



United Nations Global Compact Human Rights Working Group

Istanbul, Turkey, 9-10 June 2009

Draft Agenda

8 June – Day 0

Sabancı Center, 4. Levent 34330

NB. Human Rights Working Group members are welcome to come earlier to participate in either of the following two sessions on 8 June.

1. There is a full day session of the Labour Working Group, which will consist of training and sharing of experiences by and with Local Network representatives on the Global Compact's labour principles. The draft agenda has been circulated to HRWG members. You can sign up for this session at the same time as you register online for the event as a whole. For further information about this session, please contact Venu Keesari (keesari@unglobalcompact.org).
(Room: SADIKA ANA SALON II)
2. A full-day expert group consultation will be the first face-to-face meeting of experts who have been invited by the UN Global Compact Office to be part of an initiative designed to develop guidance for investors and companies on "Responsible Investment in Conflict-Affected Countries", to be launched at the next Leaders Summit (24-25 June 2010, UN Headquarters, New York). For further information about this session, please contact Donna Chung (chungd@un.org).
(Room: SADIKA ANA SALON III)

20:00-22:00

**Welcome Reception at the Residency of the Spanish Embassy in Istanbul
Çayirbasi Caddesi 393, Büyükdere, Istanbul**

Buses will leave from the Bilek Hotel at 19:00 and from Taksim Square at 19:00

Host and Speaker: Mr. Joan Clos, Spanish Ambassador in Turkey, former Mayor of Barcelona and former Minister of Industry of the Spanish Government

9 June – Day 1
Sabancı Center, 4. Levent 34330
ROOM: SADIKA ANA SALON I

- 09:30-09:35 **Opening and Welcome** by Mary Robinson, Chair of the GC HRWG
- 09:35-10:00 **Tour de table**
In the weeks leading up to the event HRWG members have been asked to supply any items about which they would like to inform other HRWG members and the GC Network more generally. These items are being compiled into an update document that will be shared electronically in advance of the meeting and that can be circulated widely through Global Compact and other communication channels. The Tour de table will thus be used mainly for clarification and elaboration, and any late breaking news.
- 10:00-10:15 **The SRSG on Business and Human Rights and the UN Global Compact**
Report from Professor Ruggie's team on recent developments, ongoing work and opportunities for engagement.
- 10:15-11:00 **Good Practice Forum**
At its meeting in April 2008, the HRWG agreed that it would function as a forum for consideration and possible endorsement of good management practices on human rights. Proposals for good practices can arise from a variety of sources. One idea for a good management practice proposed at that meeting was the use of external independent stakeholder panels to help a company to respect and support human rights. A project is underway to capture a variety of perspectives around this idea with a view to presenting it as a good practice for the HRWG to consider. An update on the development of this draft good practice note will be shared at the meeting. This session can also be used to propose new topics for good practice notes.
- 11:00-12:00 **Consultation on a set of Women's Principles for advancing women's rights in the workplace, marketplace and community**
The UN Global Compact and UNIFEM have launched an international process around the merits and content of a set of women's principles to help advance and empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community. In advance of the meeting, HRWG members will be provided with a document describing the process and containing a set of principles and a set of questions on which input is sought. The results of the process thus far will be shared at the meeting. HRWG members will be asked for their strategic advice on next steps as the process will be winding up shortly after the meeting.
- 12:00-13:00* **Lunch**
- 13:00-13:30 During the last half hour of lunch, HRWG members are asked to return to the meeting room for a discussion around how to make the most of Human Rights Day 2009 (10 December 2009).

13:30-15:00 **Knowledge Fair: Business and Human Rights**

The HRWG meeting takes place at the same time as the Global Compact's Annual Local Network Forum (ALNF) and incorporates within it two of the parallel sessions of the ALNF during which Local Networks in Japan, India, Netherlands, and Spain will make a brief presentation about their efforts to advance business and human rights within their country context, the challenges they face, opportunities they see, what their needs are, and how the HRWG and the GCO could help. Other Networks will also have the opportunity to share their own perspectives. As well as providing an opportunity for Local Networks to learn from each other, it will also provide a key networking opportunity for Local Networks and HRWG members with a view to advancing implementation of business and human rights around the world. Presentations will include:

- GC Local Network India:
Pinaki Roy
- GC Local Network Japan:
Shusaku Okumura
- GC Local Network Netherlands:
David Vermijs/Huib Klamer
- GC Local Network Spain:
Valentine Papeians

15:00-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-17:00 **Knowledge Fair: Business and Peace**

This session will explore how the private sector can be a valuable partner in conflict prevention and peace-building efforts. What are "conflict-sensitive business practices"? Are Global Compact participants implementing the 10 principles in conflict-prone countries where they have operations? How are Global Compact Local Networks engaging companies on these issues? What are "responsible" investment practices in conflict-affected countries? Participants will share experiences, lessons learned and new resources with a view to examining how the private sector can more actively engage in initiatives that contribute to peace and development. This session will provide participants with an overview of a new initiative in this area "Responsible Investment in Conflict-Affected Countries". It will also showcase two new resources "How Can Business Contribute to Peace and Development" and "Doing Business in a Multicultural World". Presentations will include:

- GC Local Network Sudan:
Lena Mahgoub, DAL Group/Global Compact Local Network Sudan
- The Global Peace Index:
Steve Killelea, Global Peace Index
Nabina Shrestha, Global Compact Local Network Nepal
- "Sustaining Business and Peace: a Resource Pack for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises":
Canan Gunduz, International Alert
Ravi Fernando, MAS Holdings/ Global Compact Local Network Sri Lanka

- 17:00-17:45 **Discussion on the topic of human rights advocacy by business**
The HRWG members will have a preliminary discussion around the challenges and opportunities of businesses engaging in human rights advocacy with host country governments with a view to exploring interest in and the merits of developing a good practice note on this topic for the HRWG to consider.
- 19:00-22:00 **Gala Dinner**
Address: Yahya Kemal Caddesi No:36/2 Rumelihisari 34470-ISTANBUL
Buses will leave directly from the Sabanci Center at 6pm and return at 10:30pm

10 June – Day 2
Bilek Hotel, 4. Levent Eski Buyukdere Cad., Istanbul
Room : Turkuaz Room (lobby floor)

- 09:00-09:30 **Global Compact Leaders Summit, 24-25 June 2010, UN Headquarters, New York**
The HRWG members will discuss how to make the most of the Global Compact Leaders Summit, 24-25 June 2010, UN Headquarters, New York, to advance business and human rights.

- 09:30-10:30 **Interactive session on BLIHR & GBI**
This session will be divided into two parts:

1. Lessons and Outputs from the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights

This part of the session will explore the legacy of the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights (BLIHR) which was created in 2003 to find practical ways of implementing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a business context. BLIHR was a business-led programme which brought together 16 of the world's leading brands, under the guidance of Mary Robinson as Honorary Chair, to explore and understand what human rights means for companies. BLIHR completed its work in March 2009 and this session will signpost towards the principle outputs from the programme including the final policy report which contains key messages on business and human rights. This will be an opportunity to learn more about how and where the BLIHR outputs will be put into practice and to look back on the landscape of business and human rights over the past six years.

2. Interactive session on the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights

This session will introduce a new global business-led initiative focused on advancing human rights in business around the world. In collaboration with the UNGC, the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights will bring together groups of companies from diverse geographic locations to look at various tools for business on human rights, including the Guide for Integrating Human Rights into Business Management (BLIHR/OHCHR/UNGC) and the Human Rights Matrix. This session will provide an opportunity to learn more about the plans for this initiative and the opportunities for engagement. The initiative will be introduced by members of the secretariat and comments will be invited from supporting organizations and individuals.

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00-12:30 **Human Rights Dilemmas for Multi-National Corporations (MNCs) in Emerging Markets presented by Maplecroft**

This is an interactive session exploring human rights dilemmas and solutions from different stakeholder viewpoints. The session will (a) introduce a key human rights dilemma; (b) collectively review the dilemma in the context of a business case study; and (c) identify potential solutions for business. Findings from this session will be presented as part of the online solutions forum hosted on www.unglobalcompact.org. The dilemma will be shared in advance of the meeting.

12:30-14:00 **Lunch**

14:00-15:00 **Guidance on HR reporting**

Global Compact participants are required to produce an annual Communication on progress (COP) on their efforts to implement the UN Global Compact. This session of the HRWG will be held in conjunction with a COP Workshop for Practitioners. It will consist of a workshop focusing on recent guidance material developed to help companies with the human rights dimension of their communication on progress. Participants will have the opportunity to get issue-specific guidance on human rights, among other issues and learn from peers on their reporting experiences. The session will include discussion on (1) the outcomes of the GRI, Realizing Rights and UN Global Compact joint project "Human Rights Reporting: A Call to Action;" (2) a company perspective on the current state of human rights reporting practice and human rights reporting guidance; and (3) next steps.

15:00-16:00 **Buyer Impacts on Labour Rights in the Supply Chain: A Good Practice Note from Business for Social Responsibility on How Companies Can Improve Relationships with Suppliers and Respect Human Rights**

The compliance monitoring approach to responsible supply chain management has had limited success in addressing persistent challenges to labor rights. Leading companies are testing new approaches in order to improve the impacts of their own behavior on working conditions. Building on the work of Business for Social Responsibility's Beyond Monitoring Working Group, a cross-industry collaboration to define best practice in sustainable supply chain management, this interactive session will review and solicit input on practical steps that companies can take to address their impact on persistent labor rights violations in their supply chains. Participants will learn about and provide input on innovative practices that buyers can implement today. A good practice note will be circulated in advance and small groups will discuss how specific practices can be advanced within companies.

16:00-16:15 **Closing**