



*UNION DES COOPERATIVES AGRICOLES
DES PLANTEURS DE TABAC*

**STATEMENT
OF
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The "Union des Coopératives Agricoles des Planteurs de Tabac" (UCAPT) undertakes to implement a policy of social responsibility in its spheres of activity, so as to ensure corporate citizenship in optimum conditions.

UCAPT's social responsibility policy is structured in three parts:

**1. ORGANISATION OF
RELATIONSHIPS WHICH
UCAPT ESTABLISHES
WITH PARTNERS
WORKING IN ITS
SPHERES OF ACTIVITY**

Given its status as a Union for agricultural cooperatives, UCAPT's role is to foster the economic interests of its members and thereby those of tobacco growers. UCAPT meets their requirements by proposing industrial and commercial solutions which best serve their interests on a long-term basis.

With regards to its employees, UCAPT, as far as is possible, wishes to foster conditions of employment which enhance personal development within the trade by maintaining and maximizing employability. UCAPT requests its employees to act within their professional activity in compliance with its social responsibility policy and in accordance with moral rules that respect individual consciences and which have been outlined and explained to them.

With regards to its clients and suppliers, UCAPT wishes to develop harmonious relationships that are beneficial to partners and itself alike and which take into account general interests and legal considerations.

2. SOCIAL COMMITMENT

UCAPT respects current legislation. Its structure enables it to be aware of new regulations, to be pro-active with regards to regulatory requirements and find realistic solutions for implementing them. UCAPT has in-depth relationships with bodies in charge of ensuring the respect of legislation and favours a policy of dialogue and advice so as to avoid being placed in a position of being forced to implement regulations.

UCAPT is aware of its role and responsibilities in a social and economic environment and takes part in operations at local and regional levels, in particular in the area of training and apprenticeship.

3. RESPECT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LONG-TERM POLICY

UCAPT is aware of the environmental impact of its industrial activity. With regards to its investments, supplies and operations, it favours solutions that, within economic considerations, integrate optimum security & safety, help limit environmental impact and have lasting effects.

UCAPT encourages and works hand in hand with cooperatives who develop sound agricultural practices, policies to control impact on the environment and long-term growing methods for tobacco growers.

In its choice of suppliers and clients, UCAPT takes environmental considerations into account.

In order to bring it to the attention of all concerned (growers, cooperatives, staff and partners), this statement will be published.

Implementation and evaluation of this policy will be followed up by the group dealing with social responsibility whose members will be appointed by the Board of Directors. This group reports to the said Board.

Drawn up in Paris, 12 November 2001.

The Chairman

Jacques BEAUDOIN

The General Secretary

Laurent AMALRIC

The General Manager

Pierre HAEIN