



**MINISTRY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMY
HUNGARY**

Report of the Hungarian National Contact Point to the OECD IC

Budapest

April 21, 2010

Report of the Hungarian National Contact Point to the OECD IC

A/ Institutional Arrangements

Address of the Hungarian National Contact Point:

Ministry for National Development and Economy
85 Margit krt.
1024 Budapest
Department of Business Environment
Phone: +361 336 7819
Fax: +361 336 7832
Email: julia.vago@nfgm.gov.hu

Composition of the Hungarian National Contact Point (HNCP)

The organizational structure is bilateral, the HNCP is an interdepartmental government body with permanent members. The number of members can be temporarily increased by the ministries affected, if appropriate.

Recent permanent members of HNCP

Ministry for National Development and Economy (MNDE)
Ministry of Finance (MoF)

MNDE and its legal predecessors acted as a Secretariat for, and a permanent member of, the HNCP at the same time from the very beginning. HNCP made decision on the basis of consensus.

The main supervisor and the person in charge of HNCP is the State Secretary for Competitiveness of the MNDE.

In June 2009, the Secretariat of HNCP was transferred from the Department of Enterprise Development to the Business Environment Department of MNDE. At the same time the person in charge was also changed, but the former Hungarian NCP has supported and promoted the activity of the new HNCP.

B/ Information and Promotion

The main information source on the Guidelines is the home page of the MNDE and the HNCP itself.

Guidelines

The text of the Guidelines and other relevant information (e.g. Commentaries, Declaration, etc.) were translated into Hungarian and are available on the Ministry's homepage:

www.nfgm.gov.hu/feladataink/kulgazd/oecd/iranyelvek/iranyelvekoecd.html

A brief summary of the Guidelines can also be read in Hungarian:

www.nfgm.gov.hu/feladataink/kulgazd/oecd/osszefoglaloOECD.html

HNCP

The procedural guide on the HNCP, explaining what and how to do in the case of inquiry is available in Hungarian:

www.nfgm.gov.hu/feladataink/kulgazd/oezd/kapcsolattarto.html

Further information

Further actual information and references to the OECD NCP webpage can be found:

www.nfgm.gov.hu/feladataink/kulgazd/oezd

The webpage of the MNDE also offers basic information on the OECD HNCP in English:

http://nfgm.gov.hu/en/our_tasks/foreign/oezd/oezd_ncp.html

The Guidelines can be read in Hungarian on the homepage of the European Integration Commission of Hungarian Trade Unions as well:

<http://mathom.dura.hu/mszeib/hirek/2002/eufelk2.html>

On the homepage of the Hungarian EXIMBANK there is a direct link to the OECD Council Recommendation on Bribery and Officially Supported Export Credits:

www.eximbank.hu/szabalyzatok-kondiciok/OECD-ajanlas/

On the homepage of the Hungarian Export Credit Insurance Pte Ltd. (MEHIB) there is an implemented OECD document on bribery and anti-corruption and a direct link to the OECD webpage.

www.mehib.hu/Default.aspx?menuid=10739&block=9

www.mehib.hu/Default.aspx?menuid=105&block=1

The Global Compact Network in Hungary has 21 members listed on the Web (www.unglobalcompact.org/participants/search?commit=t&country%5B%5D=82&page=1&per_page=25). The latest participant - Innovacioval a Fenntarthato Fejlodesert Egyesulet (Association with Innovation for Sustainable Development) - joined the Network in March 2010.

The organisational and personal changes in the Hungarian NCP made it necessary to refresh the cooperation with partners and potential partners in the field of the Guidelines and responsible business conduct. This process has been started and will be continued later this year. BIAC and TUAC members as well as other stakeholders are involved. These meetings offer good opportunities for considering future promotional activities.

Currently, there are 2 BIAC members, 2 TUAC members and no OECDWatch member from Hungary as follows:

BIAC:

Confederation of Hungarian Employers and Industrialist (Munkaadók és Gyáriparosok Országos Szövetsége, MGYOSZ) www.mgyosz.hu

National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers (Vállalkozók és Munkáltatók Országos Szövetsége, VOSZ) www.vosz.hu

TUAC:

Democratic Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (LIGA) www.liganet.hu

National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions (MSZOSZ) www.mszosz.hu

C/ Implementation in Specific Instance

Specific instance was not submitted to HNCP.

D/ Other

There is no other relevant information concerning the activity of the Hungarian NCP.

E/ Looking back at the past ten years

The interdepartmental unit seemed to be working well. Although the governmental institutions in charge of the HNCP underwent changes several times in the past ten years, the main staff of the HNCP remained the same until last year.

Visibility was always a priority for the HNCP thus being continuously present via the Internet. The Hungarian translation of the Guidelines was well known from the beginning. NGOs, claimants, researchers could easily find the HNCP when a concrete instance or request arose.

The Guidelines emerged in the curriculum of some universities and became part of some training programs for trade union leaders, health, safety and other related experts.

Promotional activities of the Hungarian NCP were uneven with some peaks and troughs. Financial resources were very limited, but the HNCP could operate in a smooth way. However, widely publicized events, conferences etc. were not organized.

The greatest challenge for the HNCP was the examination of the specific instance. It was complicated and needed specific knowledge on labor affairs and chemical safety including handling of hazardous materials. These issues required careful examination, prudent approaches. Every seemingly minor detail could have had important role when the NCP had to judge the case. Not the Guidelines or the updating of the Guidelines caused the basic problem but the deep and detailed knowledge on the specific field.

Information exchange and peer learning, annual meetings of NCPs and meetings of the Working Party were very useful for the HNCP. A lot could be learned on how to handle specific instances and what kind of specific instances, requests, cases can occur in practice. Problematic issues for the interdepartmental units in other countries and involvement of government organizations (e.g. embassies) by the NCP to solve a task effectively were also quite useful.

It is of utmost importance that the experiences gained in the past ten years should be retained and close cooperation between the “old” and “new” staff should continue. Information exchange and peer learning with other NCPs and the Working Party is even more needed. Furthermore, the good cooperation with stakeholders should be maintained and further broadened.