



## **SRSG AND CLEAN CLOTHES CAMPAIGN COLLABORATE**

**The UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Business and Human Rights, Professor John Ruggie, and the International Secretariat of the Clean Clothes Campaign are collaborating on a project that is intended to clarify two related issues in corporate responsibility: the principles that make for effective governance of multi-stakeholder initiatives; and the requirements for effective supply chain code implementation.**

**In his 2007 report to the UN Human Rights Council, the SRSG identified multi-stakeholder initiatives as important complements to the traditional state-based treaty-making and soft law standard-setting processes. They potentially offer new forms of accountability and redress for sources of corporate-related human rights abuses. But little is known systematically about how—or indeed, whether—any particular features of their governance mechanisms determine their effectiveness. By examining diverse experiences of initiatives in different sectors and representing somewhat different governance mechanisms, the project aims to provide more robust guidance.**

**A closely related challenge concerns supply chain codes. What factors determine the credibility of code implementation? How can workplace investigations, social audits, grievance mechanisms, stakeholder consultations and public reporting be utilized effectively? What oversight mechanisms are needed to ensure that these initiatives are transparent and accountable? What are the required roles of various 'stakeholders', including governments, and how and where should they be engaged?**

**An expert workshop will be convened later this fall at The Hague to address these questions. A report summarizing the discussions will be published.**

**The project is made possible by the generous support of Oxfam/NOVIB, with additional support from the Government of the Netherlands, which will host the workshop.**

**For further information, please contact:**

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