# 10 Plagues of (Non) Fair Trade Chocolate

## Forced or Child Labor Involved
Fair Trade sites are monitored to assure that there is no forced or child labor involved with production.

## Unsafe Working Conditions
No hazardous chemicals are allowed, and working conditions comply with local, national, and international labor conventions.

## Low Wages, Often Paid Late
Wage is equitable, freely negotiated, mutually agreed upon, and presumes the payment of the "local living wage."

## Gender Inequality
There is no discrimination allowed in hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement.

## Unfair Interest Payments
Interest rates (for pre-purchase of raw materials) may not be higher than the buyers' cost of borrowing from third parties; charging interest is not required.

## Cultural Disrespect
There is no use of cultural designs without permission, appropriate recognition, and proper payment.

## Continued Poverty
Fair trade’s goal is to move small scale artisans and farmers from income insecurity and poverty to economic self-sufficiency and ownership.

## No Freedom of Association
Employees have right to form and join trade unions and bargain collectively, even when these rights are restricted by law and or political environment.

## Workplace Discrimination
All workers are treated the same regardless of race, caste, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, union membership, marital or health status.

## Environmental Degradation
Products used are non-toxic and reduce harm to the environment, and are created from new sources rather than upcycled from available materials.