FfD Consultations (May 11-15) ʹ CSO intervention on DRM, Gender Justice & Private Finance 
Statement delivered by Ms. Tove Maria Ryding, EURODAD 
Thank you Mr co-facilitator. Some brief comments on some of the issues that have been 
discussed so far. 
First, regarding who decides global tax standards and norms. 
Yesterday, one delegation read out a long list of African countries that participated in an OECD 
meeting on tax, supposedly to illustrate that developing countries are invited to participate in 
ƚŚĞK͘tĞƚŚŝŶŬŝƚ͛ƐŝŵƉŽƌƚĂŶƚƚŽŚŝŐŚůŝŐŚƚƚŚĂƚƚŚat was not a decision making meeting. It 
was a regional consultation, about which the OECD itself had said͗͞ĚĞǀĞůŽƉŝŶŐĐŽƵŶƚƌŝĞƐĐĂŶ
ŚĂǀĞĂǀŽŝĐĞ͕ďƵƚƚŚĞǇĐĂŶŶŽƚŚĂǀĞĂǀŽƚĞ͘͟ 
The decision making about the global tax standards takes place in closed door meetings in Paris, 
where more than 100 countries are currently excluded. While OECD always seems open to 
inviting both developing countries and civil society to consultations, workshops, and 
implementation meetings

This is a dangerous departure from recognizing the inherent entitlements of women as full and 
equal citizens and subjects of human rights. 
Achieving the full realization of human rights, including ǁŽŵĞŶ͛ƐƌŝŐŚƚƐ͕ŐĞŶĚĞƌĞƋƵĂůŝƚǇĂŶĚ
ǁŽŵĞŶ͛ƐĞŵƉŽǁĞƌŵĞŶƚ is central to the sustainable development and poverty eradication 
agendas. This must be an end in itself. 
Moreover, we want to stress the importance to promote gender-responsive policies and 
programmes that ensure 
equal pay for equal work or work of equal value 
full and equal access to and control over assets 
address the gendered division of labour, 
and prevent discrimination against women in the workplace, in order to support the 
reconciliation of paid work with family/care responsibilities for both women and men, with 
particular attention to women domestic workers, including protection from violence and 
abuse, fair terms of employment and a safe and healthy working environment. 
Lastly, as regards private finance, some governments seem to assume that all types of business 
are the same and any business is good for the achievement of the SDGs. 
However, we know very well that small and medium enterprises in developing countries are not 
able to compete with multinational enterprises that ĚŽŶ͛ƚƉĂǇ their taxes, and that promoting 
multinational enterprises can sometimes drive small local business out of the market. We must 
therefore keep domestic and international business as two separate chapters. 
We also know that multinational enterprises do not necessarily lead to inclusive growth, 
sustainable development, jobs, technology transfer and economic diversification. In fact, we 
ĚŽŶ͛ƚĞǀĞŶŚĂǀĞĂƐŽůŝĚŝŶƚĞƌŶĂƚŝŽŶĂů framework to ensure that multinational enterprises 
respect national legislation or even human rights. 
We also know that public private partnerships often leave the risks with the public sector and 
the profits with the private partner. There is also a risk of proliferation of user fees, which can 
lead to the exclusion of the poorest people. 
The proliferation of initiatives and platforms creates additional risks in this regard. 
We therefore need a criterion-based accountability and governance framework, including 
oversight, regulation, independent evaluation, and transparent monitoring and reporting for 
public private partnerships.

Furthermore, the Addis Ababa conference therefore needs to ensure that all governments 
commit to engage constructively in the ongoing development of an international legally binding 
instrument on human rights and business under the Human Rights Council. 
We have specific recommendations on individual paragraphs developed by civil society, as well 
as specific comments from the tŽŵĞŶ͛ƐtŽƌŬŝŶŐ'ƌŽƵƉŽŶ&Ĩ, and can share these with 
delegations upon request. 
Thank you