
**Statement regarding compliance with the Transparency Act
– Euronext Securities Oslo**

1. Introduction and background

The Norwegian Act on Business Transparency and Work with Fundamental Human Rights and Decent Working Conditions (the "**Transparency Act**") (*Norw.*: Åpenhetsloven) entered into force on 1 July 2022. The main purpose of the Transparency Act is to foster a higher level of transparency regarding the production of goods and the provision of services, especially relating to how businesses respect fundamental human rights and decent working conditions as part of these processes. For more information, see section 2 below.

Verdipapirsentralen ASA ("**Euronext Securities Oslo**" or "**ES-OSL**") is subject to the Transparency Act cf. section 2 and 3 of the Transparency Act. On this background, ES-OSL is obligated to have in place sufficient routines and mechanisms to assess, map, follow up possible breaches on fundamental human rights and/or decent working conditions down the supply chain.

This statement is an account of these first due diligence assessments performed by ES-OSL.

2. Compliance with the Transparency Act

2.1 The Transparency Act – purpose and obligations

The Transparency Act promote respect for fundamental human rights and decent working conditions and support the general desire for more transparency regarding the production of goods and the provision of services in these areas.

Fundamental human rights mean the internationally recognized human rights that follow from the UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UN Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the ILO's core conventions on fundamental rights and principles in working life, as specified by section 3 (b) of the Transparency Act.

Decent working conditions mean work that safeguards fundamental human rights, health, the environment, and safety in the workplace, and that provides a living wage with reference to section 3 (c) of the Transparency Act.

The Transparency Act stipulates that enterprises such as ES-OSL shall conduct due diligence assessments, where one look both at its own business, its supply chain, and business partners to assess potential risks of breaches of fundamental human rights or decent working environments. The due diligence assessments shall be carried out regularly and in proportion to the size and nature of the enterprise, the context of its operations and the severity and probability of adverse impacts on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions.

Enterprises shall prepare an annual statement of its due diligence assessments, which shall be published within 30 June each year.

2.2 Statement by the Board of Directors of ES-OSL

ES-OSL confirms that procedures and internal guidelines have been adopted and that due diligence assessments have been carried out in accordance with the requirements in the Transparency Act.

3. Description of the enterprise – ES-OSL

3.1 Organization and operation ES-OSL

ES-OSL was incorporated in 1985 in connection with the introduction of electronic securities registration to replace physical securities in Norway.

ES-OSL is the only central securities depository (CSD) in Norway, and provides an efficient infrastructure and services for the settlement of transactions in securities and the registration of ownership rights over securities and delivers its services for investors and issuers through a network of investment banks, brokers, banks and fund management companies. These entities, acting as account operators, are responsible for all customer relationships with investors and issuers, and manage day-to-day access to ES-OSL services.

Euronext NV owns 100% of the shares in Euronext Nordics Holdings AS, that owns 100% of ES-OSL. With CSDs in Copenhagen, Milan, Oslo and Porto, and assets under custody totaling ~ €6.3 trillion, Euronext Securities is one of the largest CSD operators in Europe, and in this capacity facilitates well-functioning capital markets across the region.

ES-OSL activities are subject to regulation and subject to supervision by the Financial Supervisory Authority of Norway.

One of the aims of ES-OSL is to create long-term value as a trusted cornerstone of capital markets, and provide robust and relevant services to the capital markets. These services are in full compliance with existing national and international rules and laws.

3.2 Guidelines and routines to handle actual and potential negative consequences for fundamental human rights and decent working conditions

ES-OSL has adopted a policy regarding the Norwegian Transparency Act, applicable for all parts of the organisation. The policy establishes clear and uniform routines to ensure compliance with the Transparency Act.

The policy shall ensure that risks of actual and potential negative consequences on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions ES-OSL has contributed to or caused are mapped, that suitable and necessary measures are taken to limit and prevent the harmful effects of deviations, that structured processes are carried out to follow up measures and analyse the effect of implemented measures, that there are appropriate and good routines for communication with affected parties in the event of deviations, and there are effective processes for recovery where ES-OSL has contributed to or caused actual negative consequences.



In addition, ES-OSL has prepared internal guidelines on operational assessments of negative consequences, implementation of measures and follow-up and restoration in case of breaches.

4. The Due Diligence process

ES-OSL has carried out due diligence assessments related to decent working conditions and fundamental human rights. The assessments have been carried out by Euronext group functions, with support from the Legal department.

4.1 The form and content of the due diligence assessment - employees

The due diligence assessments relating to employees have consisted of answering a questionnaire. The questionnaire includes questions relating to how ES-OSL follows up and ensures compliance with obligations set down in the Norwegian Working Environment Act, as well as questions about routines and mechanisms to ensure that employees have an employment relationship that do not conflict with fundamental human rights and/or decent working conditions. In addition, internal policies and procedures relevant under the Transparency Act has been mapped.

One important procedure is the Code of Business Conduct, which explains the responsibilities for all employees at ES-OSL, and Euronext as whole, within the areas of the Transparency Act. These include, that the Company is committed to treat all employees with honesty, fairness, and respect, and provide a safe and healthy working environment. Abusive, harassing, or offensive conduct is unacceptable, whether verbal or physical.

Examples include derogatory comments based on a person's gender or racial or ethnic characteristics, and unwelcome sexual advances. Employees are directed to report such conduct when it occurs. Additionally, the Company is committed to providing all employees and others who are on Company property with a safe and healthy work environment. Accordingly, all employees shall comply with all health and safety laws and regulations as well as Company policies governing health and safety. All employees are responsible for immediately reporting accidents, injuries and unsafe equipment, practices or conditions to a manager or other designated person.

4.2 The form and content of the due diligence assessment - suppliers

The suppliers due diligence assessment has consisted of a risk based sampling check of certain suppliers of ES-OSL. The selection of suppliers has been based on the size and length of the contract, geographical conditions, and industry/sector. Euronext group functions have been involved.

Further, an extended check has been carried out on certain suppliers, where, among other, one has mapped how many of ES-OSL's suppliers have signed the Suppliers Code Of Conduct. The assessment has also consisted of giving information on the main terms within this Code of Conduct vis-à-vis the areas of the Transparency Act.

4.3 Findings from the due diligence assessment relating to own employees

No breaches or increased risks has been uncovered in relation to employees.

However, certain areas of improvement have been uncovered, mainly connected to follow-up on sub-contractors.

4.4 Findings from the due diligence assessment relating to suppliers

No breaches or increased risks has been uncovered in relation to suppliers.

Some suppliers have not signed the Euronext Supplier Code of Conduct, and measures have been initiated to rectify this.

5. Implemented measures and initiatives

5.1 Measures and initiatives relating to employees

As stated in section 4.3 above, certain areas of improvement were uncovered in connection with the due diligence assessments of employees. This was mainly connected to follow-up on sub-contractors.

Remedial measures have been put in place and will be followed up in connection with the internal control on ES-OSL.

5.2 Measures and initiatives relating to suppliers

As stated in section 4.4, it has been discovered that certain suppliers have not signed the Euronext Suppliers Code of Conduct. Work has been initiated to obtain missing signatures, to ensure that all suppliers of ES-OSL have signed the Suppliers Code of Conduct.

This statement has been signed by the Board of Directors and the CEO of Verdipapirsentralen ASA.