

REPORT OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS TO THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
Annual Reporting by National Contact Point
for the period of June 2006-June 2007

A. Institutional Arrangements

Since 2001 the Polish National Contact Point is located at the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency (PAIIZ). Its address is:

Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency
Business Intelligence Department
ul. Bagatela 12
00-585 Warsaw, Poland
www.paiz.gov.pl

PAIIZ is the governmental agency fully owned by the State and reports to the Ministry of Economy.

NCP stays in contact with social partners through correspondence and telephone calls and maintains operational contact with employee organizations (trade unions). Besides, NCP keeps in touch with embassies, foreign companies, NGOs and individuals interested in the Guidelines.

B. Information and Promotion

The Guidelines for Multinational Companies are translated into Polish, English, French, Russian and German, and are available in several ways. First of all, it is possible to find them on the website of the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency. The website has a special part for the NCP. It describes NCP's role and provides the reader with a short introduction to what the Guidelines are. The site is translated into several languages and therefore the information on the activities of the NCP are now available in five languages. It is possible to download the Guidelines in Polish and there is a link to the Guidelines in English on the OECD website.

Secondly, the *Guidelines* are also available in a printed form and have been edited as a booklet. They are displayed on shelves with PAIIZ publications situated near the conference rooms in the Agency building and are available for every potential investor visiting PAIIZ. Thirdly, *Guidelines* are available from the NCP upon request in electronic and printed version.

The Polish NCP stays in contact with business community and trade unions, which conduct its informational activities according to the core criteria for the operation of NCPs. Additionally, NCP answers numerous questions from the business, NGOs and social partners. The questions concern both the Guidelines, the NCP's procedures and matters connected with special instances. Co-operation with the public includes contacts with individuals such as

employees of embassies and ministries, consulting firms, students of law and economics as well as individuals checking on the activities of the NCP and the Guidelines.

The other activity of the NCP was promoting the Guidelines to individuals and people representing the business community. This kind of promotion included distributing the booklets with Guidelines and answering to enquiries about them and the role of the NCP. Moreover, the Polish NCP has received enquiries from employee organizations, companies, embassies and the public through telephone, as well as e-mails and during meetings. Enquiries submitted concerned the Guidelines, the NCP's procedures and activities of the Polish NCP. The number of questions raised proves that the NCP is known among the society (individuals approaching the NCP disposed of previous knowledge about the Guidelines) and that the substantial number of people shows interest in the Guidelines.

The PNCP issued an article „The Guidelines for Multinational Companies. The role of OECD PNP in promotion of guidelines”. The article was published in post conference information materials together with „CSR Conception in Poland – current situation and development perspectives” publication. The conference was organized together with the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and Friedrich Ebert Foundation on June 6th 2006.

The goal of the conference was to discuss issues related to implementation of CSR strategy in Poland. The debate was concerning current initiatives undertaken by governmental and non-governmental organizations. The subject of discussion was the progress in the field of CSR which has taken place so far and the examples of implementing CSR strategies in the management practice of multinational corporations, as well as chances for intensifying the development of CSR concept within the expectations formulated by various stakeholders groups.

In December 2006 the PNCP translated and released OECD publication – „*Policy Framework for Investment*”, Polish title „*Podstawy polityki na rzecz inwestycji*” – 100 copies. The publication was also placed on PAIIZ – www.paiz.gov.pl and the Ministry of Economy – www.mg.gov.pl websites. In order to promote the report, the copies were circulated among one hundred participants of the conference in Kielce on February. Among them were members of Polish Government, Ministers of the Ministry of Economy, the heads of local government bodies and Special Economic Zones as well as Investment Assistance Centres.

The conference in Kielce, Poland, on February 2007 was organized by the PNCP in cooperation with Świętokrzyska Regional Development Agency in Kielce to promote “The guidelines for Multinational Companies”. The conference highlighted the importance of the inflow of foreign direct investments to Poland. Numerous companies presented their best practices in the field of supporting innovative investments and their strategy of economic promotion of Polish regions. The NCP took this opportunity to present the programme of supporting and development of Polish regions' investment attractiveness. The event was also the occasion for promotion and presentation of OECD publication – „*Policy Framework for Investment*”.

Polish NCP took part in IRENE/OECD Watch and FES-Bratislava seminar called OECD Watch Regional Roundtable: Toward a Model European National Contact Point in Bratislava, May 24th, 2007. This roundtable focuses on the Central and East-European region. The aim of the seminar is to gather representatives of Central and East-European NCPs, other governmental bodies, business, and civil society organisations, including labour unions and

NGOs to discuss NCP best practices. The participants of the seminar discussed numerous topics concerning the NCP's activities, problems and concerns. The seminar gives the Polish NCP a chance to acquire new ideas on how to shape the NCP activities and handle some problems in the future.

C. Implementation in specific instances

A new specific instance was raised to the NCP at the end of April 2006. It involved a claim by the board of trade union "Solidarity" about a situation in a foreign company from the food processing sector. The board of the Polish subsidiary is accused of infringing the regulations of the IV chapter of the Guidelines. According to the claim, the board failed to engage in constructive negotiations to reach agreement with the trade union representatives. Additionally, sexual harassment and unfair dismissal of several women took place. In this case parallel legal proceedings are underway. In the third quarter of 2006 PNCP continued to solve the problem. The representative of both parties met together and the representatives of PNCP familiarized with the case. Afterwards, they proceeded correspondence with the National Contact Point in USA and with TUAC. In the fourth quarter of 2006 the representatives of both parties met for the second time to clarify the matter. Then, they continued the correspondence with the National Contact Point in USA and with TUAC. The representatives of aggrieved party and their witnesses have already been questioned. At present, the witnesses of the accused are being questioned at the court and the verdict will be returned in October 2007 at the latest.

D. Other

In order to abide the core criteria for the operation of NCP, whenever a claim is raised to the NCP, both sides of a conflict are continually and equally informed - about each letter from any of the sides and about each issue raised by them. Besides, whenever a claim is raised at the NCP, both sides are informed about the Guidelines and facilities associated with the NCP. The NCP responded to all legitimate requests for information and enquires and conducted promotional activities aimed at making Guidelines more accessible for investors, through trainings for people having direct contact with investors.

