Why commit to the ETI Base Code?

www.ethicaltrade.org

Employment is freely chosen
Slavery and bonded labour are totally unacceptable. Almost 21 million people are victims of forced labour.

Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected
Tens of thousands of workers lose their jobs every year for attempting to form or join a trade union or improve working conditions. Some even lose their lives.

Working conditions are safe and hygienic
An estimated 2.3 million people die every year from work-related accidents and diseases.

Child labour shall not be used
168 million children work to support their families, missing out on education and often damaging their health. This reinforces the cycle of poverty.

Living wages are paid
Roughly half the world’s population still lives on two dollars a day. If people can’t feed their families on an adult’s wage, they may send their children to work.

Working hours are not excessive
Long working hours are the norm for most of the world’s workers. This damages people’s health and undermines family life.

No discrimination is practised
Women and certain minorities are often confined to the lowest-paid jobs with no access to training or promotion.

Regular employment is provided
Most workers can be laid off when it suits the employer. This fuels poverty and insecurity and drives down wages.

No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed
Few workers have protection against physical, verbal or sexual abuse in the workplace.

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