

26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention  
Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums

# The open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights (IGWG on TNCs and OBEs)

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# Outline

## 1. Introduction to the IGWG on TNCs and OBEs a.k.a the UN Treaty Process

- Subsidiary body of the Human Rights Council
- Intergovernmental nature
- Founding resolution and mandate A/HRC/26/9
- Composition
- Overview of the process

## 2. Participation of State and non-State stakeholders

- Written submissions
- Oral statements
- Invited panelists

## 3. Access to documents

## 4. Conclusion



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# Introduction to the UN Treaty Process

- Established in 2014 by resolution 26/9 of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC)
- Subsidiary body of the HRC (itself a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly)
- Open-ended nature of the IGWG
- Mandate: to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises
- UN Human Rights acts as Secretariat for the IGWG on TNCs and OBEs
- Resources allocated to the IGWG on TNCs and OBEs
- Progress: Seven sessions completed / 3<sup>rd</sup> revised draft of a LBI discussed at the last session in October 2021, next session 24-28 October 2022

# Participation of State and non-State stakeholders



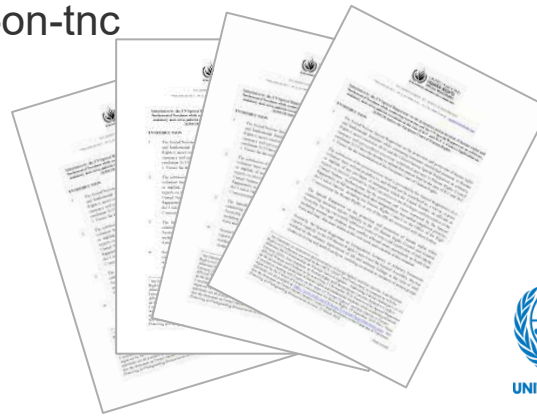
Above: First session of the OEIGWG (July 6-10, 2015)

- Modalities of participation: the Rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council and of the General Assembly to be followed, as applicable, unless decided otherwise by the Council (or in some cases the IGWG on TNCs itself)
- Oral engagement during the session: States, specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions (with “A” status), and non-governmental organizations (with ECOSOC status) can participate in that order
- Written engagement: mostly in response to call for submission
- Invited panelists (budget allocation for 5 regional experts to be invited per session)
- webcast available on UN Web TV and audi stream in all UN languages

# Access to documents



- Official documents of the Working Group are translated and circulated in all official UN languages: provisional agenda and report of each session (presented annually at the HRC)
- Before each session: session's document posted online (both official UN documents and others which form part of the documentation for each session)
- During each session/shortly after: all statements by State and non-State stakeholders authorized to participate posted on the IGWG session webpage
- After each session: report of the session + any other documents requested to be prepared by the IGWG
- Documents posted online on the IGWG web page : <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-trans-corp/igwg-on-tnc>



**Thank you!**

Email address of the Secretariat: [igwg-tncs@ohchr.org](mailto:igwg-tncs@ohchr.org)



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