

Position of the German Retailers' Working Group on Living Wages and Incomes on Trade Unions

In regard with the recent events in Ecuador and Guatemala, the German Retailers Working Group on Living Income and Living Wages, wish to emphasise our commitment to respect human rights at all stages of our members' supply chains. We strongly believe in the essential role played by workers' representations in improving working conditions in the banana industry and making it more sustainable.

For this reason, we consider the strengthening of workers' representation in the banana sector as a significant achievement in our roadmap towards promoting decent working conditions and a dignified life for all employees in this industry. We trust that human rights defenders within these workers' representations will be able to express their opinions freely, without fear of reprisals, in line with the principles set out in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

We wish to emphasise that we maintain a position of zero tolerance for any activity that goes against human rights, and that this is fully reflected comprehensively in our members' sourcing strategies. We urge all actors in our members' supply chains to consider these commitments in relation to their daily activities.

Sincerely,
German Retailers Working Group on Living Income and Living Wages



On behalf of



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

Implemented by



Initiative for Sustainable
Agricultural Supply Chains