



MANIFEST

Considerations

We realise that running a company is not only about creating economic value, but also about being able to greatly contribute to the solution of poignant social issues, such as the environment and good social relationships. These are primarily the social issues that directly touch companies' own operations. Indirectly, one can expect that operating a company would have a positive effect on the real distribution of prosperity, the observance of human rights in the broadest sense and other social needs.

MVO distinguishes itself through innovation and efficiency, eye for social developments, finding the right balance between the different effects of operating a company, transparency in its method and working on support from the stakeholders. The principles used here are phrased in the OESO Guidelines. The next step is to translate the principles to everyday situations.

Knowledge sharing and collaboration between the different actors is important for MVO. This pertains to business, (mid-size and small companies as well as large companies), non-government organisations, non-profit organisations and other social organisations, the different government agencies, cooperatives, umbrella organisations and associations. The signers of this manifest, MVO Nederland and the Netherlands Timber Trade Association (NTTA) as stimulator for its members who would like to contribute to this knowledge sharing and collaboration.

We see MVO Nederland, the knowledge centre for Corporate Social Responsibility, as a valuable framework where knowledge and experience can be exchanged and where this collaboration can be encouraged.

Declaration

1. By entering into a partnership with MVO Nederland, we are joining the initiative by the Dutch Department of Commerce to promote the capabilities of MVO as described here above, both in and from the Netherlands. This initiative is the result of the SER advice "*De winst van waarden*" (The profit from values) from December 2000;
2. We will develop the MVO capabilities within our own sector as fully as possible and will present them and make them accessible where possible;
3. Where possible and if it has value, we will look for collaboration with other social actors and other partners of MVO Nederland to promote the knowledge about and the implementation of MVO initiatives;
4. When forming our own MVO policy and the collaboration that we will seek in this regard, we will use the resources that MVO Nederland offers for that purpose. Details are included in the attachment.

Date: 15 November 2007

Signed on behalf
of MVO
Nederland:

NTTA

.....

.....

Mrs. L. Vlaming,
Manager branch programme

Dhr. C. Boogaardt,
Chairman NTTA

15 November 2007



ATTACHMENT OF MANIFEST FOR BRANCH PROGRAMME PARTICIPANTS



NTTA, the representative branch organisation for the importer and distributor wood companies in the Netherlands:

- Has been using a code of conduct for its members and organisation since 1 January 2004;
- Has formulated its current policy in the NTTA policy 2006 – 2009 “*De wortels van hout*” (The roots of timber). One of the objectives is: “In 2009, 75% of the wood that is imported and sold by NTTA members will be produced as sustainable wood” (see www.vvnh.nl);
- Works together with its employers and employees on a healthy, safe, appealing and challenging sector;
- Asks producers and suppliers of wood and wood products to procure them from forests that are under sustainable management;
- Promotes the use of sustainable wood and wood products in the Netherlands;
- Asks all relevant links in the wood chain and other interested parties about achieving their policy objectives.

The central MVO theme in the wood industry is: A healthy branch for employers and employees for now and in the future. More environment related MVO themes include: The increasing global demand for wood, resulting in the ever-increasing pressure on forests: The issue of illegal wood production and insufficient compliance with laws and regulations, particularly in developing countries, the desire to only sell wood that has been certified as legal, sustainable wood.

In collaboration with MVO Nederland, the NTTA shall and will:

- Promote the use of sustainable wood in the Netherlands;
- Implement and present the NTTA policy related to MVO to all relevant links in the chain;
- Allow other sectors involved with MVO to partake in the experiences of NTTA with issues of sustainability and so-called stakeholder consultation processes;
- Actively promote the policy, the activities and tools of MVO Nederland and MVO partners within one’s own organisation;
- Actively contribute to the achievement of the government’s objective to use sustainable wood 100% of the time by 2010;
- Ask and actively involve other sectors in the chain that are related to wood to “sustain” the wood chain;
- Request the members of the NTTA to only offer sustainable wood to all their professional customers – even if not asked to do so;
- Incorporate the themes sustainability and MVO into their promotions and information publications.

By signing the manifest of MVO Nederland, we are an official partner of the branch programme of MVO Nederland. We commit to the objective of putting MVO on the agenda within our sector.