

# Global Compact Japan Network's Annual Activity Report for 2006/07

## *1. Network objectives and priorities*

For the annual cycle that started in April 2007, Global Compact Japan Network (GCJN) has decided to promote the Global Compact based on the following pillars:

- 1) To activate the information sharing and exchange among GCJN members
  - To organize a general meeting three times a year. In order to explain the ten principles and the Millennium Development Goals to the members, the Network, whenever possible, invites the relevant UN agencies in Japan and abroad as keynote speakers so that the members could learn about them.
  - To make the general meeting an open forum so that information and actions related to the Global Compact could be better communicated to potential members and those who are actually considering participating in GC.
  - To engage more actively Steering Committee members in implementing planned activities such as organizing a “Learning Forum” and “Expanding GCJN Web”.
- 2) To strengthen communication with other Networks
  - To represent as much as possible at the international and regional events related to GC and in collaborating with them on some activity.
- 3) To reinforce the Network's capacity in disseminating information outside the Network itself mainly through its website.

## *2. Network focal point*

UNIC Tokyo is the Secretariat of Global Compact Japan Network / GCJN.

## *3. Network Organization*

Global Compact Japan Network (GCJN) has a Steering Committee which meets monthly. When a decision is required, first the Committee discusses to propose its recommendation for consideration by all the Network participants.

## *4. Participation in the Global Compact from Japan*

The number increased from 37 (at the end of 2005) to 56 (8 October 2007): Those companies joined in the course of 2006 came from a wide variety of the Japanese

business world. Out of 56 current members, 48 are large corporations, seven are SMEs and one is a city (City of Kawasaki). The School of International Studies of Keiai University which was listed with GCO website and not yet GCJN participant, is considering participating in the Network.

The Government of Japan (represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Foreign Policy Bureau, UN Planning and Administration Division) has been associated with the Network as observer and it could be said that they are becoming very interested in the initiative.

#### *5. Activities in 2006*

- 1) In early 2006, "Saisoku" (detailed agreement) was added to the existing GCJN Agreement so that a variety of stakeholders including CSOs, trade unions, academic institutions and others could join the Network with the agreed process.
- 2) Mr. Hiroyuki Uemura, then CEO of Mitsui Suimitomo Insurance was nominated from Japan as a member of The Global Compact Board and became a member in April 2006. (After his resignation, in July 2007, Mr. Toshio Arima, Director and Executive Advisor to the Board, Fuji Xerox replaced Mr. Uemura, which was announced at the Leaders Summit.)
- 3) GCJN had a meeting with Secretary-General Kofi Annan on 18 May 2006 during his official trip to Japan. The meeting which was chaired by UNIC Director Charmine Koda was attended by 23 company heads and one Mayor (Kawasaki city). The participants were able to exchange views with the Secretary-General, which became an impetus to the Network's active involvement in support of the ten principles and other UN issues. Mr. Annan particularly stressed the importance of PRI at the meeting.
- 4) GC Network Focal Points Learning Workshop for the Asian region (7-8 June 2006 in Bangkok) was participated by UNIC Director Charmine Koda, Information Officer and Mr. Odagiri of Mitsui & Co (GCJN Steering Committee's Vice-Chair). During the visit to Bangkok, UNIC Director was delegated by the members to be one of representatives of Global Compact Asia to do the presentation for the group in Barcelona. She was also invited to speak about the Global Compact by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Thailand, attended by many business executives of those companies.
- 5) In mid-June 2006, a general meeting was convened. At this meeting, Head of Amnesty International Japan spoke about human rights and Head

of GRI Japan Forum explained about the new version of GRI. The meeting also heard reports on the above-mentioned GCJN meeting with the Secretary-General and GC Network Focal Points Learning Workshop for the Asian region (in Bangkok).

- 6) GC Academic Network in Japan was established in summer 2006.
- 7) In Japan, five best practices were submitted from the participating companies, of which two were selected for the inclusion in UNIC Director Charmine Koda's presentation on "Global Compact and Asia" at the GC Network Forum in Barcelona. Also, UNIC Tokyo, with the funding from GCJN, published a booklet entitled "The Global Compact Asia: Best Practices Booklet" which covered all the Asian Networks and distributed the copies at the Barcelona Forum. The booklet became so popular that additional copies were printed again thanks to the funds made available by GCJN. UNIC Director Charmine Koda was appointed as "representative of the Global Compact Asia at that meeting by members of the Global Compact Asia.
- 8) As for the ten principles and the Millennium Development Goals, the Network, whenever possible, invited the core agencies' senior officials as keynote speakers so that the member could learn about them.
- 9) The Network's Secretariat (UNIC Tokyo) has continued to update the website by uploading the basic information in Japanese so that GCJN members can share the basic information.

## *6. Future Strategies and progress*

- Mr. Toshio Arima, one of the members of The Global Compact Board, began to play a key role in identifying the ways to activate the Network and its activities in order to increase the number of participants from the Japanese business community. The need to further advocate the initiative in Japan was recognized and general strategies for this have been endorsed by the GCJN Steering Committee members. At the same time, Mr. Arima is personally approaching heads of companies to explain about the Global Compact to invite them to join.
- At the current stage, GCJN is made up mainly with companies. There should be more encouragement for other stakeholders to join the initiative.

- Examples of best practices were the following two which were included in the above-mentioned booklet entitled “The Global Compact Asia: Best Practices Booklet”:
  - “Insurance for the Planet – Mangrove Reforestation Project” by Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire (GC principles 7 & 8)
  - “Establishment of International Integrated Recycling System” by Fuji Xerox (GC principles 7, 8 & 9)

9 Oct 2007

UNIC Tokyo, Secretariat of GCJN

**Please see Attachment below.**

## Attachment:

### Network Fact Sheet for 2006/07: Global Compact Japan Network (GCJN)

Network Management									
Annual Network Meeting (yes/no)	COP facilitation (yes/no)	Helped to facilitate other integrity measures (e.g. complaint mechanism) (yes/no)	Website (if yes, URL)	Name Focal Point	Steering Committee (yes/no)	Steering Committee has non-business participants (yes/no)	Secretariat hosted by	Member fees (if yes, amount for Company/ SME/ other)	
Yes	Yes	Yes, based on GCJN agreement	<a href="http://www.unic.or.jp/globalcomp/index.htm">http://www.unic.or.jp/globalcomp/index.htm</a>	UNIC Tokyo Director, Ms. Charmine Koda	Yes	Yes	UNIC Tokyo	Yes Annual fee per company is either JY50,000 or JY100,000.	

Number Local Network Participants										Government participation in Network
TOTAL	MNCs	SMEs	Micro-enterprises (<10 employees)	Business Organization	CSR Organization	Labour Organization	Civil Society organizations	Academic Institution	Other Stakeholders	Yes/ no
55	1	7		47				(1, listed with GCO's web but not a GCJN member)		Yes (as observer)

Number of Activities					
Outreach Events	Learning Events	Policy Dialogues	Partnership projects	Cooperation with other Local Networks	Other activities
Continuously done: Participating companies and the Secretariat have continued to explain about GC to outside the Network and invite them to join the initiative.	3 times annually		Some of the Japanese companies have already initiated projects with UN programmes/agencies	Director of UNIC Tokyo is Head of GC Asia	Participation in the main events such as GC Network Focal Points Meetings, Annual Network Forums and the Leaders Summit and sharing the information within the Network.