Rio+20 Update

Invitation to Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum (CSF)
The CSF invitations have been sent to all Global Compact Network Contact Persons this week. Please send an email to bolanos@unglobalcompact.org if you have not already received your invitation.

Hotel Accommodation for Local Networks at the CSF
The CSF invitation includes a link to different hotel accommodation options that have been pre-reserved for a limited number of Forum participants. If you have any difficulty in securing hotel accommodations from these options, please contact bolanos@unglobalcompact.net to receive information on other pre-reservations made for networks only. This is available until the 1st of March 2012 after which room availability for local networks cannot be guaranteed.

Renewal of 2012 MOU
The deadline for networks to update the KSS with 2011 information for the renewal of the 2012 MOU (and by implication the right to use the network logo), was the 31st of January 2012. This date has now passed and all networks will receive a letter on the network status with regard to the MOU within the coming weeks. Please contact hashida@unglobalcompact.org for any clarifications.

Local Network Exchange Program 2012
This is a call to all Local Network Contact Persons to indicate your interest to participate in the Third Exchange Program being hosted by the Global Compact Network Namibia from the 27th – 30th March 2012. A select group of 5 or 6 interested contact persons will have the opportunity for the exchange of ideas, experiences and a dissemination of best practices during this exchange. The deadline for indication of interest is 14th February 2012; please send an email to olaniy@un.org to register your interest. For application details and background information, please click here: Exchange Program Background Information

Terms of Reference for the Network Working Groups on Funding and Governance
The existing MOU working group has expanded the scope of its discussions to include the “Sustainable Network Funding & Resource” and “The Role and Functions of Local Networks in GC Governance” as sub committees based on the inter-connectivity of all three issues. To view the “Terms of Reference” for both discussions, please click here: TOR. Your input on the terms of reference and interest to participate in any of the sub working groups are also welcome and should be sent to: nagi@un.org or bolanos@unglobalcompact.net.

UN Member States call on Global Compact Local Networks to Promote the Women’s Empowerment Principles
In a recent General Assembly resolution, UN Member States requested that Global Compact Local Networks promote the Women’s Empowerment Principles and help create awareness of the many ways in which business can promote gender equality. For ideas on how to take action in your network, or to share with the WEPs team at headquarters what your network is already doing to promote the WEPs, please contact Lauren Gula (gulal@unglobalcompact.org) or for more info on the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs).

The Principles are now finalized and will be released on 12 March 2012 in London. If you are interested in the opportunity to host (together with local counterparts from UNICEF and Save the Children) local events around or following the 12 March launch, to raise the awareness of business’ role in respecting and supporting children’s rights (the event could be a lunch or breakfast meeting to mark the occasion and share examples of how business can respect and support children’s rights), please contact: childrensprinciples@unglobalcompact.org. Material to support such an event is being prepared, and will be made available to networks shortly. Please, also let us know if there are companies in your networks that should be invited to participate in the March 12 event in London.