

ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY AND GOOD PRACTICES

	DATE	BACKROUND OF THE DOCUMENT
VERSIONS		
V1	November 2018	French law of December 9, 2016 on transparency, the fight against corruption and the modernization of economic life.
V2	14 December 2023	French law of March 21, 2022 aimed at improving the protection of whistleblowers



ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY

ISSUES:

The BOIRON group attaches great importance to **Transparency** and **Ethics** in relationships between all the participants to its project.

The French law of December 9, 2016 obliges companies to fight against corruption and influence peddling, which has led us to set up a system of self-protection within all our subsidiaries.

We consider this requirement as an opportunity to describe the Ethics expected by everyone in their business relationships.

We hope that everyone, in the exercise of their functions, will **preserve the integrity and good reputation of the group**.

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION:

- Respect and enforce compliance with this **anti-corruption policy** in the entire group in France and internationally;
- Ensure that our requirements are met by our partners, customers, service providers, intermediaries and suppliers.

OUR POLICY GUIDELINES:

- Identify and assess corruption risks;
- Define and enforce **expected behaviors** to avoid corruption;
- Train and inform employees and partners of the group's anti-corruption policy;
- Allow employees and partners to act as a whistleblower in case of conduct or situation contrary to our policy;
- Set up procedures to evaluate customers, first rank suppliers and intermediaries;
- Regularly assess the effectiveness of the anti-corruption prevention system.

Valérie Lorentz Poinsot General Manager Jean-Christophe Bayssat Deputy General Manager Chief Pharmacist



SCOPE OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY

The anti-corruption policy of the Boiron group applies to all directors, officers, and associate/ employees of the BOIRON group as well as to external agents, customers, suppliers, partners, and other third-party representatives that, on behalf of the Boiron group, have conducted business outside of the US or interacted with non-US government officials (or who are likely to do so).

It is applicable wherever the BOIRON group carries out an activity, whether or not through a subsidiary. In any event, local laws which may be stricter than the Boiron policy must be respected.

GENERAL RULES

In general, active corruption (act of corruption) consists in attempting to influence or influencing the action or decision of a private or public person by a donation, the promise of a donation (present, money, meal, travel, service, sponsorship etc.), especially for the purpose of obtaining special favors or advantages.

Passive corruption (act of being corrupted) involves accepting a promise or donation, or receiving a donation in exchange for a leverage, an action or a decision.

Influence peddling refers to a person monetizing his/her position or authority, whether real or supposed, in order to influence a decision to be taken by a third party. It involves three participants: the beneficiary (the one who provides benefits or gifts), the intermediary (the one who uses the influence he/she has because of his/her position) and the target person who has the decision-making power (public authority or official, judge, expert etc.).

Active or passive corruption and influence peddling engage the personal responsibility of the associate/ employees and exposes him to disciplinary sanctions pronounced by the company, but also to criminal penalties (fines and imprisonment) according to the applicable laws.

Under the FCPA (US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977), Boiron group employees and agents are prohibited from directly or indirectly making, promising, authorizing, or offering *anything of value* to a non-US government official on behalf of the Boiron group to secure an improper advantage, obtain or retain business, or direct business to any other person or entity, including prohibition of payments to third-parties where the Boiron group agent or employee knows, or has reason to know, that the third-party will use any part of the payment for bribes.

Individuals who violate the FCPA may also be subject to imprisonment and fines. The penalties for violating the FCPA are severe. Generally, the company may also be severely punished by fines or by a ban on carrying on its business for a violation of the anti-corruption laws covered by this policy.

Expected behavior:

It is important to be very cautious about our behavior and to ask ourselves the following questions:

- Are laws and regulations respected?
- Is it in accordance with BOIRON policy and the interest of the group?
- Is it devoid of personal interest?
- Would I be embarrassed if my decision becomes public?
- Have I acted in a transparent manner?

In the event of any questions, lack of understanding or doubt concerning a situation or practice likely to be considered as corruption, any employee shall immediately seek advice on how to conduct himself from his supervisor/manager, the Legal Department and/or the Internal Audit Department.



SPECIFIC RULES

GIFTS, COURTESY GESTURES, HOSPITALITY INVITATIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT:

Definitions:

Gifts are benefits of any kind given by someone as a sign of gratitude or friendship, without expecting anything in return.

Hospitality invitations usually include the cost of refreshments, meals, travel or accommodation.

Entertainment includes attending shows, concerts or sporting events.

Expected behavior:

Special attention should be paid to gifts, courtesy gestures, invitations and hospitality, entertainment, whether received or given, because even if they may be a way to promote good relationships, they can also constitute a way to influence a decision, to favor a business/ prefer a company or a person to another.

Where applicable, you should scrupulously comply with the specific provisions and internal procedures governing benefits granted to people working in a healthcare profession, to students studying for such a profession, or to associations bringing together such people, as well as those relating to the transparency of links with healthcare professionals. In this respect, please contact the people in charge of these issues within the Group, in particular the Legal Department or the Regulatory Affairs Department.

The following rules should be followed for gifts received:

- They must be infrequent/ rare and not become common practice;
- The amounts must be of a reasonable amount;
- They must be able to be shared with other non-decision-making staff members;
- They must never be of a financial nature: loan, cash or equivalent to cash (e.g. vouchers);
- They must not be subject to any compensation;
- During a period of call for tender or renegotiation of contracts, they must be systematically refused;
- They must be made in a transparent manner with regard to supervisors/ managers.

For gifts given:

- They must be infrequent/ rare and not become common practice;
- The amounts must be reasonable in relation to the context of the country where the gift is offered (e.g. box of chocolates, flowers);
- They must never be of financial nature: loan, cash or equivalent to cash (e.g. vouchers);
- They must not be subject to any compensation;

- They are prohibited during a period of call for tender or renegotiation of contracts;
- They must be made in a transparent manner with regard to supervisors/ managers;
- They must be traceable in the company accounts;
- If the gifts are intended for healthcare professionals, students training for such professions, or associations of such persons, they must comply with the specific rules applicable to benefits granted to these persons.

- A supplier sends you every time at the year-end holidays a box of chocolate, a bottle of champagne, a gift basket, a bouquet of flowers or a ticket for a show: such a gift is acceptable, provided however you inform your boss and that the gift is shared in turn with all members of your non-decision-making department. During a period of call for tender the gift must be refused.
- A customer or supplier invites you to a prestigious restaurant (meal value: \$150) outside of any period of call for tender: you must refuse because the value of the meal is too high in relation to BOIRON's policy.
- In return for promoting our products in the pharmacy, you wish to give pharmacists supermarket vouchers worth less than €50: this is prohibited, as it is equivalent to a cash donation. This may also constitute a violation of the possible rules governing the promotion of medicines and/or the possible rules governing benefits granted to healthcare professionals if any in your country.
- I'd like to invite a doctor to lunch for a reasonable amount (value of the meal: \$30) and offer him samples and Boiron pens: it's advisable to check the local rules governing benefits granted to healthcare professionals, which may limit the spending limit, the number of invitations, the gift of samples and office supplies, etc.



RELATIONSHIPS WITH PUBLIC OFFICERS:

Definitions:

The term "public officer" means:

Any official, representative or employee, elected or appointed by a government or ministry, of a government agency, an international public organization or a company belonging, even partially, to a government (ministers, members of parliament, elected officials, agents, judges, civil servants including public hospital doctors etc.), as well as political leaders and candidates for a public election.

Expected behavior:

Any relationship with a public officer must be in accordance with the regulations. It is strictly forbidden to grant any kind of benefit to a public officer.

In all cases, BOIRON associates/ employees shall:

- Act in an honest and transparent manner, informing their supervisor/manager beforehand;
- Never offer anything to a public officer,

- Not make facilitation payments, i.e. unofficial payments (as opposed to official duties and taxes) paid to facilitate or expedite any formality including administrative procedures such as requests for marketing authorizations for our products, customs clearance, licenses, visas etc., except in cases of force majeure by decision of the General Management of the group,

- Two employees (at least) should go to meetings with a public officer.

- As part of the application to obtain a marketing authorization for one of our new products, a public officer of the drug agency requests that you pay him personally \$200 to place the file "at the top of the pile". Your customers are looking forward to this new drug and you may have to pay them late payments: it is a facilitation payment that must be strictly refused regardless of the amount. When faced with a situation such as this, you should in any event inform your supervisor.
- The same refusal must be made to a customs officer who asks you to pay him personally a sum of money in order to unblock the customs clearance of the goods. Here again, you should inform your supervisor.



DONATIONS TO CHARITABLE OR POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS:

Definitions:

Donations and grants to organizations or associations, political parties or leaders are benefits given in the form of money and/or contributions in kind. They are granted for a specific purpose: research, training, the environment, for charitable, humanitarian and political purposes.

Political contributions, whether monetary or otherwise, are intended to support political parties, leaders or initiatives. These are strictly forbidden. The political commitment of BOIRON employees must be solely confined to the private sphere.

Expected behavior:

In all cases, BOIRON associates must:

- Obtain prior authorization from the General Management of the group if the donation is made in the name of BOIRON,
- Donations must be transparently recorded in the accounts of the company and be the subject of a contract which will specify the purpose of the donation and the use expected thereof,
- The donation must have only a charitable aim and should not give rise to any further compensation,
- Donations to political parties or leaders from BOIRON resources are prohibited. Associates must use exclusively their own financial means and property in the context of their personal political involvement. They must be careful not to harm the reputation of BOIRON and be vigilant about the perception that any third party might have of your political actions,
- where applicable, they must comply with the rules applicable to benefits granted to healthcare professionals, students preparing for such a profession, or associations of such persons.

- You attend a meeting of a political party during where a fundraising is organized, and you know that its candidate could make decisions favorable to BOIRON if elected: you can contribute to the fundraising but only in your own name. Under no circumstances, will you be authorized to make an expense report to obtain reimbursement of the funds from BOIRON.
- A charitable association to fight a serious disease is collecting funds for research: the donation to such an association will not be banned *per se*, but will have to be approved by the General Management of the group. In addition, a contract will have to be established between BOIRON and the association specifying the aims of the donation and its use, as well as its purely charitable nature.



PHILANTHROPY, SPONSORING:

Definition:

Through philanthropy or sponsoring, the company wishes to provide financial or material support for a work, or a social, cultural or sporting activity as a means of communicating and promoting its values.

In principle, philanthropy and sponsoring are prohibited except in exceptional cases duly authorised by the General Management of the group.

Expected behaviour:

In all cases, BOIRON associates must:

- Obtain prior authorisation from the General Management of the group,
- Not seek direct benefits from the beneficiary (other than promotion of the corporate image),
- The actions of philanthropy or sponsoring must be traceable in the company accounts,
- Where applicable, they must comply with the rules applicable to benefits granted to healthcare professionals, students preparing for such a profession, or associations of such persons.

Example:

A sporting event takes place in your city and you consider that BOIRON should be a sponsor of the event: you must obtain the authorisation of the general management of the group and check with the competent departments of the BOIRON group that the sponsoring, as well as the possible promotion of BOIRON medicines (via the affixing of trademarks to displays, flags, T-shirts etc.) and any other action on behalf of BOIRON, do not infringe regulations, nor harm BOIRON's reputation.



CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Definition:

Conflicts of interest arise from any situation in which employees' activities or personal interests are in conflict with their professional duties or responsibilities.

Expected behaviour:

If circumstances give rise to a potential or proven conflict of interest, associates/employees must:

- Be transparent and report it to their supervisor;
- Ensure that the decision is not influenced or determined by another interest than the interest of the company.

- A member of the marketing team proposes you to sign a new contract with a supplier whose commercial conditions are very advantageous compared to usual practices. He tells you that this situation is due to the fact that one of the partners of the supplier is his brother-in-law. Your employee has the merit of having been transparent on his family ties and not having directly signed the contract. As the commercial conditions are not standard conditions, the negotiation and possible signature of the contract must be made between persons who have no connection between them.
- Your spouse is the owner of a pharmacy that is a BOIRON customer: You must inform your manager.
- Recruitment is underway within your department and you suggest to your nephew to apply: You must
 indicate to your superior this family connection.



APPLYING THE CODE

Training-Information:

Associates are required to take note of the BOIRON anti-corruption policy and good practices and to participate in the training and awareness sessions that are organized (including e-learning).

Accounting records/Internal controls:

The company must ensure that its accounting departments and/or internal and/or external auditors are attentive in their controls to the concealment of corrupt practices in books, records and accounts.

People working on accounting control missions (audits, certification of accounts) must be particularly vigilant as to the faithfulness and sincerity of the accounts.

Reporting non-compliant practices:

Any employee who disinterestedly and in good faith reports a potential violation of BOIRON's Anti-Corruption Policy and Good Practices will be protected from any form of retaliation.

All employees are expected to share their doubts and/or questions with their superiors and/or the Ethics Committee. They can also lodge a whistle-blowing complaint in accordance with the procedure defined by the Group:

- if faced with a risk of corruption;
- if they are confronted with a breach of probity;

- if they believe that a breach of BOIRON anti-corruption policy and good practices has been, is being or may be committed.

Sanctions for breaches of these Good Practices:

Failure to comply with the rules will engage the employee's personal responsibility and expose him/her to penalties, particularly criminal penalties, in accordance with applicable legislation.

The company undertakes to:

- Take all declarations into account;
- Diligently investigate alerts;
- Evaluate the facts objectively and impartially;
- Take appropriate corrective measures and disciplinary action.

Implementation: responsibility and monitoring:

It is the responsibility of each employee to ensure that the Good Anti-Corruption Practices are implemented. The company carries out periodic checks to ensure that practices are compliant.

The company's and/or the Group's governance bodies regularly monitor implementation and follow up on alerts.