



April 11th, 2013

Working Group on Business and Human Rights
United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights
Geneva, Switzerland

Reference: Call for input

Dear Sirs:

CEGESTI is a non-profit organisation born in 1990 as UNIDO-UNDP project. Its mission is to contribute to build capacities on sustainable development in Latin America. Since 2003, CEGESTI acquired a special interest on the issue of social responsibility as the backbone for the region's equitable and sustainable development. Thus, with support from various international cooperation agencies, its efforts have focused on raising awareness on the meaning of social responsibility and consistent action; on developing methodologies for putting it to practice, technical assistance for introducing good practices, and bringing about dialogue so that all actors in society take on their share of responsibility. CEGESTI is also a signatory organization of Global Compact, and have participated very actively in the development of ISO 26000 as representative of the NGO group. For more information please visit www.cegesti.org

CEGESTI participated at First United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights with two representatives and with a stand with information on the work performed, this experience allows us to propose the following suggestions.

1. To include the experience on the implementation of the Guiding Principles in Central America. The Forum is a platform for exchanging experience and we noticed little participation from Latin America and none from Central America.
2. CEGESTI volunteers to present our experience promoting awareness on the Guiding Principles. The experience is developed under a project financed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Human Rights and Decent work (please visit the project website www.negociosresponsables.org)

Title of the presentation: Raising awareness and engaging key stakeholders in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Central America

- ♦ Level of awareness and involvement of the private sector (chambers, umbrella organizations and companies), civil society and Labor Ministries at national and regional level.
 - ♦ Multi-stakeholders platform, a mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the three pillars of the Guiding Principles.
 - ♦ Methodology to implement the Guiding Principles and lessons learnt.
3. To increase participation of civil society and affected individual providing financial support. United Nations offices at country level should serve as communication channels for identification of these groups.

We will be glad to receive your comments on our suggestions. Please do not hesitate to ask for more information on the subject proposed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daira Gómez".

Best regards,
Daira Gómez
Executive Director