**BP – Annual Report on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights**

**January to December 2015**

**Introduction**

This report describes BP’s implementation of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (the ‘Voluntary Principles’ or ‘VPs’) during 2015. The structure and the reporting points that follow correspond with the Voluntary Principles Reporting Guideline.

During the last year BP have continued to support progress on implementation of the VPs in locations including Angola, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq and Turkey.

1. **BP’s Commitment To The Voluntary Principles**

BP continues to support the Voluntary Principles as an operational and practical guideline.

We are committed to conducting our business in a manner that respects the rights and dignity of all people as set out in our [human rights policy](http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/sustainability/society/human-rights/human-rights-policy.html)[[1]](#footnote-1). BP’s code of conduct references the policy, requiring employees to report any human rights abuse in our operations or in those of our business partners. We are delivering our human rights policy by implementing the relevant sections of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and incorporating them into the processes and policies that govern our business activities. We are progressing towards closer alignment with the UN Guiding Principles, using a risk-based approach.

During 2015, BP have continued as an active member of the VPs’ Steering Committee for the Corporate Pillar. BP continued supporting the VPs’ ‘Outreach and Implementation Working Group’, the ‘Governance Review Working Group’ and the ‘Verification Working Group’. BP also took part in the Steering Committee ‘Strategic Retreat’ in Washington DC and has worked to introduce new members to the Corporate Pillar as the year has progressed. Outside of the formal VPI Working Groups, BP also contributed to the ‘Informal Group on Security Arrangements’, established and led by PAX and has been working with International Alert, on behalf of the oil and gas industry association IPIECA, to update their guidance named ‘Conflict Sensitive Business Practice’ which is looking at heightened due diligence in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations (FCAS).

2015 saw BP continue discussions with our businesses to ensure that the VPs are included in contracts with security providers. BP continue to build relationships in our non-operated joint ventures to enable us to discuss and share our approach to security and human rights across our operations. We have also focussed on integrating human rights issues into our shipping supplier forums for the first time in 2015. More than 65 suppliers attended the forums, where we discussed issues such as the responsibility to respect human rights in business, the importance of human rights for the shipping industry and how BP incorporates human rights into our code of conduct.

More broadly, BP worked with our peers through IPIECA to develop and promote guidance that integrates human rights into community grievance management. In line with our human rights policy commitments, in 2015 we reviewed our approach to managing community complaints. We began evaluating community grievance mechanisms at key sites using the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights to identify areas for improvement.

BP also sent an individual to assist with the facilitation of the IPIECA Responsible Security Workshop / Conference held in Kuala Lumpur in September.

Throughout the year BP undertook a series of briefings to key internal stakeholders, delivered VPSHR training and supported VPSHR Risk Assessments (VPSHR-RA) and in-country implementation processes in a number of countries, including Georgia and Indonesia, which are used as examples in this report and in accordance with the Voluntary Principles Initiative’s Reporting Guidelines.

1. **Policies, Procedures and Related Activities**

Requirements for the implementation of the VPs are included in our Voluntary Principles Implementation Guideline, which aims to make implementation more effective and consistent, by providing practical tools for our businesses and by integrating guidance into BP’s management systems. The guideline consists of seven elements addressing risk identification, mitigation and evaluation*.* TheBP Intelligence, Security and Crisis and Continuity team provides advice and hands-on support to businesses to implement the VPs in priority countries.

All our businesses are required to carry out a security risk assessment and to incorporate the findings into a security risk action plan. In locations assessed as having higher security risks, businesses are required to carry out an additional Voluntary Principles screening and impact assessment. An independent internal Group Audit function audits the business’s conformance with this requirement.

BP has mandatory procedures for reporting and investigating incidents, including any security-related incidents, and these were described in previous annual reports to the plenary. We would investigate any allegations of human rights abuses in our operations. We will also conduct an internal investigation whenever there is credible evidence that our actions or omissions may have played a role in any alleged abuse. During 2015 we did not receive any third party complaints about any incidents related to excessive use of force by any private security provider contracted to us.

As with any type of contractor, BP businesses screen and select private security contractors based on a combination of factors. We seek to make contractual commitments with suppliers that encourage them to adhere to the principles contained in our human rights policy. The standard model contracts used by our upstream, downstream, shipping and biofuels businesses now include requirements for our suppliers to respect internationally recognized human rights in their work for BP. We have developed similar human rights clauses for other parts of BP, such as information technology, human resources, facilities management and travel. We include these requirements as we renew or enter into new contracts. BP also requires contractors to communicate our health, safety, security and environmental requirements to their relevant employees and subcontractors and demonstrate that they follow them.

We continue with efforts to raise awareness of the Voluntary Principles across the company. This includes the delivery of awareness sessions for ‘business security representatives’ who hold responsibility for security management in their respective businesses. We have delivered awareness briefings and updates on our work to the Eastern and Western Hemisphere Regional Security Advisors and our Social Practitioners Forums. We also have an internal website and e-learning module on the Voluntary Principles to give personnel access to basic level instruction. In addition, we have developed a further, more detailed, interactive training module which has been piloted this year.

1. **Country Implementation**

**GEORGIA**

In 2015 BP’s Global Voluntary Principles Advisor conducted an in-country review in order to evaluate how BP in Georgia is implementing the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights. This review is intended to provide an internal ‘health check’ of progress using BP’s standard VPs’ evaluation framework.

BP Georgia, has a ‘Single Point of Accountability’ for the VPs in the security team. This person maintains a formal VPs implementation plan and performs bi-annual audits of the security contractor in order to check conformance with the relevant standards.

Government assigned protection of the BTC and South Caucasus pipelines comes from the Strategic Pipeline Protection Department (SPPD). Private Security of our sites is provided by ‘Veziri’.

With respect to SPPD, BP Georgia continue to support capacity building delivered through an international security and training consultancy, Bowman Risk Management (BRM). In 2014 BRM conducted Human Rights and Use of Force training for the SPPD at their Kvemo-Karti headquarters in Rustavi (Tbilisi). BP Georgia’s relationship with those in command of the SPPD is a positive one, with regular meetings and discussions relating to their operations around BP Georgia’s facilities.

Additionally, BRM provides external monitoring with quarterly equipment audits to SPPD, to ensure that the equipment provided to them is used for its intended purpose. BRM also provides reports to BP Georgia on SPPD in connection with human rights and VPs issues.  Deloitte & Touche, provide additional external assurance in connection with funding provided by BP Georgia to SPPD through bi-annual audits of our funding provided to SPPD.

BP Georgia’s support for training on security and human rights to SPPD (and its precursors) dates back to 2004. We have seen positive signs in terms of the impact of this support. For example, BRM stated that the SPPD “has become a full-time community police force and emergency service,” operating in extreme mountain winter conditions for more than half the year; and that “this is a point noted by separate auditing agencies, who speak positively of SPPD in regard to both its interaction with local communities and its adherence to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.”

With respect to Veziri, our approach to security and human rights training of private security contractors in Georgia follows the ‘train the trainer’ format.  BP Georgia’s security manager and the security and human rights coordinator directly participated in the initial training for Veziri’s workforce, helping with specific role play exercises. Veziri is now accountable for providing training to all new comers and also refresher trainings to the existing staff.  BP Georgia conduct bi-annual audits of Veziri to check compliance with their training commitments. During the latest review the Veziri management were happy to assist with provision of training records, which were found to be comprehensive.

In Georgia, the BP security team has installed ‘feedback boxes’ at all sites to ensure that the workforce can report issues affecting performance regarding human rights. ‘Veziri’ also implemented a grievance system using an online submission tool for anonymous grievances.  Further to this, BP Georgia has created a procedure for ‘Cooperation and Investigation in Response to Allegations of Human Rights Abuses’. There were no grievances logged relating to Security and Human Rights in 2015.

**INDONESIA**

Security and Human Rights Training remains a significant area of focus at our liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Tangguh, Indonesia, within the framework of our ‘integrated community-based security’ (ICBS) programme. Since the beginning of the project, BP's Tangguh security team have participated in annual joint training exercises with the Papua police every year with the exception of 2009 and 2015 when the exercise was deferred due to local election security related priorities. The exercises provide opportunities to test civil disturbance management plans and procedures and adherence to the Voluntary Principles in volatile crowd situations. Participants included police officers, mainly from the Bintuni Region, BP Security Guards, employees (as role play demonstrators), and some observers which involved military officers, local NGO members, and some local journalists.

VPs in-house training is an activity that continues to be performed, with the last iteration being held in Q3 2015 and involving police units in Manokwari, Bintuni, Babo, FakFak, Aranday and Kokas.

Independent monitoring provides an important source of assurance on security and human rights risk management. The Tangguh Independent Advisory Panel (TIAP) provides guidance to BP on the non-commercial aspects of our operations in Tangguh, Indonesia. As part of this work, we held engagement sessions with local and international NGOs in the UK and US to share the results of TIAP’s 2015 assessment and some of the highlights and challenges of BP’s social development programmes. Stakeholders discussed issues such as security and human rights and the progress of indigenous Papuan development through local enterprises. TIAP’s reports and BP’s responses are available online. TIAP provided BP with several suggestions for possible improvements to the joint training exercise and BP plans to work with the police to develop further scenarios in line with the recommendations within the report. BP also continue to gauge the dynamics of the security operating environment in and around Tangguh, which may lead to enhancement of both the ICBS and physical protection measures.

BP has made material progress recently in sharing our ICBS experience and commitment to VPSHR with key external stakeholders including SKK Migas, Polda Papua Barat, and other oil and gas companies (including Genting) with business presence in the Papua Barat province.

During 2015 there was no record of any grievances being raised relating to human rights abuses connected to our security arrangements.

**D. Lessons from 2015 and priorities for 2016**

* Conducting periodic Peer Reviews offers an independent assessment of our work related to the VPs and provides useful feedback and sharing of best practice.
* BP will continue its active participation in VP initiatives and working groups, alongside the Corporate Pillar Steering Committee and will also continue to support IPIECA in its initiatives, such as the Responsible Security Working Group*.*
* BP will seek to continue to develop a broader understanding of the VPs within our varied businesses. Seeking opportunities to meet with and discuss the VPs across our operations and capitalising on opportunities to deliver awareness / training sessions on the VPs where appropriate.
* Implementation of the VP’s will remain a priority across our security team in 2016, with a particular focus on working with local and national levels to fully implement the VPs and KPIs that will be used to measure implementation.
* External review of our operations, seeking to ensure that our implementation efforts are aligned with international best practice and, where appropriate, making adjustments to our programme.

1. <http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/sustainability/society/human-rights/human-rights-policy.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)