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**Tool 5: Example Risk Attitude Statements**

**Example 1:**  
In the pursuit of XXX’s strategic aims [define], it is inevitable that operational activities [include examples] will expose staff to certain threats. The organisation strives to reduce the level of risk attached to these threats by means of robust security risk management.

Risks will be considered excessive where the likelihood of a critical incident is more probable than possible, taking into account the risk mitigation measures applied.   
  
A critical incident is one which would cause the following:

* a staff member or associated personnel suffering serious physical or psychological harm; or
* the organisation’s finances or reputation suffering serious damage.

XXX works in some of the most challenging and remote environments. When programmatic needs are high, XXX may accept a higher level of risk. In such situations, an even greater emphasis on security risk management is essential.

XXX’s appetite for risk will always take account of programme objectives, the importance of what is to be achieved and the capacity to manage threats, as well as the impact of other strategic factors (such as key relationships and donor interests). Risk owners will decide on a case-by-case basis whether the specific programme objectives and intended outcomes justify accepting the assessed level of risk.

**Example 2:**  
XXX recognises that the organisation works in environments where risk cannot be entirely eliminated. Nevertheless, all practical measures must be taken to reduce risk levels as far as possible.   
  
The residual level of risk that remains after such measures have been taken is considered acceptable only if it is justified by the humanitarian impact of the operation.   
  
Where unnecessary risks have been eliminated, and the activity is deemed worth pursuing, staff members must be prepared to accept the residual level of risk involved.

*Examples provided by* [*International Location Safety*](https://www.locationsafety.com/)