



# COMBATTING FORCED LABOUR



## **Managing Risks and Assuring Reputations: Combatting Forced Labour and the Exploitation of Trafficked Persons**

The United Nations Global Compact will sponsor a small gathering in New York of some local participants and other interested businesses to meet with Roger Plant, the Head of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour (SAPFL) to discuss the tools and the recent policy developments in combatting forced labour. The gathering will take place over lunch on 15 May, from 12h30 to 14h30 (lunch will be provided) at the ILO's offices in New York, 220 East 42nd Street, Suite 3101 (between Second and Third Avenues) and participants will have the opportunity to discuss with Mr. Plant and the other attendees, the most effective measures and good business practices in combatting forced labour and trafficking that have a direct bearing on business operations.

We warmly invite you to join us for this informal event for an in-depth look at the practical issues facing all businesses with global operations and outreach in order to better manage risks, reputations and safeguard your operation's supply chains.

The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour is addressed in Principle 4 of the United Nations Global Compact. With over 9.8 million people exploited by private agents, forced labour is becoming a significant risk for employers, not only for small enterprises on the margins of the formal economy in developing countries, but also for multinational enterprises with complex supply chains and outsourcing operations. The ILO estimates that 80 per cent of all forced labour abuse takes place in the private economy.

The ILO works directly with employers' organizations globally to combat forced labour and the forced labour outcomes of human trafficking. To this end, the ILO has developed a number of practical tools to meet the growing need of individual companies and employers' organizations for guidance as to what forced labour is, how it can affect business operations and what business actors can do to tackle the problems. For more information see [Combating forced labour: A handbook for employers and business](#) available from the ILO website.

Please RSVP to Venu Keesari at the UN Global Compact Office at [keesari@unglobalcompact.org](mailto:keesari@unglobalcompact.org) by 11 May 2009.