



## AusNCP authority and establishment

**1976:** Australia adhered to the [OECD Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises](#) (Investment Declaration). The [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises for Responsible Business Conduct](#) (OECD Guidelines) forms one part of the Investment Declaration.

**2000–2018:** The Australian National Contact Point operated within the Foreign Investment Division of the Department of the Treasury (Treasury).

**2017–2018:** Treasury commissioned an independent review to evaluate the Australian National Contact Point and agreed to reforms to improve its operations, impartiality and resourcing.

**2019:** The function moved to Treasury's Corporations Branch and was remodelled into the Australian National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (AusNCP), a hybrid structure made up of a Secretariat, Independent Examiners and a multi-stakeholder governance and advisory board.



## AusNCP roles and responsibilities

The [AusNCP](#) delivers the Australian Government's responsibilities as an adherent to the Investment Declaration and the OECD Guidelines.

The AusNCP promotes responsible business conduct under the OECD Guidelines and related [Due Diligence Guidance](#). In addition, the AusNCP provides a non-judicial grievance mechanism to help resolve [complaints](#) about multinational enterprises not implementing the OECD Guidelines in specific instances.

The OECD Guidelines are internationally agreed responsible business conduct standards that multinational enterprises operating in or from adhering countries are expected to follow.

The OECD Guidelines' responsible business conduct standards cover a broad range of topics, including disclosure, human rights, the environment, consumer interests, competition and taxation.



## AusNCP structure and location

The AusNCP has a three-part structure:

- 1. AusNCP Secretariat**, in Treasury's Digital Policy and Corporations Division, oversees the AusNCP function and leads Australia's responsible business conduct responsibilities under the Investment Declaration domestically and internationally.
- 2. Independent Examiners** are experts contracted by Treasury to handle AusNCP complaints involving multinational enterprises operating in or from Australia.
- 3. AusNCP Governance and Advisory Board**, with representatives from Australian Government agencies, the business community, civil society and unions. Members of this Board promote responsible business conduct and the OECD Guidelines through their networks, and provide advice and support to Independent Examiners on their management of complaints.