OECD Due Diligence Guidance

About the OECD
George Catlett Marshall’s speech to Harvard in 1947 led to a European Aid Program commonly referred to as the Marshall Plan. The Marshall Plan led to the creation of the Organisation for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) comprised primarily of European countries. In 1961, the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which represented a worldwide body, superseded the OEEC. The OECD’s mission is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. (www.oecd.org/about)

OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (MNE)
The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises are recommendations to multinational enterprises operating in or from countries that have chosen to apply these guidelines. The guidelines provide non-binding principles and standards for responsible business conduct in a global context consistent with applicable laws and internationally recognized standards. The Guidelines are the only multilaterally agreed upon and comprehensive code of responsible business conduct that governments have committed to promoting. The Guidelines are supported by the representatives of business, worker organisations and non-governmental organisations and can be found on OECD’s website at:
http://mneguidelines.oecd.org/guidelines/

Garment and Footwear
In February 2017, the OECD formally introduced Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector. CBP’s stakeholders can visit the OECD’s website to learn more about this Guidance.

OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas
In 2016, the OECD published the 3rd Edition of its Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas. The Guidance provides detailed recommendations for due diligence in mineral supply chains, covering all minerals, with a global scope, and applicable to any company in along the supply chain. The OECD has also published focused, related tools in order to support the implementation of the Guidance such as Practical Actions on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The latter document includes additional resources within Annex II for CBP’s stakeholders.

OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains
In 2014, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimated that worldwide annual profits in the agriculture sector were $9 billion. (Profits and Poverty). The OECD has produced guidance for MNEs for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains. This guidance was produced in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. The FAO’s website contains many additional resources on forced labor in the agriculture sector.

OECD Publications
The referenced OECD publications can be downloaded here or hardcopies can be ordered through the OECD’s iLibrary. This Fact Sheet provides only a small portion of OECD resources; please visit their website for additional OECD materials and resources.

For additional information and a complete list of WROs and findings, please visit: https://www.cbp.gov/trade/trade-community/programs-outreach/convict-importations and sign up for CBP’s Forced Labor RSS Feed https://www.cbp.gov/rss/