



EXPERT GROUP MEETING #2
“Identifying Public Policy Options to Promote Conflict-Sensitive Business Practices”
Final Agenda

New York, December 13, 2004
Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN
871 UN Plaza (1st Avenue between 48 and 49 St.)

Meeting Objectives

- 1. Provide substantive input to a draft policy paper focused on public policy recommendations to support conflict-sensitive business practices.**
 - Develop recommendations regarding how the UN system and governments can further engage the private sector in conflict prevention & peacebuilding.
 - Identify gaps and discuss priority areas in the draft report’s recommendations.
 - Identify potential barriers to adoption of these recommendations.
 - Discuss the mechanisms, people, or points of leverage that would increase the likelihood that governments and international organizations would be receptive to the recommendations.

- 2. Discuss projects/initiatives that could benefit from the support of Global Compact participating companies.**
 - Define the parameters of potential project(s) that could serve to apply conflict-sensitive policies and practices.
 - Identify the challenges and opportunities for promoting such business practices in West Africa.
 - Identify existing initiatives and how they might be further supported. (i.e. Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights; Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative)

- 8:30-9:00 Registration of Participants**
- 9:00-9:05** Welcoming Remarks
- **Denise O’Brien, Deputy Head, Global Compact Office**
- 9:05-9:25** Implications of the High-level Panel Report on “Threats, Challenges, and Change”
- **Bruce Jones, Deputy Research Director, High-Level Panel; Deputy Director, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University**
- 9:25-9:45** Summary Presentation and Discussion of Draft Policy Report
- **Karen Ballentine, Senior Consultant, FAFO Institute for Applied International Studies**
 - **Virginia Haufler, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland**
- 9:45-10:45** **Session I - Policy Focus - Promoting Conflict-Sensitive Business Practices: What Governments Can Do**
- Discuss priorities among the various policy options for Northern governments to assist companies and host governments to adopt conflict-sensitive business practices through aid, trade, investment promotion, legal reform, and other relevant programs and policies.
 - Discuss priorities for Southern governments to facilitate conflict sensitive business practices through strengthening rule of law, promoting good governance, and other policy options.
 - Detail the potential barriers and opportunities that would affect the receptivity of governments to the proposed recommendations.
- 10:45-11:00** **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 Session II - Policy Focus - Facilitating Conflict-Sensitive Business Practice: The Role of UN Agencies

- Discuss priorities and options for the United Nations system to expand the role of the UN in defining and curbing illegal economic activity and establishing international norms - through development of law, standards, voluntary initiatives, and partnerships to provide guidance to companies operating in unstable or conflict-ridden areas.
- Discuss options and priorities for the UN to facilitate adoption by governments of policies that assist the private sector in adopting conflict sensitive business practices, identifying the specific agencies involved in security and development that would be most relevant.
- Detail the possibilities for increasing UN sensitivity to the potential positive role that business can play in zones of conflict and instability.
- Propose potential partnerships between specific UN agencies and the private sector in achieving agency goals.
- Detail potential barriers and opportunities regarding the adoption of these recommendations by UN agencies.

12:00-1:00 Session III – Policy Focus - Leveraging Responsible Business Practices in Zones of Conflict: The Role of the Financial Sector

- Discuss the potential role of the financial sector in influencing business practices in conflict-affected areas.
- Discuss policy options and priorities for financial leverage as a means to facilitate adoption of conflict sensitive business practices.
- Discuss policy options and priorities for financial leverage to facilitate adoption of supportive policies by home and host governments.
- Detail potential barriers and opportunities affecting the receptivity of financial institutions to these proposals.

1:00-2:00 Lunch

Session IV – Project Focus Panel Sessions and Discussion: An Exploration of Existing Voluntary Initiatives and Project Approaches

- Presentations and discussion to provide an update on the status of existing voluntary initiatives/projects.
- How can these voluntary initiatives/projects benefit from additional support by Global Compact participating companies?
- How can the Global Compact Office provide recognition to good practice?
- How can these initiatives/projects be complemented by public policies?

2:00-2:15 Introduction: Denise O'Brien, Deputy Head, Global Compact

- 2:15-3:00** **1. Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights**
- The governing framework: experience from the BTC pipeline project
David Rice, Director, Policy Unit, BP
 - Opportunities for Global Compact participants to contribute to the process and how public policy could complement the initiative
Jonas Moberg, Operational Policy Manager, IBLF
- 3:00-3:15** **Coffee Break**
- 3:15-4:15** **2. Transparency/Anti-Corruption**
- The current status of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and what critical implementation challenges lie ahead
Joanna Kuenssberg, Business Team Leader, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK
 - The development of company policies and beyond: how companies can engage in the promotion of transparency and anti-corruption
Joshua Udofia, Senior Corporate Adviser, Nigeria, Shell Limited International
- Hilary Wilson, Legal and Compliance, ABB Ltd**
- 4:15-5:15** **3. Approaches to Community Engagement and Participatory Development**
- UNDP’s business partnership efforts: experience from West Africa
Emma Torres, Division for Business Partnerships, UNDP
 - Opportunities for Global Compact participants to engage in participatory development efforts: Nexen’s work with Pro-Natura International in Nigeria
Garry Mann, General Manager - Corporate Safety, Environment & Social Responsibility, Nexen Inc.
 - The “Participatory Development Model” and the “Nigeria Coastal Development Initiative”
Carolyn Ristau, Consultant, Pro-Natura International
- 5:15-6:00** **Summary Plenary Session -Conclusions and Next Steps**