DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA Date: 2 October 2017 Author: Classification: None To: Lotte KNUDSEN - Managing Director - Human Rights - Global and Multilateral issues Subject: Elements for the draft legally binding instrument on transnational corporation and other business enterprises -Summary: Ecuador finally released on 2 October its "Elements for the draft legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect for human rights" in view of negotiations to start in the 3rd session of the Intergovernmental Working Group in the week of 23-27 October. At first sight, the elements compile a range of proposals put forward by some States, civil society and academics over the past years and require careful examination as they have the potential to significantly impact the landscape of international human rights law e.g. setting obligations on companies. EU Member States are enquiring about the planned process in Brussels to define an EU position of negotiation. While much attention will be devoted to this process, there is also a need to further engage in the Genevatracks supported by the EU to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, with the following events in the short run: OHCHR consultations on Accountability and Remedy Project on 5-6 October; Forum on Business and Human Rights on "Realizing effective access to remedy" on 25-27 November. Assessment:

Details:

1. Please find attached the "Elements for the draft legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other enterprises with respect to human rights" as circulated by Ecuador on 30 September evening in view of the start of negotiations in the third session of the Intergovernmental Working Group in the week of 23-27 October, as per Human Rights Council resolution 26/9. Ecuador uploaded a corrected version on 2 October on the webpage of the Intergovernmental Working Group:

[http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/WGTransCorp/Session3/Pages/Session3.aspx].	

Sign-off:

Copy to: HR Reporting + Business lists

Attachments: 1. Letter received from Ecuador

- 2. Elements for the draft legally binding instrument
- 3. Agenda & concept note of OHCHR Accountability and Remedy Project Consultations