

HO 2.8: IASC Six Rules

Adapted from IASC Six Core Principles Plain English Version, [IASC Six Core Principles | IASC / PSEA](#) ([interagencystandingcommittee.org](#)) (2019)

Rules on sexual conduct for humanitarian workers:

- Humanitarian workers can be disciplined—even fired—for unacceptable behavior in relation to sex.
- Humanitarian workers are not allowed to have sexual relationships with anyone under 18 years of age, even if it is legal in their country. Saying they did not know the person’s true age is not a valid excuse.
- Humanitarian workers are not allowed to pay for sex with money, employment, goods or services—including goods and services intended as aid to people in need. They must not use promises of these things to make other people accept any kind of behavior that humiliates or exploits them. This includes paying or offering money for sex with a prostitute.
- Humanitarian workers who might affect who gets goods and services must not have sex with anyone who may get that help. If they do, it destroys trust in the work.
- If a humanitarian worker is worried or suspects that anyone in their organization or another aid organization may be breaking humanitarian rules on sexual conduct, they must report it, following procedures set up by their agency.
- Humanitarian workers must create and maintain a work environment which prevents unacceptable sexual behavior and encourages staff to behave as set out in their Codes of Conduct. All managers are responsible for supporting and developing systems which maintain this environment.