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► Exchange with the Chairs of the UN Treaty Bodies and Working Group on Business and Human Rights 2025 - published 2026

Extracts from the General report of the 2025 Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations

A.6. Exchange with the Chairs of the UN Treaty Bodies and Working Group on Business and Human Rights

29. For the fourth year, the Committee of Experts held an exchange with UN Treaty Body Chairs and their representatives. This year, the exchange focused on the complementarities of their respective mandates with the business and human rights agenda, and took place with the participation of the Chair of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises ([UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights](#) or WG-BHR) Ms Pichamon Yeophantong. The exchange was moreover attended by Mr Sangrok Soh, Chair of the [Human Rights Committee](#) (CCPR) and acting Chair of the [Annual Meeting of the Chairs of the Treaty Bodies](#), and the Chairs or representatives of the following Treaty Bodies: [Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(CESCR\)](#), [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women \(CEDAW\)](#), [Committee on Enforced Disappearances \(CED\)](#), [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\)](#), and [Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture \(SPT\)](#).
30. All participants acknowledged the long-standing collaboration between the ILO and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the business and human rights agenda, based on the alignment of the “Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights”, implementing the “Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework” and the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy that includes a call to all parties to contribute to the realization of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), as amended in 2022. They emphasized the synergies and complementarities among their respective mandates and showcased specific initiatives that illustrate the power of collaboration, including:
 - A stocktake of National Action Plans (NAPs) in Southeast Asia by the WG-BHR with a view to informing potential cooperation for their strengthening;
 - A Joint Statement on Artificial Intelligence and the Rights of Children and its follow-up under the leadership of the CRC;
 - A joint technical guidance on disability inclusion in Human Rights Due Diligence and National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights proposed under the leadership of the CRPD;
 - A joint task force led by CEDAW with a three-year work programme to address gender-related impacts of digitalization and business operations;
 - A collaboration proposed by the CED to clarify due diligence obligations for private companies operating detention and similar facilities. The SPT also called for joint clarification of business due diligence expectations in contexts of deprivation of liberty.
31. The participants also referred to general comments and guidelines of relevance to the subject, including:
 - CESCR general comments Nos 24 (2017) on State obligations in the context of business activities and 27 (2025) on economic, social and cultural rights and sustainable development;
 - CRC general comments No. 25 (2021) on children’s rights in relation to the digital environment and No. 26 (2023) on children’s rights and the environment with a special focus on climate change;
 - ILO [General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment \(2016\)](#) complementing the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143), in relation to the rights of migrant workers
32. The Members of the Committee of Experts highlighted the broad areas of commonality between the UN treaty bodies/mandate holders and the Committee’s supervisory role. In conclusion, all participants expressed the importance of strengthening cooperation to ensure that international labour standards and human rights obligations move from principle to practice, including through access to justice and effective remedy. They agreed to continue their thematic exchanges in the future.