



International Network for Economic, Social & Cultural Rights  
Red Internacional para los Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales  
Réseau international pour les droits économiques, sociaux et culturels  
الشبكة العالمية للحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية و الثقافية

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

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John Ruggie  
UN Secretary General's Special Representative for Business and Human Rights  
Kennedy School of Government  
Mailbox 83  
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Dear John Ruggie,

Thank you for your recent letter congratulating ESCR-Net on our new initiative to prepare a Collective Report on Business and Human Rights. With this project, we hope to inspire wider participation in the international debate on business and human rights by those most adversely affected. This report emerges out of our member's recognition of the fundamental need to tie any discussion on this matter to the actual experience and views of those whose rights have been breached.

As you referred in your letter, ESCR-Net—together with Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, and the International Federation for Human Rights—presented at the March 2007 sessions of the Human Rights Council a Joint Oral Intervention, requesting that you analyze patterns of corporate abuses, their impacts on individuals and communities, and integrate the perspective of victims into your recommendations.

This Oral Intervention was spawned partly in response to the concerns by many of our members and participants that their experiences and perspectives--while rightfully brought to the table in your regional consultations in Johannesburg, South Africa, March 2006; in Bangkok, Thailand, June 2006; and in Bogotá, Colombia, January 2007--were not fully reflected in your second interim report.

We believe that case analysis and comprehensive studies of the endemic patterns of corporate abuse, with meaningful participation throughout by human rights-holders themselves, should lay at the very heart of any future recommendations made to the United Nations. Accordingly, we welcome your new steps to conduct a mapping of the business and human rights challenges as viewed from the perspective of the victims. We are particularly interested in learning more details about such efforts, and hope to be in touch as we both proceed.

With Best Wishes,

Julieta Rossi  
ESCR-Net  
Director

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