



Department for International Trade

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Final Statement by the UK National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises concerning a complaint from UK Lawyers for Israel (UKLFI) against PwC

I am writing to inform you that the UK National Contact Point (NCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (the Guidelines) have published a Final Statement on this complaint. The Final Statement can be found here: <https://bit.ly/33qxaPP>.

The Final Statement reports the conclusion of a complaint made to the UK NCP in 2017 by UKLFI against PwC. The complaint relates to audit services provided by PwC Palestine to the World Bank of funding for the Palestinian Authority. The complainants allege breaches of the General Policies and Human Rights chapters of the Guidelines.

The UK NCP examined the complaint and published a Final Statement in March 2020. The UK NCP made two recommendations to PwC for them to:

- recognise the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises as a standard of responsible business conduct that apply globally to PwC network firms;
- take steps to ensure that in all PwC policies and standards, codes of conduct etc. wherever appropriate, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises be used and referenced by every member firm in all countries, regardless of whether or not that country is an OECD member state or a country adhering to the OECD Guidelines. If it has not already done so, the UK NCP recommends that PwC network firms use the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct for this purpose.

As part of the complaint procedure of the UK NCP, parties in a concluded complaint have the right to request a review by the NCP's Steering Board of the UK NCP's procedure in the complaint. Neither party requested a review; therefore, the Final Statement now concludes the complaint process.

The UK NCP will request an update from both parties in March 2021 and publish a follow up statement.

With all good wishes.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Conor Burns', with a horizontal line underneath.

THE RT HON CONOR BURNS MP
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