

UNGC Communication on Engagement
IPPAG Cooperative
Covering Jan 2019 to Dec 2020

Part I.

Statement of Continued Support by our Chairman

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express the IPPAG Cooperative's continued support for the United Nations Global Compact and renew our organisation's on-going commitment to the initiative and its principles.

The IPPAG Cooperative is committed to behave in a socially and ethically exemplary way and we believe that we are responsible for all the people who take part in the production and support of our products and services worldwide. We are continuously challenging each link in our industry's supply chain from manufacturers to end-customers via the IPPAG Sustainability Pledge: www.ippagsustainability.com

The IPPAG Cooperative and its members are committed to a high level of Corporate Citizenship, through our Code of Conduct, our partnership with the United Nations Global Compact Initiative, our Partner Supplier network, and our Amfori / BSCI membership.

In the past two years, we have significantly strengthened our commitment with a focus on goal 12 'responsible production and consumption': via the creation of a unique Carbon Tracking tool used by all our members.

Please find below our Communication on Engagement, which demonstrates our intent to continue with our efforts to support the principles of the Global Compact.

Kind Regards,
Mr Thomas Davidsson
IPPAG Chairman



IPPAG SHARES



IPPAG EXCHANGES



IPPAG HAS VISION



IPPAG CARES

Parts II. and III.

Description of Actions / Measurement of Outcomes

1) Expanded IPPAG network of member companies:

The IPPAG Cooperative is continuously expanding its network of member companies. All identification, assessment and then integration of new companies is managed on the basis of their capacity to adopt and adhere to the United Nations Guiding Principles and follow the United Nations Global Compact initiative. Internal information and training is provided to make these new companies fully aware of the program and its implications, in parallel to their adoption of our Code of Conduct, our Responsible Sourcing platform, assessment and auditing methodology and Preferred Supplier network.

Outcomes:

- 3 new companies joined our Cooperative in 2019: from the USA, Israel and Nigeria
All companies have therefore also signed IPPAG's Code of Conduct and UNGC commitment policy and have received training as detailed above.
Thus continuing to expand our geographical coverage and influence.

2) IPPAG Partner Supplier network

We encourage our Cooperative members to purchase goods via our established network of Partner Suppliers. These suppliers have been fully assessed and are periodically monitored. Consolidating purchases from our 35 member companies in this way helps to minimise risks and promote compliance in all the countries we are active in. Partner Suppliers are made aware of IPPAG and its members commitment to the UNGC.

Outcomes:

Since January 2019: 5 suppliers who did not meet our criteria and expectations have been excluded from the program and 7 new suppliers have been fully assessed and integrated. Thus continuing to help our member companies operate their purchasing within a trusted and reliable network of suppliers, meeting high standards in terms of compliance and CSR.

3) IPPAG and IPPAG member membership of Amfori (formerly FTA) + BSCI

As of January 2017: IPPAG has been a member of Amfori on a central level and acts to coordinate sustainability, CSR and compliance efforts carried out by its individual member companies who are also Amfori members.

We assess and audit our Partner Suppliers using Amfori's BSCI initiative framework and our members also conduct BSCI audits with their individual suppliers.

IPPAG centrally provides BSCI training, awareness, advocacy, support and coordination to its members.

Outcomes:

9 active Amfori / BSCI members in 2019
11 BSCI audits carried out by IPPAG centrally / by members
250+ producers assessed via the BSCI platform

4) IPPAG support + training:

ie: organizing learning and dialogue events, workshops and training for their members on the UN Global Compact and specific topics relevant to corporate sustainability:

Our 3 x yearly group meetings always include a specific session dedicated to our Responsible Sourcing Program and internal CSR program: directed at Company managers but also and essentially at all company purchasing and sourcing staff.

In addition to our meetings, we have a strong internal network, facilitated by our IT sharing platforms, for all IPPAG purchasing staff: as they act as our 'frontline' being directly concerned by these issues in their day to day tasks. IPPAG provides tools and data to help them to source responsibly, and to integrate the UNGC principles into their processes: by providing guidance and joint framework / processes.

On a smaller scale: regional groups of purchasing / sourcing staff are also in close communication and hold regular joint webinars.

IPPAG also attends global / local annual industry events related to CSR and Sustainability issues: examples: the Amfori annual conference, Asia Inspection Quality workshops, Industry specific Compliance panels (via ASI, PPAI and PSI), etc...

Outcomes:

Strong support system and high levels of exchanges for otherwise 'isolated' purchasing staff. IPPAG acts to facilitate and relay expertise, information and best practices.

5) the IPPAG "on track" initiative and carbon tracking tool

As part of the "IPPAG Sustainability Pledge": www.ippagsustainability.com

We have created an internal 'Carbon Tracking Tool' to be used by all IPPAG members: to calculate / demonstrate / compare / reduce / and compensate the carbon emissions related to the products that we propose and sell.

Through meticulous calculations: we are accountable and responsible for our emissions...

We are « on track » towards a lower carbon impact.

For IPPAG and its member companies: Sustainability is about making better choices:

One product at a time... / Day by day / Action by action / Choice by choice...

By making BETTER product choices, and continually improving our supply chain:

We are « on track » to a more Sustainable Promotional Items Industry



IPPAG SHARES



IPPAG EXCHANGES



IPPAG HAS VISION



IPPAG CARES

A few words on the chosen methodology

Life cycle analysis (LCA) is a method that aims to assess the environmental impact of a product through its life cycle, going from extraction, transformation, production, packing, shipping and use to end of life. For each step, CO2 emissions will be calculated:



The tool then takes into account:

The product's subcategory / its country of origin and destination / how it is transported / its gross weight / its materials / its packaging

IPPAG 'ON TRACK': "Why our tool is a reliable, transparent and effective one"

The tool is currently being third party certified by Bureau Veritas.

Our tool has been developed by ECOACT: an international leader in climate strategy (since 2005):

European leader in the Voluntary Carbon Market

20 million tCO2e offset on behalf of their clients

Advisory of the world biggest carbon neutral initiatives

Founding Partner of Gold Standard for the Global Goals

EcoScore Methodology to evaluate carbon offsetting projects

Excel and Web tools (similar to IPPAG's) developed for LA POSTE – DPD – PEPSICO – PHILIPS – WWF – Royal Bank of Scotland – OCDE – Orangina Suntory and many more

Methodology:

LCA-type approach (compliant with ISO 14064)= 'Life Cycle Analysis': from the extraction of the raw material to the end of life process for each product

GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions based on the most suitable emission factors from certified tools and databases (Carbon Base®, DEFRA, SIMAPRO, Ecoinvent, etc)

For each product: "IPPAG On Track" takes into account: its material (up to 5 different ones composing the product – 2 per default) based on the product weight – packaging of the product (type and weight) – internal batteries - energy consumption – country of origin + country of destination + via when needed – means of transport – product category
To these specific product data are then added energy consumption (IEA 2017 database + DEFRA 2019 source) and the end of life process (DEFRA source for municipal treatment and electronic treatment)

Outcomes:

Implementation across our 30+ member countries: the tool is being used to create awareness, assess the carbon impact of previous collections / orders: and make better informed choices for future ones. The tool also facilitates the calculation and offsetting of each IPPAG member's carbon Footprint, via carbon credits invested in various local projects.

About the IPPAG Cooperative:

The IPPAG Cooperative is made up of over 30 market leading promotional item wholesalers and distributors spread across the world: www.ippag.net

Mission: "The Cooperative facilitates its member's common desire to share and grow together within the promotional items industry: gaining in expertise, excellency and efficiency through shared projects, resources and initiatives."

The IPPAG Cooperative is based in Switzerland, and is run by a general manager, and an elected Board: the current Chairman is Mr Thomas Davidsson of Wackes AB in Sweden and the current Board members are the managers of our Romanian, Austrian and Guatemalan member companies. With its 30+ members, the companies forming the IPPAG Cooperative have over 2,300 employees around the world, with in-depth experience in a wide range of industries and a combined annual turnover of more than €355 million.

IPPAG in 2019 / 2020 : "IPPAG shares, IPPAG exchanges, IPPAG has vision, IPPAG cares"



 IPPAG SHARES	Company highlights, member insights, market know-how, best practices Partner Suppliers, supply chain database, survey data, tools...
 IPPAG EXCHANGES	Meetings, supplier and industry events, workshops Webinars, training, focus and discussion groups Online communities, blogs, information and education resources...
 IPPAG HAS VISION	'Think Tank', future of the industry, trends and marketing Company purpose, management models and industry leadership...
 IPPAG CARES	Sustainability, CSR, Supply chain management, Carbon tracking initiative Partner Supplier program, BSCI auditing and implementation Social Project: the IPPAG Convergences Awards

Should any more information be required about any of our activities or programs:

Please contact Miss Florence Mosnier, IPPAG Cooperative General Manager:

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