

OECD Guidelines for MNEs: Impending Review

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Introduction

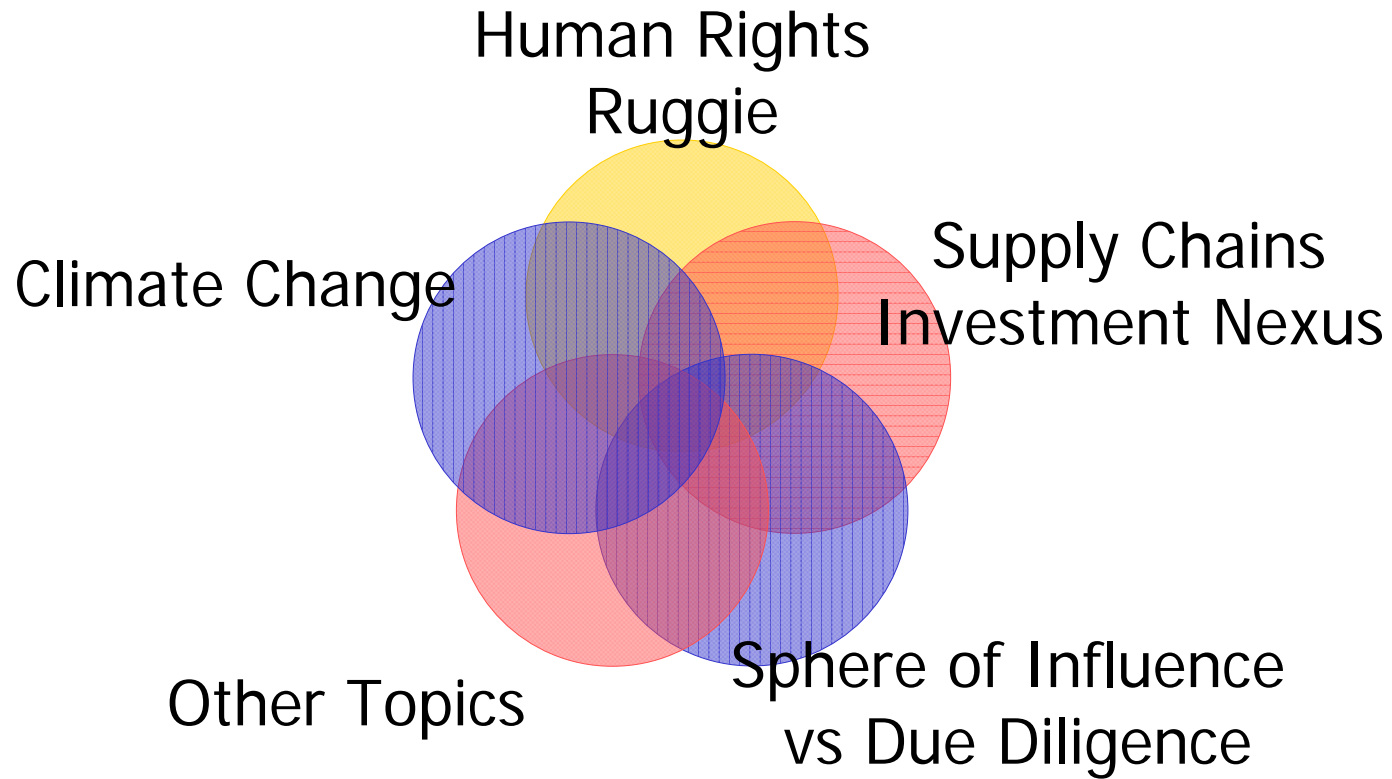
- The Guidelines are recommendations to MNEs on CSR – comprehensive
- Endorsed by 42 adhering countries – 30 OECD Members and 12 non-Members
- Adhering countries obligated to establish National Contact Points (NCPs)
- Last Review 2000
- Review 2010 – ensure continued relevancy of Guidelines as a key multilateral instrument on CSR



Investment Context for the OECD Guidelines

- OECD Declaration on International Investment and MNEs
- Package of four instruments designed to provide a balanced policy environment for foreign investment
- Countries wishing to adhere to the Guidelines must adhere to the whole Declaration
- Review question - Should there be more flexibility offered to adhering countries?

Substantive Issues





Procedural Provisions and Institutional Issues

- National Contact Points (NCPs) – Finding functional equivalence
- Promotion - Increase awareness of the Guidelines
- Implementation of “Specific Instances” – Improving procedures, more transparency
- Parallel Proceedings – Provide guidance to NCPs
- Peer Learning and Review – Improving NCP performance



Guidelines Review Process

- Likely to be launched in June 2010
- Involve consultation with non-adhering countries and stakeholders
- Anticipate one year to complete
- Led by the OECD Investment Committee
- Views? Written submissions to Canada's NCP

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