Whistle-blower Policy

Transparency and good communication throughout the organization promotes better working culture in Mowi. Mowi acknowledges the risk of violations of Code of Conduct (CoC) and depends on the employees’ willingness to raise concerns on such to uphold high ethical standards.

All employees have the right and responsibility to report concerns. This includes hired personnel and management in MOWI’s wholly. This also includes the consolidated structure of Mowi or where Mowi is lead operator. Anyone reporting concerns can do so without fear of reprisals, according to the CoC and legal requirements, cf. Norwegian Working Environment Act chapter 2A.

It is of utmost importance for Mowi to ensure predictability and confidence for all those who raise a concern.

Whistle-blowing

Whistle-blowing is to speak up about concerns of possible illegal actions or violations of Mowi’s CoC. This definition also includes any laws and regulations applicable in Norway and countries where Mowi operates.

It also includes violations of ethical commitments included in the CoC in areas like environment, human and labour rights, equality and diversity, health and safety, business ethics, anti-corruption, conflict of interest and professional behaviour.

Violations include, but are not limited to

- Suspicion of fraud, corruption and accounting offenses
- Error reporting or manipulation of information
- Harassment or bullying, discrimination and racism, poor working environment
- Damage to the environment

Reporting Channels

Reports of concerns can be made verbally or written. They can be addressed to a Manager, Grandfather, Union Representative, to Group Management, Human Resources or directly to Mowi’s independent Whistle-blower Channel.

The Whistle-blower Channel may be relevant where reporting to Line Management is impossible or difficult, or where such reports have not been handled adequately. Whistle-blowers may seek advice from anyone he/she wishes.

The channel gives the whistle-blower the possibility to make a report anonymously. When doing so, the whistle-blower must be aware that the receiver may not give feedback on the case or ascertain whether the disclosure was made in good faith.
Furthermore, proper investigation may prove difficult if the information provided cannot be tested or verified. The investigator may then be unable to obtain further information from the whistle-blower.

The whistle-blower decides what information to be provided. To perform adequate follow-up actions, the reports should contain as much details as possible, including supporting evidence.

The Whistle-blower Channel is managed by Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC).

**Report**

When receiving a Whistle-blower report, PwC shall perform a risk assessment on whether to investigate or refer the issue to Group Director HR. He/she shall, in accordance with internal procedures, refer the matter to management for decision.

**Investigation**

If investigation is required, this will be carried out by a provider selected by management. The provider will determine the investigation process and propose whether to engage external and/or internal resources.

In investigation cases the Board of Directors shall be informed without delay. Investigations shall be fair, open and objective. Focus shall be on facts and appropriate follow-up.

Investigations shall be initiated within 7 days of the receipt of the report. It should be completed within 28 days unless the extent and complexity require longer investigation.

**Line Management, Union Representatives, Group Management and Human Resources**

All Line/Group Managers and Union Representatives shall guide employees and hired personnel who want to raise a concern or have questions about whistleblowing in Mowi.

They are responsible to act properly and in accordance with law, regulations and Mowi’s governing documents when receiving and managing whistle-blower situations. This includes principles of anonymity, confidentiality and protection against retaliation.

When receiving a report of concern, Line/Group Managers and Union Representatives shall handle such according to this Whistleblowing Policy and principles.

To increase the likelihood of identifying unethical behaviour, all managers shall work to facilitate a culture of openness and show constructive leadership in dealing with whistle-blower cases.

**Logging and Reporting in the Whistle-blower Channel**

When Management, Union Representative, Group Management or Human Resources receive a report, the receiver shall immediately log the issue in the Whistle-blower Channel.
Depending on the content, it shall be logged either as an issue of information or as a Whistle-blower issue to be followed up in accordance with the procedure.

Group Director HR and the Audit Committee shall receive a quarterly summary report from PwC. The report shall include category, geographical location and performed follow-up actions of all issues reported. If applicable, the report shall be forwarded to the relevant local management.

**Procedures**

Mowi has implemented procedures for the handling of reports of concern. The procedures pay respect to both the whistle-blower and to the individuals who is the subject of the report.

Mowi’s basic principles for the handling of reports are

- All reports are taken seriously
- Fair, open and objective follow-up
- Protection of anonymous whistle-blowers
- Confidentiality and information security
- Whistle-blowers in good faith will not be subject to reprisals
- Non-anonymous whistle-blowers will get timely feedback and information about the process

**Protection Against Retaliation**

Whistle-blowers who report in good faith will not face any retaliation or unfavourable treatment, even if they are mistaken. A whistle-blower that nevertheless experiences reprisals is urged to report this to Line Management, Group Director HR and/or the Whistle-blower Channel as soon as possible.

Disciplinary action can be taken against any employee who is found to have made a disclosure maliciously that they know to be untrue.

**Confidentiality**

All reports of concern and information related shall be treated confidentially. All personnel shall maintain confidentiality about all information received.

All investigations will be conducted confidentially. The information will be disclosed only as needed to facilitate review of the investigation or otherwise as required by law.

**Protection of Sources**

The identity of the whistle-blower shall not be disclosed, unless permission in writing has been obtained from the reporting party. The protection of identity shall be taken into consideration during the initial evaluation and the subsequent risk assessment.

This includes when scoping the investigation and the risk exposure without disclosing the notifying party.
**Personal Data**

Handling of reports of concern will be done in accordance with the Norwegian Personal Data Act and Regulations on the Processing of Personal Data.

**Complaining**

The whistle-blower and the individual(s) the concern refers to, may file a written complaint on the process and treatment they have received during the proceedings. Only issues regarding receiving and handling of notifications will be regarded. The complaint shall be sent to Group Director HR and processed by him/her.

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