**Atradius re report on export credits & human rights**

12 January 2015

*Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Atradius to respond to the following report:*

         “Export Credits & Human Rights: Failure to Protect”, ECA Watch, Dec 2014: <http://www.halifaxinitiative.org/sites/halifaxinitiative.org/files/ECAs%20Failure%20to%20Protect_0.pdf>

*Atradius sent us the following response:*

“The Dutch government follows a balanced export policy in which Dutch export is promoted and responsible business conduct is stimulated. A thorough ex-ante due diligence process is in place ensuring that, export transactions and foreign investments are only supported if they are not associated in any way with bribery or the violation of core labour standards and have no unacceptable environmental or social impacts. In addition, we would like to emphasize that the export credit facility of the Dutch government is an insurance instrument to support Dutch export, and in that respect, different from existing development aid instruments.

As an Export Credit Agency it is our policy to execute environmental & social due diligence according to the OECD Common Approaches for officially supported export credits. Prior to support we have performed an adequate due diligence for the Suape transactions in order to seek assurance by weighing  the positive, neutral and negative impacts  in relation to any relevant environmental and social risks associated with the project. We also took our responsibility in engaging with NGO Both Ends during and after the due diligence process for the project.

For more information our CSR policy & our environmental & social due diligence process please see our website: <http://www.atradiusdutchstatebusiness.nl/dsben/cr/index.html>”