Dear readers,

You might be familiar with the following Chinese saying: “When the wind of change blows, some build protective walls, but others build windmills.” Today, the wind of change is rapidly picking up speed in our industry as well. In response, we’re not building any windmills — but we are building vehicles that operate with innovative drive concepts. In the period until 2025 we will launch the series production of ten new electric cars and invest approximately €10 billion to expand our fleet of electric vehicles.

But the electrification of the drivetrain is by no means the only change that is challenging and inspiring us at Daimler. We’re also focusing on digitization, autonomous driving, and new mobility concepts — especially concepts for urban areas. Taken together, these trends represent the biggest transformation of mobility in more than 130 years. Our aim is to shape these changes for the benefit of our customers, business partners, stakeholders, and employees. And in order to do that, we’re not building any protective walls — on the contrary. At our new CASE unit, we are addressing future-oriented topics holistically. Here we are using new and flexible forms of cooperation such as swarm organizations.

Changes create not only new opportunities but also new responsibilities, which we are emphatically taking on. In all of our activities, we behave with integrity and take the effects on society and the environment into account. Among the important guidelines for these activities are the principles laid down in the UN Global Compact, the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, and the accords reached in the Paris Agreement.

As you read this report, you will find out where we stand today and what we plan to do in the future. Dear readers, please continue to support us through your constructive criticism as we move into the future. We are convinced that, thanks to our concerted efforts, the wind of change will become a following wind that takes all of us forward together.

Best regards,

Dr. Dieter Zetsche \hspace{1cm} Renata Jungo Brüngger \hspace{1cm} Ola Källenius

Attachment to the Daimler COP to the Global Compact: CEO Commitment

The UN Global Compact’s ten principles and Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership are central reference points for Daimler’s Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability activities. Therefore, this commitment has been made public in multiple speeches and appearances. The following statement of support for the UN Global Compact by Dr. Dieter Zetsche, Renata Jungo Brüngger and Ola Källenius is made public in the Daimler Sustainability Report 2016, Page 2:"