

simply
sustainable

 messe frankfurt

UN Global Compact

Communication on Progress
Messe Frankfurt
2015 / 2016

Acting responsibly

Foreword by the Executive Board



Trade fairs are marketplaces. They bring people and markets together. And they mirror the success of commercial activity. As trade fair organisers, we are ready to embrace our entrepreneurial responsibility towards the environment in which we operate – towards our customers, employees and society.

Creating economic and social value has been a core element of our mission statement since Messe Frankfurt was founded. Respect and fairness in our dealings with business partners, the principles of sustainable business and recognition of our social responsibility are embedded in our company philosophy. Since 2010, we have underscored this philosophy by signing up to the United Nations Global Compact, committing ourselves to its Ten Principles in the fields of human rights, labour standards, environmental protection and anti-corruption. We feel it is our obligation to uphold these principles and will continue to adhere to them in the future.

Cooperating with our public shareholders, we endeavour to ensure that, as a place of business whose development has always been inextricably linked with Frankfurt's strengths as a trade fair venue, the Frankfurt/Rhine-Main economic area is fit for the future. This is only possible if we succeed in progressively integrating sustainability approaches into more and more areas of our business. Because this is where responsibility is actively practised. And this is what positions our company positively with both internal and external stakeholders.

We therefore initiated a number of innovations and developments during the past reporting period: The Kap Europa congress centre was the first convention building worldwide to be awarded a Platinum Certification by the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB). Messe Frankfurt was also responsible for organising and running the German Pavilion at EXPO 2015 in Milan where, as the central theme, sustainability played a key role.

At our exhibition grounds construction got under way on the new Hall 12, which will be our contribution to future development, making careful use of resources and energy-efficient methods. And since last year, Messe Frankfurt has been home to more than 350,000 bees, which will ensure that the tree-lined avenues around the exhibition complex continue to flourish in the years to come. These are just some of the examples of our ongoing activities in the field of sustainability that we would like to present to you in greater detail in this Communication on Progress for the period from May 2015 to May 2016, while also offering a preview of future developments.

I hope you find this a fascinating read.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'W. Marzin'.

Wolfgang Marzin
President and Chief Executive Officer
Messe Frankfurt GmbH

Market leader with responsibility

Messe Frankfurt – Company

Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Moscow, Chicago or Dubai: at our home venue or worldwide, everything at Messe Frankfurt revolves around encounters – and has done for more than 775 years. Messe Frankfurt stands for internationally successful trade fair concepts. Our stakeholders can rest assured that at our events they will find the very best the world has to offer from all sectors of industry. This trust is the foundation on which we build dependable and sustainable business relationships.

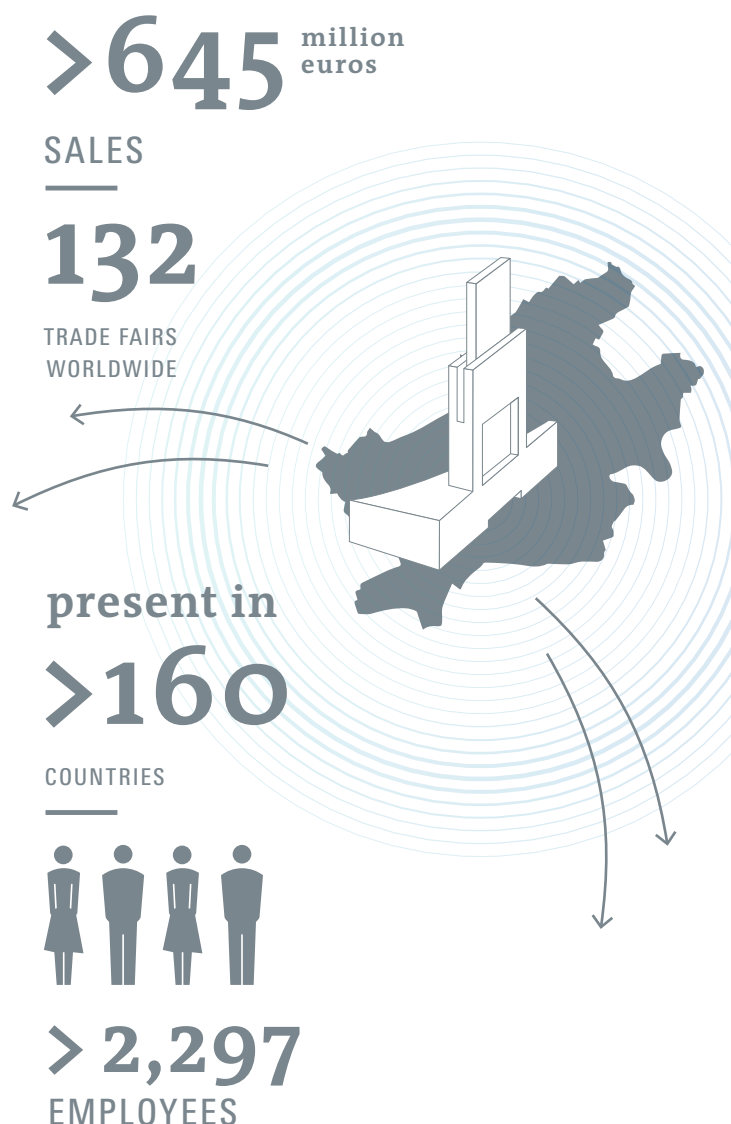
With our brands, events and social commitment, we are as much at home in key international hubs as at our own Frankfurt base. Our employees, partners, associations, exhibitors and visitors all accompany us along the road to sustainable success. Thus the record sales figure of approx. 645* million euros is directly attributable to the high level of commitment of over 2,297* employees on five continents. At the 132* events held around the world, we welcomed 89,900* exhibitors and more than 4* million visitors. Together we are moving forward into the future. In this context, we are continuously modernising our exhibition grounds at our home base in Frankfurt, strengthening digital business and working around the globe to ensure people happily keep finding their way back to our international marketplaces. With a global network of 29 subsidiaries and some 57 international sales partners, we are ready to support our customers in more than 160 countries around the world.

Our business activities are focused on the organisation and implementation of trade fairs, exhibitions and conventions. Our activities are grouped into five business segments. In the Consumer Goods & Leisure business segment, Ambiente, Christmasworld and Paperworld are the most important meeting places for the consumer goods sector. When it comes to Textiles & Textile Technologies, our Heimtextil, Techtextil, Texprocess and Texcare are the international highlights in the textiles sector. Among the Group's classic events are its technology-oriented trade fairs from the fields of Technology & Production and Mobility & Logistics: Automechanika, Light+Building, IFFA and ISH. Musikmesse and Prolight+Sound are leading trade fairs in the Consumer Goods & Entertainment segment.

We also offer our customers a wide range of supporting services for all aspects of their event – including logistics, stand construction, catering, cleaning, publishing and digital services.

The Group is divided into two corporate entities under a holding company: Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH, which organises trade fairs in Germany and abroad and Messe Frankfurt Venue GmbH, which focuses primarily on managing and optimising the exhibition grounds. These two companies are grouped together under Messe Frankfurt Holding GmbH, which performs all administrative and staff functions. The company is publicly owned, with the City of Frankfurt holding 60 percent and the State of Hesse 40 percent. Covering an area of around 592,127 square metres, Messe Frankfurt's exhibition grounds at its home venue accommodate ten halls and two congress centres.

* Preliminary figures for 2015



Our philosophy

With our trade fairs we create meeting places for personal dialogues, business transactions and exchanges of ideas. We want to inspire people and provide a platform for their visions, projects and innovations.

In all of this, our goal is to provide lasting added value for our business environment, for society and for our employees. We feel strong ties to the local city and region at all of our company locations –

not only at our base in Frankfurt, but all around the world. We strive to develop creative trade fair concepts and a motivating working environment. We want to ensure that our staff enjoy working for us. Social, economic and ecological aspects of sustainability are at the heart of all we do.

We undertake a commitment to act responsibly and to safeguard the long-term development of our company.

Acting today for the benefit of tomorrow

The foundation of all we do lies in over 775 years of trade fair history and is based on a close association with the City of Frankfurt and the State of Hesse, today's shareholders. Time and again, our trade fairs at our home venue have helped to spark progress, playing a key role in the development of Frankfurt into a prosperous international trading

centre. The City and the exhibition centre form a symbiotic partnership, and this is reflected in Messe Frankfurt's commitment throughout the region. Our trade fairs influence whole industries and showcase which themes and products are shaping the future.

Focus on partnership

It is our firm belief that the best way to attain ambitious goals is through joint effort. This is why Messe Frankfurt participates in sustainability networks such as the United Nations Global Compact, to which it signed up in 2010. As a company operating in an international arena, diversity is an integral component of our corporate culture. Messe Frankfurt demonstrates its commitment in this area through its participation in the

Charter of Diversity initiative. Since 2013, Congress Frankfurt has been supporting the "fairpflichtet – right and fair" industry code for the sustainable organisation and implementation of events. These public efforts are supplemented by continuous stakeholder engagement and by participation in German and international trade fair association task groups.

CSR focus areas

We group our wide-ranging CSR activities into four areas of activity: Environment/Sustainability, Social Responsibility, Education/Science and Commitment to Culture. By designating our activities in these areas with the “simply sustainable” slogan and a

special logo, we are able to further increase the focus on sustainability while also raising awareness for this issue. In all our initiatives we attach great importance to long-term impact, transparency and credibility.

Environment/ Sustainability

In the field of Environment/Sustainability we are implementing numerous measures to conserve resources and protect our environment, such as the energy-efficient development of our exhibition grounds.

Social Responsibility

For Messe Frankfurt, Social Responsibility begins at home. We see ourselves as a reliable partner – around the world and on our own doorstep. We support social institutions at our business locations and offer better-than-average working conditions.

Commitment to Culture

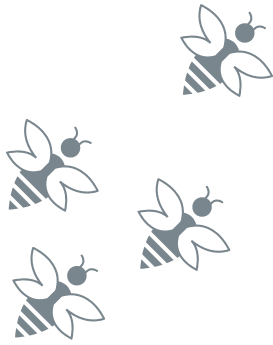
Commitment to Culture at Messe Frankfurt is expressed in cooperation and support for cultural institutions and events. Our focus is on the fields of art and music. For many years we have sponsored the Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt as well as the Rheingau Music Festival.

Education/ Science

Education/Science is an area in which Messe Frankfurt has been taking specific, long-term steps – for example with its endowment of the Messe Frankfurt Professorship for International Economic Policy at Frankfurt’s Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, underscoring the importance of knowledge and qualification for our Group.

Sustainability

in figures



>350,000

BEES ON THE EXHIBITION GROUNDS

350,000 bees for the good of sustainability

In 2015, more than 350,000 bees moved into the Messe Frankfurt exhibition grounds. Messe Frankfurt is now home to six bee colonies residing in quiet parts of the exhibition grounds.

Between 40 and 60 kilograms of honey is expected to be harvested per colony per year. The extracted honey is a 100 percent natural product. The honey is produced using a self-turning honey extractor operated with power from a proprietary wind and solar power system

The beehive is a company-owned city apiary. Urban beekeeping is an expression of a conscious urban lifestyle in which public awareness of bees has once again grown. While in rural areas bees are threatened by pesticides and monocultures, in cities the milder climate and lower pressure on food production provide a suitable habitat. A further four colonies are planned for the grounds soon, bringing the total number of beehives on the exhibition grounds to ten.

New Hall 12

Today, the Frankfurt exhibition grounds cover an area of 592,127 square metres, with ten exhibition halls and two congress centres, making Messe Frankfurt one of the largest exhibition centres in the world. Nevertheless, in the ongoing development of the exhibition grounds we are continually

looking for ways to enhance energy efficiency and conserve resources. 2015 saw the start of construction of the new Hall 12. In order to maximise use of more efficient hall technology, Hall 6 and the Galleria Entrance have also been modernised.





1,100 kWp
GREEN ENERGY

1,100 kWp green electricity production

The utilisation of innovative technologies has also allowed us to make our own contribution to sustainable power generation. For example, as part of a public-private partnership we have been operating photovoltaic systems on the exhibition

grounds since 2009. Their total output of more than 1,100 kWp of green electricity is sufficient to meet the needs of up to 350 households. It is planned to install a further photovoltaic system as part of the construction of the new Hall 12.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10% up to 2020

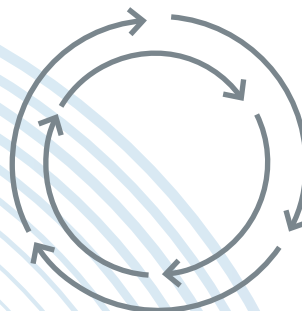
In order to reduce our consumption of electricity, water and heating energy, we use special software to register and monitor all energy consumption at the exhibition grounds. This provides instant information on current energy consumption and shows where there is room for improvement. The software is part of a systematic energy management system. In this context, the company defined strategic

targets last year that are aimed at reducing pollutant emissions by 10 percent up to 2020. Within the scope of regular energy monitoring, the responsible energy team reviews existing processes, identifies potential for optimisation and defines new measures. Under the requirements of the EU directive on energy efficiency, energy audits were performed at two locations in the reporting period.

90% of all waste fed back into the material cycle

We try to avoid producing waste wherever possible. But where waste is unavoidable, we ensure it is correctly disposed of and, where possible, recycled. Husbanding resources responsibly includes dedi-

cated efforts to separate and recycle waste. We ensure that as much as 90 percent of the waste generated at the Frankfurt exhibition grounds each year is fed back into the material cycle.



90%
OF ALL WASTE
FED BACK INTO THE
MATERIAL CYCLE

Sustainability within the company



Low-emission mobility and logistics

One of the foundations of our environmentally friendly mobility is our location, which boasts optimum transport connections. In addition, practical combined tickets allow exhibitors and visitors to use public transport free of charge for many of our events at the Frankfurt exhibition centre. At the exhibition grounds electric recharging points enable our customers to recharge their vehicles for free. We are also promoting electric mobility for our own business travel with the introduction of the first electric cars in Messe Frankfurt's fleet in 2015. In cooperation with Deutsche Bahn, we encourage environmentally friendly train travel for journeying to Messe Frankfurt. An integrated logistics concept helps

to reduce the volume of event-related traffic at the exhibition grounds. We also offer a barrier-free access and connection network that provides mobility-impaired visitors with the freedom of movement they need.

In order to keep the environmental impact of travelling to and from work to a minimum, Messe Frankfurt subsidises a staff job ticket for use on the Rhine-Main public transport system. In 2015, Messe Frankfurt was certified by the bike+business initiative as a bike-friendly company. The company provides more than 110 bikes to assist staff with getting around the exhibition grounds.

Doing good together

One of the focuses of our social commitment to a sustainable future is support of charitable organisations for children and young people. Together with Children for a better World e.V. we are working to combat child poverty in Germany. This initiative has made it possible to provide children from the local partner organisation in Frankfurt's Gallus district with a daily lunch and a balanced diet.

As part of the KreativArt initiative, over 70 international companies – a quarter of all the exhibitors at Creativeworld – donated handicraft materials. Some 70 child and youth organisations from all over Frankfurt were invited to choose what they need – and often lack the money to buy – from among the materials donated.

Award-winning work-life balance

We want our staff to enjoy working for us, so we strive to provide them with the best possible support. At our Frankfurt base, we work with external partners to deliver professional assistance that enables staff to better reconcile a career and family life. Since 2008, working parents have been able to fall back on an emergency childcare service – this service steps in to help if their regular childcare becomes unavailable. Furthermore, since 2012 employees have been able to take advantage of professional and confidential advice on personal

and work-related matters as part of the Employee Assistance Programme.

Messe Frankfurt's better-than-average working conditions place the company among Germany's top employers in 2016. This is the result of an independent survey conducted by the German news magazine FOCUS. Parameters for the survey included an evaluation of the workplace, leadership style, atmosphere and career prospects.

Individual staff development

Basic and advanced training plays an important role at Messe Frankfurt. We are currently providing 24 trainees with comprehensive professional training that will give them a solid foundation for their future careers. In addition to three different training occupations, we also offer a dual degree course in three areas of specialisation in cooperation with the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University.

We offer our employees a broad range of basic and advanced training options based on a systematic study. In 2015 alone, over 700 employees at our Frankfurt base took part in one- and multi-day seminars and workshops. In this way, we not only promote identification with the company, but also enhance the quality of the workforce.

Health comes first

Healthy employees are one of the most important prerequisites for our corporate success. That's why Messe Frankfurt helps to actively promote its employees' fitness, physical and personal well-being with the Messe Vital occupational health programme. This programme provides a broad range of information, prevention and consultation services. During the period covered by the present Communication on Progress, for example, Messe Frankfurt offered blood donor registration and colorectal cancer screenings. The programme also offers seminars on nutrition, massages, back

exercises and self-defence training to help protect our employees against accidents and diseases. Physical exercise and interaction among colleagues are also fostered in the company's sports groups. In the running segment, participation in the J. P. Morgan Corporate Challenge and the Frankfurt Marathon have become fixed dates on the calendar. In 2016, a six-month professional running training programme is being offered for all employees, setting a benchmark for Group-wide fitness and team spirit.

Integrity in day-to-day business

Ethical principles and statutory as well as voluntary commitments are the guiding principle behind all our actions. We firmly believe that sustained corporate success can only be achieved by following the rules. Messe Frankfurt therefore strives to combat corruption and bribery. During the reporting period

Messe Frankfurt continued to step up its efforts in this area. Employee participation in online offerings, aligning Group-wide processes and regulations and ongoing development of the Compliance Management System raise awareness of this issue in day-to-day business.



Sustainability

at our events

Greener trade fair participation

We want to support our customers in improving the green credentials of their trade fair participation. We are therefore continuously developing our exhibition grounds and services to make them more resource and environmentally friendly.

For example, our admission tickets also include free use of the local public transportation system. For those journeying to Messe Frankfurt by car, we provide free recharging points to encourage electrical mobility. At each fair, up to 20 consultants are

on hand to advise on and monitor waste reduction and separation. Ahead of the fair, exhibitors receive a GreenCheck brochure with tips on greener trade fair participation. This is complemented by the Green Catering offering from our Accente catering subsidiary. All food is sourced from regional suppliers from Frankfurt and the surrounding region. Exact portioning, waste avoidance and use of certified table- and glassware are part of a regional and seasonal food and beverage solution.

Sustainability as a trade fair theme

With special exhibitions, workshops and publications we inform visitors and exhibitors of relevant developments in their industries and thus help to provide a platform for all aspects of sustainability. Eco-fashion has become a fixed focal point in the textiles industry. Twice a year within the context of the Berlin Fashion Week, Messe Frankfurt organises the Greenshowroom and Ethical Fashion Show Berlin for sustainable high-end fashion and streetwear. Growth in the number of visitors and exhibitors as well as evident interest in these events reflects the increasing importance of, and rising demand for, sustainable fashion.

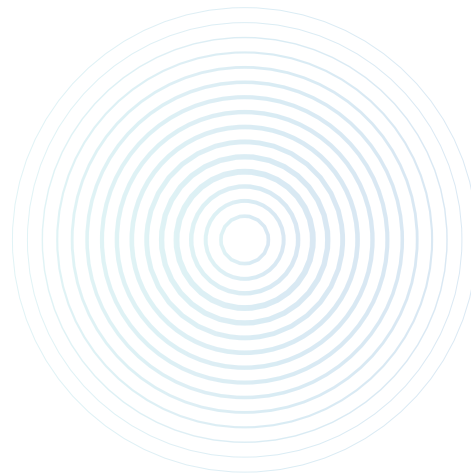
Since 2015 we have supported the integration of sustainability in conventional retail channels by specifically identifying exhibition stands of exhibitors with particularly green and ethical credentials. During Ambiente and Tendence these are listed in the Ethical Style Guide, and for Heimtextil in the Green Directory. An appointed jury decides which companies are included in the Guide. Special tours and brochures guide through the event. The idea is to improve orientation and transparency.

More detailed information about current developments is available in the Sustainability & Textiles newsletter, which interested parties can subscribe to free of charge at sustainability-texpertise-network.com.

In the Technology & Production business segment, Messe Frankfurt organises nearly 70 events worldwide. At Light + Building, the leading international fair for lighting and building technology, the focus in 2016 was on smart connectivity and efficient energy management. The special E-House show demonstrated how we will be living in the future. On an area of 100 square metres, the model house realistically shows how sustainability can be integrated into the everyday lives of end users. The Building Future Award honours personalities from the world of research and development who have helped lay the foundations for the sustainable future of our society. The Award draws the attention of society and the media to sustainable, future-oriented projects.



Ethical Fashion Show | Source – Thomas Lohnes / Getty Images



Pioneer of sustainable conventions

Messe Frankfurt is also a pioneer of sustainable, socially and environmentally compatible congresses and conventions. In 2015, 148 congresses and conventions were hosted at our exhibition grounds. A focus on energy efficiency and the sustainable use of resources has become almost a matter of course when organising and implementing such events. The Kap Europa congress centre opened two years ago was the first convention building worldwide to be sustainably designed throughout its entire life cycle – from building and operation, through to dismantling. Having already been awarded Gold Certification by the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB) during the construction phase, in October 2015 the building

received Platinum Certification – the highest possible accolade – for its high ecological and social standards. The building is run entirely on green power. Recyclable materials, ecological cleaning, energy-saving lighting and event technology are just some of the aspects worth mentioning. No wonder, then, that in early 2015 Kap Europa played host to the Green Meetings und Events Conference. This event showcases the development of measures and guidelines for entrepreneurial responsibility in the event industry. The organisers of the conference are also the initiators of the industry code “fairpflichtet – right and fair”. Messe Frankfurt is among the signatories of the statement of support.



Kap Europa | Source – Messe Frankfurt GmbH, Pietro Sutura

Awareness – transcending borders

Messe Frankfurt's global CSR commitment

Italy:

The theme of EXPO 2015 in Milan was "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life" and aimed to find answers to the future challenges posed by global nutrition. Messe Frankfurt organised and ran the German pavilion at EXPO 2015 on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi).

For the entire six months of the Expo, Germany presented itself as an active, fertile landscape of ideas and solutions – derived from a new and responsible interaction with nature. As part of the concept, the pavilion was completely dismantled and the site returned to its original state.

USA:

The social commitment of our employees outside of working hours – known as Corporate Volunteering – was impressively demonstrated in 2015 by our colleagues in Atlanta. As part of a fund raising campaign to support victims of the floods in South Carolina, our employees organised an entire truckload of donations in kind. Last year they also actively supported HOPE Lodge, an establishment for cancer patients.

The subsidiary also organised a walking contest lasting several weeks. The goal was to do at least 10,000 steps a day. The goal was achieved in 14 weeks, with more than 23 million steps in total.

In the course of the last reporting period, certified training courses were also held on anti-discrimination and anti-corruption.

South Africa:

Equality and protection against discrimination are basic human rights. We champion adherence to these human rights around the world. The broad-based economic empowerment programme aims to achieve

equal economic opportunities on the South African labour market. Messe Frankfurt's South African subsidiary, which opened its doors in 2014, therefore also implements the programme.





India:

Messe Frankfurt India is supporting the inhabitants of Sunder Nagri, New Delhi's biggest slum, with a special training offering for art and handicrafts. Participants have the possibility to acquire new knowledge and skills or brush up on old ones. They produce hand-made cushions or knitted bags. The training lasts two months. The results of their work are being exhibited at a special show within the scope of Heimtextil & Ambiente India in June 2016.

Access to clean drinking water, waste disposal and dwindling reserves of fossil fuels are but a few of

the major challenges facing the world in future. Finding solutions to these challenges demands innovative ideas and high-impact campaigns. Our colleagues from the Indian subsidiary initiated two campaigns in Delhi and Mumbai during the last reporting period aimed at utilising LED lighting and saving water. To bring the message home, best-practice tips and advice were illustrated graphically on posters.

Hong Kong:

ECO EXPO Asia 2015 took place in Hong Kong for the tenth time and thus underscored the increasing importance of environmental technology. The focus is on the development of technologies and solutions to improve the quality of air and water, energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and green building solutions. With more than 70 technology trade fairs worldwide, Messe Frankfurt provides a platform for these cutting-edge fields.



The UN Global Compact's ten principles

Human rights

01: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

02: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Environment

07: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

08: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

09: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Labour

03: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

04: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

05: the effective abolition of child labour; and

06: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Anti-corruption

10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

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