

Whistle Blowing Policy

SEPTEMBER 2023, VERSION 2

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies of Union Aid Abroad:

Complaints Policy

Child protection policy and Code of Conduct

Staff Code of Conduct

1. What is a Whistleblower?

A whistleblower is a member of staff, volunteer, contractor or partner who reports suspected wrong-doing, including suspicion of fraud, misuse of resources, neglect of duties or a risk to health and safety.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA requires directors, officers and employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. As employees and representatives of the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, we must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling our responsibilities and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

2. Reporting Responsibility

This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable employees and others to raise serious concerns internally so that Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA can address and correct inappropriate conduct and actions. It is the responsibility of all board members, officers, employees and volunteers to report concerns about violations of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's code of conduct or suspected violations of law or regulations that govern Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's operations.

3. No Retaliation

It is contrary to the values of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA for anyone to retaliate against any board member, officer, employee or volunteer who in good faith reports an ethics violation, or a suspected violation of law, such as a complaint of discrimination, or suspected fraud, or suspected violation of any regulation governing the operations of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA. An employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.

4. Reporting Procedure

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has an open door policy and suggests that employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions or complaints with their supervisor. As an employee, if you are not comfortable speaking with your supervisor or you are not satisfied with your supervisor's response, you are encouraged to speak with the Executive Officer. Supervisors and managers are required to report complaints or concerns about suspected ethical and legal violations in writing to the Executive Officer, who has the responsibility to investigate all reported complaints. Employees with concerns or complaints may also submit their concerns in writing directly to their supervisor or the Executive Officer. Complaints regarding the Executive Officer are directed to the Chairperson.

Union Aid Abroad's Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that all complaints about unethical or illegal conduct are investigated and resolved. The Executive Officer will advise the Committee of Management of all formal complaints and their resolution and will report at least annually to the Finance and Risk Committee on compliance activity relating to accounting or alleged financial improprieties should they occur.

5. Accounting and Auditing Matters

The Executive Officer shall immediately notify the Finance and Risk Committee of any concerns or complaint regarding corporate accounting practices, internal controls or auditing and work with the committee until the matter is resolved.

6. Acting in Good Faith

Anyone filing a written complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation. Any allegations that prove not to be substantiated and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense.

7. Confidentiality

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis by the complainant. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

8. Handling of Reported Violations

Union Aid Abroad's Executive Officer will notify the person who submitted a complaint and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation. All reports will be promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by the investigation.

Document Control

Version	Revision Description	Approved by Board (date)
1	Original	June 2018
2	Review, no substantial changes	September 2023