



# The CEO Water Mandate

## Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 28 April 2015

**Present:** R. Barbieri (Diageo); C. Brown (Olam); G. Burian (Monsanto); J. Cassin (Forest Trends); M. Ginster (Sasol); Yu Jiantuo (China Development Research Foundation); V. Kona (Tongaat Hulett); C. Kushner (UNICEF); H. Greig (WaterAid); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); G. Power (UN Global Compact)

Welcome and Agenda Items	
<p>G. Power welcomed Steering Committee members and advisors to the call, and offered a special note on the earthquake in Nepal. As part of its commitment to provide support during humanitarian crises, the CEO Water Mandate issued on 27 April a special appeal to Mandate endorsers to assist in the UN's disaster rescue and recovery efforts in Nepal in the wake of the devastating earthquake. Specifically, endorsers were asked to support international efforts – including securing safe water supplies – via the UN Central Emergencies Response Fund.</p> <p>1. Debrief on World Water Forum Session, Korea</p> <p>J. Morrison reported that the CEO Water Mandate session, undertaken in partnership with the UN Global Compact's Korea Local Network, was well attended and focused on the importance of corporate water stewardship in the Post-2015 era. In addition, Mr Morrison participated in a UN-led discussion on targets and indicators in relation to water-resources management. UN-Water invited the Mandate to contribute to future discussions on the formulation of relevant targets and indicators.</p>	
<p>2. Update on Post-2015 Process and SDGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The UN Global Compact and CEO Water Mandate continue to be actively involved in contributing relevant inputs to the intergovernmental discussions in relation to the Post-2015 agenda and SDGs – expected to be announced by Governments at the United Nations Summit in September.</li> <li>▪ On 30 March the UN General Assembly convened a special session on water and sanitation. Mr Dan Bena from PepsiCo accepted a speaking invitation to represent the CEO Water Mandate and its work with respect to corporate water stewardship. Mr Bena also stressed the importance of the Water Action Hub as an implementation platform for collaborative projects and other forms of partnerships in relation to water and sanitation.</li> </ul>	

3. Briefing on UNGC's 25 June Event and Related Activities

- On 25 June 2015 the UN Global Compact will convene two major events to mark the initiative's 15-year anniversary – a special mid-day high-level session in the UN General Assembly focusing on the role of business in society, and an evening gala with the UN Secretary-General and H.E. Mr Kofi Annan in attendance.
- During the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> a number of thematic issue working sessions will be convened within the UN, including discussions on water and sanitation where the Mandate's work will find expression. J. Morrison is leading the design of this segment.

4. Overview of Planned UNGC Local Network Events in 2015

- Per the CEO Water Mandate's Two-Year Strategic Plan (2014-2015) a number of UNGC Local Networks have undertaken or are planning to undertake CEO Water Mandate-related activities and events in 2015. This include: India (mid-May); China (July); Israel (October); and Brazil (Q3, dtb).
- These activities help drive the CEO Water Mandate into the local context with a range of expected benefits: i) rooting corporate stewardship precepts at the local level; ii) enlarging the base of Mandate endorsing companies (ie, recruitment); iii) placing and activating the Water Action Hub at country level, thereby driving partnerships and action; and iv) delivering positive impacts aligned to the sustainable development agenda and any future SDG on water and sanitation.
- The Secretariat said that it will soon be communicating future Local Networks activities to Mandate endorsers on a consistent basis – using tools such as email alters; the Mandate's new website (soon to be launched); and the quarterly newsletter.

***SC members were highly supportive of the strategy to extend the CEO Water Mandate into UNGC Local Networks. One member suggested that the Secretariat consider developing Memorandums of Understanding with specific Local Networks to establish parameters in terms of what Local Networks would undertake and how the Secretariat at the global level might support efforts, understanding that it will be the Local Networks that assume most of resource responsibilities.***

5. Plans for Stockholm, World Water Week, 2015

- J. Morrison outlined the Mandate's general plans in relation to World Water Week, Stockholm 2015:
  - 25 August: "Accelerating Corporate Action on WASH"; and "Tools for Improving Water Stewardship Performance".
  - 26 August: "Corporate Water Stewardship in Support of a

<p>Water SDG”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 27 August: “Managing Business Water Risk Through Collaboration”.</li> </ul>	
<p>6. Collaboration with WWF</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat informed the SC that it recently held discussions at the request of WWF about elevating collaboration and partnership, especially in relation to the connection between the Mandate’s Water Action Hub and WWF’s Water Risk Filter. Better alignment of the two resources could result in higher levels of collaboration among corporate water stewards and other stakeholders, both secretariats agreed.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat proposed to the Steering Committee that the Secretariat draft a Memorandum of Understanding with WWF that would outline the roles and responsibilities – in keeping with other MOUs that the Mandate has executed (eg, CDP, WRI).</li> </ul> <p><b><i>SC members approved the proposal and directed the Secretariat to begin drafting such an MOU – to be reviewed by the SC during a future SC call.</i></b></p> <p>7. Development of Mandate’s 2016-2018 Strategic Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat proposed that it begin developing a three-year Strategic Plan for the Mandate, to replace the two-year plan that will expire at the end of 2015.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat proposed that the plan contain at least four major strategy elements: i) Going to Scale with Quality; ii) Advancing the Mandate through the Local Networks; iii) Corporate Water Stewardship and the SDGs; and iv) Funding.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>SC members approved the proposal and directed the Secretariat to begin drafting a new three-year plan. Several members stressed the importance of pursuing strategies that are highly impact-oriented, in addition to the opportunities to collaborate with other like-minded organizations to achieve wider results. One member also highlighted the importance of working with governments and the public sector, especially in relation to making progress against the expected SDG on water and sanitation. Another member stressed the importance of adequately addressing water quality in any future plans. The SC will review the draft three-year plan during the next SC conference call.</i></b></p> <p>8. Miscellaneous</p> <p>The next SC call will be scheduled for the July timeframe.</p>	