UN Global Compact Board Meeting Report  
13-14 December 2012

The UN Global Compact Board held its biennial meeting in New York on 13-14 December 2012. Board members reported to the UN Secretary-General at the meeting, which was chaired by Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Vice-Chair of the Board and Chair of the Foundation for the Global Compact. Discussion focused on the Global Compact’s Strategic Review; the participation of non-business stakeholders; a review of the integrity measures and next steps related to the post-2015 global development agenda. Following is a summary of the Board’s discussion and key outcomes.

Welcome and Report from the Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Office

Background
Georg Kell, Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Office, reported on the initiative’s progress related to all issue areas, Local Networks, and sister-initiatives the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). He noted that there is significant momentum around corporate sustainability, which was bolstered by the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum. While there has been growth in Global Compact participation, delisting of companies has also increased, leading to slow net growth. Mr. Kell emphasized the need to identify pathways to help the initiative reach critical mass and also improve the quality of participation.

Regarding Global Compact LEAD, evaluations are underway as the pilot phase of the leadership platform draws to a close. Early findings indicate strong support for continuing LEAD with slight growth in the number of participants. Major contributions of LEAD include work on Board education, transformational partnerships, integrated reporting, business engagement with indigenous peoples, and collaboration with investors through PRI. Looking forward, LEAD aims to focus on shaping corporate sustainability institutions and standards, as well as the post-2015 development agenda.

Global Compact Office staff members shared progress reports on the portfolio, and then Board members provided updates about the Working Groups they are leading, including on the issues of labour, human rights, business and peace, supply chain, anti-corruption and business engagement with indigenous peoples.

Discussion

Working Groups

- The Human Rights Working Group recently held its annual meeting and participated in the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights. The Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are a codification of the norms elaborating States’ duty to protect human rights and the corporate responsibility to respect human rights and, as such, are a useful complement to the Global Compact’s work in this area. Nearly 10 Local Networks were present at the Forum, adding an important voice of business in a meeting with a majority of civil society participants. (Sané, Moody-Stuart)

- The Advisory Group on Supply Chain Sustainability plans to focus on traceability, forced labour, human trafficking, anti-corruption, and supporting SMEs moving forward. The group strives for geographical diversity, and is seeking additional representation from Africa. There is interest
among labour groups in engaging more deeply in the global supply chain conversation. (Øvlsen, Masilela, Jennings)

- The Working Group on the 10th Principle against Corruption has created four sub-working groups, one of which is developing a new document on risk assessment. Other sub-working groups are focusing on public-private collaboration, sport sponsoring and hospitality, and the oil and gas sector. The working group as a whole is also planning to contribute to the post-2015 process. (Labelle)

The limited business representation at the recent International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) in Brasilia was noted. On behalf of the Global Compact, Sir Mark Moody-Stuart committed to identify business representatives for relevant panels at the next IACC conference. It was noted that while the topic is challenging, Brazil is making an explicit effort to be engaged. (Abrahão)

- The Expert Group on Responsible Business in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas recently held a successful meeting in conjunction with PRI, which was well-attended by Local Networks. (Moody-Stuart)

**Global Compact LEAD**

- With regard to LEAD, it will be important to prioritize the engagement of participants over increasing numbers. The group should remain small enough to offer visibility to participants. (Galaev)

- It is more helpful for LEAD to focus on providing practical guidance over developing theories. (Galaev)

- The competitive advantage of participating in LEAD should be evaluated. Companies in LEAD are already progressive, and LEAD can be time-consuming, so incentives to join and participate should be positive. For example, engaging with Local Networks could be presented as a benefit and not simply a requirement as it enables integration into the local economy and supply chains. The value proposition of both LEAD and the Global Compact must be sharpened. (Polman, Moody-Stuart, Masilela)

- It was also noted that there are higher expectation of LEAD companies in terms of their level of implementation of the ten principles. (Jennings)

**Outcomes**

- Board Members welcomed the progress made by the Global Compact Office and took note of LEAD’s successful pilot phase and upcoming plans.

**Agenda Item 1: Review of Progress on Integrity Measures**

**Background**

The Board received the “Progress Report on Integrity Measures”, which reported on the three main Global Compact Integrity Measures: (1) the Communication on Progress (COP); (2) logo policy and brand management; and (3) the facilitation of dialogue on alleged systematic and egregious abuse. The Board was also presented with a joint proposal from the International Organisation of Employers and Global Unions regarding the Integrity Measures. The proposal outlined a number of recommendations for the Global Compact to better communicate and leverage the Integrity Measures to current and prospective participants.
Discussion

- Introducing their joint proposal, Board members Jennings and Wilton underscored that the spirit of the proposal is the continuous improvement of the integrity measures relating to the Global Compact principles. The aim is to assure that companies have the ability to fully understand the expectations of them when participating in the initiative. Jennings and Wilton recommended that the Integrity Measures be communicated in a more explicit manner; for example, the Global Compact Office should assure that companies are provided with clear and concise information when joining the initiative. Clarifying how Local Networks support this process was also proposed.

- Creating too many frameworks may have the effect of deterring more companies than are attracted. It is important that the Global Compact continue to embrace the multi-stakeholder approach within the framework of voluntary principles. The expectation should be that participants are willing to engage in dialogue. (Polman)

- Companies participating in Global Compact LEAD should anticipate that there will be greater external expectations on their performance, with LEAD companies susceptible to additional scrutiny compared to other participants. (Wilton)

- Understanding the challenges in reaching perfection with this policy, the Global Compact should commit to continuous improvement. (Moody-Stuart)

Outcomes

- The Global Compact will retain the Integrity Measures as they stand, but will explore techniques to more explicitly communicate them to participants at key points of interaction.

Agenda Item 2: Update on Non-Business Stakeholder Participation in the Global Compact

Background

Building on discussion from the December 2011 Global Compact Board Meeting, and following the deferment of the issue at the June 2012 meeting, the Board was asked to consider a proposed policy and procedure requiring reporting from non-business Global Compact participants, as outlined in the Note “Update to the Board on Non-Business Participants”. This item was introduced in 2011 in order to identify a mechanism to better engage non-business participants in the initiative, as well as to address concerns raised by Local Networks about the limited information available.

Discussion

- The Global Compact mandate remains to engage with businesses primarily. While non-business entities should be encouraged to align their practices with the ten principles (Collymore), they should not be expected to report on their implementation within their own organization. The focus of the Communication on Engagement policy is thus on disclosure by non-business participants on their engagement with the ten principles over the previous year. (Labelle, Moody-Stuart)

- It is also very important to address Local Network concerns that insufficient information is gathered on non-business participants during the application process. (Moody-Stuart)

- Dialogue facilitation should only be applicable to business participants. (Wilton)

- It is important to assure that the non-business participant reporting requirement be distinct in name from the Communication on Progress. (Warda)
• The Global Compact should communicate expectations for non-business participation clearly and, where possible, assure that Local Networks have capacity to engage with non-business entities. (Sané, Tilaar)

• A communication requirement for non-business entities would allow Local Networks to better assess the intentions and activities of these organizations. (Cheng)

Outcomes
• The Global Compact will proceed with the technical implementation of the non-business communication requirement, to be referred to as the Communication on Engagement.

• The Global Compact will report to the Board on progress made to implement the non-business reporting requirement.

Agenda Item 3: Review of the Global Compact Strategy Review

Background
The challenge ahead for the Global Compact Office, participants, networks and partners is to transition from incremental progress implementing corporate sustainability to transformational action with significant impact across the financial, environment, social and ethical realms. To this end, at the June 2012 Global Compact Board Meeting, the office was called upon to undertake a strategic review to evaluate progress made and plot a course toward the vision of a more sustainable and inclusive global economy. As outlined in background documents provided to the Board, the following priority areas have been identified: growing to scale, strengthening the governance structure, empowering Local Networks, managing the issue portfolio, building stronger UN linkages and creating a more sustainable funding model. The Global Compact Office presented the preliminary results from the strategic review, and sought the Board’s advice and guidance.

Discussion

Growth and participant engagement

• Targeted recruitment of influential companies with expansive reach and media organizations will support brand building. This will also increase the ability of the Global Compact to reach consumers, which can underscore the value proposition. Additionally, the multi-stakeholder nature of the Global Compact makes it unique to the corporate sustainability space, which should be better promoted. (Carlson-Nelson, Galaev, Naqvi)

• More activities should be undertaken that leverage the investment community through stock market valuation of sustainability, as has been done recently in Mexico. (Pardo)

• Local Networks are critical to ensuring the quality and quantity of the initiative. Capacity needs to be strengthened so they can support recruitment and retention. In particular, Local Networks have a key role to play in outreach to SMEs and helping them to fulfill their commitments as Global Compact participants. The success of a Local Network is, in part, based on the involvement of large national companies as they can help to promote the principles, and encourage others to participate. LEAD companies should be encouraged to engage locally. (Arima, Cheng, Galaev, Moody-Stuart, Pes, Polman)

• Where possible, it should be assured that the Local Network is connected with local labour groups (Wilton) and other UN entities on the ground. (Moody-Stuart)
• There is a unique opportunity to link Local Network output to the post-2015 agenda, with great potential for transformational partnerships to be replicated at the local level. (Polman)

Issue portfolio and UN linkages

• There is a need to assure that the fundamental vision and mission of the Global Compact to promote the principles remains at the core of the initiative. The Global Compact should consider focusing on those initiatives that align directly with the principles, while continuing to support other UN system priorities. It is important that the Global Compact to continue to map its issue work against the ten principles and share an overview of this with the Board. (Jennings, Labelle)

• The Global Compact should ensure close connections with UN agencies that are caretakers of the issues relevant to the principles, while retaining independence and flexibility to work with the private sector. (Jennings, Moody-Stuart, Wilton)

• The Global Compact has valuable experience and knowledge relevant to the partnership agenda and as such, donor Governments want the Global Compact to retain autonomy in carrying out their General Assembly mandate, regardless of decisions made in terms of the broader UN partnership agenda. (Government Observer - Norway)

• The Global Compact should continue to ensure the relevance of its specialized initiatives, helping to retain focus on high-priority and impactful workstreams. (Moody-Stuart)

Funding

Providing an update on funding strategy and needs, Sir Mark Moody-Stuart (Vice-Chair of the Board and Chair of the Foundation for the Global Compact Board) explained that the funding model of the Global Compact is dually structured, where the office is supported via contributions from both donor Governments that contribute to the Global Compact Trust Fund and business participants that are encouraged to contribute annually to the Foundation for the Global Compact. Sir Mark Moody-Stuart also noted that the Trust Fund covers costs of staff employed by the UN. Currently, less than 15% of business participants contribute to the Foundation. Although a majority of recent signatories contribute to the Global Compact, demonstrating the effectiveness of making clear the expectation of contributing, only about 30% of those using the “we support” logo have made a financial contribution. To better support and improve the work of the Global Compact, raising contribution rates and increasing pressure on companies to make an annual contribution is essential.

• The Global Compact should work with Local Networks to develop a joint funding strategy. Many Local Networks operate with relatively little financial support. (Galaev, Moody-Stuart)

• In order to increase the likelihood of receiving corporate contributions, the Global Compact will need to assess its underlying incentives and frame its value proposition in a cogent and marketable manner. The Global Compact should remain mindful of not overburdening those companies that already engage, but rather convince a greater number of companies to contribute. (Masilela, Polman)

• Board members should be expected to promote the Global Compact and advance its work across all of their areas of influence, including within the Governments. Board members should encourage these Governments to become donors. (Jennings, Polman)

• Board Members called for all business participants to make their annual contribution and for it to be made more visible, for example, listing which companies contribute and which do not. (Naqvi)
• The Global Compact Donor group supports seeking a greater proportion of funding from the private sector, as it will be needed for the Global Compact and its Local Networks to continue to grow. (Government Observer - Norway)

• Additional funds are needed to support the expanding Global Compact. Actions taken to this end should include providing public recognition, and ensuring that certain services – such as use of the logo – are reserved for those companies that actively participate, evidenced by contributing to the Foundation for the Global Compact. (Carlson-Nelson, Moody-Stuart, Naqvi)

Outcomes
• Board Members welcomed the preliminary results from the Strategic Review, and encouraged the Global Compact to continue the process.

• Board Members encouraged the Global Compact Office to work with the Foundation for the Global Compact to explore approaches to increase the number of contributing business participants.

• As a part of the Strategic Review, the Global Compact will work to refine its value proposition in order to better explain the importance of supporting the initiative and its principles.

• Board Members asked the Global Compact Office to report to the Board on progress on the strategy during the next meeting, which will take place in the 2nd quarter of 2013.

Meeting with the Secretary-General

Background
United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Chair of the Global Compact Board, joined the meeting to discuss the progress of the initiative. The Secretary-General’s remarks were followed by brief interventions by several Board members. View the Secretary-General’s full remarks.

Remarks
The Secretary-General welcomed Board members and Government observers from Germany and Norway, and thanked them for their involvement and efforts to support the Global Compact. He recognized the initiative’s past work to build principles, issue platforms and Local Networks, as well as its efforts to advance transformative business actions in support of sustainable development.

The Secretary-General noted that through the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum, the Global Compact catalyzed the largest ever private sector engagement in a United Nations event. Moving forward, the Global Compact has been charged with helping to engage business in the post-2015 global development agenda, offering an opportunity to scale up efforts across a range of issue areas.

The Secretary-General also emphasized the importance of the Strategic Review currently underway and its potential to strengthen corporate sustainability and help the Global Compact reach its goal of 20,000 participants by 2020. He asked Board members to consider several areas of the Strategic Review, including empowering Local Networks, strategically expanding issue platforms, strengthening linkages between the Global Compact and the UN system, and improving governance. Next year’s Global Compact Leaders Summit will be a key opportunity to help advance these goals.

Discussion
• Sir Mark Moody-Stuart thanked the Secretary-General and provided an update on the Board’s discussion of the Strategic Review. He then called on new Board members to share their experience and plans for future involvement on the Board.
• **Marilyn Carlson-Nelson** gave an overview of her company’s efforts to empower women and fighting child and other forms of trafficking through its core business. To address these issues, the company works closely with employees and consumers, as well as a number of partners and other businesses.

• **Kurt Bock** emphasized the potential of the chemical industry to improve lives and highlighted his company’s efforts to advance the sustainable development agenda, particularly by supporting SMEs in operating responsibly. He noted that his company’s subsidiary in China supports the Global Compact Local Network.

• **Robert Collymore** shared his sense of responsibility for promoting corporate sustainability within his country and region as one of the largest companies in Eastern and Central Africa. He noted his company’s recent sustainability report, as well as efforts to advance the anti-corruption agenda, children’s rights and environmental sustainability.

• **Arif Naqvi** emphasized that creating jobs and fostering entrepreneurship are critical responsibilities of the private equity industry. He noted the efforts of his firm to collaborate with NGOs and Governments to promote employment aligned with the Global Compact ten principles throughout global growth markets.

• **Angel Pes Guixa** and **Martha Tilaar** respectively expressed their enthusiasm for serving on the Board and their commitment to champion the Global Compact and support Local Networks.

• **Elias Masilela** emphasized that sustainability is crucial to his business strategy given the dual mandate of the fund – among the largest investment managers in Africa – to both achieve financial return and also to contribute to economic growth and development.

• **Jorge Abrahão** highlighted his organization’s efforts to advance the ten principles in Brazil and to increase participation in the Global Compact among its members.

• Huang Wensheng, on behalf of **Fu Chengyu**, described the growth of the Chinese network and its future priorities, as well as and his company’s experiences attending the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum and China-Japan-Korea Local Network Roundtable.

• **Paul Polman** highlighted progress made in Doha related to deforestation and his role to help support the post-2015 development agenda as part of the Secretary-General’s high-level panel (see Agenda Item 4 for more detail). He also described his involvement in mobilizing business engagement around a new UN initiative to scale up nutrition, including through a transformational partnership in Colombia.

• **Sir Mark Moody-Stuart** noted the Global Compact’s recent work on sustainable agriculture and food in relation to nutrition.

• **Phillip Jennings** emphasized that the post-2015 development agenda must focus on decent and inclusive jobs, and combating youth employment globally. He also shared that labour agreements are increasingly including language from the Global Compact ten principles as well as the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

• **Huguette Labelle** highlighted the interconnected nature of the ten principles, citing the links between corruption and issues like poverty, illicit trade and deforestation. She also noted the efforts of a sub-working group to develop proposals to address corruption and the post-2015 global development agenda.
• Andrei Galaev highlighted the work and upcoming priorities of the Russian Local Network – including a number of activities and events that will take place as Russia becomes chair of the G20 – and asked the Global Compact Office to support these efforts. He also noted his company’s work to support the rights of indigenous peoples, including through a LEAD task force.

• Fernando Chico Pardo outlined the growth of Global Compact participation in Latin America. He emphasized how the creation of an index of Global Compact signatories on the Mexican Stock Exchange has significantly impacted transparency and reporting. He also noted efforts to encourage Mexico’s new Government leaders to embrace the Global Compact.

• Duoshen Cheng, on behalf of Li Decheng, thanked the Secretary-General for attending the Chinese Network’s annual meeting and shared that newly launched network has seen positive progress since its launch.

The Secretary-General thanked the Board members for their efforts, indicating his full support. He expressed his appreciation for the work of several Global Compact initiatives, including the CEO Water Mandate, sustainable agriculture, and anti-corruption given the recent focus of the UN on rule of law. He highlighted his recent meeting with Global Compact Caring for Climate participants in Doha. The Secretary-General called on business to leverage its capacity, resources and technology to find solutions for global development challenges, particularly in relation to the post-2015 development agenda. He welcomed the contributions of the Global Compact to this process.

Outcomes
• The Secretary-General called on Board members to champion the Global Compact locally and globally, including by supporting preparations for the Global Compact Leaders Summit in September 2013.

• The Secretary-General welcomed the Global Compact’s efforts to undertake the Strategic Review and called on Sir Mark Moody-Stuart and Georg Kell to lead the process, especially related to the review of the governance of the initiative.

Agenda Item 4: Update on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Background
The Global Compact has been charged with engaging business in the post-2015 global development agenda, with a report due to the Secretary-General in early 2013. There is an enormous opportunity for business to make significant contributions towards sustainable development – with strong alignment on issues where the Global Compact has initiatives and work in place already. In addition, the Global Compact is supporting two business participants, Paul Polman and Betty Maina, on the Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in obtaining wide input from the private sector. Finally, Global Compact staff members sit on the UN Task Teams charged with developing input from the Secretariat and the UN agencies.

Presentation by Paul Polman on Post-2015 Development Agenda
• Paul Polman provided a briefing on the engagement of business in the post-2015 development agenda. He emphasized the importance of involving the private sector at this early stage as business has been increasingly active in addressing global challenges.

• Key aspects for business to consider include continuing the work of the Millennium Development Goals, looking at the interconnected nature of development issues, focusing on all countries, and taking into account the voice of small businesses.
• There will be consultations in 11 countries between now and early 2013, held with the support of Unilever, the UN Development Group and Global Compact Local Networks.

• Mr. Polman encouraged other Board members to engage in the process and involve their colleagues.

**Outcomes**

• Board Members welcomed the Global Compact’s efforts to promote the post-2015 development agenda and confirm their willingness to support the Global Compact’s work in their roles as champions of corporate sustainability.

**Agenda Item 5: Update from the Foundation for the Global Compact**

Due to time limitations, the Foundation and its funding were discussed under Agenda Item 3 on the Strategic Review.

**Closing**

The Board Members were informed about the upcoming Global Compact Leaders Summit on 19-20 September 2013, and urged to mark the date in their calendars. A Board Meeting will be held in the days immediately preceding or following the Summit.

The next Board Meeting will be convened in New York during the second quarter of 2013 in conjunction with the Global Compact Donors Meeting, hosted by the Government of Norway. Possible dates will be communicated in January 2013 based on the availability of the Secretary-General.

Directly after the meeting, Board members attended a luncheon with Ambassadors to discuss the strategy for the future of the Global Compact (see Appendix 3 for a summary).
Appendix 1: Members of the Global Compact Board

Chair
H.E. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Vice Chair
Sir Mark Moody-Stuart (Ex Officio), Chairman, Foundation for the Global Compact

Business
Mr. Toshio Arima, Director and Executive Advisor to the Board, Fuji Xerox, Japan
Mr. Kurt W. Bock, Chairman of the Board, BASF SE, Germany
Ms. Marilyn Carlson-Nelson, Chairperson, Carlson, USA
Mr. Fernando Chico Pardo, President, Grupo Aeroportuario del Sureste (ASUR), Mexico
Mr. Robert Collymore, Chief Executive Officer, Safaricom Limited, Kenya
Ms. Monica de Greiff, Chief Executive Officer, Grupo Energia de Bogota, Colombia*
Mr. Samuel di Piazza, Vice Chair, Institutional Clients Group, Citi, USA*
Mr. Fu Chengyu, Chairman, Sinopec Group, China*
Mr. Andrei Galaev, Chief Executive Officer, Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd., Russia
Mr. S. Gopalakrishnan, Chief Executive Officer, Infosys, India*
Mr. Björn Hägglund, Member of the Board, Alfa Laval AB, Sweden*
Mr. Li Decheng, Standing Vice President and Director General, China Enterprise Confederation/China Enterprise Directors Association*
Mr. Elias Masilela, Chief Executive Officer, Public Investment Corporation, South Africa
Mr. Arif Masood Naqvi, Vice Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, Abraaj Capital Holdings Limited, UAE
Mr. Angel Pes Guixa, President, Global Compact Network Spain
Mr. Paul Polman, Chief Executive Officer, Unilever, United Kingdom
Ms. Güler Sabanci, Chairperson, Sabanci Holding, Turkey*
Ms. Maria das Gracas Silva Foster, President and Chief Executive Officer, Petrobras, Brazil*
Ms. Martha Tilaar, Chairperson, Martha Tilaar Group, Indonesia
Mr. Sudhir Vasudeva, Chairman and Managing Director, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd., India

International Labour and Business Organizations
Mr. Jean-Guy Carrier, Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce*
Mr. Philip Jennings, General Secretary, UNI Global Union
Mr. Manfred Warda, General Secretary, International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers’ Unions
Mr. Brent Wilton, Secretary-General, International Organisation of Employers

Civil Society
Mr. Jorge Abrahão, President, Instituto Ethos de Empresas e Responsabilidade Social
Ms. Huguette Labelle, Chair, Transparency International
Ms. Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director-General, International Union for Conservation of Nature*
Mr. Pierre Sané, President, Imagine Africa International

Other Ex-Officio
Mr. Wolfgang Engshuber, Chair of the Board, Principles for Responsible Investment*
Mr. Georg Kel, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Office

Alternates
Mr. Duoshen Cheng, China Enterprise Confederation
Mr. Jose Carlos Vidal, Petrobras
Mr. Huang Wensheng, Sinopec Group

Observers
H.E. Mr. Are-Jøsten Norheim, Corporate Social Responsibility Ambassador, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ms. Stephane Kage, Counsellor of Germany to the United Nations
Mr. Mads Øvlisen, Chairman, Danish Council on Corporate Social Responsibility, Denmark

*Not present at 13-14 December 2012 Board meeting.
Appendix 2: Government Attendees of the UN Global Compact High-Level Luncheon

H.E. Mr. Téte António, Permanent Observer of the African Union
H.E. Mr. Octavio Errázuriz, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Desra Percaya, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations
H.E. Mrs. U. Joy Ogwu, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Geir O. Pedersen, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Masood Khan, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Paul Seger, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations
H.E. Mrs. Regina Dunlop, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Gilles Rivard, Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Dmitry I. Maksimychev, Deputy Permanent Representative of Russian Federation to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Doctor Mashabane, Deputy Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Cousens, Representative to the Economic and Social Council from the United States of America to the United Nations
H.E. Mr. Are-Josten Norheim, Corporate Social Responsibility Ambassador, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Peter Lloyd Versegi, Minister Counsellor (Development) of Australia to the United Nations
Ms. Lu Mei, Counsellor and Head of Economic Section of China to the United Nations
Ms. Nina Nordström, Minister Counsellor (Economic and Social Affairs) of Finland to the United Nations
Mr. Stefano Stefanile, First Counsellor of Italy to the United Nations
Mr. Randhir Jaiswal, Counsellor of India to the United Nations
Mr. Jun Imanishi, Counsellor of Japan to the United Nations
Mr. Yongsoo Lee, Counsellor of Republic of Korea to the United Nations
Mr. Jose Ranero, Counsellor of Spain to the United Nations
Ms. Maresa Oosterman, First Secretary of Netherlands to the United Nations
Appendix 3: Summary of the UN Global Compact High-Level Luncheon

On 14 December, Global Compact Board Members met with Ambassadors to discuss the future of the Global Compact at a luncheon attended by the Secretary-General as Chair of the Global Compact Board.

The event was co-hosted by Ambassador Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany; Ambassador Paul Seger, Permanent Representative of the Swiss Confederation; and Ambassador Regina Dunlop, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the United Nations. During the luncheon, Ambassadors and Board Members shared their views on how the Global Compact can help to bring the corporate sustainability movement to the next level, with a view to contributing to the post-2015 global development agenda.

Opening the lunch meeting, H.E. Mr. Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, reflected on the growth of the Global Compact and stressed the importance of the initiative’s strengthening in order to deliver the business action needed in support of the post-2015 development agenda. The Ambassador urged that the Global Compact’s mandate be preserved in order to effectively carry forward the initiative’s momentum and focus. As Chair of the Global Compact Donor Group, he highlighted the need to strengthen the Local Networks and supported the need for greater private sector financial contributions to support the work and future plans of the Global Compact. The Ambassador also recognized the Secretary-General for making UN-business engagement a “flagship” issue for the UN and noted that the Global Compact has knowledge and experience that is highly relevant as this agenda further develops within the Organization. Finally, he noted that the Donor Group is ready to join the discussion on the development of the partnership agenda.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon underscored the role of business in advancing sustainability priorities. He noted his role in launching many of the Global Compact’s issue platforms and his visits to over a dozen Local Networks – and declared that the Global Compact is poised to deliver major contributions by business in key areas. He urged the Global Compact to be ambitious in its mission – and emphasized the need to bring greater scale and quality to corporate sustainability globally. The Secretary-General reiterated his commitment to partnership between the UN and business, and called on the Global Compact, companies and Governments to take steps to increase collaboration towards this end.

Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Vice-Chair of the Global Compact Board and Chairman of Foundation for the Global Compact, provided an update to Ambassadors on the work of the Board and highlighted key areas of discussion during the meeting – including on the Integrity Measures, the Strategic Review and funding. He then invited a number Board members to provide brief updates on their role and work to advance the Global Compact, including Marilyn Carlson-Nelson, Chairperson of Carlson; Arif Masood Naqvi, Vice Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer of Abraaj Capital Holdings Limited; Robert Collymore, Chief Executive Officer of Safaricom Limited; Huguette Labelle, Chair of Transparency International; Paul Polman, Chief Executive Officer of Unilever; and Philip Jennings, General Secretary of UNI Global Union.

H.E. Mr. Paul Seger, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, expressed pride in being among the initiators of the Global Compact and supporting the initiative ever since. He highlighted the importance of companies respecting UN standards, and the special role of the Global Compact to help diffuse these values into the business community – citing the Global Compact’s unique position, part private and part UN, as an important factor in its success. The Ambassador also highlighted the potential of Local Networks and the importance of engaging SMEs in the sustainability agenda. Looking ahead, he pointed to the important role the Global Compact can play related to green economy, and urged the initiative to continue its work to support fragile countries through responsible business and investment.

H.E. Mrs. Regina Dunlop, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations, commended the Global Compact and its Executive Director for the work achieved through
perseverance and dedication over a decade. She underscored the importance of extending the values of the UN across societies everywhere, and cited the contribution by business at the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum as one of biggest accomplishments during the conference. With regard to the Rio+20 outcome document, the Ambassador highlighted that business was recognized, with a special emphasis on the Global Compact in terms of engagement and the principles. She urged that it’s now time to make corporate sustainability a transformative force. In conclusion, she noted with appreciation the work of the two Brazilian members of the Global Compact Board.

H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations, urged that it is necessary to take corporate sustainability to a new level and questioned how to get there. Noting the increasing importance of the post-2015 development agenda, the Ambassador emphasized the need to also focus on the future of climate change in 2015. He called for the Global Compact to support these two connected priorities, including by furthering the work of Caring for Climate and supporting Sustainable Energy for All and other relevant partnership initiatives.

H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, commended the work of the Global Compact and expressed encouragement for the “can-do” mentality of the initiative and its Board. He underscored the transformative power of the private sector, for example in areas like employment and technology, which the public sector is also trying to advance. He recognized the work of the Secretary-General to bring the private sector onboard in finding solutions to challenges, but noted that much remains to be done to incorporate and better manage business thinking and collaboration into the work of the Organization.