



Working Towards Ethical Public Procurement of Work Wear

CCC Seminar - October 20th, 2005 - Barcelona, Spain

Introduction

Public procurement - buying of goods by local authorities and other public bodies - is estimated to represent 14% of the EU's Gross Domestic Product, which translates into a significant opportunity to improve conditions for workers in the supply chain. Public authorities have considerable power as consumers to influence the behaviour of companies.

This seminar aims to share results of Clean Clothes Campaign / SOMO research into labour policies in the work wear sector and to bring together key stakeholders in the work wear sector to debate strategies for improving the conditions in the garment factories.

Background material: executive summary of research *Work in progress – Labour policies of work wear companies supplying public authorities in Europe*; Clean Clothes Communities Reader of experience of Clean Clothes Campaigns; outcomes of CARPE (Cities As Responsible Purchasers in Europe) conference, Sevilla June 2005

For: Clean Clothes Campaigns, multi-stakeholder initiatives, other campaigns working on the same issues, work wear companies, civil servants

(Opportunities for Q and A will be incorporated into each session):

9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome and introduction to programme of the day**

Daily moderator: Efrén Feliu, BAKEAZ

9:45 - 10:15 Introduction: **The Clean Clothes Campaign and campaigning on public procurement**

The history and experiences of the CCC's work on pushing local authorities to source their work wear in a socially responsible manner.

Floris de Graad, Schone Kleren Kampagne / CCC The Netherlands

10:15 – 11:00 Presentation: **New research: Work in progress – Labour policies of work wear companies supplying public authorities in Europe**

A summary of the most important findings of this study into the CSR policy of seven work wear companies that supply European public authorities.

Esther de Haan, CCC International Secretariat Coordinator

11:00 – 11:30 Presentation: **The Fair Wear Foundation**

The Fair Wear Foundation (FWF) presents possibilities for companies to start, and maintain, the process of sourcing ethically, especially for work wear companies, a number of which are already FWF members.

Frans Papma, director Fair Wear Foundation

11:30 – 11:50 BREAK



- 11:50 – 12:25 Presentation: **The legal framework for ethical public procurement in communities**
According to the new European directive on public procurement, what are the opportunities for local authorities and public service providers to take social issues into account in procurement?
Silke Moschitz, coordinator Eurocities / CARPE – Cities As Responsible Purchasers in Europe
- 12:25 – 13:00 Presentation: **Contracting work wear under ethical criteria: Barcelona's first steps**
The experience of a local authority already taking action and working with their suppliers.
Helena Barracó Nogués, Green Procurement Office, Barcelona City Council
- 13:00 – 14:00 BREAK
- 14:00 – 15:30 Working groups: **Ways forward**
Groups to develop ideas for ways to move the aims of the campaign forward, based upon participants' experience, outcomes of the research and the seminar so far.
- 15:30 – 15:50 BREAK
- 15:50 – 16:30 Presentations: **Report back working groups**
- 16:30 – 17:30 Panel: **How public procurement can improve working conditions in the work wear sector**
Representatives of the different stakeholder groups present comment upon their role in improving the working conditions in the work wear industry, respond to the outcomes of the research, and to various issues raised during the day. The following 'stakeholder-sectors' are likely to be represented on the panel: multi-stakeholder initiative; company; trade union; Clean Clothes Campaign and local authority.
- 17:30 **Seminar closure**