Webinar: Introducing an Asia-first Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence in Korea

2023. 5EP.19. TUE 14:00 -15:30 KST

Organizer KTNC Watch

Time	Subject				
14:00-14:10	Welcome and Introduction - DongHyun Kim (Lawyer, KTNC Watch / KLPH)				
14:10-15:10	Presentation 1 A case of human rights and environmental violations in the supply chain of a Korean company: Focusing on the case of Samsung's Vietnam factory - Activist, SHAPS				
	Presentation 2 Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence I - YooJung Shin(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / JIHYANG LAW)				
	Presentation 3 Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence II : Doona Kim(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / KLPH)				
	Presentation 4 Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence III : YoungAh Park(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / GongGam)				
15:10-15:30	Q&A				

Background

Scientists' predictions that this year will be the coolest on record after the world groaned under extreme weather conditions suggest that humanity has no more time to delay the transition to a decarbonized circular economy. However, maintaining the current system of mass production and consumption, while only changing the energy sources to power it, will inevitably entail another round of large-scale resource exploitation and human rights abuses. Supply chain risks in industries, categorized as the so-called "green economy", are a testament to this.

As a result, there is a global trend introducing laws on due diligence that require companies to identify, prevent, and remediate human rights and environmental risks in their supply chains. France, Germany, and Norway have already enacted legislation, and a directive is being developed at the EU level that will apply across the EU. Japan is also discussing the enactment of such laws at the government level.

On September 1, South Korea became the first country in Asia to introduce such a law, and as there has been no domestic legislation to address human rights abuses and environmental destruction in supply chains, this is a step forward in strengthening the responsibility of companies to respect human rights and providing legal remedies to victims.

The bill is the result of close cooperation with the National Assembly by KTNC Watch, which has been dealing with supply chain issues of Korean companies operating overseas for many years. We will be hosting an online seminar to review the current status of the institutionalization of human rights due diligence in Korea and to introduce the highlights of the bill and our future plans.

Presentation 1

A case of human rights and environmental violations in the supply chain of a Korean company: Focusing on the case of Samsung's Vietnam factory

- Activist, SHAPS

A Case of Human Rights and Environmental Violations in the Supply Chain of a Korean Company

- Focusing on the Case of Samsung's Vietnam Factory



Sangsu LEE, Supporters for the Health and Rights of People in the Semiconductor Industry (SHARPs)

> https://sharps.or.kr/ sharps@hanmail.net

<Contents>

- Carbon Dioxide Leak Accident at Samsung Electronics
- Right to know about serious accidents
- Samsung's systemic concealment of accidents
- ♦ Hydrofluoric Acid Gas Leak Accident at Samsung Electronics
- Right to know about safety and health issues
- Repeated Methanol Poisoning Accidents
- Case of Samsung Electronics' suppliers in Vietnam
- Neglecting Safety and Health Problems
- Case of Samsung Electronics' suppliers in Vietnam

Carbon Dioxide Leak Accident at Samsung Electronics : Right to Know about Serious Accidents

Carbon Dioxide Poisoning at Samsung Electronics Plant in Giheung in 2018 - caused 3 casualties

삼성전자 기흥사업장서 이산화탄소 누출...3명 사상

송고시간 2018-09-04 19:20



3명 모두 협력업체 직원...1명 사망·부상자 2명은 의식불명 "119개 이산화탄소 저장 탱크로 연결된 배관이 터진 듯"

(용인=연합뉴스) 최해민 최종호 강영훈 기자 = 삼성전자 반도체 부문 사업장에서 소화용 이산화탄소 가 누출돼 20대 협력업체 직원 1명이 숨지고 2명이 의식불명 상태에 빠졌다.

사고는 소화용 이산화탄소가 든 탱크와 연결된 배관이 알 수 없는 이유로 터지면서 이산화탄소가 한 꺼번에 분출해 발생한 것으로 추정된다.



이산화탄소 누출 사고 설명하는 삼성전자 상무 (수용=연합능 스) 신영근 기자 = 27일 이산 화탄소 누출 사고로 근무 중이면 협력업체 직원 1명이 승진 경기도 수원 상성전자 수원 사업장에서 삼성전자 수원환경인전용 이기학 상무가 사고 현장 명면도를 통해 사고 상 함에 대해 설명하고 있다.

"Replace carbon dioxide with a safer and cleaner solution."

- The Ministry of Labor's order to establish a safety and health improvement plan after inspection of the accident in 2014 -



Complacent Response of Samsung and the Ministry of Labor is responsible for repeated fatal accidents

: Recurrence prevention measures were not implemented in other workplaces,

causing similar accidents recurring



 Critical supervision and audits over causes of accidents, and establishment and implementation of recurrence prevention

measures are required!

Disclosure of a serious accidents report



Carbon Dioxide Poisoning Accidents at Samsung Electronics - Samsung's systemic concealment of accidents - "SECRECY"



<Source: the 2018 complaint about the carbon dioxide leak>



"쓰러진 요원은 <mark>구조하다 탈진</mark>한 것, 로비는 가스 누출 없어 <mark>현장 통제 안 해</mark>"

Saatung Satari	4.8.3. 대외기		port to Authorit	
SAMSUNE	-	따른 환경부/소방서/ 장제도를 운영한다.	노공부 等 유관기관이	에 즉시 선고하도록 사고· Person in charge
	사	고구분	신고기관	담당자
(Rules) DS Accidents Response Plan	화재/	가스 사고	소방서 가스안전공사	방재그름장
(규칙)DS 재난태응계획	안	전 사고	고용노동부	안전그름장
	환:	경 사고	환경부	환경그름장
	인/	나 사고	경찰서	단지 인사팀
Delay	점무 3. 비상대	ctor's Duties at El 대중본무 경영진		영하
Delayed he				역한
2018. 08.16	점무 3. 비상대	대응본무 경영진 김전장소 사고현장 → 비상대응본부	임무 - 대표이사 사고 브 - 위기상황선포 성 - 대외 관공서 신	고 (S메세지 혹은 구두보고) 응인 고여부 승인
기흥/화성/평택단지	점 무 3. 비상 ¹ ^{구분}	대 등 본 무 경영진 김전장소 사고현장 →	임무 - 대표이사 사고 보 - 위기상황선포 성 - 대외 관중서 신	고 (S메세지 혹은 구두보고) 능인
2018. 08.10	점 무 3. 비상 ¹ ^{구분}	대응본무 경영진 김전장소 사고현장 → 비상대응본부	 임무 해표어사 사고 브 위기상황선포 4 예외 관풍서 신 비장태풍문부 2 라인 대계 인력 사고지역 생산 4 산 국구 계획 	고(S에세지 혹은 구두보고) 동안 고역부 승인 2집 및 지획 , 생산피해 현황과악 중단 의사원정



- Samsung Electronics' accident response manual
- Not a response to an accident but a response to a accident-related reputation risk!
- Not a response to rescue lives but a concealment of accidents to manage corporate reputation!
- > Should not leave accident response to corporate discretion!



- Need to enhance punishments for concealment and delayed report of accidents
- The government should take responsibility for accident response
- Fire and medical authorities should be aware of risks and dangers in relation to businesses,



I. 사고기요

2013. 01. 28(월) 7:50분경 경기도 화성소재 00전자(주)의 케미컬 공급실에서 50% 불산탱크 하부 별브에 대한 누출 방지조치 작업을 하던 ○○서비스(주) 소속 야간작업자 4명과 누출방지조치를 위해 긴급 투입된 작업자 1명이 누출된 불산홈에 노출되어 그 중 1명이 치료 중 사망하고, 4명이 경상을 입은 사고가 발생하였다.

On January 28, 2013, five employees were exposed to hydrofluoric acid gas at Samsung Electronics' Hwasung Factory. One employee lost his life and four employees were hospitalized.



[사진 1] 누출이 발생한 불산탱크 하부 모습









Non disclosure of the Inspection Report (2013.5)



- All information related to safety and health should be disclosed.
- Revise the Act On Prevention Of Divulgence And Protection Of Industrial Technology! Revise the Act On Special Measures For Strengthening The Competitiveness Of, And Protecting National High-tech Strategic Industries!
- Revise the Occupational Safety and Health Act Enhance the Right to Know



Methanol Poisoning Accident

- Samsung Electronics' Supplier in Vietnam

SAMSUNG

Methanol poisoning accident: Samsung's supplier in Vietnam





- 1 death, 3 teenagers with brain and eyesight impairment, 37 hospitalized
- The company ignored workers complaining of bad smell, headaches, and fatigue. No
 response from the company even after dozens fainted and hospitalized.
- The accident was revealed only after the victims' families reported to toxic material authorities
- · Samsung had declared it prohibited the use of methanol for "cooling" at all its suppliers

SAMSUNG

Methanol Poisoning Accident at Samsung's domestic supplier in 2016

- 7 workers in their 20s and 30s suffered from losing eyesights and brain impairment such as brain hemorrhage in 2016
- Methanol was used as "refrigerant" in manufacturing parts for Samsung and LG smartphones
- · Methanol was used instead of ethanol as it is cheaper
- Lack of safety equipment including shielding and local ventilation equipment
- · Company's no response despite workers showing symptoms

exacerbated damages → Exactly the same accident repeated in Vietnam



Samsung's Response:

Prohibition of methanol as "refrigerant" across its supply chain

Samsung Electronics' 2019 Sustainability Report

		구분	Cas No.	물질명	사용제한용도1)	관련기준	대상관문에서
	1		71-43-2	2.2	모든 공정	산안밤(특별/C/ML LARC 사내 기준	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	2		110-54-3	n. 11 2	오는 몸정	산안법(관리/씨, EU 상식육성, 사내 기준	상성전자 전 사업장 협력회사
A FIFTY YEAR	3	제한	68-12-2	디메틸포름아미드	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/R), IARC(2A), EU 생식독성(1B)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
JOURNEY TOWARDS	4	제한	75-52-5	니트로메탄	세적, 탈지	산안법(관리/C), (ARC(2B)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	5	제한	67-66-3	클로로봄	세적, 탈지	산안법(관리/C/R), IARC(28), EU 생식독성	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE	6	제한	79-01-6	TCE	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/C/M), IARC	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	7	제한	108-88-3	동루연	세척, 탈지	산안법(관리/R), EU 생식독성	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
NYTE BARGERELE INT	8	제한	127-18-4	PCE	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/C), (ARC(2A)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	9	제한	67-56-1	메탄율	세척, 탈지, 냉각	냉각 산안법(관리/C)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	10	제한	108-94-1	시클로엑사논	세적, 탈지	산안법(관리/C)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	11	제한	75-09-02	디클로로메탄	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/C), (ARC(2A)	상성전자 전 사업장, 협력회사
	12	제한	75-21-8	산화에틸렌	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 C,M), IARC(1)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	13	제한	109-86-4	2-메톡시에탄율	세척, 탈지	산만볌(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	14	제한	110-49-6	2-데복시에틸아세테이트	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	15	제한	110-80-5	2-에톡시에탄올	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	16	제한	111-15-9	2-에룩시에틸아세태이트	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	17	제한	50-00-0	포룡알데히드	세적, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 C,M) IARC(1)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	18	제한	111-96-6	비스(2-메톡시에틸)에테르	세적, 탈지	EU 생식특성(1B)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	19	제한	78-87-5	1,2·디클로로프로판	세척, 탈지	산안법(관리 C), IARC(1)	삼성전자 전 사업장
SAMSUNG	20	제한	106-99-0	1,3-부타디언	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 C ,R) , IARC(1)	삼성전자 전 사업장
Shint Sum 6	21	제한	127-19-5	N,N-디메틸아세트아미드	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	22	제한	106-94-5	1-브로모프로판	세적, 탈지	산만볌(특별/관리 C ,R) , IARC(28)	삼성전자 전 사업장
	23	제한	75-26-3	2-브로모프로판	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 R)	삼성전자 전 사업장
Other regulated materials such as	24		107-13-1	아크릴로니트릴	세척, 탈지	산안법(특별/관리 C), IARC(28)	삼성전자 전 사업장
uner regulated materials such as	25	제한	75-01-04	영화비닐	세적, 탈지	산안법(관리 G , IARC(1) thylene are	삼성전자 전 사업장

still being used in Samsung's suppliers



Samsung should admit its responsibility and apologize for methanol poisoning accidents! Samsung should support victims and establish a plan to prevent reoccurrence of accidents! Samsung should prohibit the use of methanol in its supply chain and stop outsourcing of risks!

Neglect of Environmental, Safety and Health

Risks

- Samsung Electronics' Plants in Vietnam -



SAMSUNG "Nasty smells" at Bac Ninh Factory







Over 8 years of operation, inadequate air pollution control

Please support SHARPs.

https://webcm30.webcm.co.kr/system/platform/page1-1.html?id=hrfund&gid=sharp

후원하기

반올림은 기업의 후원을 받지 않습니다. 시민들의 자발적인 후원으로 활동하고 있습니다. 반올림을 정기, 일시로 후원하실 수 있습니다.

정기후원

QR 코드 찍기 또는 아래 버튼 누르기를 하시면 정기후원 하실 수 있습니다.

*위의 주소로 들어가시면 정기후원회원으로 가입하실 수 있습니다. 반올림은 (제)인권재단사람 이 운영하는 인권단체 재정안정기금의 지원을 받는 재정발전소 회원단체입니다. 반올림을 지정 하여 <인권단체 재정안정기금>에 기부하시면, 회원님의 CMS 출금계좌와 기부금영수중에는 '인 권재단사람'이 표기되며 기부금은 <재정발전소>사업을 통해 단체에 배분됩니다.

일시 후원 또는 증액

일시볼 후원을 원하시는 분은 반올림으로 연락을 주시면 기부금 영수증을 받으실 수 있도록 안내 해드리겠습니다.

* 문의 : 02-3496-5067 (반율립 전화) sharps@hanmail.net (이메일)



병들지 않고 죽지않고 일할 권리!!! The right to work without getting sick and not dying!!! 아프면 치료받을 권리!!! Right to be treated if you're sick!!! 아프지 않도록 쉴 권리!!! The right to rest so that you don't get sick!!!



< Appendix >

직업병 인정 투쟁

Struggle for recognition of occupational diseases

The first semiconductor occupational disease victim, the late Ms. Hwang yumi, and her father Mr. Hwang Sangki, "My daughter developed leukemia while making semiconductors at Samsung."





돈으로 피해자를 회유한 삼성을 규탄하는 기자회견

Press conference condemning Samsung for trying to bribe victims



http://h21.hani.co.kr/arti/society/society_general/48905.html



Samsung, featuring the bereaved families of workers who died from leukemia as "Valued Customers"



Samsung's responses to occupational death issues (Hankyoreh 21 report)

1) Not Samsung Electronics but the future strategy office of Samsung Group has been handling the issue

2) Focusing on addressing social and political effects of the issue, not the remediation and prevention of recurrence

- As Samsung had no commitment to address the issue itself but cared about political ripple effects only, its response of engaging in discussion or not was determined by political needs .

3) Samsung was aware of the occupational disease (leukemia) issue early in January 2012

- Keumyong Jung (HR manager), "In conclusion, it is true that the incidence rate of leukemia is high in the semiconductor industry."

4) Alienating victims and activists

- 2013. 9. 12. "The fourth SHARPs meeting: Induce breakup of victims' families from SHARPs by emphasizing working with SHARPs will result in no benefits"

- 2013. 9. 16. "Induce breakup of victims' families from SHARPs by planting distrust for SHARPs"

- 2013. 9. 26. "In relation to the petition submitted to the UN: Strongly protest the submission of the UN petition, claiming that such a political issue making is against public morals. Widen the gap between families and CSOs by explaining that such a political move is initiated by SHARPs."

5) Intervention into court proceedings

Requesting key units of Samsung Group of their opinions about "whether to move up the timing of the second trial"

1023일간의 삼성본관 앞 반올림 농성에 참여한 피해자와 어머니

A victim and her mother at SHARPS' 1023-day sit-in protest in front of Samsung headquarters



Demands on Samsung's occupational diseases

- Make a sincere apology
 Compensate without
 - excluding victims
- Keep your promise on a social dialog

끝없이 이어진 연대, Endless solidarity







국제노총, .International Trade Union Confederation 해외 강연과 영상상영회, overseas lectures and film shows UN 특별보고관 면담, UN Special Rapporteur interview





투쟁이 만든 변화들

Changes made by the struggle



The Electronics Industry Center established in Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency with KRW 50 billion won contribution from Samsung Electronics 엔구보고서 전자업종 산업생태계 맞춤형 전자산업 안전보건 실태조사 안전보건모델 개발 및 안전보건정보 전달 생해 선·손 숙령·김수근·신통원·김정진 이렇지-이같아-이행하-정태성-이원아 김형석-피영규-김태옥-김기연·조기홍·서창호·진보영-전개호 안전보건공단 안전보건공단 Study on the actual conditions of safety and health in Study on the outsourcing of hazardous work to suppliers SMEs in the electronics industry in the semiconductor industry The Supreme Court decision on occupational diseases in the semiconductor industry 반도체전자산업 직업병문제에 대한 "산업재해보상보험제도는 산업안전보건상의 위험을 사회 전체가 분담하고자 하는 목적 확실한 위험을 감수해야 하는" 첨단산업에서는 산재보험제도가 본래 목적과 기능에 더욱 충실해야 하고, 당사자간 이해관계 조정과 갈등 해소에 기여할 수 있어야" "업무와 질병 사이의 인과관계를 규명하는 것이 현재의 의학·과학 수준에서 곤란하더라도 그것만으로 인과관계를 부정할 수 없다" "사업주의 협조 거부 또는 관련 행정청의 조사 거부나 지연 등으로 작업환경상 유해요소를 규명할 수 없었던 사정이 있다면, 이는 상당인과관계를 인정함에 있어 근로자에게 유리한 간접사실로 고려할 수 있다"

"Additive interaction due to complex exposure to a number of chemical substances, radiation, low frequency magnetic filed, night shift, high temperature, overwork, excessive workload, and stress should be taken into account."





The government statistics is only the tip of an iceberg!!

More harms and deaths are yet to be identified! = Cancer patients: 3,442 = Cancer deaths: 1,178 Cancer deaths: 1,178

Vs.

Refore 1998 and after 2016 Other occupational diseases: rare disease, reproductive health problem, brain cardiourocular disease, musculoskeletal disorders, mental disorders Other industries: display, smartphone, home appliance, battery, electronic parts industries

노동자가 참여하는 노동안전보건사업 Workers participate in industrial safety and health projects



Presentation 1

Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence I

- YooJung Shin(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / JIHYANG LAW)



Yujung Shin Attorney at Law, KTNC Watch / JIHYANG Law



I. Scope of Application


1. Scope of Human Rights and Environmental Impacts

 Temporal Scope: adverse impacts that have already occurred + adverse impacts that are likely to occur

Normative Scope:

- 1 Human dignity, value, freedom and rights guaranteed by the following documents
- Korea's Constitution and laws and regulations
- International human rights treaties that the Republic of Korea signed/ratified and customary international laws (schedule 1)
- International Labour Organization conventions that the Republic of Korea signed/ratified (schedule 2)

2 Protection of health and environment prescribed by the following documents

- Korea's Constitution and laws and regulations
- International environmental agreements (schedule 3) and their implementing laws

③ In addition, when adverse impacts on human rights and environment are serious or highly likely, such as climate crisis

R는 유럽 사항 ddition, when adverse impacts on human rights and environment are serious or highly 3 likely, such as climate crisis

ווונכוווסתאווס בוואו אוווובוונסו סצו בכווובונים לפתובתתוב של סווא תובוו וווואובווובותווצ וסאפ

Scope of Human Rights Impacts- background

Commentary to UNGP 12.

- The responsibility of business enterprises to respect human rights is distinct from issues
 of legal liability and enforcement, which remain defined largely by national law
 provisions in relevant jurisdictions.
- An authoritative list of the core internationally recognized human rights is contained in the International Bill of Human Rights, coupled with the principles concerning fundamental rights in the eight ILO core conventions as set out in the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
- OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises Commentary on IV. Human Rights
 - A State's failure either to enforce relevant domestic laws; or to implement international human rights obligations (...) does not diminish the expectation that enterprises respect human rights. (...) In all cases and irrespective of the country or specific context of enterprises' operations, reference should be made at a minimum to the internationally recognized human rights expressed in the International Bill of Human Rights.



Scope of Environmental Impacts – background

- UN General Assembly Resolution (A/76/L.75)
 - <u>Recognizes the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable</u> <u>environment as a human rights;</u>
 - Notes that the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is related to other rights and existing international law;
 - Affirms that the promotion of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment requires the full implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements under the principles of international environmental law;
 - Calls upon States, international organizations, <u>business enterprises</u> and other relevant stakeholders to adopt policies, to enhance international cooperation, strengthen capacity-building and continue to share good practices in order to scale up efforts to ensure a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for all.



Scope of Environmental Impacts – background

• EU CSDDD (Amendments adopted by the European Parliament, June 2023)

Art. 6 Para 1

Member States shall ensure that companies take appropriate measures to broadly scope the impacts of their operations, subsidiaries and business relationships in order to identify and assess <u>actual and potential adverse human</u> <u>rights and environmental impacts</u> arising from their own operations, products and services or those of their subsidiaries and those related to their value chains (...)

Art. 3 (b)

'adverse environmental impact' means <u>an adverse impact on the environment</u> resulting from the failure to comply with obligations in line with the relevant provisions of the instruments listed in Part I, points 18 and 19, of the Annex and Part II of the Annex (...)



2. Personal Scope - (1)

- Business enterprises required to comply with HREDD obligations
 - Among enterprises not defined as SMEs under the Article 2 of the Act on Small and Medium Enterprises,
 - Enterprises that normally have at least 500 employees; or
 - Have sales revenues exceeding KRW 200 billion won
- The scope of application can be scaled up as prescribed by Presidential Decree
- Obligations applicable to all enterprises: Concerns over involvement in crimes against humanity, war crimes, child labor; or obligations to identify adverse human rights impacts in the event of business operations in conflict areas

Personal Scope - background

- As of 2020, out of 6,820,850 enterprises operating in Korea, <u>enterprises with more</u> <u>than 500 employees account for less than 0.03% (1,904) and enterprises with more</u> <u>than KRW 150 billion won of annual sales revenues by industry and size only</u> <u>accounts for 0.04% (2,589).</u>
 - * Source: National Statistical Office
- UNGP 14

법무법인 지향

- The responsibility of business enterprises to respect human rights applies to all enterprises regardless of their size, sector, operational context, ownership and structure.
- EU Explanatory Memorandum to COM(2022)71 Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence
 - For SMEs, the financial and administrative burden of setting up and implementing a due diligence process would be relatively high.
 - For the most part, they do not have pre-existing due diligence mechanisms in place, they have no know-how, specialized personnel, and the cost of carrying out due diligence would impact them disproportionately.



Personal Scope - background

(amendments adopted by the European	 EU companies (1) EU companies with more than 250 employees on average and worldwide net turnover exceeding EUR 40 million (2) Companies which are the ultimate parent company of a group that had 500 employees and a net worldwide turnover of more than EU 150 million Non-EU companies (1) Companies with a worldwide net turnover exceeding EUR 15 million and at least EUR 40 million net turnover in the Union (2) Companies which are the ultimate parent company of a group that had 500 employees and a net worldwide turnover in the Union
French Commercial Law Art. 225-102-4	 Large companies with over 5,000 employees in France and over 10,000 in the world (including employees in subsidiaries)
German Supply Chain Act	 Enterprises with more than 3,000 employees (Art. 1-1) Employees of entities in the same business group and dispatche employees are also counted into the number of employees The scope is to be expanded to enterprises with more that 1,000 employees from 2024

2. Personal Scope – (2)

- Business activities scope of HREDD obligations
 - Activities that an enterprise conducts repeatedly and continuously domestically and internationally to achieve its purpose of establishment + accompanying activities
 - Above activities of its subsidiary companies defined by the Act on External Audit of Stock Companies
 - Above activities of companies in the business group controlled by the enterprise in pursuant to the Monopoly Regulation and Fair Trade Act
- Key question Whether a business enterprise exercises control/power sufficient to determine financial and operational policies of another enterprise that causes adverse human rights and environmental impacts?



2. Personal Scope – background

- EU CSDDD (amendments adopted by the European Parliament, June 2023) Art. 6
 - Member States shall ensure that companies take appropriate measures to broadly scope the impacts of their operations, subsidiaries and business relationships in order to identify and assess actual and potential adverse human rights and environmental impacts arising from their own operations, products and services or those of their <u>subsidiaries</u> and those related to their value chains (...)
 - Subsidiaries → 2004/109/EC Directive Article 2 paragraph 1 (f) → include any undertaking over which a natural person or legal entity has the power to exercise, or actually exercises, dominant influence or control
- The German Supply Chain Act Article 2(6)
 - In affiliated enterprises, the parent company's own business area includes a group company <u>if the parent company exercises a</u> <u>decisive influence on the group company</u>



11

3. Definition of Supply Chain

- Supply chain means <u>all relationships established directly or indirectly</u> <u>across all steps from the extraction of the raw materials to the delivery to</u> <u>the end customer</u> with all economic entities in Korea and abroad that are necessary to produce the products and provide the services when an enterprise produces the products (including financial investment products) or provides the services or trade the products or the services (Art. 2-5)
- The German Supply Chain Act Article 2(5)

(5) The supply chain within the meaning of this Act refers to all products and services of an enterprise. It includes all steps in Germany and abroad that are necessary to produce the products and provide the services, starting from the extraction of the raw materials to the delivery to the end customer and includes:

- The actions of an enterprise in its own business area,
- 2. The actions of direct suppliers and
- 3. The actions of indirect suppliers



II. Due Diligence Obligations

13 Intro. HREDD: Continuous Process **IDENTIFY & ASSESS** COMMUNICATE ADVERSE IMPACTS HOW IMPACTS IN OPERATIONS, SUPPLY CHAINS ARE ADDRESSED & BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS 5 2 EMBED RESPONSIBLE **PROVIDE FOR OR** BUSINESS CONDUCT COOPERATE INTO POLICIES & IN REMEDIATION WHEN APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS 4 CEASE, PREVENT OR MITIGATE TRACK IMPLEMENTATION ADVERSE IMPACTS AND RESULTS



1. Establish HREDD Implementation Procedure

- Establish HREDD implementation policies (Art. 6-1-1)
- Establish HREDD committee in BoD (Art. 6-1-3)
- Designate HREDD officer (Art. 6-1-3)
- Establish a grievance mechanism (Art. 6-1-3)



1. Establish HREDD Implementation Procedure

Responsibilities of Directors

- Directors: persons who have authority and responsibility to represent the company and conduct the business of the company
- Responsibility to establish HREDD implementation plans and report to the BoD (Art. 7)
- <u>Supervisory responsibility</u> to implement HREDD, report and disclose the results (Art. 8-1)
- If a director has intentionally or negligently neglected his/her supervisory duties and caused his/her company's violation of the Act, he/she shall be jointly and severally liable for damages suffered by a third party including stakeholders (Art. 8-2)
 - ** Reference: Article 401-2 of the Commercial Act



2. Identification of Human Rights and Environmental Risks

- Duty to regularly identify risks:
 - At least once a year
 - Identify actual and potential adverse human rights and environmental impacts arising from their own operations or those of enterprises in their supply chain
 - · Identify risks immediately when informed by stakeholders
- Duty to specifically identify risks:
 - In the event of concerns over involvement in war crimes, crimes against humanity and child labor
- Duty to identify risks before launching a business:
 - In the event of starting business activities in conflict and high-risk areas
- Prioritization: Based on the severity and likelihood of adverse human rights and environmental impacts

법무법인 지향

3. Establishment and Implementation of Measures to Address Human Rights and Environmental Risks

		Details
0 (/ 0 (/ 0 (/ 0	(Art. 11-2)	 Temporarily suspend or modify business activities to mitigate human rights and environmental risks Prevent recurrence of human rights and environmental risks Provide access to remedies for victims
	operations (Art. 11-3)*	 Inform the supplier of human rights and environmental risks Request the supplier to establish and implement measures to address human rights and environmental risks Terminate the business relationship with the supplier if the adverse impacts continue despite the above measures undertaken
	Indirect suppliers'	Have the upper tier supplier establish and implement control measures including the measures prescribed by the Article 11-3 by utilizing available leverage
	General (Art. 11-5)	If necessary, incorporate major items of human rights and environmental risks control measures into internal regulations or terms and conditions of a contract

* However, in the event where human rights and environmental risks of indirect suppliers are directly related to the company's own operations or when the company receives the products or the services from indirect suppliers as a way of avoiding the obligations under the Act, the rules in the Article 11-3 apply.



3. Establishment and Implementation of Measures to
 Address Human Rights and Environmental Risks
 background

- Adverse Impacts Arising from the Company's Own Operations
 - OECD Due Diligence Guidance: Stop activities that are causing or contributing to adverse impacts on RBC issues, based on the enterprise's assessment of its involvement with adverse impacts. Develop and implement plans that are fit-for-purpose to prevent and mitigate potential (future) adverse impacts.
 - Commentary on UNGP 25
 - Unless States take appropriate steps to investigate, punish and redress business-related human rights abuses when they do occur, the State duty to protect can be rendered weak or even meaningless. (...) Remedies may take a range of substantive forms and it is critical to understand not only the corporate perspectives but also the affected people's perspectives in order to provide effective remedies. Remedy may include apologies, restitution, rehabilitation, financial or non-financial compensation, suspension of specific activities or relationships or any other forms of remedies agreed upon by the counterparts.



19

3. Establishment and Implementation of Measures to Address Human Rights and Environmental Risks background

- Adverse Impacts Arising from Direct Suppliers' Business Activities
 - OECD Due Diligence Guidance:
 - In cases where the enterprise is contributing to adverse impacts or risks that are caused by another entity, it should <u>take necessary steps</u> to cease or prevent its contribution, also building and using leverage to mitigate any remaining impacts to the greatest extent possible.
 - Appropriate responses to risks associated with business relationships may at times include: <u>continuation of the relationship throughout the course of risk</u> <u>mitigation efforts</u>; temporary suspension of the relationship while pursuing ongoing risk mitigation; <u>or disengagement with the business relationship</u> <u>either after failed attempts at mitigation, or where the enterprise deems</u> <u>mitigation not feasible, or because of the severity of the adverse impact</u>. A decision to disengage should take into account potential social and economic adverse impacts.



3. Establishment and Implementation of Measures to Address Human Rights and Environmental Risks background

- Adverse Impacts Arising From Indirect Suppliers' Business Activities
- An enterprise is required to exercise available leverage. In other words, whether an
 enterprise took appropriate steps is determined by the degree of its leverage.
 - Reference: The German Supply Chain Act Section 3 Due diligence obligations (2) The appropriate manner of acting in accordance with the due diligence obligations is determined according to:
 The ability of the enterprise to influence the party directly responsible for a risk to human rights or environment-related risk or the violation of a human rights-related or environment-related obligation.
- Differentiated due diligence obligations for direct suppliers and indirect suppliers
 - It may induce large companies to position major suppliers to lower-tier suppliers instead of maintaining direct and stable contractual relationships with their suppliers
 - → Need to prevent such side effects by introducing a proviso clause



4. Assessment and Feedback of Human Rights and Environmental Risks Management Measures

- An enterprise shall regularly evaluate its steps to counter adverse human rights and environmental impacts to ensure the effectiveness of the measures. When the assessment finds the countermeasures are not sufficient, the enterprise shall establish and implement additional measures to complement them (Art. 12)
 - Reference: UNGP 20

In order to verify whether adverse human rights impacts are being addressed, business enterprises should track the effectiveness of their response. Tracking should:

- (a) Be based on appropriate qualitative and quantitative indicators;
- (b) Draw on feedback from both internal and external sources, including affected stakeholders.



5. Disclosure of HREDD Report

- An enterprise shall prepare and disclose its HREDD report. The report should include the following results (Art. 13)
 - Results of human rights and environmental risk identification (Art. 10)
 - Results of establishment and implementation of its responses to address human rights and environmental risk (Art. 11)
 - Evaluation results of its responses to address human rights and environmental risk (Art. 12)
- The proposed bill requires the preparation and disclosure of a report that contains certain items. However, the report does not have to be in a separate form. An enterprise may choose to include the items required by the Article 13 of the Act in its sustainability report or ESG disclosure.



23

6. Business Operations in Conflict and High-Risk Areas

- The HREDD Committee designates and disclose conflict and high-risk areas
- In cases of business operations planned in conflict and highrisk areas → the enterprise shall immediately identify human rights and environmental risks separately from conducting a regular due diligence activity (Art. 10-3)
 → SMEs are no exception
- An enterprise operating in conflict and high-risk areas shall submit its HREDD report to relevant supervisory authorities.



Presentation 3

Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence II

- Doona Kim(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / KLPH)



Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory

Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence II

Stakeholders' participation, administrative and criminal liability

Doona Kim(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / KLPH)

Communication and Cooperation with Stakeholders

Stakeholders

 'Stakeholders' means any individuals or group of individuals (including families of the deceased) such as consumers, children, the youth, employees, communities, shareholders and investors whose rights or legal status are or could be affected by adverse human rights and environmental impact (Art. 2-8)

Background

- Engagement with stakeholders is critical for effective human rights and environmental due diligence
- In order to implement effective human rights and environmental due diligence by ensuring objectivity and neutrality of corporate due diligence practices, companies should listen to

Communication and Cooperation with Stakeholders

International standards: UNGPs

2

- The process to identify and assess any actual or potential adverse human rights impacts should involve meaningful consultation with potentially affected groups and other relevant stakeholders (UNGP 18)
- In order to verify whether adverse human rights impacts are being addressed, business enterprises should track the effectiveness of their response based on feedback from affected stakeholders (UNGP 20)
- Business enterprises should be prepared to communicate on how they address their human rights impacts when concerns are raised by or on behalf of affected stakeholders (UNGP 21)
- Duty to Communicate with Stakeholders in the Process of HREDD (Art. 14)
 - Business enterprises have a duty to listen to stakeholders' opinions in the entire process of HREDD (Art. 14-1)
 - Business enterprises can ask stakeholders for cooperation to ensure effectiveness of their HREDD (Art. 14-2)

Stakeholdrs' Right to Information

Background

- Information on HREDD should be disclosed to stakeholders for the full engagement with stakeholders
- Access to information can be limited unless business enterprises voluntarily disclose it because most of relevant information is in the hands of business enterprises
- Therefore, stakeholders' right to request access to information should be guaranteed by law

Model legislation: The Norway Transparency Act

- Any person has the right to information from an enterprise regarding how the enterprise addresses actual and potential adverse impacts such as:
 - Information on activities, systems and measures undertaken by an enterprise to prevent or mitigate adverse impacts
 - · Information on actual and potential adverse impacts, prevailing risks of such adverse impacts,

Stakeholdrs' Right to Information

Stakeholdrs' Right to Information (Art. 15)

- Right to Information: Stakeholders can request access to information on how business enterprises identify actual or potential adverse human rights and environmental impacts, establish and implement measures to address such identified impacts, and access the effectiveness of their responses (Art. 15-1)
- Exception: A request for information may be denied if the requested information concerns 'trade secrets', 'personal information' or other information that is classified by Presidential Decree (Art. 15-2)
- However, an enterprise <u>shall not refuse to disclose information that is necessary to protect a</u> person's life, integrity, health, property and livelihood from adverse impacts of business activities of its own or entities in its supply chain (Art. 15-2)
- Appeal: Any stakeholders whose request for information is denied can appeal to the HREDD

Administrative Regulations for Non-Compliance

Background

 To enforce HREDD implementation through administrative sanctions for failure to undertake HREDD obligations non-compliance

Model legislation: The German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act

- Administrative orders for an enterprise to submit a corrective action plan, including clear timelines for its implementation and to take specific action to fulfill its obligations in order to address and prevent its non-compliance with due diligence obligations
- Exclusion from winning public contracts
- Enforcement fines
- Administrative fines for failure to execute due diligence obligations

5

Administrative Regulations for Non-Compliance

Corrective recommendation (Art. 28-1)

The HREDD Committee can issue corrective recommendations for an enterprise to implement its
obligations under the Act and take necessary measures to fulfill its HREDD obligations when the
enterprise either violates the Act or fails to undertake its obligations under the Act (Art. 28-1)

Corrective order (Art. 29)

- The HREDD Committee shall report to the Ministry of Economy and Finance when an enterprise fails to execute its obligations under the Act without just cause (Art. 29-1)
- The Ministry of Economy and Finance can order an enterprise to implement HREDD, correct its HREDD report, disclose its HREDD report, take remedial measures for victims and take measures necessary to prevent adverse human rights and environmental impacts (Art. 29-2)

Administrative Regulations for Non-Compliance

Restriction on participation in a tendering procedure (Art. 32)

 The HREDD Committee can request necessary measures including restrictions on qualifications for participation in tendering procedures by an enterprise against whom a corrective order was placed, prescribed by Presidential Decree in pursuant to Article 27 of the Act on Contracts to Which the State is a Party (Art. 32)

Fines (Art. 44-1)

- In the event of non-compliance with HREDD obligations, fines of up to KRW 10 million won can be imposed. Regulatory offenses include:
- When an enterprise fails to report its HREDD implementation plan to the BoD (Art. 7-1)
- When an enterprise fails to identify HRE risks (Art. 10-1)
- When an enterprise fails to establish measures to address identified HRE risks (Art. 11)
- When an enterprise reports false information in its HREDD report (Art. 13-1) and fails to consult with

8 Criminal Sanctions for Serious Violations of Obligations

Background

 Criminal sanctions can be imposed on business enterprises for serious HREDD violations as a means to enforce HREDD implementation

Penalty (Art. 42)

- A person or legal entity can be imposed of up to 5-year of imprisonment or up to KRW 50 million won
 of fines for serious violations
- When business activities are suspected to be directly or indirectly involved in war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide that are prescribed by international law as crimes against humanity; are suspected to be directly or indirectly involved in child labor; or business enterprises fail to identify specific HRE risks when plan business activities in conflict and high-risk areas (Art. 10-3)
- When a business enterprise fails to implement corrective orders imposed by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (Art. 29-2)

Presentation 4

Introduction to the Proposed Bill on Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence III

- YoungAh Park(Lawyer, KTNC Watch / GongGam)



Remediation - Civil Liability (Articles 39~41)

- Civil liability (including compensation for damages) is a critical pillar of remediation for victims
- · Two main functions of civil liability
 - 1. Incentivizes effective prevention by business enterprises through internalization of adverse human rights and environmental impacts
 - Provides effective remedy to victims affected by adverse human rights and environmental impacts due to business activities





Elements of Civil Liability – Breaches of HREDD Obligations under the Act

- A duty not to cause, contribute or be involved in infringements on human rights and environment (Art. 3)
- HREDD Obligations
 - Integrate HREDD procedures in management systems and business operation (Art. 6, Art. 7)
 - Operate grievance mechanisms (Art. 9)
 - Identify human rights and environmental risks, establish and implement steps to address the identified risks, assess the HREDD responses, and reflect them in further responses (Art. 10, Art. 11, and Art. 12)
 - Prepare and disclose HREDD report and communicate and cooperate with stakeholders (Art. 13, Art. 14, and Art. 15)

When an enterprise commissions parts or the entirety of its HREDD measures to a third party, any such
 activities by the third party should be considered as the enterprise's own activities



Elements of Civil Liability

- Damages (harm) resulted from breach of obligations
 - HREDD obligations are not to present a set of one size fit all procedures or standards that can be applied irrespective of specific context
 - Business enterprises are required to respond to specific circumstances and contexts
 - Damages means damages due to human rights and environmental harm that could have been either prevented or mitigated if human rights and environmental risks were identified and appropriate measures were established and implemented
 - Damages due to human rights and environmental harms caused or contributed to by the business enterprise
 - Damages due to human rights and environmental harms in the supply chain





Burden of Proof

- One of the key questions for civil claims under the Article 39 is whether an enterprise fulfilled its HREDD obligations
- However, it is very difficult for a person who has no insider knowledge about the enterprise to prove when and who was aware of what, whether the enterprise had available leverages, which options were available in planning responses, how its supply chain is structured in terms of the forms and context of their business relationships, etc.
- Because Korea's Civil Procedure Act does not have a discovery system, it is not likely to have relevant evidence become available in the civil proceedings.



Assumption of Causation

- When a claimant proves that an enterprise's own activities or activities of entities in the supply chain are potentially responsible for the damages in his/her claim, it is assumed that the enterprise breached its HREDD obligations and that such breach caused the damage (Art. 40-1)
- If an enterprise proves that it fulfilled its HREDD obligations or that the damage would have occurred notwithstanding fulfillment of all HREDD obligations, the enterprise can be exempted from liability (Art. 40-2)



Exemption of Litigation Costs

 The court can exempt the claimant from part or all of the litigation costs if it considers the claim to have been brought in public interest.



HREDD Committee

- Mandates of HREDD Committee
 - Investigation and deliberation of HREDD-related issues upon complaints or ex officio
 - Support for HREDD efforts by business enterprises
 - Designation and removal of designations of conflict and high-risk areas
- The competent authority governing the HREDD Act shall be the Ministry of Economy and Finance that is responsible for overall national economic policy. However, the HREDD Committee shall be locacted in the Prime Minister's Office, considering the importance of inter-ministerial consultation and coordination among different ministries, including the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, the Ministry of Labor and Employment, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of SMEs and Startups, and the Ministry of Justice.





Victims Support Fund

- Creation of Victims Support Fund
 - Establish Victims Support Fund in the Ministry of Economy and Finance
 - The Fund shall be funded by contributions from the government and other funding sources as well as collected fines and operational profits
- Purposes of the Fund
 - Projects to prevent human rights and environmental harms by business enterprises and provide remedies
 - Support for victims adversely affected by human rights or environmental harms due to breaches of HREDD obligations
 - Research, investigation, education, and promotion for enhancing victims rights and preventing harms
 - Other projects or activities prescribed by Presidential Decree for enhancing victims rights and preventing harms





HREDD Committee

- Structure of the Committee (9 members)
 - Ex officio member: Minister of Economy and Finance
 - Non-ex officio members (nominated by the Minister of Economy and Finance and appointed by the Prime Minister):
 - Members shall be any of the following persons who have expertise and experience in business and human
 rights and are deemed capable of performing duties fairly and independently:
 - 2 members recommended by nation-wide trade unions
 - 2 members recommended by nation-wide employers' organizations
 - 2 members recommended by civil society organizations
 - Standing member
 - Chair person
- A secretariat shall be established to handle the day-to-day operations of the Committee



