

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS (COP)

The Medical Export Group BV
Hooglandseweg 6
4214 KG Vuren
The Netherlands

Period covered by your Communication on Progress (COP)

From: 1st January 2021 To: 31st December 2021

1. STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (OWNER OR PRESIDENT IN THE CASE OF SMALL BUSINESSES)

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your company's chief executive

Please find enclosed our officially signed statement as well.

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

As in line with our annual commitment, we once again would like to reaffirm The Medical Export Group's support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment, and Anti-Corruption.

We are committed to continuously improving and further incorporating the Global Compact and its principles as part of the strategy, culture, and day-to-day operations of our company, and to participate in collaborative projects which advance the broader development goals of the United Nations, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals.

During the year 2021, we witnessed a global eagerness and dedication in trying to curb the hardships of the global pandemic. Tremendous efforts were made by various member states and our partners in all regions across the world to provide the much-needed equipment for healthcare professionals working in the first line of care. MEG firmly believes that access to adequate healthcare is a universal right. As such are we conducting business with companies who understand and underline the importance of a sustainable and just supply-chain system as well as adhere to our high standards on ethics, equity and human rights. When reflecting on the year 2021, we can say that we made a tangible change in the lives of many by protecting and treating through the goods and services we supplied, potentially, millions of people from the contagious Covid-19 disease that has resulted in the loss of lives of millions of people around the world.

Looking forward to the year ahead, we are ambitiously aiming to further construct a long-term plan to ensure our carbon footprint and emissions will further be reduced substantially. In the previous years the construction of our solar energy capacity, remote working, and paperless administrative process have all contributed to substantial reductions within our company. Our ambition is to further expand our scope and introduce adjusted and new goals for the near future.

In this annual Communication on Progress, we describe our actions to continually improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our business strategy, culture, and daily operations. Since we support public accountability and transparency, we also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Marcel Claessen
CEO

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

Human Rights

Please use the box below to describe **actions** your company has taken in the area of human rights. Examples include:

Current State of Affairs

In the light of the Covid-19 crisis, important safety measures have been taken to protect our own staff from possible infections. In addition to the great appeal for staff to work at home to the maximum extent possible, sufficient working space and adequate circulation of air at the office and warehouse has been guaranteed;

The building is a full free smoking area – no smoking is allowed in the building

All employees have received all necessary tools for safe and healthy working conditions for working from home under the Covid-19 restrictions;

Implementation Health and Safety policy including appointment of 2 prevention coordinators;

RI&E study to be conducted in 2022;

Ongoing positive effects of improvements implemented in past years:

- In our recruitment process we continue to pay high value on working without any form of prejudice in age, gender, race or religion. Also the recruitment agencies we work with are made aware of and have to confirm adherence to our clear position in this area.
- In MEG warehouse safety garment and safety shoes are obligatory and MEG ensures availability for those employed in the warehouse. Also, neon-colored vests and safety shoes are made available (and obliged) to wear by other MEG employees and visitor entering the warehouse;
- We have continued to insist on each supplier and service provider to represent and guarantee that neither it nor its affiliates are engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- The continuous improvement of the Human Resources (HR) guide clearly describing all rules, regulations and rights. This HR guide is now an integral part of each old and new employee contract;
- Further increased sourcing of products at the African continent leading to local capacity building and self-reliance.
- MEG continued the awareness project for all employees. This project serves to make employees fully realize the importance of the environment of humanitarian assistance we work in. That people in vulnerable settings are heavily depending for their health on our efficacy, efficiency, dedication and approach. This has led to an increase in employee satisfaction, a better understanding of the huge importance of our work leading to a further increased dedication and pride.

Labour

Please use the box below to describe **actions** your company has taken in the area of labour. Examples include:

Current State of Affairs

We have continued to insist on each supplier and service provider to represent and guarantee that neither it nor its affiliates are engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Further increased sourcing of products at the African continent leading to local capacity building and self-reliance.

MEG continued the awareness project for all employees. This project serves to make employees fully realize the importance of the environment of humanitarian assistance we work in. That people in vulnerable settings are heavily depending for their health on our efficacy, efficiency, dedication and approach. This has led to an increase in employee satisfaction, a better understanding of the huge importance of our work leading to a further increased dedication and pride

Ongoing positive effects of improvements implemented in past years:

- Increased sourcing of products at the African continent, thereby contributing to local employment, capacity building and increasing self-reliance of the African people.
- Continued implementation and further broadening of the LEAN-approach.

Environment

Please use the box below to describe **actions** your company has taken in the area of environment. Examples include:

Current State of Affairs

MEG has taken steps in previous years to safeguard progress regarding its environmental responsibility as a corporate entity. As has been highlighted in last years' declarations, MEG managed to maintain and expand the following topics of interest:

- The delivery of the inbound shipping documents, now also other purchase related documents such as the Certificate of Origin are entirely digitalized.
- MEG has intensified sourcing of more reusable products instead of single use. An example is the intensified use of reusable aprons.
- Further increased sourcing of products at the African continent leading to further reduction of emissions
- With the use of packaging calculation and optimization tools have we managed to optimize the filling of boxes leading to less empty space in these boxes. As a consequence less boxes will be used. In addition the system also generates an optimal loading plan for containers, thereby reducing the space and total number of containers used.

Ongoing positive effects of improvements implemented in past years:

- Separation of waste for more efficient garbage disposal.
- Our 3,406 solar panels continue to provide approximately 932,440 kWh of energy annually. This means around 340 households worth of energy is given back to the power grid.
- Paperless order and quotation process.
- Electronic storage of certificates and documents.
- We have replaced plastic packaging material by paper strips in our warehouse.

Anti-Corruption

Please use the box below to describe **actions** your company has taken to fight corruption. Examples include:

Current State of Affairs

Having all necessary measures in place, no new initiatives were developed. The focus was on maintaining the high standards we as MEG maintain.

Ongoing positive effects of improvements implemented in past years:

Compliance statement consisting of:

- Code of Conduct;
- Code of Ethics;
- Anti-corruption declaration.
- Whistle-blower regulation.

These documents form part of the HR guide and thus of each employment contract (old and new); every MEG-employee, permanent or temporary as well as every partner (such as agents, distributors, QA-consultants) that operate for or on behalf of MEG, have to agree to and sign these four documents.

To familiarize all staff members, a workshop was organized with an external counselor.

- Introduction of the Declaration of Interest.
- This document is to be undersigned by all staff members involved in the evaluation and selection of critical procurement-related activities within MEG that carry the risk of a conflict of interest. By signing this document staff members confirm they will use the information they receive confidentially and with great care.
- Ethical code for vendors:
- Procurement department started the revalidation of the ethical code with our suppliers.

3. MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

In the box below, please include the most relevant indicators to **measure outcomes**. Examples include:

The measures taken in previous years continue to create positive effects. The numbers of 2021 are in-line with those reported in 2020:

- 3,406 solar panels placed providing 932,440 kWh;
- The folding machine replaces manual labor of folding 2,782 papers on a weekly basis;
- The new approach on batch lists saves 2,766 papers per week;
- The digitalization of the order communication is saving €7.75 worth of materials per order;
- The digitalization of inbound shipping documents is saving approximately 12 A4 papers and cost and carbon footprint of one courier for each purchase order.