

**Voluntary Global Codes that Involve Government at the National and/or International Level - A Comparative View**

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Name	UN Global Compact (est. 1999)	ILO Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (est. 1977)	OECD Guidelines (est.1976)
Scope	Based on long accepted principles of international law that were signed by UN, ILO member nations. Covers labor rights, human rights, and the environment. The UN is the largest and most comprehensive international organization, and has a history of trying to promote both foreign investment and responsible corporate citizenship.	These Guidelines address labor rights, employment, and training. They are based on ILO Covenants, which are widely accepted and have the force of international law. The Guidelines however, are recommendations.	The most comprehensive--covers human rights, labor standards, environment, corruption; and information disclosure. In its most recent revision, corporations were asked to try to hold their suppliers and subcontractors accountable.
Who Signs	corporations	Governments sign. Governments promote to their corporations, as does ILO. ILO provides technical assistance, surveys governments regarding how firms implement these guidelines.	Governmental agreement--currently 33 nations, including 4 non-OECD members: Slovakia, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.
Who Implements	corporations, but can partner with other groups with reporting or monitoring expertise.	Corporations in tandem with workers	Governments are responsible for disseminating to all national businesses. Businesses implement, but as with UN Compact and Global Sullivan, no legal sanctions for violations are attached.
Description of Government's Role	no formal role, UN tries to <b>encourage</b>	at national level, government tries to <b>encourage</b> . However, although the Declaration is not legally enforceable, "there are established procedures for interpretation of its provisions in cases of disputes arising over its application." The ILO thus, may play a <b>mediative</b> role.	government disseminates material, and encourages compliance. <b>No monitoring role. However, if a violation is alleged, a national contact point has authority to investigate and if a violation is found, national contact point tries to mediate a settlement between the parties. Thus, government also plays a Mediative ROLE.</b>
Mode of Accountability	no formal mode of accountability, but can be linked to SA 8000. However, at any point, people can go public alleging a violation. Each year, corporations must report in writing to the UN on how they put one or several of the principles into action.	governments and in certain circumstances employers or workers organizations may ask ILO for an interpretation of the provisions of the Declaration in the event of disputes over their operation.	No formal mode of accountability. However, if national contact point can not mediate a solution, claimant can go public alleging violation of guidelines.
Corporate View	mixed. Sponsors include individual corporations and organizations such as Business for Social Responsibility, Conference Board, International Chamber of Commerce, World Business Council on Sustainable Development	?	Mixed, although corporations played a role in negotiating Guidelines. Many corporations think it will be difficult for business to take responsibility for the practices of their suppliers and subcontractors, given the comprehensive nature of the Guidelines.
Who disseminates to employees of corporation or citizens	corporations play the key role here	?	Governments have responsibility to disseminate to all of its corporations; corporations have responsibility to implement.
ngo supporters	supported by Amnesty Intl; WRI; WorldWide Fund for Nature; Human Rights Watch.	supported by NGOs and unions	Negotiations involved ngos such as Amnesty International, Oxfam, and Friends of the Earth. Many were also impressed that the OECD posted negotiating drafts on the web.
ngo view	less enthusiastic as no modes of accountability	?	Since latest revision, proof of utility lies in implementation by governments at the national level.