



CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE



WEBINAR MINUTES WFSGI CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE

Date:	Thursday, September 15, 2022
Location:	Phone / Internet
Attendants:	Merel Bakker / Accell / MBR Sara Brennan / Pentland / SBN Remi Gribaudo / Accell / RBO Frank Henke / adidas / FHE Stefan Seidel / Puma / SSL Laura Wittmann / New Balance / LWN
Ex Officio:	Robbert de Kock / WFSGI / RDK Marc Magnus / WFSGI / MMS
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Confidentiality:	For WFSGI Members only

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- ⇒ Please note that the presentation “220915 WFSGI CR Committee - Webinar” is an integral part of the minutes.
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1. XINJIANG PRODUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION CORPS TRACEABILITY

1.1. Background

This issue was put forward by the WFSGI Manufacturing Committee with the request to get the expertise from the WFSGI CR Committee.

Manufacturers face an increasing number of traceability requests from Brands/Retailers regarding XPCC Cotton to fulfill the requirements of the US Customs and Border Patrol regulations. These requests made by brand companies differ by customer and duplicate the work for manufacturing companies. Also, the requests are sporadic and differ by dates (e.g. Goods shipped in December of 2021 are being asked in Summer 2022 for supplementary documents as they arrive in the US). In addition, manufacturers are asked to request from their Tier 2 (Mills) and Tier 3+ (Yarn Suppliers/Spinners/Cotton Suppliers) traceable documents. This often proves to be very difficult as manufacturers face push backs from their supply chain.

Manufacturers would therefore deem it useful to see how the WFSGI CR Committees view this issue and if there is perhaps a value in working on a harmonized industry solution with some manufacturers.

1.2. Discussion and Conclusion

Participants recognize that the situation is very challenging. However, this does not only apply for manufacturers, but also for brand companies. The fact is, that even the brand companies do not have a thorough understanding of the required documentation necessary. It remains unclear what kind of actions are necessary to free any detained shipment. Also, it remains unknown to the owner of retained shipments, where in the supply chain US authorities found issues justifying the retention.

Many brands work through US organizations to get a better understanding, such as AAFA. It is therefore impossible at this point to work out a harmonized process for the industry, as the basis for such a solution is unknown at this stage.

Furthermore, participants explain that the US authorities have accepted certain technological solutions to track back the cotton to its origins.

Action Plan

#	Deadline	Topic	Who
1	Done	WFSGI to exchange with AAFA to see if there is anything that can be shared with WFSGI manufacturing members.	MMS

2. FIFA QUALITY PROGRAMM ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITS

2.1. Background

FIFA is currently exploring how to include environmental aspects in their FIFA Quality Program, similar to what they did with social compliance and the WFSGI Pledge.

To do so, FIFA has initiated a working group. However, most of the brand representatives in that group are in charge of licensing and marketing. FIFA would appreciate to also have the brands' expertise on sustainability.

MMS stresses the importance to engage in the discussion as it was done in the past with social issues. By providing inputs, a practical solution can be achieved.

2.2. Discussion and Conclusion

Participants suggest that FIFA should focus on solutions that can be integrated in the existing pledge system. Also, it would be most efficient to look at work done in the CDP, SAC, etc. and rely on such solutions. The UNFCCC Fashion Charter could also be of support.

Action Plan

#	Deadline	Topic	Who
2.	TBD	WFSGI to include above points in any further exchange with FIFA.	MMS

3. CENTRE FOR SPORTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (CSHR) - RESPONSIBLE SPORT SPONSORSHIP

3.1. Background

The WFSGI is a member of the CSHR. The Centre is currently working on framework for responsible sport sponsorship. CSHR is open to receive feedbacks on this framework. The WFSGI has sent out the framework draft to the CR Committee for review.

In addition, the CSHR is looking for a "case study" from the sporting good sector in order to test the framework (e.g. common challenges in licensing agreements).

3.2. Discussion and Conclusion

Participants stress the importance that the entire discussion should not just focus on human rights but take a larger view on due diligence risk.

Furthermore, the positive impact of making people active, bringing sport into the remote parts of the world, etc. should also be included in such a framework. A holistic and conceptual framework needs to include positive elements as well or it will fall short.

Participants also express that it is not clear what the framework addresses: just sponsoring of international sport federations and the IOC, building infrastructure, etc.

Some participants did not yet have the opportunity to review the draft framework.

Action Plan

#	Deadline	Topic	Who
3.1.	TBD	WFSGI to put forward the above points when exchanging with the CSHR.	MMS
3.2.	15.10.2022	Participants who haven't yet, review the framework and provide feedback to the WFSGI.	All

4. WFSGI CLIMATE ACTION WEBINARS

4.1. Background

MMS recalls that the WFSGI has become a supportive organization of the UNFCCC Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action. In that context the WFSGI Secretariat is trying to look into hosting webinars for its members to help them take climate action on individual level. The following webinar have been scheduled:

- Webinar with the SBTi/GDP on October 19, at 15:00 CET

- Webinar with the GIZ on October 12 at 15 CET. This webinar will focus on the practical solution for members provided by the GIZ training (attached flyer provides more insights).

4.2. Discussion and Conclusion

MMS invites all WFSGI CR Committee members to put forward any other webinar topics or activities that could help members to take climate action.

One proposal was to reach out to the Apparel Impact Institute.

Action Plan

#	Deadline	Topic	Who
4.1.	Ongoing	Provide further suggestions for webinars and actions.	All
4.2.	TBD	Contact aii.	MMS

5. INVITATION SAICM (STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT)

5.1. Background

The WFSGI Secretariat has been invited by the Swiss Department for the Environment to participate in discussion rounds to reinstate SAICM.

According to the WFSGI's understanding, the Swiss Department for the Environment is driver behind this initiative. Further information can be found here: <https://www.saicm.org/>.

5.2. Discussion and Conclusion

Participants agree to put forward AFIRM and ZDHC as the contacts for these discussions.

6. Action Plan

#	Deadline	Topic	Who
5	Done	WFSGI to inform Swiss Department for the Environment.	MMS

7. AOB

7.1. Sustainability Plaints

Participants raise awareness for an increasing number of sustainability complaints. E.g. in the UK investigations have been made against Assos and H&M. In the Netherlands donations with sustainable purposes have been verified, etc.

These developments are something to be put on the radar and of certainly increasingly important for the future.