

Corporate Guideline

ANTI-BRIBERY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION CODE OF CONDUCT

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INTRODUCTION

Aventrade (Pty) Ltd (here: Aventrade)

ANTI-BRIBERY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION CODE OF CONDUCT

It is our policy to comply with all laws, rules and regulations governing bribery and corruption in all the countries in which we operate.

The purpose of this code of conduct is to set out the values, principles and responsibilities AVENTRADE adheres to and expects from all of our employees, partners, distributors, resellers, advisors, consultants, contractors, agents and other intermediaries representing us with regard to bribery and corruption.

All directors and employees are required to comply with this code. Compliance with this code is a mandatory requirement.

PROHIBITION OF BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

AVENTRADE does not participate in any form of bribery or corruption.

It is our policy to comply with all laws, rules and regulations governing bribery and corruption in all the countries in which we do business. Acts of corruption and bribery are increasingly being made illegal throughout the world and penalties for breaching those laws are severe.

AVENTRADE will deal with any instance of suspected bribery or corruption seriously. Any actual instance will result in disciplinary action against those involved, up to and including termination of employment or contract, and reporting of those persons to relevant regulatory and criminal authorities. AVENTRADE will support those authorities in any prosecution brought against those persons. AVENTRADE operates a zero-tolerance policy toward bribery and corruption.

This policy extends to all our business dealings and transactions in all countries in which AVENTRADE and/or our subsidiaries and associates operate. Local custom and practice are never a justification for departing from this policy.

You will never be penalized for compliance with these policies and procedures, even if AVENTRADE loses business or money as a result. If you have concerns or suspicions about anyone's conduct or instances where there may be non-compliance with these policies, it's important you report them quickly to allow those concerns and suspicions to be promptly investigated and responded to.

Each of us must take personal responsibility for abiding with this policy. This includes our most senior managers and directors.

If you have such suspicions and you don't report them, you could face disciplinary action up to and including termination of your employment.

AVENTRADE will routinely assess the risks of becoming embroiled in bribery and corrupt practices.

Based on such assessments we will take action.

If any instance of bribery or corruption is identified, AVENTRADE will take remedial and disciplinary steps immediately. For the avoidance of doubt, if bribery or corruption is established, we shall seek legal advice with a view to dismissing any employee involved and our responsibilities to refer such matters to the authorities for them to deal with under law.

AVENTRADE encourages and supports our employees to make decisions in line with our stated position on bribery and corruption. AVENTRADE may drive a hard bargain when it is in our interests, but we are committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity.

AVENTRADE always prohibits bribery and corruption and in any form, whether direct or indirect, including through agents, partners and other intermediaries.

Bribery is the offering, promising, giving or accepting of any undue monetary or other advantage to or by another person such as but not limited to:

- a public official, at national, local or international level;
- a political party, party official or candidate; and
- a director, officer, employee or agent of another organization or an individual in order to obtain or retain a business or other advantage other than by legitimate and proper means.

Corruption includes solicitation of a bribe, whether or not coupled with a threat if the demand is refused.

AVENTRADE presumes that any 'kick back' (in cash or in kind) to government officials or to employees of the other contracting party is a bribe.

AVENTRADE also presumes that the engagement of intermediaries such as agents, subcontractors, consultants or other third parties, to channel payments to government officials, or to employees of the other contracting party, their relatives, friends or business associates is a bribe.

Any payment or other advantage made to any person who is not fully and properly recorded in the terms of the contract by which we do business with them shall be presumed by us to be a bribe.

No AVENTRADE employee will ever suffer demotion, penalty, or other adverse consequences for refusing to pay bribes even if such refusal may result in AVENTRADE losing business.

PERSONAL SAFETY

AVENTRADE recognizes that demands for bribes to be paid may be accompanied by threats to personal safety. These should be rare, but if you are subjected to an immediate threat to your safety, you may put your personal well-being first even if this means that you make a payment that would contravene this code. However, you must immediately report all of the circumstances of the threat and the payment to AVENTRADE Managing Directors. If a threat is made but you have time to notify our Managing Directors before making any payment to avoid the harm to your person, then you should do so.

SCOPE

Every employee and every person associated with AVENTRADE business is covered by this code of Conduct and our Anti-Bribery Program.

UNIVERSAL APPLICATION

This policy applies to all of AVENTRADE business units and extends to all our majority owned business dealings and transactions in all countries in which we or our subsidiaries and associates do business. This policy applies in all countries in the world regardless of local practice and custom.

This policy applies to all staff, officers, directors, and employees (including contractors and temporary workers) in our business worldwide. It applies to our agents, partners, resellers, distributors, contractors, and other intermediaries acting on our behalf or representing AVENTRADE. All activities carried out on AVENTRADE behalf must be compliant with this policy regardless of local laws or culture.

AVENTRADE operates a policy of individual accountability. We are each accountable for compliance with this policy.

AGENTS, DISTRIBUTORS, CONSULTANTS AND OTHER THIRD PARTIES

Whenever AVENTRADE engages or retains an agent, partner, reseller, distributor, marketing consultant or other third party in connection with any business being sought, we will investigate to determine the reputation, beneficial ownership, professional capability and experience, financial standing and credibility of such person and the record of such person's adherence to applicable laws in our own and other countries. Any concerns that such investigation may bring to light must be reported to our Managing Directors.

After AVENTRADE engages with a third party, you have a responsibility to continue monitoring on- going activities and to report your concerns to our Managing Directors. If you know or reason-ably believes that a contravention of this policy has been, is being or may be made you must report it to our Managing Directors and in appropriate circumstances prevent the payment or promise of payment from occurring.

ACQUISITIONS

Each time AVENTRADE acquires any business as a going concern, the due diligence associated with the proposed acquisition shall include investigation of the acquisition target's compliance with the South African anti-bribery and corruption provisions and related laws and regulations.

JOINT VENTURES

Similarly, whenever we decide to undertake business with a joint venture partner, we will conduct a review of the prospective joint venture partner or partners in order to determine the reputation, beneficial ownership.

CONTRACT PROCEDURES

Persons or entities who provide goods or services to AVENTRADE or on our behalf must meet our standards and abide by our policies and codes of conduct with regard to bribery and corruption or else they should expect to have their contracts terminated and we will actively seek to recover any losses we may suffer as a result.

AVENTRADE has developed standard form clauses for inclusion in our trading contracts dealing with bribery and corruption which, in essence, enable us to terminate contracts if bribery is established. Unless otherwise approved in writing by AVENTRADE's Legal Department, all contracts with partners, resellers, distributors, consultants, and other third parties must include our standard anti-bribery clauses.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Failure to comply with this policy will be grounds for termination or other disciplinary action. Any questions concerning this policy may be addressed to AVENTRADE's Managing Directors.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE POLICY AND CODE

AVENTRADE's Chief Financial Officer or a dedicated Nominee from the legal department will conduct the day-to-day administration and enforcement of this code and policy.

AVENTRADE's Board retains the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that we all comply with the zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption.

Employees, joint-venture partners, , , contractors, agents and other intermediaries representing us are encouraged to raise concerns about any instance of malpractice at the earliest possible stage. AVENTRADE 'whistleblowing' policy may be relevant and is drawn to your attention.

Failure to so report is a disciplinary matter and will be dealt with accordingly. Disciplinary action may include the immediate termination of employment or of any business agreement or relationship.

Any form of discrimination, retribution or retaliation against anyone who has, in good faith, reported a possible violation of this policy or refused to participate in activities that violate this policy is prohibited and will be treated as a serious disciplinary matter.

AVENTRADE's board will review the implementation of this policy to test its adequacy and effectiveness from time to time and shall make improvements as appropriate. Any material non-compliance shall be reported to shareholders in the Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITY

Every one of us must take individual responsibility for complying with this code.

Each employee of AVENTRADE must read, be familiar with, and strictly comply with this policy which shall be available on-line and in hard copy via our HR function. Training on all applicable laws and regulations shall be compulsory upon joining the organization and from time to time by way of refresher and up-date.

Laws, regulations and contractual requirements are subject to change, which could require

revision to this policy. All personnel to which this policy is applicable shall keep themselves current with any such changes and shall comply with such changes regardless of whether or not the changes have been incorporated into any given version of this policy.

RAISING CONCERNS AND SEEKING GUIDANCE

AVENTRADE expects you to report suspicious activity without delay and without apprehension.

We know that our staff and representatives are not experts in the law and this code is designed to help you recognize situations that might be of concern.

This code requires you to raise your concerns promptly if you have a sense that something unethical or untoward is going on involving AVENTRADE business. If you try to look the other way so as to avoid being witness to bribery or corruption, you may find yourself in contravention of this code and the law.

Failure to report a concern may result in the termination of your employment. You may do so in accordance with the Whistleblowing Procedures set out below in order to preserve your anonymity. If you are unsure what to do or if you have doubts but do not want to get yourself or anyone else into trouble, you should notify our Managing Directors who will consult with you on a confidential basis.

It is always better to notify your concerns rather than keep them to yourself. If there is an innocent explanation, then this can be established by our Managing Directors. If for any reason you do not wish to speak with our Managing Directors then you should consult the Whistleblowing Procedures which will set out the names and contact details of others within AVENTRADE with whom you can discuss matters on a confidential basis. (Please refer to Article 10 below for Whistleblowing Procedures.)

If you are offered a financial or other advantage or if you suspect that someone within AVENTRADE is or is about to offer an improper financial or other advantage, you **MUST** report this to our Managing Directors without delay.

PAYMENTS TO 3RD PARTIES

All payments made by the business must be warranted, transparent and proper. No payments may be made as a subterfuge for bribery.

It is contrary to this code to offer, promise, authorize, pay or give, either directly or indirectly, to any other person (whether a government official or not) any financial or other advantage in order to secure an improper advantage, to obtain or retain business, or direct business to any other person or entity.

AVENTRADE therefore insists that:

- a) any payment made to any person, such as an agent representative or intermediary, represents no more than an appropriate remuneration for legitimate services rendered by such person;
- b) no part of any such payment is permitted to be passed on by the agent as a bribe or otherwise in contravention of this policy;
- c) in each contract with any partners, distributors, , , contractors, agents and/or other

intermediary representing us, such representative must agree not to pay bribes or otherwise engage in any corrupt practice. We must reserve the right to terminate agreements with representatives if a bribe is paid or other corrupt practice undertaken;

- d) each of our business units and all joint-venture partners, , , contractors, agents and other intermediaries representing us must maintain an accurate record of the names, terms of employment and payments to all persons who are retained by them in connection with transactions with public bodies, state or private enterprises. This record must be made available for inspection by us and our appointed auditors on demand;
- e) no employee, joint-venture partner, , , contractor, agent or other intermediary representing us is permitted to engage in bribery or any form of unethical inducement or payment (including facilitation payments and 'kickbacks') and all such persons must avoid any activities that might lead to, or suggest, a conflict of interest with the business of the Company;
- f) we uphold laws relevant to countering bribery and corruption in all the jurisdictions in which we operate, particularly laws that are directly relevant to specific business practices;
- g) all agents, representatives and intermediaries must be properly vetted and due diligence undertaken on them to ascertain their compliance to represent us before we appoint them;
- h) all payments should be approved in writing by a senior person in the business (your line manager) before making the payment;
- i) receipts for payments should be obtained from the recipient; and
- j) all payments must be accurately recorded through our normal accounting and financial procedures without any deception or disguise as the recipient's identity or the purpose for the payment in question.

For the avoidance of doubt, so-called Facilitation Payments are prohibited. AVENTRADE does not make Facilitation Payments (sometimes known as grease payments), of any kind. The bribery laws in other countries may not criminalize facilitation payments, but we do not condone the making of facilitation payments.

AVENTRADE recognizes that in some parts of the world, Facilitation Payments may be sought in a business-as-usual fashion. AVENTRADE will not pay them and we will not expect to be paid them. We insist that proper and thorough due diligence is undertaken on those with whom we do business and, in particular, any organization which represents our interests in any capacity or which supplies goods or services to us.

In AVENTRADE's business, we must keep and maintain accurate books and records in reasonable detail. We are subject to internal audit and controls. All payments must be properly recorded in our accounts and financial records. Recording such payments in any way which would conceal their true nature or which is contrary to applicable accounting standards is not permitted.

Payments of reasonable and bona fide expenses incurred in the proper course of our business are not prohibited by this code when they are directly related to the execution or

performance of a contract or other binding obligation.

POLITICAL AND CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsorship, political and/or charitable contributions require prior authorization.

The presumption is that AVENTRADE does not make any contributions to political parties, party officials and/or candidates. All requests for political contributions must be channeled through our Managing Directors. We will only do so if our board of directors establishes in writing that it is in our interests to do so and then only upon satisfying itself that we are acting responsibly in accordance with all applicable laws and all requirements for public disclosure. No such political contributions may be used as a subterfuge for bribery.

Sponsorship or charitable donations might amount to bribery if not undertaken for the right and proper reasons. AVENTRADE is not against sponsorship or charitable donations in all cases. As a business, AVENTRADE is pleased to support deserving causes, but not in the expectation of any reward or influence in return. All requests for sponsorship must be channeled through our Managing Directors in advance.

Similarly, any charitable contributions and sponsorships are not to be used as a subterfuge for bribery. Charitable contributions and sponsorships must be transparent and in accordance with applicable law. All charitable contributions and sponsorships must be approved by our Managing Directors in advance.

If you are approached for a charitable donation, sponsorship or a political contribution (in each case, of any nature or description) you must inform those who approach you that there is an approval procedure which you are bound to follow and that you will be referring the matter to AVENTRADE Managing Directors for approval before responding.

If you wish to undertake charitable works or to seek sponsorship of a personal nature from your work colleagues, please notify our Managing Directors in advance. We will not prevent genuine fund raising of a personal nature by our employees and associates provided it is clear that this is unrelated to our business.

If you make personal contributions to charity or to political organizations or if you engage in any form of sponsorship from your own funds, please make clear to all concerned that such activity has nothing to do with our business and that you are acting in your personal capacity outside of work. You must not use any resources of the AVENTRADE for, or in support of your personal activities in this regard.

GIFTS, HOSPITALITY AND EXPENSES

AVENTRADE only accepts or provides hospitality and gifts within pre-defined limits and never to secure any improper advantage or to influence a business decision.

AVENTRADE recognizes that to refuse hospitality can cause offence, which is not the intention of this policy, and that in the ordinary course of business; hospitality is extended and accepted without amounting to a bribe.

Gifts, hospitality, and sponsorship may only be made and/or received in compliance with this code. You are required to complete a written record of hospitality offered/received and any gifts received/declined, and/or speaker/author/non-executive fees received/declined.

The acceptance of corporate hospitality (other than refreshments offered in meetings held at business premises) requires prior approval from your Head of Department. You should

only accept corporate hospitality if it is ethically, morally, socially and politically 'correct'. Nothing should be accepted that brings you, your colleagues or our business into disrepute.

Hospitality, gifts or expenses which has 'strings attached' must be declined. If hospitality has as its intent or purpose an attempt to secure a business advantage or influence a decision (e.g. by creating a sense of obligation) then it must be declined.

High value corporate hospitality should be politely declined, unless there are compelling business reasons to accept such hospitality and such hospitality is approved by your Head of Department. In any event, approval prior to acceptance of corporate hospitality must be obtained from our Managing Directors where the value of the hospitality exceeds €100.

From time to time, AVENTRADE may notify spending limits applicable to hospitality and entertainment and you must abide by these rules from the date that they are introduced. Where you are responsible for relationships with customers and suppliers to our business, you may entertain people for bona fide purposes only. The value of such hospitality must be reasonable and proportionate. Lavish entertainment is not permitted by AVENTRADE. Ordinary hospitality to meet customers, network with customers and improve relationships is unlikely to be a problem, but please be aware that extraordinary hospitality might be unlawful and contrary to this code and the law.

If you offer or provide hospitality and you suspect that it has been misconstrued by the recipient as an inducement, you must report this to our Managing Directors and appropriate steps must be taken to correct this misapprehension. You should make allowance for the possibility that acceptance of a gift or hospitality by the intended recipient is contrary to the recipients own rules and policies. You should, therefore, explain to the recipient that it is perfectly acceptable to refuse your offer of a gift or hospitality and that, should the recipient prefer, attendance at an event you are running is open for acceptance on the basis that the recipient pays for himself/herself.

Hospitality in all cases must be reasonable in value, should be offered or accepted in good faith only in connection with AVENTRADE's business and should be lawful under applicable local law.

Hospitality should be proportionate to the business portion of the event. The frequency of hospitality should be carefully monitored, as the cumulative effect of frequent hospitality may give rise to the appearance of impropriety. Hospitality must not be offered or provided in return for any favor or benefit or to influence improperly any official decision.

The test to be applied in all circumstances is whether the giving or receiving of any gift or entertainment is reasonable and justifiable. If the intention or effect of any gift or entertainment or other hospitality might create a real or perceived influence upon any person, then further guidance must be sought from our Managing Directors before the giving or accepting of the same.

Under no circumstances may gifts, hospitality or entertainment be offered to or accepted from any person with whom we are in a competitive tender scenario (i.e. a contract is being awarded and we are bidding for or awarding that contract.)

Any form of gift or corporate hospitality offered by a tenderer participating in a competitive procurement exercise should be declined and the offer reported to the person in charge of such procurement process.

The offer or acceptance of gifts, hospitality or expenses must be limited to reasonable and bona fide expenditures, and must not improperly affect the outcome of any procurement or other business transaction or be capable of being reasonably construed as improperly affecting such outcome. Employees must declare and keep a record of hospitality or gifts

offered and accepted, which will be subject to managerial review.

Care must be taken when being giving or being offered entertainment, gifts or hospitality from persons with whom there is no prior business relationship. All gifts, hospitality and entertainment offered to a foreign public official (no matter the value) must be approved in writing by our Managing Directors in advance.

Cash may not be given to any third party by way of hospitality or entertainment. Giving promotional items of nominal value such as coffee mugs, golf balls, calendars, or similar items displaying the company logo that are distributed for advertising or commemorative purposes and/or gifts of nominal value is generally permissible, but if in doubt, check with our Managing Directors first.

You are only permitted to accept and keep gifts paid for by third parties of very low value such as umbrellas, pens, diaries and small branded items. Other gifts should be politely declined in the first instance, pending authorization in writing from our Managing Directors. AVENTRADE does not intend to cause and offence to the person offering any such gift and you should make it clear that you have no option but to comply with this code and that you will be pleased to accept the gift if AVENTRADE Managing Directors approves it. Any attempt to undermine the impartiality of our people by the offer of substantial gifts or other inducements should be reported to our Managing Directors immediately.

There may be rare circumstances where declining the gift is likely to cause major offence (e.g. gifts from foreign dignitaries or religious leaders). In these circumstances the gift may be accepted and then donated to charity (with a record noted in the Gifts Register).

AVENTRADE recognizes that you may receive unsolicited token gifts from marketing departments from time to time, such as calendars at Christmas. You should consider the impact of displaying or using these items on third parties who may understand the same to reflect a loyalty to one supplier.

Neither you nor any members of your family are permitted to receive 'personal' direct sponsorship from any third parties with whom AVENTRADE is in business with.

As a general rule, AVENTRADE does not pay for third parties' travel or other expenses. If there is a legitimate reason to depart from this rule, you must obtain prior written approval from our Managing Directors. Travel expenses offered to third parties should be reasonable in amount, should be offered in good faith only in connection with our business and should be lawful under applicable local law. Reimbursement of expenses requires reasonable proof of payment (e.g. a receipt) and wherever possible should be made directly to the service provider (for example, an airline) or the foreign government or agency involved and not to an individual.

Expenses should not go beyond what is reasonably necessary for the business purpose; for example, lavish accommodations, and expenses for spouses and children or side trips are strictly prohibited.

DUE DILIGENCE

We only do business with people we have checked out.

Before doing business with any 3rd party, you must check them out. AVENTRADE needs to know that the 3rd party is who they say they are. We need to know that the 3rd party is not secretly representing somebody not disclosed to us. AVENTRADE also needs to know that the 3rd party shares our commitment to stamping out bribery.

AVENTRADE must have a written contract with all 3rd parties with whom we do business. This includes those who represent AVENTRADE and/or provide services to us as well as those with whom we trade. We must undertake due diligence on all 3rd parties before we enter into contractual relations.

You must assess the risks of doing business with each 3rd party in advance of doing business. Based on such risk assessment, you must determine the level of due diligence to be undertaken on such 3rd party - the greater the risk the more due diligence must be undertaken, but in all cases due diligence must be thorough and vigilant.

No relationship or association with any 3rd party can commence without entering into a written contract, including provisions requiring the 3rd party to comply with this code and anti-bribery laws, policies and procedures in the country in which such 3rd party operates and the law in Germany. Such contracts must also permit AVENTRADE to verify compliance by auditing the 3rd party from time to time.

(A 3rd party includes any person, organization, firm or company other than AVENTRADE and AVENTRADE Group Companies. In particular, any person, organization, firm or company who provides services to AVENTRADE or engages in any business activity for us is a 3rd party. Employees of AVENTRADE Group Companies are not 3rd parties for this purpose.)

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING OF CONCERNS (WHISTLEBLOWING)

You must report suspicious activity. You will not be penalized after you do so.

AVENTRADE is committed to conducting our business with honesty and integrity, and we expect all of our staff to maintain high standards. However, all organizations face the risk of things going wrong from time to time, or of unknowingly harboring illegal or unethical conduct. A culture of openness and accountability is essential in order to prevent such situations occurring or to address them when they do occur.

The aims of this policy are:

- (1) To encourage staff to report suspected wrongdoing as soon as possible, in the knowledge that their concerns will be taken seriously and investigated as appropriate, and that their confidentiality will be respected.
- (2) To provide staff with guidance as to how to raise those concerns.
- (3) To reassure staff that they should be able to raise genuine concerns in good faith without fear of reprisals, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

This policy applies to all individuals working at all levels of the organization, including directors, officers, senior managers, employees, consultants, contractors, trainees, homeworkers, part-time and fixed-term workers, casual and agency staff and volunteers (collectively referred to as "staff" in this policy).

“Whistleblowing” is the disclosure of information which relates to suspected wrongdoing or dangers at work. This may include:

- a) criminal activity;
- b) miscarriages of justice;
- c) danger to health and safety;
- d) damage to the environment;
- e) failure to comply with any legal or professional obligation or regulatory requirements;
- f) financial fraud or mismanagement;
- g) negligence;
- h) breach of our internal policies and procedures;
- i) conduct likely to damage our reputation;
- j) unauthorized disclosure of confidential information;
- k) other workplace-specific concerns;
- l) the deliberate concealment of any of the above matters.

A whistleblower is a person who raises a genuine concern in good faith relating to any of the above. If you have any genuine concerns related to suspected wrongdoing or danger affecting any of our activities (a “whistleblowing concern”) you should report it under this policy.

This policy should not be used for complaints relating to your own personal circumstances, such as the way you have been treated at work. In those cases you should use AVENTRADE Grievance Procedures or raise your concerns in accordance with other our other policies. AVENTRADE hopes that in many cases you will be able to raise any concerns with your line manager. You may tell them in person or put the matter in writing if you prefer. They may be able to agree a way of resolving your concern quickly and effectively. In some cases they may refer the matter to your local Human Resources Manager.

However, where the matter is more serious, or you consider that your line manager has not addressed your concern, or you prefer not to raise it with them for any reason, you should contact one of the following:

- Your local Human Resources Manager,
- A member of AVENTRADE Management,
- AVENTRADE Managing Directors.
- Or any member of AVENTRADE’s Advisory Board.

AVENTRADE will arrange a meeting with you as soon as possible to discuss your concern. You may bring a colleague or representative to any meetings under this policy. Your companion must respect the confidentiality of your disclosure and any subsequent investigation.

AVENTRADE will take down a written summary of your concern and provide you with a copy after the meeting. We will also aim to give you an indication of how we propose to deal with the matter.

AVENTRADE hopes that staff will feel able to voice whistleblowing concerns openly under this policy. However, if you want to raise your concern confidentially, we will make every

effort to keep your identity secret. If it is necessary for anyone investigating your concern to know your identity, we will discuss this with you.

AVENTRADE does not encourage staff to make disclosures anonymously as proper investigation may be more difficult or impossible if we cannot obtain further information from you. It is also more difficult to establish whether any allegations are credible and have been made in good faith. Whistleblowers who are concerned about possible reprisals if their identity is revealed should come forward to their local Human Resources Manager Whistleblowing or one of the other contact points listed above and appropriate measures can then be taken to preserve confidentiality.

If you are in any doubt you can seek advice from your local Human Resources Manager.

The aim of this policy is to provide an internal mechanism for reporting, investigating and remedying any wrongdoing in the workplace. In most cases you should not find it necessary to alert anyone externally.

Whistleblowing concerns usually relate to the conduct of our staff, but they may sometimes relate to the actions of a third party, such as a customer, supplier, service provider, partner or distributor. The law allows you to raise a concern in good faith with a third party, where you reasonably believe it relates mainly to their actions or something that is legally their responsibility. However, AVENTRADE encourages you to report such concerns internally first. You should contact your line manager or one of the other individuals referred to in this code for guidance.

Once you have raised a concern, AVENTRADE will carry out an initial assessment to determine the scope of any investigation. We will inform you of the outcome of our assessment. You may be required to attend additional meetings in order to provide further information.

In some cases AVENTRADE may appoint an investigator or team of investigators including staff with relevant experience of investigations or specialist knowledge of the subject matter. The investigator(s) may make recommendations for change to enable us to minimize the risk of future wrongdoing.

AVENTRADE will aim to keep you informed of the progress of the investigation and its likely timescale. However, sometimes the need for confidentiality may prevent us from giving you specific details of the investigation or any disciplinary action being taken as a result. Unless specifically informed otherwise, you should treat any information about the investigation as confidential.

If we conclude that a whistleblower has made false allegations maliciously, in bad faith or with a view to personal gain, the whistleblower will be subject to disciplinary action. If such an allegation against an employee is upheld, that employee is likely to be dismissed without notice or payment in lieu.

Although AVENTRADE cannot always guarantee the outcome that you are seeking, we will try to deal with your concern fairly and in an appropriate way. By using this policy you can help us to achieve this.

If you are not happy with the way in which your concern has been handled, you can raise it with one of the other key contacts identified in this policy. Alternatively, you may contact AVENTRADE Managing Directors or our external auditors. Contact details are set out at

the end of this policy.

PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR WHISTLEBLOWERS

It is understandable that whistleblowers are sometimes worried about possible repercussions. AVENTRADE aims to encourage openness and will support staff who raise genuine concerns in good faith under this policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken. Staff must not suffer any detrimental treatment as a result of raising a concern in good faith. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, threats or other unfavorable treatment connected with raising a concern. If you believe that you have suffered any such treatment, you should inform your local Human Resources Manager immediately. If the matter is not remedied you should raise it formally using our Grievance Procedure.

Staff must not threaten or retaliate against whistleblowers in any way. Anyone involved in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

The AVENTRADE s board of directors has overall responsibility for this policy, and for reviewing the effectiveness of actions taken in response to concerns raised under this policy. Various officers of AVENTRADE have day-to-day operational responsibility for this policy, and must ensure that all managers and other staff who may deal with concerns or investigations under this policy receive regular and appropriate training.

AVENTRADE Human Resources Managers and AVENTRADE Managing Directors will review this policy from a legal and operational perspective regularly.

All of AVENTRADE staff are responsible for the success of this policy and should ensure that they use it to disclose any suspected danger or wrongdoing. Staff is invited to comment on this policy and suggest ways in which it might be improved. Comments, suggestions and queries should be addressed to your local Human Resources Manager or to AVENTRADE Managing Directors.

Any questions or concerns relating to this policy should be addressed to AVENTRADE's Head: IT Operations & Services directly: info@aventrade.org

04-Oct-2023



Ravi Bonda
Head: IT Operations & Services,
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