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## ANNEXURE B: CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

**Note to Professional Bodies in general:** *These clauses have been extracted from many codes of conduct. Select which ever clauses suit your type of organisation and include additional clauses or concepts as required.*

### 1 Preamble

The purpose of Engineering is to improve living conditions for mankind, always safeguarding life, health and property. Engineering professionals needs to uphold and advance the integrity, honour and dignity of the engineering profession by being honest and impartial and serving their employers, their clients, and the public with fidelity; striving to increase the competence and prestige of the engineering profession; and using their knowledge and skill for the enhancement of human welfare.

An engineering professional:

- Is a servant of society and a promoter of culture and quality of life
- Must examine and analyse the demands of the present and anticipate future developments
- Should treat this Code as a set of dynamic principles

### 2 The Society

An engineering professional will:

- Act with integrity and have full regard to the public interest
- Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public and other colleagues in performance of their professional duties
- Endeavour to improve public knowledge of the benefits of the engineering professions
- Express professional opinion only when founded on adequate knowledge
- Reject bribery in all forms
- Seek opportunities to be of constructive service in the affairs of the broader society

### 3 The Environment

An engineering professional will:

- Understand the effect of his/her work on society and the natural environment and will further the aims of sustainable development and change
- Be committed to improving the environment and enhancing the quality of life wherever possible
- Recognise the interdependence of the planet's ecosystems and their capacity to assimilate change due to engineering activity
- Ensure minimal adverse effects on the environment
- Promote the use of renewable and recycled materials
- Strive to accomplish his/her work with the lowest possible use of natural resources

### 4 The Profession

An engineering professional will:

- Uphold the standard of his profession and will co-operate in extending the effectiveness of the profession
- Avoid any conduct likely to discredit or injure the dignity and honour of the profession
- Endeavour to protect the profession from misrepresentation

## 5 Clients / Employers

An engineering professional will:

- Act as a faithful agent of his/her client/employer and with fairness and justice to all parties
- Make clear to his/her client/employer upon appointment any interest or potential conflict of interest
- Will ensure the practices are not dangerous to life or property or if a risk exists ensure the client/employer and other parties are fully aware of the risks involved
- Clearly present the consequences to his/her client/employer if his/her engineering judgement is overruled
- Not disclose confidential information and business matters without the consent of his/her client/employer
- Not accept commissions from third parties in connection with work he/she is undertaking for a client/employer
- Disclose to his/her client/employer any interest in a business which may be in competition
- Only accept commissions in areas where his/her education, training and experience have rendered him/her competent to practice
- Advise his/her client/employer when, after studying the details of a project, he/she believes the project will not be successful
- Not accept professional work outside his/her regular employment without the knowledge of his/her employer
- Not dispose of information within a 10-year period after completing the commission/project

## 6 Fellow Engineering Professionals

An engineering professional will:

- Ensure credit for work is given to those to whom credit is due
- Afford assistance to further the education, training and professional development of him/herself, other engineering practitioners and prospective members of the profession
- Treat all colleagues and co-workers fairly and respectfully, recognising their unique contributions and capabilities by fostering an environment of equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Not injure the professional reputation, prospects, or practice of another engineering professional
- Report the facts to the appropriate authority if he/she believes another engineering professional is guilty of unethical or illegal practice.