

Business policies of AIPG members involved in the Acacia Gum supply chain

I. All AIPG members respect AIPGs Code of Conduct (CoC) and, in accordance with their applicable national legislation, comply with the requirements concerning

- **Labour conditions**, i.e. working conditions, occupational safety rules and health measures as stipulated by relevant ILO conventions
- **Corporate integrity**, i.e. to keep any business conduct free of dishonest methods such as bribery, fraud or any other form of unfair trading practices
- **Environmental conduct**, i.e. to apply responsible operating and production methods and to consider their responsibility for the use and handling of resources such as water and energy, and to care for a proper waste management.

With a view to the different aspects of **Corporate Social Responsibility**, all AIPG members are aware of the main international Conventions and Guidelines addressed in the AIPG CoC and **implement these in their business practice** wherever possible.

AIPG Member companies are aware of the main aspects of **Due Diligence in the supply chain**. They are encouraged to apply thorough due diligence procedures on their suppliers to ensure compliance with human rights standards and avoid supporting any illicit or violent activities. These efforts are appreciated and actively supported by the AIPG members in the producing countries.

II. All AIPG members are aware of their **social and environmental responsibility** and apply a policy of **sustainable sourcing of the raw material**. The business activities practiced by the members in the Sahel zone contribute to the livelihood of the population and to the environment in the local areas concerned, as

- the **family welfare** of local farmers / collectors, transport - and warehouse workers and workers in processing facilities, often solely depends on the income generated by the gum acacia business
- large rural areas are prevented from **deforestation and desertification**, as in these regions, acacia trees are planted, grown, maintained and tapped for sale as an important export raw material.

III. The **procurement of acacia gum meeting the requirements for use in the food and feed industries** is an integral part of the business policies of all AIPG members. Even in regions of the producing countries where critical circumstances prevail, AIPG member companies aim at providing a raw material complying with the requirements set out in AIPG's Good Practices for Gums (GPG) which stipulate standards to be observed already where the supply chain starts. Traceability and lot identification is an important issue covered by AIPG GPG.

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