



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/11  
25 June 2002

Original: ENGLISH

---

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Sub-Commission on the Promotion and  
Protection of Human Rights  
Fifty-fourth session  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

**Note by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>**

1. In paragraph 4 of its resolution 2001/3, the Sub-Commission decided to extend, for a three-year period, the mandate of the sessional working group of the Sub-Commission established to examine the working methods and activities of transnational corporations.
2. In paragraph 2 of the same resolution, the Sub-Commission thanked Mr. Asbjørn Eide and Mr. David Weissbrodt for the important work they had done and requested them to continue their research and submit their research documents to the working group and the Sub-Commission, taking into account the comments and contributions from experts and any other sources, particularly the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the International Labour Office, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, so that a binding instrument could be drafted.
3. In this regard, the secretariat received the following three working papers prepared by Mr. Weissbrodt which will be issued as documents of the working group at its fourth session, to be held during the fifty-fourth session of the Sub-Commission:
  - (a) Draft human rights principles and responsibilities for transnational corporations and other business enterprises (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/WG.2/WP.1);

---

<sup>1</sup> This document was submitted late so that the most up-to-date information could be provided to the Sub-Commission.

(b) Introduction to the human rights principles and responsibilities for transnational corporations and other business enterprises (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/WG.2/WP.1/Add.1);

(c) Human rights principles and responsibilities for transnational corporations and other business enterprises, with commentary on the principles (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/WG.2/WP.1/Add.2).

4. In response to the resolution, Mr. Eide has re-submitted the study that he previously submitted to the working group at its third session (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/WG.2/WP.2). The secretariat has provided the working group with the study as a background document.

-----