The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva, as well as other relevant stakeholders, and has the honour to make reference to the implementation of the Human Rights Council Resolution 26/9 on the “elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights” and its Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIGWG).

With regard to that implementation, it is important to highlight the unequivocal open-ended and perennial nature of the Intergovernmental Working Group until the fulfillment of its overarching mandate, which is: “to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporation and other business enterprises”, as established in operative paragraph 1 of HRC Resolution 26/9.

Likewise, it is also important to recall that one of the conclusions of the Third Session of the OEIGWG “requested the Chair-Rapporteur to undertake informal consultations with States and other relevant stakeholders on the way forward on the elaboration of a legally binding instrument pursuant to the mandate of resolution 26/9”.

Therefore, as a serious and responsible effort to implement that conclusion of the OEIGWG, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the Working Group, has undertaken four open informal consultations between April and July 2018, with a comprehensive, transparent and inclusive approach, that have enjoyed the participation of a significant 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 October 2018 in Geneva, as established by the OHCHR in the official annual calendar of the HRC.

In addition, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador has held a large number of bilateral meetings with different States and other stakeholders, as part of its permanent availability to receive and consider any constructive views, ideas or proposals, either on process or on substance, that are conducive to the effective implementation of the overarching mandate of HRC Resolution 26/9, which once again, is the elaboration of the legally binding instrument.

To all the honorable
Permanent Missions to the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders (Res.26/9)
and other international organizations in Geneva

Geneva.
As a complement to the above, taking into account the request from the Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva for an additional specific discussion on process with all States, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador would like to convene all Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva as well as other relevant stakeholders, to a complementary meeting at ambassadorial or highest representative level, in accordance with the proposed agenda attached herewith.

The meeting at ambassadorial and representative level is convened for next Tuesday 17 July 2018, from 10:00 to 12:00 in Room XI of the Palais des Nations.

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva as well as other relevant stakeholders in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 11 July 2018

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