

**Item 172 – Observer Status in the GA for the International Organisation of Employers**

Mr. President,

First of all let me congratulate you on your election and assure you of Germany's support for you as well as the Bureau in leading the work of the Sixth Committee.

ensure that the view of employers and of the private sector is taken into account on important subjects and discussions such as the Agenda 2030, sustainable development and economic growth, climate and environmental questions, gender aspects in the working sphere, migration and the role of youth.

Also, the United Nations is seeking to widen partnerships and deepening the dialogue with civil society of which employers are an important part. The IOE is one of the largest networks of the private sector globally representing 50 million businesses through its business and employer organization members in 150 countries. For almost 100 years, the IOE is representing business in social and employment policy debates on national and international level and across the UN G20 and other emerging forums.

Mr. President,

In its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994, the GA has decided that observer status shall be limited to States and intergovernmental organizations whose activities cover matters of interest to the Assembly.

It's unquestionable that activities of the IOE are of interest to the GA, but it's true that the IOE is not an intergovernmental organization. However, the GA has since 1994 made exceptions to these criteria when the importance and the history of the organization justified it.

In our view, the IOE is an organization that absolutely qualifies for such an exception given the value that it could bring to the debates in the GA esterverve st to thl6C 0.002(a)8.3 (n )9.e ursh14.4 (o.008 Tw -183)-8 (a)-03