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Addressee: Member States, transnational corporations

Paragraph #16 Session #8 (2009)

Full Text

The Permanent Forum recommends that, in order to ensure access to effective remedies, States enforce corporate compliance with relevant laws and standards. Transnational corporations and other business enterprises should put into place operational-level grievance mechanisms to provide early warning and help resolve problems before they escalate. Significant barriers to accessing effective judicial and non-judicial remedies persist, and the Forum supports the work of the Special Representative in identifying and proposing ways of eliminating those barriers.

Comments

Finland reports (2010): In connection of corporate compliance with relevant laws and standards, Finland supports the objective of preventing problems in advance, for example, through corporate, operational-level grievance mechanisms. In November 2009, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy published a compact leaflet targeted at Finnish enterprises and multinational companies, in particular to raise their awareness about the international guidelines and declarations of OECD, UN Global Compact and ILO, mentioned above under Recommendation 15, guide enterprises to behave responsibly and to respect the human rights of all individuals.

Spain reports (E/C.19/2010/12/Add.9) that it is conscious of the difficulties involved in establishing forums for dialogue and awareness-raising with the

private sector. Nevertheless, the Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2009-2012 seeks to associate enterprises with international development cooperation by promoting public-private partnerships for development as one of the ways of involving them in cooperation through greater collaboration between them and the public sector. Compliance with national and international standards is promoted through such mechanisms.

Area of Work

Human rights