



## **Principles of Purchase UNICEF The Netherlands (UNICEF NL)**

1. UNICEF NL is part of the children's rights organisation of the United Nations (UN). The International Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) has been ratified by 196 countries (including The Netherlands), and the CRC shapes the core of our work. Therefore, we ask all businesses with which we are affiliated or start an affiliation to subscribe to adopting the Children's Rights and Business Principles.

2. In any case, UNICEF NL cannot work with companies:

- that operate in conflict with the principles and/or resolutions of UN organisations;
- whose goods, services, or projects conflict with the work of UNICEF;
- that are active in the alcohol, tobacco, sex, or weapon industries;
  
- that are associated with the gambling industry;
- that produce breastmilk substitutes;
- that are involved in extortion and corruption;
- that have repeatedly and regularly been guilty of environmental offences;
- that have repeatedly and regularly been guilty of violating children's rights.

3. Consequently, companies with which UNICEF NL commences (business) relations are expected to:

- have a policy in place for themselves and their suppliers which asks for a commitment to international human rights treaties, the Children's Rights and Business Principles, and is in accordance with national legislation and international standards, depending on which sets the bar higher regarding children's rights;
- include the above in the contracts with suppliers;

- have a procedure which screens, selects, evaluates, and prioritises (potential) suppliers and business affiliates based partly on international human rights and the Children's Rights and Business Principles;
- take measures to prevent causing a negative impact on children, their caregivers, and/or their environment, and (if necessary) address any harm caused;
- monitor the effectiveness of these measures;
- involve and inform stakeholders of these measures.

4. This commitment means that:

- The company sets 15 years as the minimum age for employment and asks this of its suppliers also; there is a procedure in place to monitor this;
- The company provides healthy and safe work to children between 15 and 18 years, and asks this of its suppliers also; there is a procedure in place to monitor this;
- The company conducts family-friendly policies and asks this of its suppliers also; there is a procedure in place to monitor this. As a minimum, family-friendly policy entails:
  - an accordance with International Labour Organisation Conventions regarding discrimination and equality;
  - special policy for pregnant women;
  - that an employee's wage is sufficient to cover their child(ren)'s basic needs, including schooling;
  - availability of breastfeeding and day-care provisions;
  - that familial commitments and responsibilities are not impeded by workhours;
  - strict health and safety standards and requirements for goods and services intended for children and their families. The company asks this of its suppliers also; there is a procedure in place to monitor this;
  - an environmental policy which bears impact on children in mind, including child-specific health impacts, and consequences of resource scarcity, pollution, and poisoning. The company asks this of its suppliers also; there is a procedure in place to monitor this;
  - a formal complaints mechanism where complaints regarding the above can be reported, investigated, and answered.