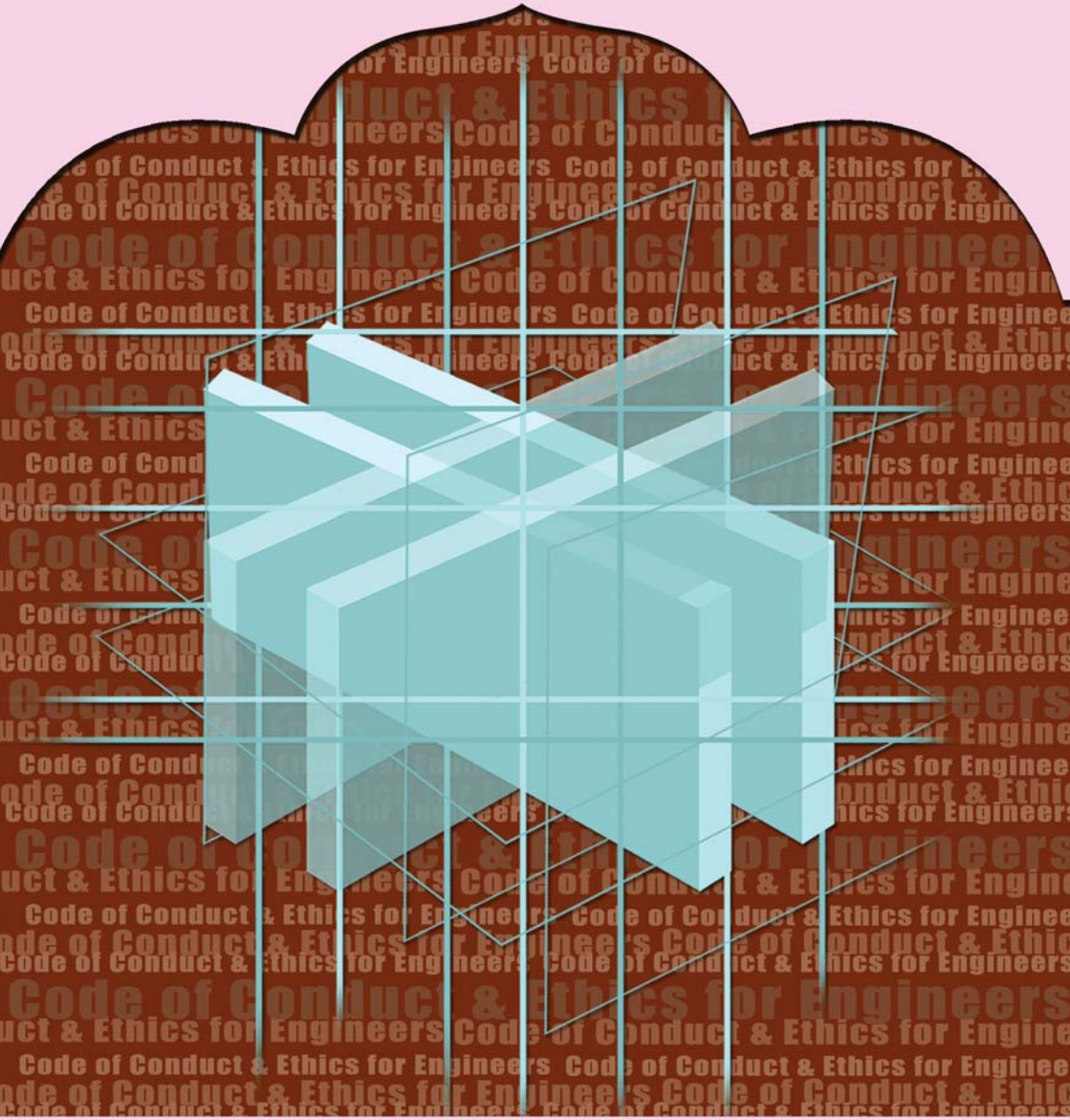
Code of Conduct and Ethics for Engineers



Ministry of Works & Human Settlement
Thimphu: Bhutan

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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
MINISTRY OF WORKS & HUMAN SETTLEMENT
POLICY & PLANNING DIVISION
THIMPHU : BHUTAN
"Towards Quality Infrastructure"

MINISTER

3rd April, 2006

FORWARD

The 2nd Annual Engineering Conference held in 2005 had unanimously resolved that all players in the construction industry shall subscribe to and uphold the Code of Conduct and Ethics for Engineers. As engineers, both in public and private sector, continue to play a critical role in the infrastructure development of our country, a higher standard of professionalism and ethics must be maintained at all times.

It is incumbent upon every engineer to uphold the values, rules, standards and moral principles that govern the conduct in the engineering profession.

The Ministry of Works & Human Settlement, as an implementing agency, is pleased to issue the Code of Conduct and Ethics for Engineers. It is my sincere hope that our engineers will build their career based on the very foundation of the core values of honesty, integrity, sincerity and selflessness.

Zhabtog Lyonpo

Definition:

Ethics is defined as a set of values, rules, standards or moral principles that govern the conduct of the individual or member of a profession.

Pledge:

We, the Engineers of Bhutan, in recognition of the privilege and honor to serve the ***Tsa Wa Sum***, in recognition of the possibilities of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world, and in acceptance of our personal obligation to the profession, pledge to respect and abide by the following ethics:

a. **Responsibility and Obligation towards the Engineering Profession.**

b. **Responsibility and Obligation towards Public, Employers and Clients.**

c. **Responsibility for Human Society's Welfare, Safety and Health.**

d. **Responsibility for Research and Professional Development.**

e. **Responsibility to Preserve and Protect the Natural Environment.**

f. **Responsibility to Preserve and Promote Cultural and Traditional Values.**

(A)

Responsibility and Obligation Towards the Engineering Profession.

A1. Engineers shall not knowingly act in a manner which will be derogatory to the honor, integrity, or dignity of the engineering profession or knowingly engage in business or professional practices of a fraudulent, dishonest or unethical nature.

A2. Offer services, opinions and advice on or undertake engineering assignments only in areas of their competence and field of specialization in a careful and diligent manner.

A3. Report to concerned agencies any illegal or unethical engineering decisions or practices of engineers or others.

A4. An engineer shall prevent his/her personal or political involvement from influencing or compromising their professional role or responsibility.

A5. An engineer must safeguard his professional independence at all times and avoid any situation which would put him in conflict of interest.

A6. An engineer must respect the secrecy of all confidential information obtained in the practice of his profession, unless otherwise approved by law or client.

A7. An Engineer shall not participate or contribute to the illegal practice of profession.

A8. An engineer shall not take upon himself the credit for engineering work which belongs to a colleague or other group.

A9. An engineer must honestly and truthfully share the knowledge and experience gained during the practice of the profession.

A10. Engineers shall not participate in the dissemination of untrue, unfair or exaggerated statements regarding engineering.

A11. Engineers shall be objective and truthful in professional reports, statements, or testimony.

A12. Engineers shall not maliciously or falsely, directly or indirectly, injure the professional reputation, prospects, practice or employment of another engineer or indiscriminately criticize another's work.

(B)

Responsibility and Obligation Towards Public, Employers and Clients.

B1. Engineers shall not accept professional employment outside of their regular work or interest without the knowledge of their employers.

B2. Engineers shall not use any confidential information as a tool for personal gain if such action affects the interests of the public, clients or the employers.

B3. Engineers shall act as an honest agent or trustee of the employer or client in regard to engineering and technical matters.

B4. Engineers shall maintain a fair and impartial attitude towards the public, employers and clients.

B5. Engineers shall, in the practice of his/her profession, subordinate his personal interest to that of his employer or clients.

B6. Engineers shall conduct themselves with fairness, and good faith towards clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as give, honest and fair professional criticism.

B7. Engineers shall advocate and practice the judicious use of resources belonging to public, employers or clients.

(C)

Responsibility for Human Society's Welfare, Safety and Health.

C1. Engineers shall not make any engineering judgments, decisions and adopt practices that are detrimental to the welfare, safety and health of the general public.

C2. Engineers shall inform, communicate and educate the society on the issues of engineering that may be detrimental to the health and safety of the general public.

C3. Engineers shall work for the enhancement of safety, health, and the social welfare of both their local and the global community through the practice of sustainable development.

C4. Engineers shall strive at all times to improve the living condition of the people in the society by providing low-cost housing, clean drinking water, safe electricity, convenient roads and other infrastructural requirements.

C5. During national disasters or emergencies, engineers shall make their knowledge, services and skills freely available when called upon to help and alleviate conditions of the affected members of the society.

C6. Engineers shall not adopt, advocate or practice any form of construction or the use of construction materials that would directly or indirectly affect the health and the safety of the users and the community.

(D)

Responsibility for Research and Professional Development.

D1. Engineers shall keep themselves informed in order to maintain their competence, strive to advance the body of knowledge within which they practise and provide opportunities for the professional development of the subordinates and fellow practitioners.

D2. Engineers shall strive to acquire knowledge and skills through appropriate research endeavors aimed at advancing the technology for the sake of mankind and his environment.

D3. Engineers shall be aware of the global technological changes, but adapt, synthesize and implement to cater to the local needs.

D4. Engineers while duly publishing their professional experiences in any kind of print media shall not practise any form of plagiarism.

D5. Engineers shall endeavor to conduct researches in the various fields of engineering that are truly pertinent to the interest and the benefit of the country and its people.

D6. Engineers while representing their country or a society or any organization at an international or national forum, must not conduct, both personally and professionally, in a manner that is derogatory to the prestige of the country, its people and the organization being represented.

(E)

Responsibility to Preserve and Protect the Natural Environment.

E1. Engineers should be committed to improving the environment by adherence to the principles of sustainable development so as to enhance the quality of community and global life.

E2. Engineers shall respect and work with nature and the global environment for the sustainable development of mankind.

E3. Engineers shall reject any kind of action that involves unfair damages to human surroundings and nature, and aim for the best possible technical, social and political solution.

E4. Engineers shall strive to accomplish the useful objectives with the lowest possible consumption of raw materials and energy and the lowest production of wastes and any kind of pollution.

E5. Engineers shall study thoroughly the environment that will be affected, assess all the impacts that might arise in the structure, dynamics and aesthetics of the ecosystems involved, urbanized or natural, and select the best alternative for development that is both environmentally sound and sustainable.

E6. Engineers shall adopt environment-friendly methods of construction, production and practice, including the safe and hygienic disposal of hazardous wastes.

(F)

Responsibility to Preserve and Promote Cultural and Traditional Values

F1. Engineers shall endeavor to preserve and promote the national culture and tradition during the course of professional practice.

F2. Engineers shall, wherever possible, incorporate the designs and drawings aimed at promoting the rich cultural and architectural heritage of the nation.

F3. Engineers shall strive to preserve, promote and improve the traditional arts and crafts- ***Zorig Chusum,*** through the use of modern technology and appropriate research activities.

F4. Engineers shall strive to give due regard and respects to the spiritual objects of veneration and must endeavor at all times to preserve them.

F5. Engineers shall not undertake any professional or non-professional activities that would endanger the spiritual, cultural and social values of the nation.

F6. Engineers shall work hand-in-hand with the traditional artisans and craftsmen/craftswomen as and when the situation demands and must duly respect and regard them.

References:

- The World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO) Codes of Ethics.
- The Japan Society of Civil Engineers(JSCE) Code of Ethics.
- The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Code of Ethics.
- National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Code of Ethics.
- Code of Ethics, The Institution of Engineers, Australia.
- Professional Engineers(Code of Professional Conduct & Ethics) Rules, Singapore.
- American Council of Engineering Companies Ethical Guidelines.
- Code of Ethics of the Order of Quebec Engineers (OIQ)
- The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code of Ethics.
- The Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Code of Ethics.

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