

**Virtual Policymakers Roundtable on
Regulatory Developments concerning
Due Diligence for Responsible Business Conduct**

6 November 2020 ▪ 12.30 – 17:00 CET

AGENDA

[Please register here](#)

SESSION 1	12:30 – 13:45	Work in progress: Updates on due diligence legislation in development
SESSION 2	14:00– 15:15	Critical view at existing laws: What has worked and what are the lessons learnt
SESSION 3	15:30 – 16:45	Approaches to due diligence legislation design: Pivotal issues
CLOSING	16:45 - 17:00	

SESSION 1**12:30 – 13:45****Work in progress: Updates on due diligence legislation in development**

Currently several governments are considering, or are in the process of introducing, legislation calling on companies to undertake social and environmental due diligence. This session will be an opportunity for governments that are currently in the process of developing due diligence legislation to share updates and exchange experiences on their processes. Governments may speak to opportunities and challenges encountered, why they opted for sectoral approaches or general due diligence legislation and how they are engaging stakeholders and relevant ministries and agencies in the process.

MODERATOR & WELCOME REMARKS:

Christine Kaufmann, Chair OECD Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct

SPEAKERS:

- **Maija Laurila**, Head of the Company Law Unit, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- **Nadja Meier**, Advisor at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland
- **Susanne Gasde**, Head of Unit, Federal Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs, Germany
- **Kristen Kossen**, Senior Policy Officer at the International Responsible Business Conduct Unit, Netherlands
- **Katrin Kvaran**, Senior Adviser / **Guro Nygaard Lysdahl**, Adviser, Ministry of Children and Families, Norway
- **Chris Moran**, Director General, Trade and Portfolio Strategy Coordination, Global Affairs Canada

SESSION 2**14:00 – 15:15****How have existing laws been implemented and what are the lessons learnt?**

Several governments have already introduced due diligence legislation in various forms. Existing legislation varies in scope of coverage, target issues, expectations and enforcement mechanisms. This session will provide an opportunity to consider the lessons learnt of the different approaches and to exchange on how these lessons can inform ongoing regulatory processes. For example, which approaches have been effective in implementing, monitoring and enforcing responsible business practices? What is the appropriate coverage and ambition level of such legislation? The discussion is timely as several legislative initiatives have recently undergone formal review and some are in the process of revision.

MODERATOR:

Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD

SPEAKERS:

- **Ana Hinojosa**, Executive Director of Trade Remedy Law Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Trade, United States, discussing the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015
- **Philipp Dupuis**, Deputy Head of Unit, Multilateral Trade and Sustainable Development Policy, Green Deal, Conflict Minerals, DG Trade, European Commission, discussing the EU Conflict Minerals Regulation

- **Maylis Souque**, Secretary General of the French OECD National Contact Point for RBC, France, discussing the Corporate Duty of Vigilance Law and the PACTE (Action plan for business growth and transformation)
- **Qiraat Cunningham**, Policy Lead, Transparency in Supply Chains, UK Home Office discussing the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015
- **David Brightling**, Assistant Secretary, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Branch, Australia, discussing the Australia Modern Slavery Act 2018

SESSION 3**15:30 – 16:45****Approaches to due diligence legislation design: Pivotal issues**

This session will focus on the principal challenging issues encountered in developing due diligence legislation. These often concern 1) the extent to which SMEs should be subject to due diligence expectations and how to ensure proportionality and reasonableness 2) where and how due diligence obligations can result in competitive advantages or disadvantages and 3) the appropriate design of enforcement mechanisms or liability regimes. This session will be interactive. A presentation will be made by an initial discussant after which governments will be invited to exchange on how they are approaching these issues including on how to balance conflicting stakeholder positions.

MODERATOR:

Tyler Gillard, Head of Due diligence, Responsible Business Conduct Centre, OECD

INITIAL DISCUSSANTS:

Lara Wolters, Member of the European Parliament for Netherlands, Rapporteur for European Parliament Report on Corporate Due Diligence and Corporate Accountability

Scott Friedman, Deputy Assistant Secretary Economic Security, Department of Homeland Security Office of Policy's Trade and Economic Security Office, United States

CLOSING**16:45 – 17:00**

Dante Pesce, Member of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights