National focal points
to promote the use of the ILO MNE Declaration and its principles at the national level, as per its Annex II

Date: 27 July 2022
Nine ILO member States have appointed national focal points

Portugal
One governmental focal point Ministry of Labour

Senegal
4 focal points

Norway
Reviewed ToRs for the Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct

Jamaica
A tripartite focal point, social dialogue institution

Ghana
4 focal points

Pakistan
A rotating tripartite focal point, coordination between government, employers and workers

Nepal
Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security

More information on the promotion of the ILO MNE Declaration at the national level / Promotion by tripartite appointed national focal points: https://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/mne-declaration/WCMS_570379/lang--en/index.htm
Portugal

- National focal point appointed in April 2017 – the first ILO member State to appoint a national focal point
- Located in the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security
- Holds regular consultations with the social partners on the promotion of inclusive, responsible and sustainable workplace practices
- With the support of the ILO, the national focal point established a webpage on the MNE Declaration and conducted training activities for trade unions of the member States of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries
- Participated in home-host country dialogue with Portuguese speaking countries in Africa (Cabo Verde, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tomé and Príncipe)
- Participation in translation and dissemination of relevant ILO materials in Portuguese – together with the ILO Lisbon Office)

Senegal

- Appointed in December 2017 by Ministerial Order. The first country in Africa to appoint national focal points.

- **Four national focal points** located in the Ministry of Labour, the national social dialogue institution (*Haut Conseil du Dialogue Social*), and representing the employers' (*Conseil National du Patronat*) and workers' (*Confédération nationale des travailleurs du Sénégal*) organizations.

- Responding to the call of the 2017 *Abidjan Declaration* on Strengthening the Role and Impact of National Social Dialogue Institutions for More Effective and Fair Economic and Social Governance adopted by eleven social dialogue institutions from West and Central Africa, Senegal created **within its national social dialogue institution a tripartite Commission** with the specific mandate to promote the ILO MNE Declaration.

Country case study: Senegal appoints four national focal points and lays the foundations of a national promotion strategy.
Appointed in February 2018 following a series of awareness-raising sessions on the MNE Declaration for representatives of different ministries, employers’ and workers’ organizations as well as enterprises

Three national focal points: Ministry of Employment and Social Protection, national employers’ organization (Confédération nationale des entreprises de Côte d’Ivoire) and national workers’ organizations (Confédération Ivoirienne des Syndicats Libres)

The focal points developed a national action plan for the promotion of the MNE Declaration providing inputs within their respective area of competence, with the government focal point having the coordinating role

The national action plan was launched at the occasion of a national forum on the MNE Declaration in 2018

Current focus of the national action plan is on youth employment (direct and indirect through business linkages)

The experience of Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire stimulated discussions at the subregional level within the West African Economic and Monetary Union, leading to the issuing and adoption of an Opinion on the promotion of the MNE Declaration within the member States of the WAEMU and further capacity building in the WAEMU member States

Country case study: Engaging multinational enterprises on job creation for young women and men in Cote d’Ivoire
Norway

- Appointed in June 2019

- The OECD National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct received a new mandate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, establishing a complaint mechanism for the ILO MNE Declaration alongside the OECD MNE Guidelines.

Sierra Leone

- Appointed in July 2019
- **Four national focal points** located in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MOLSS), the Sierra Leone Local Content Agency, the Sierra Leone Employers’ Federation and in the Sierra Leone Labour Congress
- An **MNE Unit** was created in the MOLSS to facilitate dialogue on how to better link investments and operations of MNEs with decent job creation and improved local economic development opportunities
- A **Technical Working Group** under the leadership of the MOLSS coordinates actions for the promotion of the MNE Declaration across national institutions and ministries
- The promotion of the MNE Declaration is mainstreamed in the Sierra Leone Sustainable Development Goals Investment Plan (Ministry of Planning and Economic Development)
- Identifying the need for better protection of indigenous peoples in areas with increased business operations, the national focal point from the government initiated discussions on the ratification by Sierra Leone of ILO Convention No.169 (on the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples)

Country case study: National focal points for the application of the principles of the MNE Declaration in Sierra Leone achieve key milestones

[ilo.org](http://ilo.org)
Jamaica

- Appointed in August 2019. The first country in the Americas region to appoint a national focal point
- The first country to appoint a tripartite social institution as a unique national focal point - the **Tripartite Labour Advisory Council (LAC)** - chaired by the Minister of Labour and Social Security and composed of representatives from the Government, the Jamaica Employers’ Federation and the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions
- LAC plays a pivotal role in the country’s labour market activity, investment promotion and overall economic and social planning

Country case study: **Jamaica designates its tripartite Labour Advisory Council as national focal point for the promotion of the ILO MNE Declaration**
Appointed in December 2020. The first country in the Asia-Pacific region to appoint a national focal point for the promotion of the MNE Declaration

A rotating tripartite focal point - Employers’ Federation of Pakistan will serve the first term of three years, after which the role will be rotated among Workers and Government

Appointment comes after tripartite consultations and technical support of the ILO

Activities include but are not limited to:
- raising awareness of principles of the MNE Declaration amongst government, multinational enterprises and employers’ and workers’ organizations;
- organizing capacity-building events;
- developing online information and dialogue platforms in local languages where possible (with potential to organize tripartite-plus dialogues with sectoral associations, business associations, the tripartite constituents and multinational enterprises to discuss and identify opportunities and challenges for advancing decent work);
- promoting the ILO Helpdesk for Business and the Company-Union Dialogue

Country case study: Employers Federation of Pakistan appointed as the national focal point for promoting the ILO MNE Declaration in Pakistan
Ghana

- Appointed in December 2021
- The **four national focal points** represent the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations, the Ghana Investment Promotion Center, the Ghana Employers Association and the Trades Unions Congress of Ghana
- Distinctive feature - the **Ghana Investment Promotion Center** is joining efforts together with the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations and the social partners to promote the MNE Declaration among foreign investors
- Sensitization workshops on the MNE Declaration were organized for government officials, employers and workers’ representatives in the country in the context of the “Trade for Decent Work” project financed by the European Union and Finland
- A national dialogue on the promotion of the MNE Declaration is foreseen in 2022

Country case study: Ghana appoints four national focal points to promote the MNE Declaration in engagements with local and foreign enterprises and investors
Nepal

- Appointed in February 2022
- **Joint Secretary (Labour Relation and Social Protection) in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security** officially appointed as the national focal point for the promotion and application of the MNE Declaration
- Appointment followed tripartite meetings conducted with ILO technical assistance and building on the outcomes of the UNNATI - Inclusive Growth Programme in Nepal project (2015 - 2018), implemented in partnership with the Government of Denmark
- Activities include but are not limited to:
  - raising awareness of the principles of the MNE Declaration among government, multinational enterprises and employers’ and workers’ organizations;
  - organising capacity-building events;
  - developing tripartite and tripartite-plus dialogue platforms;
  - setting up a tripartite “working group” to assist the focal point in the design and effective implementation of the action plan
- MNE Declaration was translated into Nepali and a series of workshops are planned in 2022

Country case study: **Nepal appoints a national focal point for the promotion of the MNE Declaration**
For more information:

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