With the adoption of these guidelines, the Hanseatic League of the modern era, is intended as a combination of cities which follow the traditions of honest merchants and seek fair economic and trade relations. The successors of the former long distance merchants of the Hanseatic League stand not only among themselves, but also internationally for quality, reliability, cooperation and fairness in times of globalization.

The modern Hanseatic Cities face global responsibility and adopt the following guidelines:

1. By adopting these guidelines, the Hanseatic League declares, that the vision of Fair Trade is strengthened by the support of the International Campaign Fairtrade Towns and by emphasising Fair Trade during the International Hanseatic Days.

2. The Hanseatic League encourages its members to acquire the title Fairtrade Town together with the local civil society. This affects both, the general image of the Hanseatic Cities as well as the Hanseatic League in external relations and strengthens the Hanseatic image among the citizens.

3. Hanseatic Cities certified according to the International Fairtrade Towns Campaign are highlighted as such on the website www.hanse.org.

4. The host cities of the International Hanseatic Day are responsible for the use of fair trade products, as far as possible and available. At least one market stand for providers of fair traded, ecologically and regionally traded products should be an integral part of every International Hanseatic Day.

5. At the delegates meeting, the Hanseatic Cities elect one delegate as fair trade representative, who will become an advisory member of the commission and who will implement and supplement these guidelines.

6. The Hanseatic City, which organizes the International Hanseatic Day should aim at organising official forums, workshops, seminars or conferences on the subject of fair trade.

7. If possible, fair trade should be part of the projects of the Youth Hansa during an International Hanseatic Day.