

**DIRECTORATE FOR FINANCIAL AND ENTERPRISE AFFAIRS
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

**Annual Meeting of the National Contact Points for the OECD Guidelines for
Multinational Enterprises**

ITALY

NATIONAL CONTACT POINT FOR MNE GUIDELINES

2014 REPORT TO THE OECD

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OECD GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES
ITALY'S NCP
REPORT TO THE OECD
2014

National Contact Points must report annually to the OECD Investment Committee on the nature and results of their activities to further the effectiveness of the Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, including implementation activities in specific instances.

A Common Reporting Framework, based on the Implementation Procedures of the Guidelines, assists NCPs prepare these reports. This information is the basis for the Chair's Annual Report to the OECD Council.

Common Reporting Framework

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Common framework for annual reporting by National Contact Points

The role of National Contact Points is to further the effectiveness of the Guidelines by undertaking promotional activities, handling enquiries and contributing to the resolution of issues that arise relating to the implementation of the Guidelines in specific instances. NCPs will operate in accordance with core criteria of visibility, accessibility, transparency and accountability.

A. Institutional arrangements

1. Governmental location of the NCP

Ministry of the Economic Development (MED) - General Directorate for Industrial Policy, Competitiveness and SMEs

2. Structure of the NCP

Monopartite Interagency Bipartite Tripartite Quadripartite Independent Expert Body

The Italian NCP is composed by:

1. the Director of the Ministry's General Directorate for Industrial Policy, Competitiveness and SMEs, who represents the NCP and has the decision-making powers;
2. the Advisory Committee, with advisory tasks;
3. the Secretariat, which is in charge of assuring the operational functioning of the NCP.

3. Does the NCP have an advisory body?

Yes No

Yes, the NCP's Advisory Committee.

It is composed by the representatives of the following Ministries:

Foreign Affairs, Environment, Economy and Finance, Health, Justice, Labour and Social Policies, Agriculture and Forest, Department of International Trade (MED);

and by the representatives of:

the State-Regions Conference; the main national labour unions (CGIL, CISL and UIL); the business associations (Confindustria, Confapi, CNA, Confartigianato); the Italian association of the Chambers of Commerce (Unioncamere); the National Council on Consumers (CNCU); the Italian Bankers' Association (ABI).

The NCP's Advisory Committee has consultative tasks: it schedules its own activities; it proposes surveys to be realised; it examines the specific instances after due investigation by the Secretariat and discuss about them; it gives its opinion about the NCP's activity plan.

The NCP also makes use of external experts or consulting firm, when specific skills are needed.

4. Does the NCP have an oversight body?

Yes No

5. Was the NCP structure modified in the reporting period?

Yes No

6. How does this structure enable the NCP to operate effectively?

The choice to locate the NCP within the Ministry of Economic Development encourages the inclusion of responsible business conduct principles within the national policies for sustainable growth and business competitiveness.

Entrusting a Ministry's General Director with decision-making powers makes the NCP's decisions duly authoritative.

The structure of the Advisory Committee of the NCP, that includes representatives of the relevant Ministries, local institutions, business and labour organisations, allows the NCP to deal effectively with all the issues covered by the Guidelines and to take all relevant stakeholder interests and views into consideration when planning its activities. Moreover, the NCP can avail the structures of the organisations represented in the Advisory Committee in support of the implementation of its action plan.

Lastly, a dedicated Secretariat with its staff, responsible for the day-to-day management, enables the NCP to carry on its activities.

7. Does the NCP have an allocated budget? Yes No

Yes, each year according to the annual budget law

8. Does the NCP have dedicated staff? Yes No

Besides the General Director, with decision-making powers, the NCP counts on the Secretariat, composed by one manager and three civil servants of the Ministry - two of which are lawyers - in charge of handling the day-to-day management, planning the promotional activities of the Guidelines, receiving the specific instances and making all the needed investigations, answering the questions and giving information on the guidelines and the NCPs. The head of the Secretariat also exercise the functions of the Director General when the latter is unable or vacant.

9. Are changes in the structure or resources available to the NCP contemplated in the near future?

Yes No

10. Does the NCP report within the Government on its activities?

Yes No

The NCP's activities are monitored by means of periodical reports at ministerial and government levels, aimed at verifying the efficiency and efficacy of the action of the public administration. In the annual report to the Parliament the NCP's activity is reported in brief.

B. Information and promotion

11. Does the NCP have a dedicated website or dedicated webpages? Yes No

Yes. See:

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/it/>
for the Italian version, and

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/>
for the English one.

The site provides information on the Guidelines and on the Italian NCP. It also includes a toolkit, i.e. a session where information is organised by four paths, fitted for the four different categories: companies, institutions, stakeholders, citizens. Other sessions are: the one dedicated to the Italian Action Plan on CSR (2012-2014), elaborated by the NCP together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, according to the Communication 681/2011 of the European Commission; the one dedicated to the issue of Business and Human Rights and the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework; the one dedicated to the global value chain and to the works carried on by the NCP on this subject matter.

There is also a specific section dedicated to the handling of the specific instances including procedures and forms for the submission of a case.

12. Are the 2011 Guidelines available online? Yes No

The website of the Italian NCP, in compliance with the suggestions of the OECD Communication Directorate, provides a link to the Organisation's webpage dedicated to the Guidelines, so all the version offered therein, including the Italian one, are made available.

13. Are the 2011 Guidelines available in print? Yes No

An Italian printed version of the 2011 Guidelines has been realised (5000 copies in 2012) and is now distributed by the NCP. It also includes, in the appendix, the English version.

14. Did you develop other products to raise awareness of the Guidelines? Yes No

In addition to the products already listed in the previous report, the following tools are now available online:

- 1) a SMEs Guidance for due diligence in the steel supply chain, containing 10 recommendations for companies of the steel sector for a responsible management of the supply chain;
- 2) a survey, entitled "Business and Human Rights in Italy", to support enterprises in understanding the business and human rights regulatory and policy framework in Italy;
- 3) a platform of RBC actions and indicators for businesses as a tool to orient business conduct according to the OECD Guidelines and to other standards. The platform is also a tool for finding preference criteria in public procurement and incentives to SMEs (it has been developed in cooperation with 15 Italian Regions, the Ministries of Labour and Social Policies, Economic Development and Agriculture, and the Italian Insurance Institute against Labour Injuries - INAIL).

(For the awareness products developed before the reporting period, see:

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/are-you-company/4-ncp-s-tools-for-business>

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/are-you-company/5-ncp-surveys>)

15. Is your Annual Report available online? Yes No

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/ncp-s-activities/introduction>

16. Is your Annual Report available in print?

Yes No

17. Does the NCP coordinate with other government activities on responsible business conduct?

Yes No

The Ministry for the Economic Development-NCP and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs have been the leading administrations in the definition of the Italian Government 2013-2014 Action Plan for the implementation of the Communication of the EU Commission COM(2011) 681 on CSR. They are now cooperating in the monitoring of the Plan and are preparing the 2015-2016 Action Plan on CSR.

These activities also imply a strict cooperation with the members of the NCP Advisory Committee, with other central and regional administrations, and with many stakeholders.

Together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry for the Economic Development-NCP is also participating in the work of the Council of Europe (working group) on business and human rights.

The NCP is also cooperating:

- with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the elaboration of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, for which the latter is the leading administration;
- with the Ministry of Economics on the European Commission proposal for a Directive on non-financial information disclosure.

The Ministry for the Economic Development-NCP is involved in the examination of the EU Regulation proposal for a responsible trading strategy for minerals from conflict zones.

The NCP is also still participating in the inter-regional and trans-national project, involving 15 Italian Regions, sponsored by the Veneto and Liguria Regions, to start a process of exchange and mutual learning on best practices between public administrations, to improve the promotion of responsible business conduct (this project that gave rise to the above-mentioned platform of RBC actions and indicators for businesses).

Given the importance of the Regional Administrations, the NCP signed several MoUs with them. In particular the MoUs with Emilia Romagna, Tuscany and Veneto are ongoing, providing for the joint promotion of the Guidelines in the supply chain and among the economic operators and the stakeholders.

18. Does the NCP, together with appropriate state entities (export credits agency, investment state-owned enterprises, overseas investment guarantee and inward investment promotion programs ..), inform prospective investors about the Guidelines and their implementation?

Yes No

INVITALIA the Italian Agency responsible for promoting inward investment is committed to promoting responsible business conduct and to ensuring the application of the Guidelines.

The Italian NCP also cooperates with SACE, the Italian Agency for export credit, that, in its CSR strategy, engaged to promote the Guideline among business operators and stakeholders.

Moreover, the Italian NCP involved SIMEST (the state company for export financial support), and ICE (the Agency promoting outward investments) in its activities, to disseminate the Guidelines

among enterprises asking for public financial support.

Together with the Guidelines these agencies are promoting the Risk-awareness Tool.

19. If the NCP conducted surveys or collected data documenting enterprises' awareness and use of the Guidelines, such as references in corporate codes of conduct, provide details.

20. Does the NCP have a promotional plan on the Guidelines?

Yes No

The NCP fulfills its task of promotion of the Guidelines by means of collaboration with institutions, enterprises and stakeholders. Its promotional programme is approved annually by the Advisory Committee.

In the following the priorities of the programme are briefly reported.

VISIBILITY

Despite the efforts of recent years the level of knowledge of the OECD Guidelines and of visibility of the NCP are not yet completely satisfactory. Therefore the principles and standards of the Guidelines, the topics of human rights and due diligence in the supply chain and the mechanism of specific instances are promoted not only recurring to traditional information and awareness tools and events, but also counting on the support of all the members of its Advisory Committee.

The target subjects are businesses, consumers, banks, trade unions, NGOs.

It is worth reminding, for instance, that, on December 13, 2013, in Rome, together with TUAC, the main Italian labour unions presented the Italian version of the "Trade Union Guide to the Use of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises".

KNOWLEDGE

Since many companies, especially the small ones in the bottom of the supply chains, are struggling to adopt the practice of responsible business conduct consistent with the Guidelines, for example, with reference to due diligence or the stakeholder engagement, the NCP aims to help them comply with international standards and best practices, also by organising dedicated meetings and developing guides and tools based on the standards developed at international level.

OUTREACH

Recent events such as the Rhana-Plaza accident highlighted the importance of the outreach activities.

• **Project for Bangladesh.**

Following the tragedy of Rhana Plaza and the NCPs' Statement of June 27, 2013, the NCP, with the approval of its Advisory Committee, adopted an Action Plan on Bangladesh with the aim to embark on a path on due diligence in the supply chain of the textile industry along with the Italian companies directly and/or indirectly – by a business relationship - involved in the tragedy of the collapse of the Rhana Plaza plant and extend the experience to the textile sector.

The project has the following operational lines:

- o Collection of experiences of the companies involved and experiences more in general in the textile sector;
- o Meetings with textile companies; advisory/auditing firms; NGOs, labour unions; consumers;
- o Identification of the difficulties in the supply chain of the textile industry;
- o Recommendations for the textile industry by the NCP.

- OECD Guidelines in Myanmar

Within the framework of the joint- project carried out by the OECD and the Italian Ministry of Economic Development-NCP, the NCP co-organised and took part to:

- o Inaugural Symposium: "Myanmar. The New Asian Frontier" (Rome, October 23, 2013): the conference examined the new challenges that the Country is facing into the international market, the new investment law in Myanmar and its sustainability features according to the standards of the Guidelines. A speech of Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emma Bonino opened the event. The Foreign Minister of Myanmar also attended, as well as Mr. Vincenzo Scotti, Chairman of the newly formed United States - Myanmar Business Council and as representatives of institutions, politics, economics, press, entrepreneurs and education.

- o 2 Events in Myanmar: (March 1st and 4th, 2014): the Italian NCP participated at the presentation of the Investment Policy Review of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw , Myanmar, in the presence of the Minister of Economic Planning and Development of Myanmar and of the Deputy Secretary - General of the OECD and at the conference in Yangon, organised by the OECD in cooperation with the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Federation of Myanmar to promote responsible investment in Myanmar. In both events the Italian NCP made an intervention on different aspects of the role of the OECD Guidelines for the promotion of responsible business conduct in Myanmar.

- Memorandum of Understanding signed with FOCSIV - Volunteers in the world (an NGOs Association)

It provides for a comprehensive programme, by means of CSR and exploitation of the NGOs' expertise in the countries of the Global South in order to promote the internationalisation of Italian companies in compliance with the RBC principles and standards internationally recognised.

- Inclusion of the promotion of the Guidelines in a MoU with the Italian-Latin American Institute, concerning the collaboration between Italian and Latin American SMEs.

21. Did the NCP organise any event to promote the Guidelines and their implementation procedures?

Yes No

Title	Symposium: "Myanmar. The new Asian frontier"
Date	23 Oct 2013
Place	Rome
Further details	Promotion and co-organisation with the OECD and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within the framework of the OECD-NCP project on Myanmar;
Title	Conference . "Business and Human Rights. The case of Italy"
Date	13 Nov 2013
Place	Rome - House of Parliament
Further details	Promotion and co-organisation of the event to present the study on business and human rights that the NCP has commissioned the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa.

Title "Promoting Reponsible Investment in Myanmar. Domestic and Interntional Responses".

Date 4 Mar 2014

Place Yangong, Myanmar

Further details Within the Italian NCP-OECD project on Myanmar, co-organisation and intervention on the Italian NCP's experience and on the specific instance mechanism.

Title "Promoting Reponsible Investment in Myanmar".

Date 1 Mar 2014

Place Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Further details Within the Italian NCP-OECD project on Myanammar, co-organisation and intervention on the Italian NCP's experience.

22. Did the NCP participate in any event organised by stakeholders or other entities to promote the Guidelines and their implementation procedures?

Yes No

Title Mediterranean Fair of Shared Social Responsibility

Date 26 Mar 6 / Apr 2014

Place Neaples

Further details Stand and workshop. Co-organisation of the launch event and of other workshops on RBC

Title FORUM CSR (ABI - Association of Italian Banks)

Date 28-29 Oct 2013

Place Rome

Further details Participation, intervention on the Guidelines and chairship of the session on: "CSR: an Incentive to Business Innovation"

Title Presentation of the Italian version of the "Trade Union Guide to the Use of the OECD Guideline"

Date 13 Dec 2013

Place Rome

Further details The main Italian labour unions, together with TUAC, presented the Italian version of the Guide. Participation and intervention on the Guidelines

Title	Seminar: "From the organisational models of Legislative Decree 231/01 to CSR:tools and appli+
Date	18 Oct 2013
Place	Bologna
Further details	Organised by INAIL (Italian Insurance Institute against Labour Injuries) - Participation and intervention on the RBC actions and indicators for businesses (se transnational, interregional project, points 14 and 17).
Title	The LBMA/LPPM Precious Metals Conference 2013
Date	1 Oct 2013
Place	Rome
Further details	Participation and intervention on the NCP activity to promote the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas - Supplement on Gold
Title	"2013 Interagency Roundtable on CSR Promoting Responsible Investment"
Date	14 Nov 2013
Place	Geneva
Further details	Organised by ILO. Participation and intervention.
Title	"2013 Corporate Social Responsibility: opportunities for businesses and for international cooper+
Date	27 Sep 2013
Place	Bologna
Further details	Participation and intervention on the Guidelines and the NCP activities
Title	"Towards a sustainable economy: finance and business ethics for the development of society"
Date	21 Jun 2013
Place	Rome
Further details	Organised by University Tor Vergata UNICUSANO. Participation and intervention on the Guidelines and hte NCP's activities.
Title	Sodalitas Stakeholders Forum "Together for Social Cohesion"
Date	12 Nov 2013
Place	Milan
Further details	Participation and intervention on the Project for Bangladesh

Title	Seminar: "The social responsibility as a driver for the sustainable development of the territory"
Date	12 Mar 2014
Place	Val d'Agri - Potenza
Further details	Organised by INEA (State Agency for Economics in Agriculture). Participation and intervention on the Guidelines, the RBC in agriculture and on the National Action Plan on CSR.
Title	Seminar on Conflict mineral legislation in Europe and the United States: How it impacts on both
Date	20 Jan 2014
Place	Vicenza
Further details	Organised by Fiera di Vicenza, Cibjo, RJC, and Federorafi. Participation and intervention on the Challenges for Italian downstream SMEs in the jewellery sector and the support offered by the NCP.
Title	Workshop: "The corporate social responsibility: meanings, perspectives, trends".
Date	15 Apr 2014
Place	Rome
Further details	Organised by ENFIBA and CENSIS (Italian Demographic Institute). Participation and intervention on the International developments of RBC in the experience of OECD Guidelines.
Title	DIESIS Project - Convergence Objective. Study Visit on the subject of Corporate Social Respon
Date	19 Feb 2014
Place	Berlin
Further details	Within the "DIESIS" European project, as part of the Italian delegation of the study visit, participation and intervention on the RBC actions and indicators for businesses (see transnational, interregional project, points 14 and 17)
Title	DIESIS Project - Convergence Objective. Study Visit on the subject of Corporate Social Respon
Date	25 Mar 2014
Place	Copenhagen
Further details	Within the "DIESIS" European project, as part of the Italian delegation of the study visit, Participation and intervention on the RBC actions and indicators for businesses (see transnational, interregional project, points 14 and 17)
Title	Webinar on Conflict Minerals
Date	10 Oct 2013

Place	online
Further details	Organised by OECD. Intervention on "OECD Due Diligence Guidance Italian Government Perspective – Jewellery Downstream Implementation"
Title	"Fair of CSR and Social Innovation"
Date	2 Oct 2013
Place	Milan
Further details	Organised by Bocconi University. Participation and intervention on the Guideelines and on due diligence in the global supply chain.

23. What use has been made of embassies, notably in emerging markets and other non-adhering countries, for raising awareness and promoting the Guidelines?

The Guidelines are published on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website and the latter is engaged in promoting the Guidelines through the Italian Embassies.
 The NCP collaborated with the Embassy in Yangon on the project on Mynamar.
 As to the Action Plan on Bangladesh, the Italian embassy in that Country helped the NCP identify the Italian companies operating therein and is still giving support.

24. Does the NCP have a direct relationship with OECD partner organisations and/or other leading responsible business conduct instruments:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ILO? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| UN Global Compact and its local networks? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| National Institution for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Global Reporting Initiative? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| ISO26000? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

25. Does the NCP or another government agency promote the OECD Risk Awareness Tool for Multinational Enterprises in Weak Governance Zones?

Yes No

INVITALIA, the Italian Agency responsible for promoting inward investment, SACE, the Italian Agency for export credit, SIMEST the State's Company for export financial support and ACE, the

Agency promoting outward investments, are committed to promoting the Risk-awareness tool together with the Guidelines.

26. Does the NCP or another government agency promote the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High Risk Areas?

Yes No

In its promotional activities the NCP pays great importance to the Guidance. The NCP also signed a MoU with the Responsible Jewellery Council and Federorafi (Italian business association in the jewellery sector) to promote the Guidelines and the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High Risk Areas- Supplement on gold.

27. Were enquiries received on the Guidelines and their implementation procedures

From other NCPs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
From the business community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
From labour organisations?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
From non-governmental organisations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
From governments of non-adhering countries?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

C. Proactive agenda

In accordance with the Investment Committee's proactive agenda, NCPs should maintain regular contact, including meetings, with social partners and other stakeholders in order to: a) consider new developments and emerging practices concerning responsible business conduct; b) support the positive contributions enterprises can make to identify and respond to risks of adverse impacts associated with particular products, regions, sectors or industries

28. Did the NCP identify new emerging challenges for enterprises, or engage in any related activities?

Yes No

See point 36.

Especially in some Countries, the issue of cooperation between enterprises and International Cooperation NGOs for a responsible internationalisation process could be an interesting issue.

D. Co-operation and peer learning

In addition to contributing to the Committee's work to enhance the effectiveness of the Guidelines, NCPs will engage in joint peer learning activities. In particular, they are encouraged to engage in horizontal, thematic peer reviews and voluntary NCP peer evaluations. Such peer learning can be carried out through meetings at the OECD or through direct co-operation between NCPs.

29. Did the NCP engage in direct co-operation with other NCPs? Yes No

It had contacts with the US and UK NCP to manage a specific instance in the phase of initial assessment. It also had contacts with the Brazilian NCP that asked for information about an Italian person that had submitted a complaint to that NCP. In addition, it had contacts with the French NCP to exchange views and information about the Bangladesh project.

30. Is the NCP interested in volunteering for a peer evaluation? Yes No

31. Is the NCP interested in being part of the team conducting a voluntary peer evaluation? Yes No

E. Specific instances

32. Did the NCP develop procedures for handling specific instances? Yes No

- are they available online? Yes No

<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/it/cosa-vuol-dire>
<http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/what-it-means>

- in which language/s ? English and Italian

- do procedures take into account the 2011 Procedural Guidance? Yes No

33. How many new specific instances did the NCP receive in the reporting period?

Title	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Kazakhstan
Leading NCP	UK NCP
Supporting NCP	Italy and US NCPs
Description	Operations of a Consortium at the Karachaganak Oil and Gas Condensate Field in western Kazakhstan, allegedly implying numerous violations of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. Request by the complainant to dislocate an entire village.

Theme/s	I. Concepts and Principles		
	IV. Human Rights		
	III. Disclosure		
	VI. Environment		
Date specific instance received	June 18, 2013		
Host country/ies	Kazakhstan		
Source	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade Union <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Other interested parties		
Industry sector	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply		
Status	In progress		
Summary	<p>The three NCPs called into question agreed that the UK NCP would take the lead.</p> <p>The UK NCP published the Initial assessment outcomes in November 2013.</p>		
Initial assessment	Assistance to parties	Conclusion of the procedures	
From date: 06/2013	From date:	From date:	
To date: 11/2013	To date:	To date:	
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-ncp-initial-assessment-complaint-against-the-kpo-consortium-in-kazakhstan http://pcnitalia.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/en/how-we-manage-instances			

34. Do you have any updates on specific instances that were reported and not concluded in the previous reporting period?

Yes No

F. Useful experiences and future work

35. Provide any other information on the nature and results of NCP activities during this implementation cycle of the updated Guidelines, including on any useful experiences and/or difficulties encountered in carrying out the duties of the NCP.

36. Based on your recent activities, what issues might deserve particular attention during the 2014-2015 implementation cycle of the OECD Guidelines?

Since the update of the OECD Guidelines many challenges have been raised on their implementation and the issues of human rights and due diligence in supply chains – as signaled in our last years’ report - have proven to be among the most important.

Specific proactive agenda projects are important, especially sector based projects. From our part, at present it is important to address the textile sector and - in there - the SMEs' conduct.

At the same time, it is also important to gather experiences, solutions and practical examples on:

- (top importance) how NCP are addressing these issues not only through the specific instances mechanisms but also in their recommendations, information etc.
- how enterprises are responding to the new framework for example on human rights or how the revised Guidelines have changed their approach in managing RBC.

With regards to NCPs it is urgent for all of them to attain a common minimum functioning target, while respecting the principle of functional equivalence. Ways to stimulate and assist NCPs should be sought by the WPRBC and also by the Investment Committee. Peer learning and peer reviews are important on this regard.

More generally, it is more and more important not to lose the momentum on promoting the Guidelines further, for example by cooperating with other actors - especially UN and ILO - by coordinating with other OECD activities and by promoting RBC as an horizontal factor in most OECD activities. On this regard more can be done to introduce or improve the RBC chapter in the numerous OECD reviews and assessments, starting from investments on. In this way outreach activities on the Guidelines can be more effective, benefiting from a path of dialogue between the OECD and new emerging economies and developing countries.

NCP CONTACT INFORMATION

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