

Implementing Global Principles on Responsible Business Conduct: transparency, human rights and anti-corruption obligations in practice.

Transparency, responsible business conduct with regard to environmental, social and governance responsibilities have become an integral part of any business vocabulary in the last decades. Companies who can show to internal guidelines, best practices and transparent processes of due diligence will have a competitive benefit and gain the trust of the consumers. At the same time, companies have increased in size and areas of operation, making them necessary global actors in ensuring human rights, anticorruption and sustainable development.

Both Norway and Chile have adopted the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, as well as the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct. More and more countries adopt national legislation to implement these principles and guidelines. Norway adopted a new Transparency Act that came into force 1st July 2022, which requires Norwegian companies, whether they operate in Norway or abroad, to conduct due diligence assessments. They must look at both their own business, their supply chain and their business partners to find out where the biggest risks are. Furthermore, it gives consumers the right to request information on how companies apply the need for due diligence in their value chains. The aim is to provide more transparency regarding the production of goods and the provision of services, especially relating to how businesses respect fundamental human rights and decent working conditions as part of these processes. Main objectives are that the Act will lead to improvements in these areas and that the information available will allow consumers to make more informed choices.

On the occasion of the new Norwegian Transparency Act, the Norwegian Embassy, together with The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, are pleased to invite you to a seminar on implementing global principles on responsible business conduct, with a special emphasis on transparency, human rights and anti-corruption. Norwegian and Chilean as well as international actors will come together to discuss and share knowledge and experiences related to future company conduct, as well as the two countries' commitment to address findings responsibly.

Date: Thursday 16th March 2023

Time: 09.00 – 14.00

Place: ECLAC/CEPAL

Seminar program

09.00	Registration. Tea and coffee.
09.30	Welcome addresses Ambassador Jostein Leiro, Embassy of Norway in Chile Minister Mario Marcel, Chilean Ministry of Finance Minister Jan Christian Vestre, Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry Executive Secretary José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, ECLAC

10.15	Keynote address <i>Why is transparency important and what role does the industry have in promoting human rights and anticorruption practices?</i> Jeannette von Wolfersdorff, economist and former director of Bolsa de Santiago
10.45	Panel 1: International guidelines and national legislation on transparency ❖ <i>The Norwegian Transparency Act</i> Sarah Sunde, The Norwegian Consumer Authority ❖ <i>Chilean legislation</i> Sebastián Segovia, Falabella ❖ <i>International point of view</i> María Jaraquemada, Transparency International Q & A Moderator: Louisa Børresen, Embassy of Norway in Chile
11.30	Coffee break
12.00	Panel 2: Responsible Business Conduct in Practice. Disclosure and reputation as part of business' ESG strategy. ❖ <i>The Experience of a Norwegian Company in Chile</i> María Teresa González, Statkraft Chile ❖ <i>Chilean experiences</i> Juan Carlos Corvalán, SODIMAC Chile ❖ <i>Escazu, a Regional Agreement on Access to Information</i> Carlos de Miguel, ECLAC Q & A Moderator: Georgina Nuñez, ECLAC
12.45	Panel 3: Multi-stakeholders and business conduct ❖ <i>On workers' rights and working conditions</i> Claudio Urrutia Olivares, CUT ❖ <i>On business and Indigenous peoples</i> Rodrigo Paillalef, Member United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) ❖ <i>Responsible business conduct in a changing world</i> Pablo Bobic, Confederation of Production and Commerce Q&A Moderator: Fabio Bertranou, ILO
13.30	Closing remarks Dante Pesce, Director Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso and Senior Adviser International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
13.45	Lunch reception