



Socially Responsible Public Procurement of Electronic Products:

Challenges of Monitoring the Global Supply Chain

Symposium

4th December 2015

University of Greenwich, Old Naval Royal College, London

The electronics industry is key in today's economy and one of the fastest growing global industries. The working conditions on the supply chain of the industry, however, are far from respectful to the human rights of those involved and numerous abuses have been reported in the past years. As large consumers of electronic products public authorities have a responsibility towards those working in the supply chain of the products they purchase. Recent international and European developments in law and practice have allowed a wider scope for public buyers to introduce demands of socially responsible corporate behavior in the supply chain of their main suppliers. However, understanding how the supply chain can be monitored and acting on the findings of monitoring to promote redress and reform is still an important challenge to make public procurement an effective tool for the protection of human rights.

In this context, Electronics Watch was launched in 2014. Electronics Watch is a monitoring organisation that brings together public sector buyers and civil society monitors from the regions of electronics production. This workshop aims to present the Electronics Watch initiative and the opportunities that it provides for public buyers to realise their obligations with respect to the protection and promotion of human rights and adequate working conditions in the supply chain of the electronics products they purchase. The aim of the workshop is twofold: firstly to analyse in detail the Electronics Watch procurement model, the monitoring mechanisms and the reform process available under its framework; and secondly to provide a forum for in-depth discussion of current supply chain monitoring practices and the challenges to make them an effective tool for workers and the ultimate goal of improving their working conditions. Through the examination of the Electronics Watch model procurement practitioners, human rights and labour rights experts and advocates will aim to advance on the discussions of the suitability of current supply chain monitoring processes and options for reform.

This workshop is organised by the **Business, Human Rights and the Environment Research Group** of the School of Law, University of Greenwich, the **London Universities Purchasing Consortium** and **Electronics Watch**.

For more information please contact Andy Davies (LUPC); a.davies@lupc.ac.uk, Dr. Olga Martin-Ortega (BHRE); o.martin-ortega@gre.ac.uk or Dr Opi Outhwaite (BHRE); o.m.outhwaite@gre.ac.uk

Programme

8.30-9.00: Arrival and Coffee

9.00-9.10: Welcome by Sandra Clarke, Head of the School of Law, University of Greenwich and Olga Martin-Ortega, Leader of the Business, Human Rights and the Environment Research Group

9.10-9.35: Buying Electronic Goods: What is the Problem?

Andy Davies, London Universities Purchasing Consortium

9.35-10.45: Global Supply Chain, Human Rights and Public Procurement

Chair: Olga Martin-Ortega, University of Greenwich

Nicole Vander Meulen, International Roundtable for Corporate Accountability- ICAR

Claire Methven O'Brien, Danish Institute for Human Rights

Robert K. Stumberg, Georgetown University

10.45-11.15: Coffee

11.15-12.30: Labour Rights in the Electronics Supply Chain

Chair: Opi Outhwaite, University of Greenwich

Cecilia Tuico, Workers Assistance Centre-WAC- Philippines

David Foust, CEREAL, Mexico

Norma Martinez, Danwatch

12.30-13.45: Lunch, networking and tour of the Painted Hall

13.45-14.45: Introducing Electronics Watch

Chair: Andy Davies, LUPC

Jim Cranshaw, People and Planet/Electronics Watch

Alice Tichborne, solicitor and court advocate at the South Eastern circuit

14.45-15.15: Coffee

15.15-16.30: Challenges of Monitoring the Global Supply Chain

Chair: Jim Cranshaw, People and Planet

Scott Nova, Workers Rights Consortium

Cecilia Tuico, Workers Assistance Centre-WAC- Philippines

David Foust, CEREAL, Mexico

16.30: Closing Remarks, followed by Wine Reception and classic guitar recital