



ENEP General Assembly 12 April 2013, Brussels, Belgium

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA PAPER 6iii. CODE OF CONDUCT

ENEP Code of Conduct

As authorised by the last meeting of the GA, the Accreditation Working Group have drafted wording for an ENEP Code of Conduct. This paper outlines the suggested wording, explains the process by which this was developed and suggests how it might work in practice.

Background

In December 2012 an email was sent to the secretariats of each member organisation requesting the code of conduct/ethics used by the organisation be sent to the Working Group.

Twelve (12) organisations responded, of which ten (10) had a Code of Conduct. The Working Group looked at commonality between the Codes and came up with the following 'universal' code.

The Proposed Code

Signatories to the ENEP Code of Conduct will:

1. Seek to promote sustainability and the mitigation of environmental harm;
2. Ensure to use appropriate, trustworthy and scientifically sound data and understanding in all professional activities;
3. Have full regard for the public interest at all times;
4. Have the necessary professional qualifications and experience to perform the tasks undertaken;
5. Avoid or disclose any real or perceived conflict of interest that may influence their actions or judgments; and
6. Commit to undertaking appropriate continuing professional development.

NB. This Code is additional to existing codes policies, by-laws, regulations or other such requirements and guidance the signatory may be required to respect and uphold.

How the Code will be Implemented

ENEP will keep a register of all individuals who signed the Code of Conduct as part of ENEP's database of European Environmental Professional Registry through the ENEP platform.

Registered users of the ENEP Platform can agree to sign up to the ENEP code of Conduct. A hyperlink from the registration page will lead to a page displaying the Code of Conduct. At the bottom of the page there would be a tick box that the user agrees to the terms and becomes a signatory.

A new database field (code_of_conduct - yes/no) will record those users who have become signatories. A separate web page runs a query on that field and displays those members who have signed the code. This would be the 'ENEP European Environmental Professional Registry'.

A signatory on this registry can indicate this in any commercial or professional communication.

Disciplinary Procedures

In the event of a complaint of improper conduct the first point of call will be the association to which the signatory belongs.

A Professional Conduct Panel appointed by the governance committee of the national association will investigate allegations. The Panel will consist of not less than three members of the organisation.

If any signatory is found guilty of improper conduct, the Disciplinary Panel shall have the power to reprimand, suspend, or expel the individual. An expelled signatory shall be removed from the ENEP Registers.

A signatory found guilty of improper conduct shall have the right of appeal to a special committee mandated by ENEP. The decision of the ENEP committee on appeal shall be final.