

RECENT NATIONAL LEVEL DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE REVISED GUIDELINES

| Countries | Issues/Developments | | | |
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| | Status NCP | Promotion | Implementation | Wider Issues/Questions |
| Australia | Australian Treasury is handling the Guidelines. CFMEU has asked for tripartite body. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government website. - Leaflet on the role of NCP. - Ask employer associations to circulate the Guidelines to their members. | Discussion of a logo or other “reward” for companies committing to the Guidelines. | |
| Belgium | Tripartite NCP structure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-agency reporting to Economics Ministry. - Regular ongoing meetings (approximately 5 a year). | Translation of Guidelines into three languages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government website. - Production by government of diskette on Guidelines. | Training for Works Council representatives on Guidelines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions ongoing within NCP on implementation. | Co-ordination meetings between BENELUX NCPs (last meeting 15 September). Production of report comparing old and revised Guidelines. Concretise meaning of new NCP responsibilities. |
| Denmark | Flexible NCP structure. Not formally tripartite, but trade union involvement. Special Guidelines Committee with NGOs will be set up. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing meetings. | Translations of Guidelines into Danish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conference end of May. - Information activities to make the Guidelines known in the Baltic countries, Poland and Russia. | Discussions ongoing. | Discussions around recognising NCP into body to consider WTO related issues. |
| Finland | Tripartite. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGO input in flexible way, but not on labour issues. - Regular ongoing meetings. | Translation of Guidelines into Finnish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade/Industry website link to OECD. - Press article (SAK) 19 October 2000. - SAK will inform affiliates how to use Guidelines. | Discussions ongoing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Case pending in NCP. - SAK is lobbying the parliament to include Guidelines in export credit law. | Being re-organised as wider advisory group to Minister of Trade/Industry. |

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| France | Tripartite. - NGO input flexible while retaining formal tripartite structure. - Regular ongoing meetings. | NCP discussions ongoing. CFDT - Survey of affiliates on required measures for promotion/implementation. - Planned booklet for affiliates. F.O. - Convening meeting of federations to devise plan for promotion and implementation. - Booklet for affiliates. | Cases on Marks and Spencer and French companies' activities in Burma are being prepared. | Examination of creation of inter-Ministry NCP. - Possible linkage of Guidelines to EU measures e.g. Lome Convention. |
| Italy | Formal status/structure still under discussion. - Ongoing meetings planned, including with the relevant Minister. | Guidelines being translated into Italian. - Planned CISL meeting of EWC representations and sectoral unions to discuss strategy on Guidelines. - CGIL/CISL/UIIL internal discussions ongoing. - CISL project on promotion and respect of codes of conduct and fundamental workers rights at company and branch level. | | Expectation of inter-Ministry NCP. |
| Germany | Economics Ministry has promised to set up a tripartite NCP at higher level with regular meetings. Discussion on involving other ministries such as Development Co-operation and Labour | Guidelines being translated into German. - Ongoing discussions around promotion/implementation. - Seminar 17 January - unions and NGOs - Guidelines publication finished January 2001. - Conference in 2001 with industry and unions on how to implement the guidelines. | | Parliamentary expert group on globalisation - February 2001 Session to include role of Guidelines. Discussion on setting up an inter-agency working group on WTO related issues. |

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| Japan | <p>Ongoing internal trade union discussions on promotion/implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RENGO, Nikkeiren and Keidanren have proposed to the Ministries of Health, Labour and Welfare and Foreign Affairs to strengthen NCP, including the establishment of a tripartite liaison committee consisting of relevant government agencies, workers' and employer' organisations to develop and report on Guidelines related activities, in particular their promotion and implementation, including on specific cases. - NCP then to draft new rules of engagement, in co-operation with other government agencies. | | <p>Possible bilateral national centre agreements on implementation of Guidelines?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TUAC/ICFTU surveillance? |
| Netherlands | <p>NCP not tripartite, but unions have advisory role. Next meeting (26 October) including unions, business and NGOs to discuss further promotion/ implementation measures, including development of procedural rules on bringing cases forward.</p> | <p>Translation of Guidelines into Dutch.</p> | <p>Exploratory discussions ongoing with Veritas around possible verification tool for the Guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government discussing with institutional investors/ pension funds on using Guidelines as screening tool. - Government examining using Guidelines to condition company access to Export Credit support. |
| Spain | <p>CIOSL/CC.OO has launched a postcard campaign, asking the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs for the establishment of a NCP.</p> | | |

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| Sweden | Tripartite NCP. NGOs are handled separately, outside the OECD. Inter-agency reporting to Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Regular ongoing meetings. | Translation of Guidelines into Swedish completed. - Seminar (Trade Minister, plus unions and business) on promotion/implementation on 11 October 2000. - Press article accompanied seminar. - New seminar in autumn 2001. - Handbook was distributed in Mars 2001. | Nordic NCP's meeting (tripartite) 10 November. New meeting is being planned in autumn in Oslo. Unions to raise possibility of Nordic/Baltics seminar. Use of NCP as vehicle to explore follow-up work on corporate codes of conduct. NCP as vehicle for informal discussions with individual enterprises on their implementation of Guidelines, and wider work on corporate social responsibility. Ongoing meetings between NCP and Swedish Accountancy Standards Board on implications of fulfilling requirements of Guidelines chapter on Disclosure. |
| United Kingdom | NCP not tripartite (passive). Trade union/business/NGO input/roles to be determined. | NCP booklet on the Guidelines accomplished. | |
| United States | NCP not tripartite (passive). | AFL-CIO consulting with affiliates on strategic view to promote/implement the Guidelines. On basis of that, AFL-CIO to consider how best to engage NCP. | USCIB not as yet given support to the Guidelines. |

| Organisation | Developments at the International Level | |
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| | Promotion/Implementation | Wider Issues/Questions |
| TUAC Secretariat | <p>Continue mapping exercise of national/ international developments around the Guidelines. Act as clearing-house on national/international developments. Production of trade union "users' guide" on the Guidelines. Offer advice and guidance on Guidelines matters upon request to affiliates and other interested trade union organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Including on bringing cases forward at the national/international levels. - On the annual NCP reports of activities to the CIME. <p>Co-operate with ICFTU/ITS's on implementation of the Guidelines in "non-adhering" countries, and in seeking the views of trade unions in those countries as regards the annual NCP reports to the CIME.</p> | <p>A project post to work on Guidelines activities has been created. Resources permitting develop in co-operation with ICFTU/ITSs a series of regional or national level conferences/seminars for trade unions within and beyond the OECD. Explore linkage of Guidelines to wider trade union agenda on corporate social responsibility, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU developments (EWCs)/Lome Convention/ other elements of European Social Action Programme. - UN Global Compact. - ITS framework agreements and negotiated codes of conduct. - Wider trade union work on international capital markets. - OECD/World Bank work on corporate governance. <p>Engage affiliates and other interested trade union organisations as regards wider OECD work on international investment.</p> |

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| ICFTU Secretariat | <p>Circulate the Guidelines to all affiliates and regional organisations.</p> <p>Offer advice and guidance on Guidelines matters upon request to relevant affiliates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Including on bringing cases forward at the national and international level concerning the Guidelines in non-OECD countries. - Helping to ensure that the views of trade unions in non-OECD countries on Guidelines matters are made available to TUAC to help provide information to the CIME, including around the annual NCP reports. - Co-operate closely with TUAC, ITSs, and ICFTU Regional Organisations on the strategic use of the Guidelines to affect the behaviour of enterprises and provide support for the exercise of trade union and other workers' rights. | <p>Report on the Guidelines and issues related to them at appropriate meetings and in publications.</p> <p>Promote the Guidelines and implementation procedures, where useful, in other work in the area of corporate social responsibility and accountability</p> |
| Interested ITSs | <p>Circulate the Guidelines to all affiliates.</p> <p>Explore use of the Guidelines as part of a dialogue towards framework agreements with MNEs.</p> <p>Explore use of the Guidelines to reinforce framework agreements.</p> <p>Discuss with national centres on ways to bring cases forward, accounting for different circumstances.</p> | <p>Report on Guidelines matters in ITS journals/bulletins.</p> |

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| <p>OECD (Working Party, CIME and Secretariat)</p> | <p>Production of a new "Green Book" on the Guidelines, including past clarifications. Organise promotional activities around the Guidelines, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars/conferences in "adhering and non-adhering" countries. - Work to expand number of countries adhering to Guidelines. <p>Offer guidance on Guidelines-related matters to NCPs, and work to ensure "ownership" of Guidelines by NCPs. Develop common questionnaire to NCP, as part of preparation for annual NCP meetings. First such meeting on 18 June 2001. Forward annual NCP reports to OECD Ministerial Council meetings. Engage trade unions, business and NGOs in all Guidelines-related activities.</p> | <p>Link Guidelines to other OECD work. Develop policy-related work on wider issues around international investment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harmful competition among countries for FDI (financial, fiscal, labour, environment). - Corporate social responsibility mechanisms (corporate codes of conduct). |
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