Patient safety, quality and integrity always

I do what is right and apply the highest standards to my work to ensure patient safety, quality and integrity. I ensure compliance – with our GBPs, laws and regulations. When issues arise, I take action to improve. When I believe this behavior is not upheld, I speak up and seek help.
As a focused leader in health technology, we are on an exciting mission to improve people’s lives. We are determined to build upon our rich heritage by touching billions of lives each year with our meaningful innovations right across the health continuum.

We create lasting value for our stakeholders by understanding the challenges our customers and consumers face and then applying the Philips Business System to ensure we deliver with speed, quality and integrity. In essence, our performance is determined by our culture, and our culture is defined by our behaviors – Customers first, Quality and integrity always, Team up to win, Take ownership to deliver fast and Eager to improve and inspire.

**Our standard of integrity**

In the highly regulated world of healthcare, integrity requires in-depth knowledge of the applicable rules and regulations and a sensitivity to healthcare-specific issues. We should all be aware of the importance of delivering high-quality products and services, of the need for transparency in our engagement with healthcare professionals, and of the crucial aspect of information protection, whether it concerns our own information or data entrusted to us.

Healthcare is very much a people business. And people need trust to thrive. Trust starts with a fair working environment, and that in turn lays the basis for high-value, long-term relationships with business partners and other stakeholders.

The Philips General Business Principles provide the solid foundation that enables us to establish and secure our trustworthiness as an employer, supplier, business partner, investment proposition and partner in society. They set the standard for acting with integrity at Philips. They govern all our decisions and actions throughout the world and apply equally to our group actions and to our conduct as individuals.
Our shared responsibility

I expect everyone at Philips to act with integrity at all times and in all situations. There is no opt-out. We not only need to know and understand our business principles, we need to live them every day – and speak up or seek guidance when we are in doubt. Daily pressures should never stop us from acting with integrity or holding each other accountable when we feel that we are not acting in line with the General Business Principles. Failure to act in line with the General Business Principles can have very serious consequences for Philips as well as the individuals involved.

I am counting on you to put the General Business Principles at the heart of our business. Only then will we be able to create a healthier, more sustainable world and maintain the strong Philips brand for which we can all be proud to work.

Frans van Houten
Chief Executive Officer
Our commitment to always act with integrity

While pursuing our business objectives, we aim to be a responsible partner in society, acting with integrity towards our employees, customers, business partners and shareholders, as well as the wider community in which we operate.

To our customers
We are committed to improving people’s lives through meaningful innovation. This means fulfilling our customers’ unmet needs and expectations through an unrelenting focus on quality. We seek to maintain an ongoing dialogue with our customers as partners. We are committed to listening to and learning from them, so that we can design and deliver the solutions they really want and need with speed, quality, fairness and integrity.

To our employees
We value our employees and we encourage them to further their own personal development and make full use of their talents. We foster a healthy, safe and productive work environment and an open and inclusive atmosphere in which fair employment practices extend to every member of the diverse Philips community. We hold each other accountable to always act with integrity.

To our business partners
We pursue mutually beneficial long-term relationships with our business partners. We award business to partners who are committed to acting fairly and with integrity, observe applicable laws, and respect human rights.
To our shareholders

We are committed to conducting our business in accordance with internationally accepted standards of good corporate governance and to providing timely, regular and reliable information on our activities, structure, financial position and performance. We aim to achieve a satisfactory return on equity, while at the same time retaining sufficient funds in the company to generate sustainable growth.

To the wider community in which we operate

We support and respect human rights and strive to ensure that our activities do not cause or contribute to the infringement of these rights. Consistent with our commitment to sustainable development, we do all that is reasonable and practicable to minimize any adverse effects of our activities on the environment.

Each of us has a responsibility to comply with the laws of the countries in which we operate. Where there is a difference between a legal requirement and the Philips General Business Principles, we apply the stricter standard.
1.1 Fair employment practices

We believe a diverse workforce and an inclusive work environment are essential to a thriving innovative business. We strive to attract employees from a wide range of backgrounds. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinions, disability, national or social origin or birth.

We promote a workplace that is free from physical and verbal harassment. We do not tolerate any conduct that creates, encourages or permits an offensive, humiliating or intimidating work environment.

We do not make use of child labor or forced labor.

We recognize and respect the freedom of our employees to associate with any employee organization of their own choosing under local law without fear of reprisal, intimidation or harassment. Where employees are represented by a legally recognized union, we establish a constructive dialogue and engage in negotiations or consultation as required with their freely chosen representatives.

We aim to maintain a healthy, safe and productive work environment.
1.2 **Protection of Philips’ assets and intellectual property**

We protect Philips’ assets and resources against illegal, unauthorized or irresponsible use.

Philips’ intellectual property is one of our most valuable assets. We safeguard Philips’ proprietary information – including our patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets and other forms of intellectual property – against potential loss, damage, destruction, theft, unauthorized use or improper disclosure.

We classify and secure Philips’ proprietary information in accordance with the Philips security requirements.

We treat third-party assets which are in our possession and confidential information disclosed to us by a third party with the same level of care.

1.3 **Privacy and data protection**

We respect the privacy of our customers, employees, business partners and other relevant individuals, and we protect their personally identifiable information from abuse.

We process the personal data of individuals only where there is a legitimate business purpose. Any processing of personal data shall be relevant to such business purpose and it shall be fair, accurate, transparent and in no way excessive.

We safeguard the confidentiality, integrity and availability of all personal data gathered, received, maintained, or transmitted.

1.4 **Accurate business and financial records and reports**

We record and report information accurately, completely and honestly. We do not make misrepresentations or false statements.

We keep records of transactions in a transparent, accurate, complete and timely manner in accordance with Philips’ accounting principles. We record all payments properly and fairly in appropriate books of account. We have no unrecorded funds or assets, nor do we have ‘off the books’ or secret accounts.
2.1 **Customer safety and well-being**

We attach prime importance to our customers’ safety and well-being. We design, produce and supply high-quality products and services with a focus on their effectiveness, security and safety, in compliance with applicable standards and regulations.

Where this requires testing and research with human participants, we exercise due care, with the aim to protect the rights, safety and well-being of those involved, in compliance with the relevant regulations and Philips standards.

Where this requires testing and research using animals, we are committed to responsible usage, adhering to the principles of replacement, reduction, and refinement in the setting of humane care.
2.2 **Fair and vigorous competition**

We are committed to competing vigorously and fairly in a free market in order to give customers the widest possible choice of products and services at competitive prices.

We avoid contact with competitors, unless there is a clear justification for such contact, and such contact is in compliance with antitrust law.

We do not restrict our customers’ freedom to set their resale prices in cases where such a restriction would violate antitrust law.

2.3 **Business intelligence**

We obtain information about our competitors in a fair manner. We do not make use of confidential information disclosed to us by a third party if we suspect that in so doing the discloser is violating an obligation of antitrust law or confidentiality.

2.4 **Conducting business with honesty and integrity**

We are open, honest, and ethical in all our dealings and operations, and do not employ corrupt practices or commit acts of bribery. We do not give or receive – either directly or indirectly – anything of value (including any payment, benefit, gift or hospitality) in order to obtain or retain business, influence business decisions, or secure an improper advantage in the conduct of our business.

We do not offer or accept gifts or hospitality that may influence a business decision, lead to a relationship of dependency, or create the appearance of an impropriety. We may, however, offer and accept gifts and hospitality when reasonable, proportionate and intended to strengthen or build legitimate business relationships.

We do not engage in the practice of facilitation payments to speed up or secure the performance of a routine government action.
2.5 **Dealing fairly with business partners**

We follow a thorough process to select and award business to business partners who are committed to, and demonstrate, responsible business conduct.

Any commission payment to a business partner must be justified by clear and demonstrable services rendered by that business partner to Philips. We do not make cash payments.

2.6 **Dealing responsibly with government, political parties and politicians**

We comply with public procurement rules that apply to government projects or contracts.

We do not make any contribution, in money or in kind, to political parties or organizations, or to individuals engaged in politics.

2.7 **Prevention of money laundering**

We do not engage in money laundering – the process by which persons or groups try to conceal the proceeds of illegal activities, such as crime and terrorism, or try to make the sources of their illegal funds appear legitimate.

We take appropriate measures to prevent money laundering by reporting suspicious transactions, such as payments between unknown entities through an excessive number of intermediaries, high-value cash transactions, or payments made or received by suspicious entities or involving high-risk countries.

2.8 **Export controls and sanctions regulations**

We transfer, sell and purchase goods, software, technologies and services in compliance with all applicable export controls and sanction laws and regulations.

We adhere to these laws and regulations by implementing the restrictions applicable to countries, business partners and persons, and by classifying all goods, software, technologies and services in order to identify controlled status and possible restrictions on the export or transfer of these goods, software, technologies and services.
Before entering into any business relationship or transaction, we review and assess the applicable export controls and sanctions and determine if the relationship/transaction is allowed, or if an export authorization or approval is required from the relevant government agencies.

2.9 **Environmental protection**

We do all that is reasonable and practicable to minimize any adverse effects of our activities on the environment.

2.10 **Advertising**

We ensure that all advertising, packaging and promotional materials are fact-based, not misleading, and in compliance with applicable laws.
3.1 Avoiding conflicts of interests

We avoid all potential conflicts of interest between work and personal affairs. Where this is not possible, or in cases of doubt, we proactively address any engagement outside Philips or financial interest (direct or indirect via a family member or acquaintance) which could give rise to a conflict of interest by talking to our manager or GBP Compliance Officer in order to resolve the issue or to register the concern.

We use Philips’ assets solely to pursue and achieve Philips’ goals and not for personal gain.
3.2 **Political engagement**

We do not allow our personal political opinions to influence us in the performance of our job. We do not use Philips’ assets, including our time at work, to further our own political activities or interests.

3.3 **Inside information**

We do not trade on or disclose non-public information, the publication of which would be likely to have a significant influence on the trading price of Philips securities or securities of companies that Philips is seeking to acquire (‘inside information’). We hold inside information in strict confidence until such time as it is released into the public domain by authorized management.

Philips employees with access to inside information refrain from executing transactions in the securities of the company to which the inside information relates, directly or indirectly and are prohibited from advising or encouraging other persons to do so.

3.4 **Social media**

We use social media for internal and external communications in a responsible manner. We identify ourselves as Philips employees and are respectful to our audience. We remain professional in our conduct, do not publish other parties’ content without their permission, and do not use offensive or demeaning language.

We do not comment on or discuss confidential information (including Philips financial information, Philips intellectual property and any undisclosed or otherwise confidential information), business plans, or information about employees or upcoming product-related announcements.
Living the Philips
General Business Principles

Be accountable
Through leadership at all levels, we aim to sustain a culture in
which ethical conduct is recognized, valued and exemplified by
all employees, and in which we hold each other accountable.
In our decision-making, our commitment to conduct business in
a responsible way takes priority over short-term gain.

Consider your actions, seek support
We all have an obligation to uphold the Philips General Business
Principles (GBP). If you are ever in doubt about a course of action,
ask yourself the following questions:

• Is it consistent with the GBP?
• Is it ethical?
• Is it legal?
• Will it reflect well on Philips and myself?
• Would I want to be treated this way?
• Would I want to read about this in the newspaper or on-line?

If the answer to any of these questions is ‘no’, do not take this course
of action. If you are still uncertain, discuss the matter with your
colleagues or seek guidance from either your manager or your local
GBP Compliance Officer.

Raise concerns
If you suspect a violation of the GBP you are urged to report your
concerns to your GBP Compliance Officer or the Philips Ethics Line.
Doing so will allow Philips to address and resolve the issue, ideally
before it becomes a violation of law or a risk to health, security
or safety.

Sanctions
Failure to act in line with the General Business Principles can have
serious consequences for Philips as well as the individuals involved.
Violations of the General Business Principles will result in disciplinary
action such as suspension or dismissal. Such violations may also
lead to fines and imprisonment for the individuals concerned.
Scope and deployment

The Philips General Business Principles (GBP) apply to all employees of Koninklijke Philips N.V. (‘Royal Philips’) and its controlled subsidiaries.

The GBP are not all-encompassing, but formulate minimum standards of behavior. The underlying policies form an integral part of the GBP. Function, sector and country management are free to specify further rules of business conduct.

This GBP have been adopted by the Executive Committee and approved by the Supervisory Board. They are reviewed on a regular basis and revised where necessary.

In order to ensure that business integrity is an issue that is alive throughout the company, a worldwide communication and training program, including mandatory sign-off on the GBP, has been put in place to heighten awareness of the need for compliance with the GBP.

Compliance with the GBP is monitored via a worldwide network of market, country and sector Compliance Officers, who regularly report to the GBP Review Committee, which advises the Executive Committee on the deployment of the GBP and on ethical issues in general.

Reporting on compliance with the GBP also forms an integral part of the Statement on Business Controls issued annually by the management of each business unit or department as part of a cascading process leading to CEO/CFO certification of the company’s annual accounts. Compliance processes and procedures are audited by Philips Group Internal Audit.
References

The following standards served as reference in the preparation of the Philips General Business Principles and may be a useful source of additional information.

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- The eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization, nos. 87, 98, 29, 105, 138, 182, 100 and 111,
- UN Global Compact
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Code of Advertising and Marketing Communication Practice
- OECD Guidelines on the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data
- OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions
- OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- United Nations Council Resolutions on export controls
On the General Business Principles intranet site you have access to translated versions, underlying policies, cases, red flags, questions & answers, glossary, references and further guidance. Here you can also find the GBP Compliance Officers and information on the Philips Ethics Line.

Find our Philips General Business Principles at intranet.philips.com
Search: Philips General Business Principles

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