ILO-OECD Roundtable on Responsible Supply Chains in the Textile and Garment Sector

DRAFT AGENDA

29-30 September 2014
CC1, OECD Conference Centre
Paris, France
The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises are recommendations on responsible business conduct addressed by governments to multinational enterprises operating in or from adhering countries. They are the most comprehensive set of recommendations on responsible business conduct promoted by governments in existence today, covering all major areas of business ethics, including information disclosure, human rights, employment and industrial relations, environment, bribery and corruption, consumer interests, science and technology, competition, and taxation. The Guidelines are also the only government-backed international instrument on responsible business conduct with a unique implementation mechanism.

mneguidelines.oecd.org

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a specialised agency of the United Nations, with 185 member States and a unique tripartite structure providing a platform to advance decent work for women and men through the promotion of rights at work, decent employment opportunities, enhanced social protection and strengthened dialogue on work-related issues. The Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) was adopted by governments, workers’ and employers’ representatives and comprises recommendations addressed to enterprises, governments, and employers’ and workers’ organisations. Its principles are based on international labour standards and cover the areas of general policies, employment, training, conditions of work and life, and industrial relations. The ILO Helpdesk for Business on International Labour Standards provides assistance to business on how to align their policies and practices with principles of the MNE Declaration.

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MEETING INFORMATION
The ILO-OECD Roundtable on Responsible Supply Chains in the Textile and Garment Sector will be held 29-30 of September 2014 at the OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André Pascal, Paris, France.

The meeting will avoid long presentations by panellists. Instead, panellists will be asked to provide initial thoughts as a way of launching a high-value discussion which will fully engage the expertise in the room. All participants are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion.

Registration and badges: Please bring your passport or identity card with you. Registration at the OECD will be open from 8:00 am on 29 September. Please register in the morning (recommended) or at least 30 minutes in advance of the official start of the meeting to allow time for all formalities. Please note there are multiple events occurring at the OECD conference centre on any given day, and as such there may be long lines. For security reasons, you must wear your conference badge at all times.

Chatham House rule: The meeting will be held under the Chatham House Rule for the two days. “When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), not that of any other participant, may be revealed.” This rule also applies to social media – join the conversation at #OECDrbc.
Monday 29 September 2014

09:00 – 10:00  Registration

10:00 – 11:30  Welcoming remarks

- Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary General, OECD
- Sandra Polaski, ILO Deputy Director General for Policy – delivered by Alette Van Leur,
  Director, Sectoral Activities Department, ILO

Opening addresses

- Md. Mujibul Haque, MP, Honourable State Minister, Ministry of Labour & Employment,
  Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
- Eric R. Biel, Associate Deputy Undersecretary, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S.
  Department of Labor
- Garance Pineau, Director adjoint, Direction des Relations Sociales, Mouvement des
  entreprises de France, BIAC/IOE
- Jyrki Raina, General Secretary, IndustriALL

11:30 – 11:45  Break

11:45 – 13:15  Tripartite action at the country level: experience from Bangladesh

This session will focus on how a tripartite approach based on agreement among the government,
employers’ and workers’ organisations can effectively address deficits in decent working
conditions. It will examine the contribution of the National Tripartite Plan of Action on Fire Safety
for the Ready Made Garment Sector and other significant initiatives to assure workers’ safety in
Bangladesh.

Moderated by Janelle M. Diller, Senior Counsellor to the Deputy Director-General for Policy, ILO

Panellists

- Md. Faizur Rahman, Joint Secretary of Labour, Ministry of Labour & Employment,
  Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
- Atiquil Islam, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA)
- Z.M. Kamrul Anam (IBC), Coordinator, Textile Garment and Leather at IndustriALL
  Bangladesh Council, Secretary General, Bangladesh Labour Welfare Foundation (BLF)
- Sandra Gallina, Acting Director Sustainable Development; Economic Partnership
  Agreements – African, Caribbean and Pacific; Agri–food and Fisheries, Trade Directorate-
  General, European Commission

13:15 – 14:45  Lunch

14:45 – 16:30  Textile and garment sector supply chains: challenges and opportunities for responsible
business conduct

During this session, panellists are invited to discuss the major challenges to responsible business
conduct in global supply chains of textiles and garments and to present initiatives that are
effective in tackling those challenges.
Moderated by Cristina Tebar Less, Lead Manager, Responsible Business Conduct Unit, Investment Division, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Panellists:
- Pascalle Grotenhuis, Head of Division Private Sector, CSR and Infrastructure, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands.
- Angela Marshall Hofmann, Vice President, Global Business Support, International Corporate Affairs, Wal-Mart
- Van Souieng, Chair, Garments Manufacturers Association in Cambodia (GMAC)
- Jenny Holdcroft, Policy Director, IndustriALL Global Union
- Dan Rees, Director, Better Work Programme, ILO

16:30 – 17:00  
Break

17:00 – 18:45  
The role of states to protect: enforcing the law and implementing international standards

This session will focus on the role of the government in protecting workers’ rights through strengthened labour inspectorates, effective national tripartite bodies and the OECD National Contact Points.

Moderated by Nancy Leppink, Chief of the Labour Administration, Labour Inspection and Occupational Safety and Health Branch, Governance and Tripartism Department, ILO

Panellists:
- Eric R. Biel, Associate Deputy Undersecretary, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor
- Benedetta Francesconi, Italian National Contact Point
- Ariel Meyerstein, Vice President, Labor Affairs, Corporate Responsibility & Corporate Governance, United States Council for International Business
- Tran Van Ly, Vice President, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour

18:45  
Reception
Due diligence in the textile and garment sector

This session is divided into sub-sessions regarding management systems and policies, risk assessments and social compliance schemes. In each session, case studies are provided on how due diligence is applied in the supply chains of the textile and garment sector. Presentations will focus on the systems put in place and challenges and opportunities related to these systems.

Moderated by Roel Nieuwenkamp, Chair of the OECD Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct

A) Creating management systems and adopting policies

Topics for this session include adopting a policy on responsible textile and garment supply chains, strengthening company management systems (e.g. building internal due diligence capacity, communicating with suppliers on due diligence, tracking and database systems for suppliers and other information on supply chains), and putting in place effective whistle-blowing or grievance mechanisms.

Panellists:
- Jose Arguedas, Senior Manager, Global Relations, Gap Inc.
- Monika Kemperle, Assistant General Secretary, IndustriALL
- Maylis Souque, General Secretary of the NCP, France OECD National Contact Point
- Jef Wintermans, Director, MODINT

B) Risk assessments and management

Topics for this session include undertaking risk assessments, including how to identify risks (e.g. designing red flags or other indicators of risk, the standards used and challenges encountered), designing and implementing appropriate risk management and response systems, and cooperating with industry peers, workers or other stakeholders to identify and manage risk. This session will also reflect on approaches to third party assurance or audits of due diligence practices, and the relationship between due diligence and emerging models for social dialogue and risk management.

Panellists:
- John Cheh, Chief Executive Officer, Esquel
- Justin Bettey, EU Director, Elevate Ltd.
- Isidor Boix, Member of the International Secretariat of CCOO-Industry, Coordinator IndustriALL Global Union for Global Framework Agreement with Inditex
- Ineke Zeldenrust, International Coordinator, Clean Clothes Campaign

Industrial relations: freedom of association and collective bargaining

Focusing on the principles concerning industrial relations of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the ILO Declaration on Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, this session will discuss the challenges and opportunities in their implementation, including in the context of due diligence requirements.
Moderated by Karen Curtis, Chief, Freedom of Association Branch, International Labour Standards Department, ILO

Panellists:
- Roberto Suarez, Deputy Secretary-General, International Organisation of Employers
- Conor Cradden, Research Fellow and Lecturer, Institut d’études politiques et internationales, University of Lausanne
- Dwight Justice, Policy Adviser, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- Lars-Ake Bergqvist, Global COC Coordinator, H&M
- Herman Mulder, Netherlands National Contact Point

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 Fair pricing and placement of orders

This session will seek to provide participants with concrete examples of how pricing and placement of orders affects working conditions of suppliers, and the risk management approaches used to identify, prevent and mitigate adverse impacts.

Moderated by Tyler Gillard, Manager of Sector Projects, Responsible Business Conduct Unit, Investment Division, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Panellists:
- Doug Miller, Workers’ Rights in Fashion, Northumbria School of Design, Northumbria University
- Frank Henke, Global Director, Social & Environmental Affairs, Adidas
- Per N. Bondevik, Managing Director, Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) Norway
- Summerly Horning, Vice President, Stakeholder Relations, Tau Investment Management

15:30 – 15:45 Break

15:45 – 17:00 Child labour in textile and garment supply chains

This session will seek to highlight global approaches to eradicate child labour from garment supply chains, both in the production of raw materials, such as cotton, as well as garment manufacturing.

Moderated by Kari Tapiola, Special Adviser to the Director-General ILO

Panellists:
- Sue Longley, International Officer for Agriculture and Plantations, International Union of Food Workers
- Kailash Satyarthi, Chair, Global March Against Child Labour
- Danish Chopra, UK National Contact Point

17:00 – 17:30 Closing remarks

- Githa Roelans, Head, Multinational Enterprises and Enterprise Engagement Unit, Enterprise Department, ILO
- Cristina Tebar Less, Lead Manager, Responsible Business Conduct Unit, Investment Division, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs