

## OECD Watch Response to G7 Leaders'(In)Action at the G7 Summit in Japan towards Responsible Supply Chains and Access to Remedy

At this year's 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual G7 Summit in Japan, G7 leaders failed to address their previous commitments towards responsible business conduct. In contrast to the June 2015 [Leaders' Declaration](#) following last year's summit in Schloss Elmau, Germany, commitments to improve responsible supply chains and access to remedy were notably omitted from the agenda.

Given the vital need for G7 leaders to elaborate on how they will work to ensure responsible supply chains and better apply internationally-recognized labour, social and environmental standards, civil society criticizes this omission and calls on the G7 to back their expressed commitment with these six immediate actions:

- Take significant steps towards the full implementation of the commitments that were made at Schloss Elmau in June 2015;
- Carry out measures to ensure transparency in supply chains in order to facilitate respect and protection of labour rights;
- Address the erosion of social protection of all workers and the risk of child labour in global supply chains;
- Implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by developing substantive National Action Plans on the basis of meaningful consultations with all stakeholders;
- Strengthen mechanisms for providing access to remedy for victims of corporate abuse, including the National Contact Points (NCPs) of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; and
- Improve the performance and effectiveness of NCP system by urging OECD adhering countries to revise the Procedural Guidance for NCPs, ensure sufficient resources are provided to further the effectiveness of the Guidelines, adopt mandatory NCP peer reviews, and attach material consequences when NCPs find companies non-compliant with the OECD Guidelines.

While OECD Watch welcomes the inclusion of the [Ise-Shima Progress Report](#) to ensure G7 accountability, steps must be taken to incorporate all relevant commitments in this accountability report, including those expressed in the June 2015 G7 Leaders' Declaration on supply chains and access to remedy.

In the process of condensing the 2015 G7 Leaders' Declaration to specific commitments for monitoring, one important commitment was left out, *i.e.* the assurance that the G7's own NCPs would "be effective" and "lead by example." This

commitment aimed to achieve more effective NCPs. OECD Watch has [previously put forward recommendations](#) to the G7 countries to make this happen. Furthermore, the G7's indicators for monitoring supply chain commitments are all input-based and thus do not measure the outcome that we all want to see: effective NCPs that provide remedies for violations of human rights and other rights protected in the OECD Guidelines.

OECD Watch urgently calls on the G7 to include this outcome in future accountability reports. Because of its importance, OECD Watch and TUAC commit to measuring the performance of NCPs in implementing the Guidelines and providing access to remedy for victims of rights abuses by corporations and to publishing a benchmarking report on this on a yearly basis starting in late 2016.

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