



**Misión Permanente del Ecuador
ante la ONU y otros Organismos Internacionales
Ginebra - Suiza**

Note 4-7- 158 /2018

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, presents its compliments to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, H.E. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, and has the honour to make reference to the implementation of the Human Rights Council Resolution 26/9 which established the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIGWG) with the mandate to *“elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporation and other business enterprises”*.

As the Office of the High Commissioner is aware, after three sessions of the OEIGWG between 2015 and 2017, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the Working Group, has undertaken, in a serious and responsible effort to implement the conclusions of the Third Session of the OEIGWG, four open informal consultations between April and July 2018, with a comprehensive, transparent and inclusive approach that enjoyed the constructive participation of a large number of States and other relevant stakeholders, both on process and on substance, in preparation towards the fourth session of the OEIGWG which will take place from 15 to 19 of October 2018 in Geneva, as established in the official annual calendar of the HRC.

In that regard, and as a result of the four informal consultations and several other bilateral and multilateral meetings, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the OEIGWG, has prepared a victims-oriented draft legally binding instrument on business activities and human rights, aiming to ensure an effective access to justice and remedy to victims of human rights violations in the context of business activities of transnational character, and to prevent the occurrence or repetitions of such violations.

Therefore, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador kindly request the Office of the High Commissioner to circulate this draft legally binding instrument to all Permanent Missions and other relevant stakeholders, with a view that this draft serve as the basis for the negotiations to begin during the 4th Session of the OEIGWG.

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, H.E. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 19th July 2018

To H.E.
Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva.-

