

**11th Session of the Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises  
with respect to human rights**

**GENERAL STATEMENTS: JOINT ORAL STATEMENT OF CIDSE ET AL.**

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October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Thank you, Mr. Chair-Rapporteur

**On behalf of CIDSE, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, DKA Austria, Broederlijk Delen, Trócaire, Fastenaktion and Franciscans International** we wish to express our appreciation for your continued efforts to provide structure and clarity to this 11th session and for maintaining a constructive roadmap that includes both state-led negotiations and intersessional thematic consultations. We particularly welcome the use of non-papers to support convergence on complex issues. However, we regret that the summary report which includes wording proposals, was issued only a few days prior to the negotiation week, providing limited opportunity for a thorough analysis to inform the negotiations. We respectfully request the Chair to release the summary with additional time.

Chair, in the broader political context, we remain concerned that recent policy developments in the European Union risk undermining hard-won progress toward corporate accountability. We regret that the EU's earlier call "*for a Legally Binding Instrument that pursues an integrated approach to respecting human rights and combating environmental degradation and climate change*" contrasts with the ongoing revision of the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, for example regarding the proposed removal of the obligation for companies to put into effect climate transition plans and the removal of an EU-wide civil liability regime. We hope the EU will show renewed leadership and coherence between its internal and international commitments.

Finally, Chair, we call for a clear roadmap toward the conclusion of these negotiations, which, we understand, might take place on 2027. We kindly ask you Chair, that this roadmap maintains a participatory approach that prioritises the voice of victims and affected communities, so that the process delivers a strong, victim-centred, and enforceable binding instrument. After more than a decade of dialogue, the credibility of this process depends on our collective resolve to translate commitment into action. In this sense, we strongly support Palestine call in their general statement to move from discussion to adoption.

Thank you, Mr. Chair

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**STATEMENT ON ARTICLES 14, 15 AND 18 OF CIDSE ET AL.**

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October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Thank you, Mr. Chair-Rapporteur

**I'm speaking on behalf of CIDSE, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, DKA Austria, Broederlijk Delen, Trócaire, Fastenaktion and Franciscans International.**

We would like to propose targeted wording recommendations on Articles 14, 15 and 18, acknowledging that Article 18 will be discussed tomorrow.

- **Article 14 – Consistency with International Law:** We recommend that States ensure international human rights obligations prevail in case of conflict, with language such as: *“States Parties shall ensure that obligations under trade and investment agreements are interpreted and implemented consistently with their human rights obligations under this Instrument.”*
- **Article 15 – Institutional Arrangements:** We encourage clearer provisions empowering the Committee to receive and consider communications from affected communities, subject to admissibility criteria.
- **Article 18 – Settlement of Disputes:** We urge explicit protection against the use of doctrines such as *forum non conveniens*, to safeguard victims' access to justice.

Thank you, Mr. Chair