



*African Coalition for Corporate Accountability (ACCA)
and the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALs) present*

TOWARDS AN **AFRICAN RESPONSE** TO THE SECOND REVISED DRAFT OF THE **TREATY ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Tuesday 6 October 2020 Webinar (Zoom)

09:00 – 11:00 GMT / 10:00 – 12:00 WAT / 11:00 – 13:00 SAST / 12:00 – 14:00 EAT

MODERATOR:

Ms Abiodun Baiyewu, *Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the African Coalition for Corporate Accountability, Executive Director of Global Rights Nigeria*

PANELLISTS

- Welcoming remarks
Prof Tshepo Madlingozi, *Director of CALS, Member of Steering Committee the African Coalition Corporate Accountability*
- Reflection on the Second Revised Draft of the Treaty on Business and Human Rights
Prof David Bilchitz, *Professor of Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Law at the University of Johannesburg and Director of the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC)*
- Assessing the Second Revised Draft from an African civil society perspective
Mr Arnold Kwesi, *Project Coordinator at the Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA)*
- The Second Revised Draft from a gender perspective
Ms Felogene Anumo, *Building Feminist Economies at the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) and Feminists for a Binding Treaty (#F4BT)*
- Pushing for the adoption of a binding treaty: The balance of forces that have a bearing on the treaty process and prospects for adoption
Prof Githu Muigai, *Associate Professor of Law at the University of Nairobi and Member of the United Nations Working Group on the issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises*
- Pushing for the adoption of a binding treaty: The role of African governments in the treaty process and prospects for adoption
Ms Gladice Pickering, *Deputy Executive Director, Ministry of Justice, Republic of Namibia*

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BACKGROUND

In June 2014, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted resolution 26/9, sponsored by the governments of South Africa and Ecuador, in which it decided “to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights, whose mandate shall be to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises”. The call and the resultant draft treaty have found support in the global south, which is the host to the majority of multinational enterprises.

On 6 August 2020, the Second Revised Draft of the treaty was released. After a zero draft in 2018 and a first revised draft in 2019, the current draft will mark an important step in the negotiations and hopefully will pave the road towards the adoption of a legally binding treaty on Business and Human Rights. The next session of the intergovernmental negotiations will take place in Geneva on 26 - 30 October 2020.

The purpose of this webinar is to unpack the Second Revised Draft from an African perspective. The webinar will be an opportunity for Africans to discuss the draft, highlight its strengths and weaknesses and reflect on the prospects of galvanising state support for its adoption.

HOSTS

The **African Coalition for Corporate Accountability** (ACCA) and the **Centre for Applied Legal Studies** (CALs). ACCA is the biggest coalition of African civil society organisations focusing on business and human rights. The ACCA Secretariat is seated in the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria. The Centre for Applied Legal Studies is a human rights-centred organisation based at the Wits School of Law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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