



Statement of Ireland

77th session of the United Nations General Assembly

Third Committee

Interactive Dialogue with the Chair of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

25 October 2022

Madame Chair,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and Ireland thanks Ms. Hopenhaym for her report.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the UN Working Group for its ongoing work to promote the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and to wish the Chair and her colleagues well with preparations for the forthcoming annual Forum.

This report provides another valuable contribution to the evolving policy landscape in the area of Business and Human Rights. As the Report references, far reaching legislative proposals on mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence are being developed at a European level, among a wide range of other related initiatives.

The Working Group continues to encourage and assist states in all regions to develop National Action Plans. Many States that were part of the first wave are, in several cases, moving onto the second iteration of their Plans. Ireland has finalised the review of the implementation of its inaugural National Action Plan. The report itself will form a useful tool as we consider the next phase of policy development on Business and Human Rights in Ireland.

Chair, as your report notes, it is vital to ensure balanced consultations between corporations and other important actors such as civil society organisations. Indeed, the Guiding Principles call for

equal and meaningful consultation between all relevant stakeholders. Can you identify examples of best practices of such engagement and how best can it be promoted and achieved?