

Ethical Code of Conduct (ECC)

within SU 2 The Next Level – Lijst Basier (SU2TNL)

Version: 1.0 - full text – (this document shall be translated to Dutch at a later point in time)

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I. Purpose of this document

“To inform and persuade all endorsers, volunteers, staff, and the people of Suriname, as well as all other people who wish to follow suit, of an ethical code that is appropriate to support a new international people movement SU2TNL, aimed at poverty eradication, the promotion of harmony, happiness, solidarity, decency, good manners and connection among people.

II. Introduction

SU2TNL is an international movement for emancipation, promotion of solidarity, poverty eradication, voter education and Smart Governance. It is for and by people from Suriname who believe in the predestination of the great people of Suriname with its rich cultures that have depth and sophistication, as bringers of peace, trade, economic cooperation, integration, exchange of art, culture, harmony and solidarity to all of humanity.

SU2TNL is to a large extent an informal community that fosters a culture of personal leadership, kindness, self organizing and self managing teams within which each individual has a personal responsibility to comply with this ECC as well as relevant local laws and regulations and where each individual is personally liable for his or her actions. It is a community that celebrates humanity's enormous positive potential for good and wishes not to progress the divisive overly polarizing path of party politics which has become a dominant culture promoted through western and world politics¹.

When the word "we" or "our" is used in this document, what is meant are the individual or group of individuals who all agree to this ECC (Ethical Code of Conduct). This is not an enforced document. Individuals that support SU2TNL are called "Endorsers" and are persons that consciously and voluntarily decide to automatically accept and adhere to this ECC protocol by participating in actions and events that are related to SU2TNL and SU2TNL related initiatives. Who does not support this ECC is respectfully requested not to participate in SU2TNL events and initiatives.

Where needed and only for specific practical causes, SU2TNL leadership and endorsers may decide to set up separate legal structures which could have more formalized and stricter ethical rules which shall always respect this ECC.

III. Representation

The official SU2TNL brand and all words or combinations of words that cause any resemblance with SU2TNL, "SU 2 THE NEXT LEVEL" are owned and managed through www.su2thenextlevel.sr and www.su2thenextlevel.org. These are the 2 only official channels through which SU2TNL formally communicates and through which SU2TNL can be formally approached and contacted. Future communication of political candidate names, rewards, ratings and all other formal SU2TNL communication is only official when conducted through www.su2thenextlevel.sr and www.su2thenextlevel.org.

1. Risk assessment

A habit of regular integral risk assessment is at the foundation of SU2TNL's approach to ethics. It is also a foundation of SU2TNL as a creative endeavor and at the heart of all actions pursued by SU2TNL's campaign management, the community of SU2TNL endorsers and within volunteer organizing efforts. This document entails the Ethical Code of Conduct and is a living document that will be updated over time if deemed needed.

To make sure volunteers, employees, endorsers and supporters all contribute in an aligned and constructive manner, and to make sure we can inform stakeholders, sponsors and potential donation providers about our ethics approach, we want to highlight and summarize key risks and risk areas which require our joint and ongoing risk mitigating efforts:

¹ The 1796 farewell speech by the US's 1st president George Washington and his critical notions concerning party politics serves as one important guide pole

a. Sectoral risk

Society knows many risks and social as well as political initiatives engage in sectors where there can be high-risk. Especially new innovative political initiatives may incur increased inherent risk due to its nature. There may be many scams and regulation is often not in place to protect stakeholders. Depending on the sector of focus (e.g. Healthcare, Mining, Social Affairs, Education or Public Accounting & Supervision) different risk profiles may apply.

b. Legal & regulatory risk

As with any new emerging global industry or innovative landscape, regulators across many nations struggle with or try to chart new regulation for innovation. Political innovation using big-data, a heart driven ethical yet pragmatic approach, AI and high-tech solutions from a worldwide viewpoint, is in the early and beginning stages. As society, the international and local regulatory spaces undergo changes while much dialogue and collective thinking is ongoing, this creates regulatory uncertainty and risks for pioneers. Risks that require mitigation.

c. Communication and reputation risk

During civil initiatives towards better governance and political initiatives there is heightened risk of communicating wrong or false expectations to stakeholders about meaning and usage of emerging new technologies as well as practical messages, projects and initiatives. This also requires mitigation.

d. Operational and other risks

A wide range of operational risks, market risks, political risks, financial planning, forecasting & controlling risks or good governance are relevant. A detailed listing of the several types of risk that we assess on a regular basis within SU2TNL is therefore captured in our internal "Integral Risk Assessment Checklist Tool". We use this to train our endorsers and workgroups that might be set up to advise candidates and SU2TNL leadership teams. We do so to create appropriate awareness, foster the appropriate constructive debate culture, to use it, to ask questions and to contribute to building our community. Also to help pioneer in the thought leadership that will be needed to jointly build Suriname 2 The and bring it to THE NEXT LEVEL.

e. Pay for play risk

Since Suriname and many countries do not have balanced and well though thru campaign finance laws, there is enhanced risk of campaign sponsors and donation providers requiring predefined actions that benefit few at the expense of many in ways that are outside of the public eye and do not under the healthy scrutiny of popular elections. The ethical and professional dilemma with such instances is that on the one the hand it should be able for the public to support politicians of their choosing, yet on the other hand a society in which the capital rich can buy unlimited power to support their own self interest in a manner that is not transparent and/or just too much at the expense of larger society, seems utterly unacceptable. How to deal with this? And how to deal with the subjectivity that is undeniably part of such assessments even if one wishes to advance on a ethical path? When is much, "too much" as noted in the prior sentence?

The way campaign finance practices have developed in Suriname and many countries just does not seem healthy yet examples from other supposedly more advanced countries do not seem to be perfect either. The approach chosen in this ECC is that donators must agree with this code of conduct when making a donation and by doing so declare that: “they can in no way shape or form, directly or indirectly derive rights from any donation made to the SU2TNL movement”. In short: there can not be pay for play unless discussed and proposed openly within the public arena before, during and after popularly held elections.

Secondly, it is emphasized here, that local and internationally applicable laws which prohibit bribery, money laundering and terrorism financing, are to be adhered to by all SU2TNL endorsers and supporters at all times.

2. Ethical Code of Conduct (ECC)

One of the most important measures to mitigate all risks in an integral, sustainable, structural and as effective and efficient as possible manner, is to build, foster and harness a conscientious culture and an aligned "control environment" that has good ethical behavior at its core. And, that in case of unclarity about good and bad and what good ethics means, fosters and encourages open dialogue about these matters in a manner that is sensitive to their inherent subjective nature.

With this as a key objective in mind, the SU2TNL ECC, or Ethical Code of Conduct (ECC), is designed as an internal guideline, protocol, and set of principle statements that all people working within segments, work streams, working groups or just as sole endorsers within SU2TNL choose to voluntarily adhere to when participating in SU2TNL activities and events.

The SU2TNL ECC entails the following primary principle statements:

1. *We work to serve the needs of stakeholders in the local communities and who we see as our clients. We aspire to do this using the concept of “Reciprocal royalty”.*

This means treating another human being as if they were a King, Queen, Prince or Princess. Not in a way that one can be a King only when the other is the servant. No, but like Royals who all treat each other royally. Helping each other with each others heart driven dreams will lift us all. Such is the uplifting working assumption all voluntarily choose to adopt and live within SU2TNL.

2. *We work to serve humanity in its pursuit of happiness and freedom.*
3. *We work to help create true value through solutions and ideas that build up our world and our stakeholders*
4. *We work to also protect and be sensitive to the needs of our planet, it's ecosystem, flora and fauna and maintain it's sustainable nature*
5. *We keep the following 7 (clustered) value principles in the forefront of everything we do within the bounds of reason and social responsible behavior:*

- a. *Honesty,*
 - b. *Open communication,*
 - c. *Integrity,*
 - d. *Professional conduct*
 - e. *Solidarity, compassion & empathy*
 - f. *High quality (Quality definition: “meeting or exceeding customer expectations”)*
 - g. *Respect for life and other humans. Respect for local laws, regulations and the national constitution .*
6. *Solidarity, poverty eradication and compassion are at the heart of our ethical approach. Polarizing between poor and rich, different classes and by means of any differentiating factor is not a goal. Polarizing can only be constructive when it helps within the competition of good ideas, to find solutions for real world practical problems.*
7. *Whenever there is any “unclarity” with regard to any term or definition used in this Ethical Code, open constructive dialogue with the ND Protocol as a guide pole, shall be the way to overcome unclarity and create clarity. The viewpoint in this code is, that each human has a personal responsibility to contribute to such constructive debate and help drive the agenda for such dialogue. Laxness and excessive finger pointing is not a virtue that is promoted by this Code. The constructive factual and professional identification of areas for improvements is.*

3. Marketing & communication protocol

Because of the nature and background of the SU2TNL endeavour, we have included in this ECC, a Marketing & Communication protocol.

The objective of this protocol is to ensure all involved with SU2TNL, campaign volunteers, current and future staff, employees or consultants of SU2TNL voluntarily adhere to one clear and consistent guidance protocol when communicating to both external or internal persons, media, sources and/or other organizations.

This protocol consists of the following principle statements that need to be adhered to and which serve as guidelines and guide poles in case any unclarity arise regarding communication matters:

- a. *In our communication, both externally and internally, we aim to adhere to the Ethical Code of Conduct (ECC) as captured in this document.*
- b. *In cases where any one of us is unsure as to how to interpret certain terms or elements in our ECC, we consult with other SU2TNL supporters and volunteers first, then if needed with the person responsible for Communication within SU2TNL and if needed this needs to be raised at the level of the SU2TNL Management (the Chief Servant’s office or other appointed communication staff members).*

- c. *In communication matters one should apply own professional judgment as to how to comply with the ECC and should feel warmly invited to consult with Senior Management in cases of doubt or unclarity.*

4. Confidentiality

Information shared on the website and through press releases is public and can naturally be shared with others.

However, in case of communication requests from or interactions with journalists, vloggers, news-organisations, external parties and other media professionals, immediate contact should be made with the Director of Communication within SU2TNL or the responsible member of the SU2TNL Management Team (hereafter: Management).

Information that is discussed internally and not published on the website or through other formal external publications or authorization by Management, may not be shared with anyone outside of the SU2TNL organization.

Each SU2TNL endorser shall apply "professional judgement" when assessing on a case by case basis when sharing information within SU2TNL. Sharing information only on a "need to know basis" is required.

In case of doubt follow the following steps:

Firstly, ask for clarification from your colleague as to why she or he needs certain information and assess whether that is plausible.

Secondly, and if the above is insufficient, please consult with the Director of communication or immediately consult with the Management Team.

Examples:

Information about upcoming partnerships, donation proposals, market sensitive information, special internal procedures, business processes, trade secrets and other internal policies, governance, IT architecture or other protocols, financial forecasts, these are all examples of information that is to which not all persons are privy to.

4.1. Four levels of confidentiality

There are four levels of information confidentiality (clearance levels) that all SU2TNL endorsers shall be aware of and voluntarily choose to adhere to:

Level 1

Information only available to members of the SU2TNL Campaign appointed Team members

Level 2

Information that is available to the entire Campaign Team and immediate supporting senior staff / volunteers

Level 3

Information that is available for sharing with immediate supporting senior staff / volunteers and suppliers and for example just to execute a specific role given.

Level 4

Information that is available for everyone including the general public.

During the preparation and of documents and information, it shall be clearly indicated and communicated by the preparer which clearance level has been assigned to the document.

Important general background of SU2TNL

SU2TNL is a social movement for emancipation, poverty alleviation and Smart Governance in Suriname. For and by people from Suriname who believe in their predestination as bringers of peace, trade and solidarity between people and countries. SU2TNL is inspired by the international social (not socialist!) start-up WATER that aims to promote water politics in all countries of the world. In short, water politics is a connecting and cocreative philosophy, not based on parties but by encouraging honest and competent people to become politically active. This by making use of smart high-tech and political innovation by drawing lessons from political best practices. SU2TNL wishes to actively and constructively contribute to constructive citizenship in Surinam by supporting voter education, lectures and the organizing and moderating of debates and other media statements. People from all walks of life and from other countries, who support the cause of SU2TNL and the Constitution of Suriname are welcome to participate in SU2TNL. Within SU2TNL a political endeavor called LIJST BASIER has been started. Within this endeavor, there can be no participation in political elections by people who do not have a passport from Suriname. LIJST BASIER however promotes open constructive international dialogue which provides opportunity for everyone to exercise freedom of speech rights during political dialogue and solution finding efforts under protection of article 19 and 20 of the constitution of Suriname. Compliance with the constitution of Suriname remains paramount under all circumstances for all stakeholders and supporters without any exceptions. For more information visit www.su2thenextlevel.sr Copyright Shaif Basier © 2018

SURINAME 2 THE NEXT LEVEL - LIJST BASIER

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