

MONSANTO



Hugh Grant
Chairman, President and
Chief Executive Officer

MONSANTO COMPANY
800 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, 63167
PHONE (314) 694-8331
FAX (314) 694-2120
hugh.grant@monsanto.com
<http://www.monsanto.com>

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H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
USA

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that Monsanto Company supports the ten principles of the Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. With this communication, we express our intent to advance those principles within our sphere of influence. We are committed to making the Global Compact and its principles part of the strategy, culture and day-to-day operations of our company, and to engaging in collaborative projects which advance the broader development goals of the United Nations, particularly the Millennium Development Goals. Monsanto Company will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public through our 2010 *Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Report*.

The 2008-2009 *Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Report, Grown for the Future*, provides insight into some of the current efforts of Monsanto Company that are already underway which embody the principles of the Global Compact. Monsanto Company conducts business in a highly regulated environment in which many of our products must be approved by regulatory agencies prior to being sold or used by our customers. Consistent with Principle 7 of the Global Compact with respect to the precautionary approach, Monsanto Company seeks to ensure that our products and technology comply with or exceed all applicable laws, regulations and approval standards to protect the environment and human, animal or plant life or health. Our product stewardship programs are designed to ensure the integrity of our products and the processes used to develop, produce and manage them. These programs cover the entire life cycle of our products, from gene discovery and plant development through seed production, marketing and distribution. Monsanto Company is confident these efforts are consistent with and meet the expectation of Principle 7 that business support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the annual submission of a Communication on Progress (COP) that describes our company's efforts to implement the ten principles. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within *one year* of joining the Global Compact, and *annually* thereafter according to the Global Compact COP policy.

Sincerely yours,


Hugh Grant