



## **ESA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE SOURCING**

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Members of the European Snacks Association value the quality, safety and sources of the ingredients utilised in the production of our products. Members, with their suppliers, share the responsibility for ensuring practices are in place in origin countries which are consistent with the standards and principles fundamental to our organisations.

ESA Member companies have in place individual and proprietary procedures related to supply practices. Among the basic principles which we share and which ESA encourages its Members to adopt are:

- **That responsible sourcing is an important consideration when procuring raw materials in third countries**
- **That the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) Base Code<sup>1</sup> or an equivalent programme is utilised related to employment practices:**
  - Child "labour" is not used (equivalent to relevant ILO standards)<sup>2</sup>
  - Where child "work" is employed:
    - Children shall not be exposed to hazardous conditions
    - Children shall not be prevented from attending school
  - Living wages paid
  - Working hours are not excessive and comply with national laws
  - No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed
  - Employment is freely chosen
  - Working conditions are safe and hygienic
- **That programmes are in place or in development to ensure compliance with responsible sourcing principles, using either internal or external resources/expertise**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ethicaltrade.org/eti-base-code>

<sup>2</sup> ILO definition of child labour: <http://www.ilo.org/ipecc/facts/lang--en/index.htm>