



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations Office and other international
organizations in Geneva

Intervention

By

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Before

The 8th Session of the Working Group

**on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other
business enterprises**

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Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,

My delegation congratulates you for your re-election as the Chair of the Working Group transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to the human rights and appreciates all your efforts in particular for presenting the third revised draft of legally binding instrument in the field of activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

The Islamic Republic of Iran supports the work of Working Group and stands ready to engage constructively in elaboration of the draft during the 8th session of working Group.

We are of the view that the work of Working Group should be fully in line with mandate of Resolution 26/9 and the scope of the legally binding instrument should be in accordance with the said resolution and be limited to transnational corporations;

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that setting a legally binding instrument is critical to ensuring respect for human rights by transnational corporations. There is no question that transnational corporations should respect human rights in their business activities as well as, they, in particular, social



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platforms, should also respect the sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States;

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur

We recognize that transnational enterprises are key component for achieving to realization of the right to development. The centric essence to the realization of the right to development as articulated in Article 1(3) of the UN Charter is to achieving international co-operation to solve international problems and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. They should undertake due diligence in this important aspect of their business activities.

In this context, we would like to emphasize that such regulatory approaches not suffice to secure victims of human rights without addressing the negative consequences of over-compliance by transnational enterprises to the UCMs.

Unilateral coercive measures directly and indirectly impeded and continue to violate the fundamental rights of targeted populations as well as impede the realization of all human rights including but not limited to the right to development and violated the norms and principles of International Law.

Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Ms. Alena Douhan, concludes in her report to 51st Session of the Council on her visit to Iran in May 2022, among others, that the use of unilateral coercive measures and over-compliance has an overall adverse effect on the broad spectrum of human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural, including the right to life and the right to development.

She calls on all financial institutions and other businesses to act in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights to avoid over-compliance and violations of the rights of nationals and residents of Iran, In particular, she recalls the need for the establishment of human rights due diligence processes to prevent adverse human rights impacts that are directly



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linked to their operations, products or services and invites the UN system to engage with her in developing a conceptual framework for mechanisms of compensation, remedy and redress for victims of human rights violations due to UCMs and introduce due diligence principles in international cooperation, banking and business activity.

In this context, we are of the view that for addressing this important aspect of transnational cooperation having a legally binding instrument is critical more than ever!

I thank you Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,