provisions rejecting the doctrine of *forum non conveniens* to ensure that right-holders have effective access to justice. We would like to state our view that it is essential provisions in article 9 are legally binding, and therefore that they are retained in the third draft and not in an optional protocol.

Regarding article 10, we welcome that this article provides essential provisions to allow victims of corporate abuse to be heard and to seek justice.

However, we are concerned about the particular situation of children. Any provisions on statutes of limitations should ensure that child victims are not in a situation where justice is denied. This is also crucial for those who, because of their age, physical, mental or psychological condition, need additional time and resources to seek redress.

For this reason, we support the amendment from Palestine last year on article 10.2.

Mr Chair,

There can be no statute of limitations for crimes against humanity and war crimes. We reiterate our suggestion from last year to add an additional sentence at the end of article 10.2, reading as follows:

*Art. 10.2. State Parties shall ensure that responsibilities resulting from the committing of international crimes will never be subject to statutes of limitation.*