



GBI SUBMISSION TO THE UN WORKING GROUP ON THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The Global Business Initiative on Human Rights (GBI) welcomes the recent creation of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. GBI appreciates the opportunity to make submissions or otherwise collaborate with the Working Group as they formulate and carry out their work plan. The GBI member companies have actively engaged in the numerous consultations used to develop the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and are currently working on and developing projects related to the Guiding Principles.

We encourage the UN Working Group:

- To focus on consistency of interpretations and application of the Guiding Principles across multiple geographies, business sectors and stakeholders.
- To engage with all parties from all geographies in this implementation phase with a focus on increasing awareness and capacity.
- To use the annual forum to discuss good practices *as well as* common shortfalls and challenges encountered by both business and states.

We invite the UN Working Group:

- To make use of the multi-sector composition, size and geographic diversity of the GBI membership as a platform to discuss implementation of the UN Guiding Principles.
- To benefit from, and engage with, a wider business audience through the GBI Regional Roundtables on business and human rights.

We commit to engage with our peers in business on the UN Guiding Principles, especially through our outreach meetings in diverse regions of the world.

The task ahead remains significant. The GBI members encourage the international community to support the Working Group to carry out its mandate effectively. We look forward to engaging with the UN Working Group regarding opportunities and challenges ahead.

The Global Business Initiative on Human Rights (GBI) is a unique business-led initiative focused on advancing human rights in a business context around the world – with a particular focus on emerging and developing markets. GBI members are from multiple industry sectors and headquartered in Latin America, North America, Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Asia. GBI delivers two Regional Roundtables per year for local business leaders. To date these have taken place in India, Egypt, Colombia, Brazil and Malaysia.



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