

Annex 4 to the *Business Partner Declaration on Sustainability*: Social standards

To all Otto Group business partners for merchandise
(only own and licensed brands)

Integral part of the *Business Partner Declaration*

The Annex is an integral part of the *Business Partner Declaration*. All conditions referred to in this declaration and in the *Business Partner Declaration* are binding for the business partner.

Scope

The following requirements apply to all business partners for Group merchandise (own and licensed brands).

Detailed requirements for social standards:

Final production factories that manufacture for Otto Group companies in risk countries¹ must prove their compliance with a valid social standard that is accepted by the Otto Group for the period of manufacture². Orders must not be placed with factories without a valid and accepted social standard.

Obligations for business partners and other actors operating on their behalf in the supply chain

Prior to the start of production, the business partner is obliged:

- to proactively check whether factories it commissions either directly or indirectly are located in a risk country according to the amfori BSCI³ classification;
- to verify the authenticity of the proof of social standards presented by the factory or other third party partners and to contact the relevant issuer of the standard or make further enquiries if there are any doubts.

Between the start of production and shipping, the business partner is obliged to ensure that the factory can prove compliance with a social standard that is accepted by the Otto Group. This includes proactive planning of (re-)audits or the extension of certificates.

After shipping, the business partner is obliged furthermore to actively cooperate in the clarification and redress of potential or actual infringements of principles enshrined in the respective social standard or the requirements of the Otto Group's *Business Partner Declaration*.

¹ [amfori – Country Risk Classification.pdf](#); the most recent version applies in the event of updates.

² This is defined in this context as the time between the start of production and shipping.

³ [amfori – Country Risk Classification.pdf](#); the most recent version applies in the event of updates.

Accepted social standards (social audits and certificates)

Accepted standards		Result	Validity
Otto Group Assessment	On site	Good Satisfying Improvements needed	1 year
Accepted external audits/ assessments	amfori BSCI 2.0 ⁴ or Small Producer Assessment (SPA)	A = “outstanding”	2 years from the first audit
		B = “good”	2 years from the first audit
		C = “acceptable”	1 year
	SA8000		3 years

⁴ For more information about the BSCI system, click [here](#). Please contact amfori if you have general questions about the BSCI system (info@amfori.org).