



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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**Mandate of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises**

REFERENCE: RRDD/HRESIS/EA /ff

18 November 2013

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, we thank you for your submission on the occasion of the August 2013 Regional Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean region.

The Working Group shares your interest in assessing the effectiveness of non-judicial grievance mechanisms through the lens of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and looks forward to learning more about your initiatives. We recognise that research into non-judicial grievance mechanisms does not preclude research into regulation and effective judicial mechanisms, which are at the core of ensuring effective remedy.

For your information, the ACCESS Facility has been commissioned to conduct a review of cases and lessons learned to feed into the work of the Working Group. The project also seeks to create a publicly available visual and knowledge-based interactive mapping of existing non-judicial grievance mechanisms, and promote convergence and coherence among them<sup>1</sup>. Links and complementarity between the judicial and non-judicial spheres is also an issue which would benefit from further research.

The upcoming second annual Forum on Business and Human Rights, to be held in Geneva from 2-4 December 2013, will devote a panel to non-judicial grievance mechanisms, aimed at exploring criteria for effective remedy including especially, rights-compatible remedy outcomes. OECD Watch/SOMO will be invited to participate in a commentator role in the panel. A side event will focus on remedy, including on non-judicial grievance mechanisms. The issue of access to effective remedy for business-related human rights abuses will also be addressed in several other panels during the Forum, further to its cross-cutting nature as laid down in the Guiding Principles.

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.accessfacility.org/mechanisms/all> and <http://www.accessfacility.org/navigator-start>

The Working Group reiterates its appreciation for your concerns, and your willingness to engage in dialogue. The Working Group recognises the wide range of actors working on business and human rights. Indeed, this diversity of viewpoints and approaches make the Annual Forum and regional forums vital components of the mandate and strategy of the Working Group. The Working Group looks forward to your continued participation and support.

Yours sincerely,



Pavel Sulyandziga



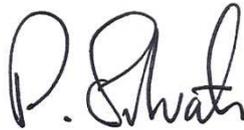
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