



# **BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS**

*Indigenous Delegates' presentation of Indigenous issues to the European Union*

# EU's approach on Business and HR

- An emerging and important topic on the agenda
- Complexity => **Multi-stakeholders** approach  
involving governments, private companies, CSOs, social partners & local communities.
- Alignment with the **UNGPs on Business and Human Rights** (2011)
  - The first globally agreed framework for promoting responsible business conduct and corporate respect for human rights
  - 3 pillars:
    - the state duty to protect HR in a business context
    - the corporate responsibility to respect/protect HR
    - access to remedy for victims of business-related abuses

# EU's commitments

- Implementation of the UNGPs within the EU (internal policy)
  - 2011 EC **Strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility** : responsible business practices of European firms (including global supply chains)
  - **Directive on disclosure of non-financial information for large companies** (2014). Include information on respect for HR, risks and outcomes on environmental, social and labour aspects
  - Encouraging the adoption of **National Action Plans** on the UNGPs by Member States

## EU's commitments

- Dissemination and promotion of the UNGPs with partner countries outside the EU (external policy)
  - Part of the **Action Plan on HR and Democracy 2015-2019**
  - Regularly raised on the diplomatic agenda (through political dialogue). Essential role of European Union Delegations.
  - **EU Trade Agreements** include "Trade and Sustainable Development" chapters => respect of core labour standards and conventions
  - The 2015 "**Trade For All**" **Communication** : reiterates the commitment to support the implementation of the UNGPs.
  - Through the **European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights**: programmes/projects: capacity-building programme for National Human Rights Institutions on Business and HR; Global Call 2016; ILO project...

# Your voice is part of the debate!

- What are your major concerns in terms of Business and Human Rights?
- What are your needs and priorities on that topic?