



Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

Why is this Group Procedure important?	<p>Our commitment to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR) and respect for human rights is the key driver in our security management practices and this procedure governs how we identify the potential for conflict, adhere to the use of force and rules of engagement principles, and establish transparent agreements when interacting with public and private security forces.</p> <p>This procedure must be read in conjunction with the <i>Security Group Standard</i>.</p>
Audience	Anyone responsible for managing security, and the implementing and monitoring of the VPSHR.
Legend	<p><i>Glossary terms</i> are in italics.</p> <p>Hyperlink to another document or to an intranet site or website.</p> <p><i>Reference</i> to another AGA document without a hyperlink.</p>

You must comply with AGA Group-wide Procedures to the extent they apply

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Conflict and Risk Management

Identifying the risks associated with conflict, requires robust security threat and risk assessments, to inform appropriate mitigation measures to protect our people and assets.

- Complete the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR) Implementation Guidance Toolkit (IGT) assessment annually using the Conflict Prevention Tool as a guide when completing the assessment.
- Complete the Security Conflict Risk Barometer tool monthly, or more frequently as required to assess the potential for conflict.
- Always adhere to the use of force continuum. The amount of force used must be proportionate to eliminate the threat, minimizing the risk and severity of an injury that may occur, and dependant on the situation at hand and within the parameters of the specific country legislation. The circumstances of each situation must dictate the level of force to be applied, depending on the circumstances, requiring escalation or de-escalation of the level of force, and will also determine the “rules of engagement” in what type of weaponry may be used.
- Provide medical treatment if injury occurs to any person in the event of force being used.

Interaction with Private Security

Interacting with private security providers (in-house and outsourced security) must be done in a way that ensures respect for human rights.

- Source private security services in accordance with the *Procurement Group Standard* and the [International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers](#) and aligned to our local content obligations.
- Require all private security providers to confirm that they have reviewed the *Security Group Standard* and this procedure and agree in a written agreement to operate in accordance with it, including that they will:
 - abide by the [VPSHR](#), and other internationally applicable laws and regulations, as well as AGA’s policies, standards and procedures on human rights, security and use of weaponry
 - thoroughly check the background, qualifications and competence of its employees who will be providing a security service to AGA and provide evidence of this, to AGA, upon request
 - provide, to AGA, evidence of periodic VPSHR training of its employees
 - update AGA if there are any material changes to this information.
- Assess the preferred private security service providers in consultation with Group Security prior to final adjudication and award of the contract.
- Document and implement a local procedure governing the use of weaponry by security forces. Prohibit the possession of privately owned firearms and or ammunition while on duty.

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Interaction with Public Security

Interacting with public security providers (government forces and state security agencies) must be done in a way that ensures respect for human rights.

- Require public security providers to confirm that they have reviewed the *Security Group Standard* and this procedure and agree in a written Memorandum of Understanding to operate in accordance with it, including that they will:
 - abide by the [VPSHR](#), [UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials](#), [Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials](#) and other internationally applicable laws and regulations, as well as AGA's policies, standards and procedures on human rights, security and use of weaponry
 - thoroughly check the background, qualifications and competence of its employees who will be providing a security service to AGA and provide evidence of this, to AGA, upon request
 - provide, to AGA, evidence of periodic VPSHR training of its employees
 - update AGA if there are any material changes to this information.
- Engage with representatives of the host government and public security agencies about the impact of security arrangements on local communities and keep a record of engagements and any commitments made.

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