



TOTAL

Direction Juridique

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Professor John Ruggie
Special Representative of the Secretary-General
on the issue of human rights and transnational
corporations and other business enterprises
Palais des Nations
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Paris la Défense, le 23 Mai 2011

Dear Professor Ruggie,

We write to express our support to the Framework and its Guiding Principles you are proposing to the UN Human Rights Council. We believe that these guiding principles will help companies to better understand their roles in the Human Rights field. We would like to congratulate you on the consultation process you have undertaken during your UN mandate which has involved various individuals, groups and institutions around the world representing all segments of society and sectors of industry. Through this unique process, you have reached a multilateral consensus.

Total is a major French oil company which operates in 130 countries and employs more than 100.000 workers. Since the year 2000, Total has made reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Global Compact principles particularly within its Code of Conduct, which the Group considers its internal Constitution, and through special policies and procedures.

Total fully supports your approach for several reasons. First, because it provides a fair and clear division of the respective roles and responsibilities of States and companies. Taking a consensual approach, it also ensures the broad support of all stakeholders. Based on a risk analysis and management policy similar to those practiced, in particular, in the safety and environment fields, it is above all operational. Lastly, it is universal, because the countries in which we operate are members of the UN.

Regarding the succession of your mandate, Total would wish to see it structured on such a way as to embody the same spirit of principled pragmatism as you and your team demonstrated and also to keep the same multilateral and consultative process that characterized your mandate all along. Total acknowledges the importance of preserving the consensus that has emerged around the Guiding Principles at the UN level.

We hope that the Guiding Principles will be received positively by the Human Rights Council and we would like to thank you and your team for your years of service and your contribution to achieving more effective protection of human rights.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Herbel
Senior Vice President, General Counsel

Adresse postale : 2 place Jean Millier - La Défense 6 - 92078 Paris La Défense Cedex
Tél. + 33 (0)1 47 44 45 46

TOTAL S.A.
Société Anonyme au capital de 5 874 102 327,50 euros
Siège social : 2 place Jean Millier - La Défense 6 - 92400 Courbevoie - France
542 051 180 RCS Nanterre