

**Motion till årsmötet 2008 för Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International:*****Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall inte delta i eller stötta verksamhet som leder till människorättskränkningar***

Amnesty Internationals vision är som bekant *"en värld där varje människa åtnjuter alla de mänskliga rättigheter som ingår i FN:s allmänna förklaring om de mänskliga rättigheterna och andra internationella normer för mänskliga rättigheter"* och Amestys åtagande är att aktivt främja dessa rättigheter.

För oss är det också grundläggande att Amnesty inte heller aktivt deltar i eller stöttar verksamhet som uppenbarligen leder till allvarliga människorättskränkningar. Att köpa in, servera och dela ut animaliska produkter är ett tydligt stöttande av sådan verksamhet. Djurindustrin har, av bland annat FN:s livsmedels- och jordbruksorganisation FAO, framhållits som en av de största orsakerna till de klimatförändringar som nu börjat drabba världens fattiga länder i massiv skala. Detta genom att vara en av de största källorna till mänskliga växthusgasutsläpp. Djurindustrin framhålls även som de allra största orsakerna till jordförstörrelse och ökenspridning (både genom överbetning och klimatpåverkan) samt till vattenförstörrelse.

FN:s utvecklingsorgan UNDP har påtalat klimatförändringarnas roll som bidragande faktor till intensifieringen av konflikten i Darfur i Sudan. I sin senaste *"Human Development Report"* och i rapporten *"Unequal risk: climate disasters hit the poor hardest"* framhåller UNDP att medan den rika delen av världen är i huvudsak skyldig till klimatförändringarna är det den fattiga världen som får betala det högsta priset. Även FN:s klimatpanel IPCC har framhållit detta i sin fjärde utvärderingsrapport som släpptes under 2007. Det handlar bland annat om torka och ökad frekvens av extrema oväder, som dödar stora grupper människor och ställer ytterligare stora grupper utan tak över huvudet. Himalayas glaciärer försörjer Asiens stora floder med vatten och när Himalayas glaciärer nu smälter i skenande takt är det bara en tidfråga innan ytterligare hundratals miljoner människor står utan tillgång till dricksvatten och odlingsbar mark.

Kött och andra animaliska produkter är onödig lyx som innebär stort resursslöseri och permanent resursförstörrelse, genom att tillhöra huvudorsakerna till klimatförändringarna och till jord- och vattenförstörrelse. Djurindustrins konsekvenser begränsar självklart fattiga människors tillgång till vatten, mat, tak över huvudet och möjlighet att försörja sig. Mat för dagen och vatten att dricka är tydliga grundförutsättningar för att några av de rättigheter som tas upp i FN:s allmänna förklaring skall vara inom räckhåll. Klimatförändringarna väntas också bli en allt större bidragande orsak till konflikter och krig, särskilt i torra områden. Krig och väpnade konflikter är tillstånd som ofrånkomligen leder till brott mot de mänskliga rättigheterna.

Då djurindustrins verksamhet uppenbarligen leder till allvarliga människorättskränkningar, bör Amesty avålla sig från att stötta djurindustrin ekonomiskt genom inköp av animaliska produkter och genom exemplet att servera och dela ut dito. Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International behöver inte nödvändigtvis arbeta aktivt mot djurindustri och konsumtion av animalier, men medlemmarna bör emellertid ges en chans att göra en enkel och mycket signifikant insats för mänskliga rättigheter genom den lilla vardagsförändring

det innebär att sluta konsumera animaliska produkter, eller åtminstone minska sin konsumtion av dessa. För att de skall kunna göra detta enkla val bör Amnesty aktivt informera sina medlemmar om djurindustrins oerhört stora negativa människorättsliga konsekvenser via sina tillgängliga kanaler, främst hemsidan [www.amnesty.se](http://www.amnesty.se) och medlemstidningen *Amnesty Press*.

Amnesty International håller just nu på att ta fram en policy för etisk upphandling tänkt att gälla för alla amnestysektioner och ett förslag har skickats ut på remiss (se bilaga). Avsnitt 2 i förslaget till policydokument definierar policyns syfte och punkt 2.1 a) säger att en del av syftet är *"to ensure that AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, through the purchase of goods and services, are not in any way contributing to the violation of human rights"*. Avsnitt 7 B listar miljökrav för etiska inköp och anger bland annat kravet *"energy use: all production and delivery processes, including the use of heating, ventilation, lighting, IT systems and transportation, are based on the need to maximize efficient energy use and to minimize harmful emissions"*.

Framställningen av animaliska produkter är många gånger mer energikrävande än framställningen av likvärdiga vegetabiliska produkter och skillnaden är ännu större vad gäller utsläpp av växthusgaser. Framställningen av animaliska produkter berövar samtidigt stora grupper människor vatten, mat och tak över huvudet. Därför borde policyn, med den föreslagna skrivningen, effektivt utesluta att Amnesty på något sätt befattar sig med animaliska produkter.

Djurindustrins enorma negativa människorättskonsekvenser är emellertid något som det länge talats väldigt tyst om i den allmänna debatten, trots att bevisen är tydliga och har framhållits av såväl forskare som FN-organ under längre tid. En av orsakerna till tystnaden i denna fråga är sannolikt att det finns ett brott i kedjan. Djurindustrins stora negativa miljökonsekvenser, t ex dess enormt stora inverkan på den globala uppvärmningen, tas upp för sig och miljöförstörelsen och klimatförändringarnas effekter för människor tas upp för sig.

Därför finns det en uppenbar risk att djurindustrins människorättskränkningar förbises och att Amnesty kan komma att stötta djurindustrin, trots en tydlig upphandlingspolicy. Detta är bakgrunden till att vi anser att det måste skrivas ut explicit i Amnestys policies att organisationen inte stöttar djurindustrin genom inköp av animaliska produkter. Det är också bakgrunden till att vi anser att Amnestys medlemmar skall informeras om djurindustrins oerhört stora negativa människorättsliga konsekvenser via hemsidan och medlemstidningen.

Mälardistriktet har föredömligt nog gått före i denna fråga och valt att utgå från vegetarisk kost under 2008 års årsmöte. Men det behövs en generell och absolut policy inom Amnesty mot att stötta djurindustrin, både på grund av de människorättskränkningar vi kan undvika genom en sådan policy och genom den ökade trovärdighet vi får som människorättsorganisation när vi tydligt tar avstånd från verksamhet som leder till människorättskränkningar. Vi anser också att det bör stå direkt i stadgarna för Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International att sektionen inte deltar i eller stöttar verksamhet som uppenbarligen leder till människorättskränkningar.

Våra yrkanden till årsmötet 2008 lyder därför:

- a. Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall tydliggöra i stadgar och policy att sektionen inte deltar i eller stöttar verksamhet som uppenbarligen leder till människorättskränkningar
- b. Ny lydelse för §2 av stadgarna för Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall vara:

*"2. GRUNDLÄGGANDE VÄRDERINGAR*

*Amnesty International bildar ett globalt samfund av människorättsförsvarare som arbetar enligt principerna internationell solidaritet, effektivt agerande för drabbade individer, global täckning, de mänskliga rättigheternas allmängiltighet och odelbarhet, opartiskhet och oberoende samt demokrati och ömsesidig respekt.*

*Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International deltar inte i verksamhet som uppenbarligen leder till människorättskränkningar. Inte heller stöttar Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International sådan verksamhet, ekonomiskt eller på annat sätt."*

- c. Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall införa som generell policy att inte köpa in, servera eller dela ut någon typ av animaliska produkter i något sammanhang
- d. Den i punkt c beskrivna policyn skall gälla generellt för Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International på riksnivå, likväl som i alla distrikt, i utåtriktad och intern verksamhet
- e. Den i punkt c beskrivna policyn skall gälla generellt för grupper inom Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International i utåtriktad verksamhet
- f. Styrelsen för den svenska sektionen av Amnesty International och de olika distrikens styrelser skall uppmuntra alla grupper att följa den i punkt c beskrivna policyn även i sin interna verksamhet
- g. Styrelsen för den svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall arbeta för att den i punkt c beskrivna policyn skall gälla generellt för alla amnestysektioner runtom i världen
- h. Svenska sektionen av Amnesty International skall informera sina medlemmar om djurindustrins oerhört stora negativa människorättsliga konsekvenser, så att medlemmarna uppmärksammar dessa och kan välja att undvika att stötta djurindustrin
- i. Den i punkt h beskrivna informationen skall förmedlas via hemsidan [www.amnesty.se](http://www.amnesty.se) och via medlemstidningen *Amnesty Press*

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# **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ETHICAL PROCUREMENT POLICY**

## **1. Background**

This Policy document arises from concerns that AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, as a human rights organisation, should take account of ethical considerations in carrying out its business, and that our work or reputation could be harmed by association with suppliers of goods and services who infringe ethical standards in their own businesses.

This policy has been devised in the light of relevant AI policies and recognising the need to maintain adequate service standards and to minimise the cost of supplies and services purchased with voluntary income.

## **2. Purpose and Principles**

2.1 The purpose of the policy is twofold:

- a. To ensure that AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, through the purchase of goods and services, are not in any way contributing to the violation of human rights
- b. To seek to avoid associations with companies engaged in activities which constitute grave violations of the standards established by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR);
- c. To ensure that associations with companies or organisations do not give rise to a public perception which may be considered damaging to the reputation and credibility of AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, and may thereby have an adverse impact on its effectiveness in achieving its human rights objectives.

These purposes are aspects of the single over-riding purpose which guides all policies, ie to maximise the effectiveness of AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd in preventing the violation of human rights in accordance with the Statute.

2.2 In carrying out the policy, it is also essential to adhere to the following principles to the extent possible:

- a. Consistency with other relevant AI policies: in particular, procurement policy must be consistent with current AI policy regarding the non-advocacy of boycotts or sanctions against companies or countries. This policy does not prevent AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd from making *positive* choices based on ethical considerations. It does, however, prevent us from making threats or offering incentives based on ethical criteria.
- b. Minimum Service Standards: for each product or service purchased by AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, there will be a minimum quality of supply which will need to be achieved in addition to any ethical criteria. The Ethical Procurement Policy will apply to the

selection of a supplier from amongst those suppliers who are able to meet the essential minimum quality/service standard required by AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd.

- c. Simplicity and practicability: this means that the policy must be capable of implementation without the application of disproportionate resources, which would have to be diverted from other priority tasks. In particular, this means that it should be possible to apply the policy without excessive cost, and without a significant research burden, particularly where such research would relate to issues beyond the core mandate of Amnesty International.

### **3. Scope**

- 3.1 The policy applies to the purchase of all goods and services by AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd or any of its legal entities and constituent bodies, including regional offices.
- 3.2 The application of ethical criteria will be primarily to companies or organisations with which AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd does business, but will also take into account the application of those criteria to associate, subsidiary and parent companies.
- 3.3 The policy will not normally be applied to other companies with whom the relevant supplier does business unconnected to AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd, ie if another customer of the company is ethically problematic, this will not prevent AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd from doing business with its own supplier. However, serious concerns regarding high profile business associations of potential suppliers may give rise to public concern such as to justify avoidance of that supplier.
- 3.4 The policy may be applied to companies or organisations who supply our supplier, where this is part of the supply chain which produces the final product or service purchased by AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd. This will depend on considerations of public perception (see 2.1b above) and on our ability to follow the supply chain without undue cost (see 2.2c above).
- 3.5 There will be a single policy, which will be applied to the procurement of banking and other goods and services.

### **4. Ethical Parameters/Criteria**

There are a wide range of ethical considerations, each of which will be given

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different weight by different individuals. The Ethical Procurement Policy will give importance to ethical issues in the following three categories:

- 4.1 Human Rights issues falling within AI's mandate.
- 4.2 Human Rights issues covered by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR);
- 4.3 Issues which may extend beyond those covered by the mandate or the UDHR, and where association is likely to be detrimental to the public reputation, standing and effectiveness of Amnesty International, taking particular account of matters which may be of concern to a wide cross-section of the AI membership.

## 5. The Tests

The Policy is based on the application of four tests, associated with the above criteria:

- 5.1 The Mandate Test: where a supplier or its associate, subsidiary or parent is in direct contravention of the mandate of Amnesty international, AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd will not do business with that company. This includes for example any company engaged in the supply of military, security or police equipment in respect of which AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd is making a cessation call. Evidence for this test will come from AI's own research.
  - 5.2 The UDHR Test: where, on the balance of probabilities, a supplier (or its associate, subsidiary or parent) is engaged directly in activities which constitute grave breaches of the standards established by the UDHR or by other relevant international treaties, laws and standards which develop, define or interpret the UDHR, AI Ltd and AI Charity Ltd will seek an alternative supplier who can better meet the requirements of the Ethical Procurement Policy. This might, for example, include the purchase of products produced by bonded labourers. Evidence for this test will be based initially on passive research, ie action will be taken in the event that evidence is brought to our notice which derives from a relevant reputable organisation. However, monitoring of a limited range of relevant subscription materials would be appropriate in order to ensure that well-known problems did not escape our attention.
  - 5.3 The public perception test: where it is determined that the public perception (and particularly the perception of AI members) of an association with a supplier may be detrimental to AI's reputation, standing and/or effectiveness, alternative suppliers will be sought. In
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determining whether public perception would be damaged, the primary focus will be on making a judgement of the likely concerns of AI members and potential members. Evidence will be as for 5.2 above.

- 5.4 The positive test: where other considerations (eg of cost, quality etc) are not significant determining factors, AIUK will give preference to suppliers who have themselves adopted ethical policies which most closely match our own. This means that even where there is no evidence that a supplier has infringed the criteria in this policy, we will in principle prefer to do business with an alternative supplier which has adopted explicit ethical guidelines. However, we cannot practicably investigate and analyse the policies of every supplier, however small. We will seek at tender, in relation to supply of goods or services of significant value, information on relevant ethical policies from all competing suppliers, in order that the positive test may be applied where appropriate. Adoption by companies of the AIUK Human Rights Guidelines for Companies will be a positive consideration in relation to this test for UK based suppliers.

## **6. Implementation**

This policy will come into effect once approved by the IEC following appropriate consultation. Evidence will be as described above for each test. The positive test will normally be applied only at the tender stage. However, in the case of existing major suppliers we will request information on ethical policies as soon as practically possible. However no action will be taken in relation to the positive test until the supply comes up for tender again. In relation to the other tests, existing suppliers may be subject to these with immediate effect. Where this results in a decision to change supplier, transitional arrangements may need to be applied in order to make the transfer without undue cost. Such transitional arrangements may include retaining a business relationship at a reduced level pending transfer if the cost of transfer would be disproportionate.

Decisions in relation to procurement under this policy will be made by the Management Team, who will consult the IEC in the event they wish to seek advice on the public perception test, or in the event that transfers of supplier have serious adverse costs or operational consequences.

Clear guidelines on this policy will be issued to all managers and staff responsible for purchasing goods and services.

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## 7. Ethical Purchasing

Amnesty International's policy is to seek to purchase goods and services which:

- a) are produced and delivered under conditions that do not involve the abuse or exploitation of any persons;
- b) have the least negative impact on the environment.

Such considerations will form part of the evaluation and selection criteria for all goods and services provided by AI.

In addition, AI will seek alternative sources where the conduct of suppliers demonstrably violates the basic rights of intended beneficiaries, and there is no willingness to address the situation within a reasonable time period, or where companies in the supply chain are involved in the manufacture or sale of arms in ways which are unacceptable to AI.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to:

- a) promote good labour and environmental standards in the supply chains of AI;
- b) to protect AI's reputation.

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SUPPLIERS

Suppliers adopting this Code of Conduct should commit to continuous improvements towards compliance with the labour and environmental standards specified, both in their own companies and those of their suppliers.

### A. LABOUR STANDARDS

The labour standards in this code are based on the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

**Employment is freely chosen:** - \*There is no forced, bonded or involuntary prison labour. \*Workers are not required to lodge 'deposits' or their identity papers with the employer and are free to leave their employer after reasonable notice.

**Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected:** - \*Workers, without distinction, have the right to join or form trade unions of their own choosing and to bargain collectively. \*The employer adopts an open attitude towards the legitimate activities of trade unions. \*Workers representatives are not discriminated against and have access to carry out their representative functions in the workplace. \*Where the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining is restricted under law, the employer



facilitates, and does not hinder, the development of parallel means for independent and free association and bargaining.

**Working conditions are safe and hygienic:** - \*A safe and hygienic working environment shall be provided, bearing in mind the prevailing knowledge of the industry and of any specific hazards. Adequate steps shall be taken to prevent knowledge of the industry and of any specific hazards. Adequate steps shall be taken to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of, associated with, or occurring in the course of work, by minimizing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment. \*Workers shall receive regular and recorded health and safety training, and such training shall be repeated for new or reassigned workers. \*Access to clean toilet facilities and potable water, and, if appropriate, sanitary facilities for food storage shall be provided. \*Accommodation, where provided, shall be clean, safe, and meet the basic needs of the workers. \*The company observing the standards shall assign responsibility for health and safety to a senior management representative.

**Child Labour shall not be used:** - \*There shall be no new recruitment of child labour. \*Companies shall develop or participate in and contribute to policies and programs, which provide for the transition of any child found to be performing child labour to enable her/him to attend and remain in quality education until no longer a child. \*Children and young people under 18 years of age shall not be employed at night or in hazardous conditions. \*These policies and procedure shall conform to the provisions of the relevant International Labour Organization (ILO) standards.

**Living wages are paid:** - \*Wages and benefits paid for a standard working week meet, at a minimum, national legal standards or industry benchmarks, whichever is higher. In any event wages should always be high enough to meet basic needs and to provide some discretionary income. \*All workers shall be provided with written and understandable information about the particulars of their wages for the pay period concerned each time that they are paid. \*Deductions from wages as a disciplinary measure shall not be permitted nor shall any deductions from wages not provided for by national law be permitted without the express and informed permission of the worker concerned. All disciplinary measure should be recorded.

**Working hours are not excessive:** - \*Working hours comply with national laws and benchmark industry standards, whichever affords greater protection. \*In any event, workers shall not on a regular basis be required to work in excess of 48 hours per week and shall be voluntary, shall not exceed 2 hours per week, shall not be demanded on a regular basis and shall always be compensated at a premium rate.

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**No discrimination is practiced:** - \*There is no discrimination in hiring, compensation, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement based on race, caste, national origin, religion, age, disability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, union membership or political affiliation.

**Regular employment is provided:** - \*To every extent possible, work performed must be on the basis of a recognized employment relationship established through national law and practice. \*Obligations to employees under labour or social security laws and regulations arising from the regular employment relationship shall not be avoided through the use of labour-only contracting, sub-contracting or home-working arrangements, or through apprenticeship schemes where there is no real intent to impart skills or provide regular employment, nor shall any such obligations be avoided through the excessive use of fixed-term contracts of employment.

**No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed:** - \*Physical abuse or discipline, the threat of physical abuse, sexual or other harassment and verbal abuse or other forms of intimidation shall be prohibited.

NB The formulation of the ILO in the code was negotiated by Ethical Trading Initiative, an alliance of companies, non-governmental organizations and trade unions committed to working together to identify and promote good practice in the implementation of codes of labour practice, see [www.ethicaltrade.org](http://www.ethicaltrade.org).

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS**

Suppliers should as a minimum comply with all statutory and other legal requirements relating to the environmental impacts of their business. Detailed performance standards are a matter for suppliers, but should address at least the following:

**Waste management:** - \*Waste is minimized and items recycled whenever this is practicable. Effective controls of waste in respect of ground, air and water pollution are adopted. In the case of hazardous metals, emergency response plans are in place.

**Packaging and Paper:** - \*Undue and unnecessary use of materials is avoided, and recycled materials used whenever appropriate.

**Conservation:** - \*Processes and activities are monitored and modified as necessary to ensure conservation of scarce resources, including water, flora and fauna and productive land in certain situations.

**Energy use:** - \*All production and delivery processes, including the use of

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heating, ventilation, lighting, IT systems and transportation, are based on the need to maximize efficient energy use and to minimize harmful emissions.

### **C. BUSINESS BEHAVIOUR**

The conduct of the supplier should not violate the basic rights of AI's intended beneficiaries. The supplier should not be engaged in:

1. The manufacture of arms;
2. The sale of arms to governments which systematically violate the human rights of their citizens; or where there is internal armed conflict or major tensions; or where the sale of arms may jeopardize regional peace and security.

## **OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND SUPPLIERS**

The implementation of the Code of Conduct for Suppliers will be a shared responsibility between AI and its suppliers, informed by a number of operating principles, which will be reviewed from time to time.

AI will:

1. Assign responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Code of Conduct to a senior manager.
  2. Communicate its commitment to the Code of Conduct to employees, supporters and donors, as well as to all suppliers of goods and services.
  3. Make appropriate human and financial resources available to meet its stated commitments, including training and guidelines for relevant personnel.
  4. Provide guidance and reasonable non-financial support to suppliers who genuinely seek to promote and implement the Code standards in their own business and in the relevant supply chains, within available resources.
  5. Adopt appropriate methods and systems for monitoring and verifying the achievement of the standards.
  6. Seek to maximize the beneficial effect of the resources available, e.g. by collaborating with other Non Governmental Organizations, and by prioritizing the most likely locations of non-compliance.
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- 7, Report progress in implementing the Code annually to the corporate management of AI, the Ethical Trading Initiative, the Inter-Agency Procurement Group and other stakeholders including staff, suppliers and donors.

**Amnesty International expects suppliers to:**

1. Accept responsibility for labour and environmental conditions under which products are made and services provided. This includes all work contracted or sub-contracted and that conducted by home or other out-workers.
2. Assign responsibility for implementing the Code of Conduct to a senior manager.
3. Make a written Statement of Intent regarding the company's policy in relation to the Code of Conduct and how it will be implemented, if requested by AI, and communicate this to staff and suppliers as well as to AI.
4. Report progress in implementing the Code annually, either by describing actions taken to fulfil the Statement of Intent, or by completing a questionnaire, as requested by AI.

**Both parties will:**

1. Require the immediate cessation of serious breaches of the Code, and, where these persist, terminate the business relationship.
2. Seek to ensure all employees are aware of their rights and involved in the decisions which affect them.
3. Avoid discriminating against enterprises in developing countries.
4. Recognize official regulation and incproction of workplace standards, and the interests of legitimate trades unions and other representative organizations.
5. Seek arbitration in the case of unresolved disputes.

**QUALIFICATIONS TO THE POLICY STATEMENT**

The humanitarian imperative is paramount. Where speed of deployment is essential in saving lives, AI will purchase necessary goods and services from

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the most appropriate available source.

AI can accept neither uncontrolled cost increase nor drops in quality. It accepts appropriate internal costs but will work with suppliers to achieve required ethical standards as far as possible at no increase in cost or decrease in quality.