

# **Code of Business Conduct**

The business conduct principles and rules set out in this policy are provided as the governing standards to ensure that we promote Stolt-Nielsen S.A.'s and its subsidiaries' (hereinafter the "Company") mission and meet our targets in an ethical, honest and legal manner.

# **Rules of Conduct**

#### **Business Behaviour**

The Company conducts its business with honesty and integrity. The Company competes fairly and ethically within the framework of applicable competition laws.

#### Laws and Regulations

The Company complies with the applicable laws, rules and regulations of the countries in which the Company operates or under which the Company has any contractual association.

#### **Confidentiality of Company Information**

All Personnel must not, directly or indirectly, use, disclose, reproduce or make available in any form any confidential Company information. This applies to internal Company matters, as well as industry information other than that which is generally available to the public and extends beyond the termination of employment / contractual relationship.

#### **Conflict of Interest and Related Party Transactions**

All Personnel must pay particular attention to conflict of interest issues. If an employee is faced with a situation in which his or her personal financial, political or other interests or those of individuals or entities close to them may conflict with that of the Company, they must report it immediately to their Management.

In this respect, no Personnel shall acquire an interest or

#### **Proper Accounting and Record Keeping**

All transactions on behalf of the Company's entities must be appropriately described in the records of the Company and accounted for in accordance with the Management System and may be subject to audit. No secret or unrecorded fund of money or other assets is to be established or maintained.

#### **Ethical Conduct, Disclosure and Compliance**

The Company promotes honest and ethical conduct and adopts relevant policies that mandate full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in the reports and documents filed with the Oslo Børs and in other public communications by the Company, as well as strict compliance with applicable governmental laws, rules and regulations.

#### **Internal Control System**

Management is committed to establish, maintain, and regularly evaluate the effectiveness of a business-wide internal control system including, but not limited to, detailed procedures for purchasing and sales functions, inventory controls, accounting, financial reporting and disclosure.

Appropriate guidelines for the internal control structure and the disclosure controls and procedures are defined within the relevant policies and work instructions.

#### **Communities and Political Activity**

The Company respects and promotes a harmonious working relationship with the local communities in which it operates. The Company acts in accordance with appropriate national laws in a socially responsible manner and refrains from participation in party politics.

# Gifts

Gifts within the context of business relationships or activities should not be given or received by Personnel or their close family members, if they could be considered extravagant, or construed as a bribe or payoff, or given in cash or cash equivalents. Personnel or their close family members should not accept anything that might make it appear that their judgment for the Company would be compromised as a result. Please discuss with your supervisor any gifts which you are not certain are appropriate.

#### **Business Entertainment**

Business entertainment should not be extended or received if it could be seen as extravagant or unduly frequent which may appear to influence our independent judgment on behalf of the Company.

#### **Commissions, Fees and Similar Payments**

All Commissions, consultants' fees, retainers or similar payments should be clearly related to, and commensurate with, the services being performed.

accept a position as consultant or part-time employee with a competitor, a supplier or a customer without prior written agreement of his or her Management.

No Personnel may use personal influence to get the Company to do business with an entity in which their close family members or friends have an interest. All Personnel must disclose any relationship they or any close family members have with the Company, either as an employee, supplier, customer or in any other form. Where such a close family member has a significant relationship with the Company, such relationships must be referred to the Head of Operational Audit.

#### **Insider Trading**

Each individual working for or with the Company who has access through his or her position in the Company to privileged non-public information, which could influence the price of the shares of the Company, or companies with which the Company has a business relationship, shall not engage in divulging such information nor trade in those shares, or any other financial instruments, including exercising share options.

# Relationships with Government Officials, Customers, Suppliers and Partners

These relationships should be conducted ethically and in compliance with local and international statutory requirements and standards applicable to local subsidiaries as well as to the Company's parent company.

Gifts within the context of business relationships or activities should not be given, directly or indirectly, or accepted, directly or indirectly, if they could be considered extravagant. Similarly, entertainment should not be extended or received if it could be seen as extravagant or unduly frequent.

The Company complies with all anti-corruption treaties and laws of the countries in which it does business. All Personnel are prohibited from directly or indirectly giving anything of value, directly or indirectly, to foreign government officials or foreign political candidates in order to obtain or retain business. It is strictly prohibited to make illegal payments to government officials of any country. These requirements apply both to employees, agents, and joint venture companies, no matter where they are doing business. If you are authorized to engage agents, make sure that they are reputable and require them to agree in writing to our standards in this area.

#### **Joint Ventures**

When participating in joint ventures, the Company promotes the application of the above principles and rules in the management of the joint venture operation.

#### **Whistleblowing Provisions**

The Company aims to promote a culture in which employees feel able to raise genuine concerns without fear of victimisation, discrimination or disadvantage. To support this commitment, the Company has established an on-line system for reporting complaints for investigation, directly to the Chairman of the Audit Committee (of the Board) and the Head of Operational Audit, and enables complaints to be reported anonymously. The "Speak Up!" System is available internally via the Company's intranet system and is also available to any interested party via the Company's external website (www.stolt-nielsen.com).

#### **Applicability and Enforcement**

The Company's policy on business conduct is applicable to all directors, permanent and temporary members of staff, including the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and the Group Financial Controller (the principal accounting officer), contractors and consultants (herein referred to as "Personnel") and should be complied with at all times. In line with the principles of this policy, all Personnel are expected to carry out their duties and maintain their internal and external relationships in a professional manner with utmost integrity while avoiding any conflict of interest. The Company will not tolerate any breach of this policy. Individuals found to be in breach of the rules of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of service.

All incidents involving a breach of this policy must be reported immediately to Line Management and the Head of Operational Audit, SNSA. In the event that reporting a specific breach of this policy to Line Management is deemed inappropriate, the incident must be reported directly to the Head of Operational Audit. All major incidents are to be reported by the Head of Operational Audit to the Chairman of the Audit Committee. For the purpose of this policy, any incident of fraud is considered a major incident and should be reported as such. Reports as mentioned above may be made anonymously (also, see Whistleblowing Provisions above).

No employee may be discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed, or in any other manner discriminated against as a result of reporting a breach of this, or any other Company's policies or procedures.

# Niels G. Stolt-Nielsen Chief Executive Officer, Stolt-Nielsen S.A.