



The CEO Water Mandate

Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 4 Dec. 2014

Present: R. Barbieri (Diageo); J. Cassin (Forest Trends); S. Chaudhuri (Tata Steel); M. Dickstein (Heineken); M. Ginster (Sasol); H. Greig (WaterAid); V. Kona (Tongaat Hulett); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); G. Power (UN Global Compact); B. Share (AB InBev)

Agenda item	
<p>1. Welcome to New Members, Overview of Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ G. Power welcomed the new members of the 2014-2015 Steering Committee – Margarita Henao (EPM); Michael Dickstein (Heineken); Gabriela Burian (Monsanto); Shubhenjit Chaudhuri (Tata Steel); Vuyo Kona (Tongaat Hulett) – as well as the new special advisors – Mai Lu (China Development Research Foundation); and Cecilia Scharp (UNICEF). (The full list of Steering Committee members and advisors can be viewed at www.ceowatermandate.org.) ▪ G. Power provided an overview of the remit and general operating procedures of the Steering Committee (SC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The SC is the primary governance entity of the CEO Water Mandate, and is responsible for strategic, financial and some administrative matters; ○ Decisions by the SC are augmented by discussions/decisions at the yearly endorser-only meeting (which normally takes place as part of a Mandate working conference during Stockholm World Water Week); ○ The SC operates on a consensus decision-making model, with a simple majority vote utilized if consensus cannot be reached; ○ The discussions employ the Chatham House Rule, and a summary report is produced for all meetings, which is posted on the CEO Water Mandate public website. ▪ G. Power noted that this particular conference call would be more of a briefing from the Secretariat – rather than a meeting requiring formal decision-making by the SC. 	
<p>2. Overview of CEO Water Mandate's 2015 Plans and Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ G. Power stated that the CEO Water Mandate was largely on track in terms of meeting or exceeding the goals and objectives laid out in the Two-Year Strategic Plan. He noted one revision in terms of 	

2015 plans: there will be no major global event planned for early 2015 (as in previous years – eg, Lima, Mumbai) given the 2014 decision by endorsers to embrace a strategy of encouraging more Global Compact Local Network events (see below). That said, 2015 will be something of a transition year in this regard as the Mandate may hold a significant event in S Korea in April as part of World Water Forum 7.

- G. Power and J. Morrison referenced the recent year-end email to all endorsers, which provided an overview of 2015 planned activities, including:
 - Encouraging and supporting Global Compact Local Networks (LNs) in the convening of national events on corporate water stewardship issues and the CEO Water Mandate. Examples of interest and plans under way included: Uganda, Nordic LN, Colombia, India, China, Japan, Sudan, Kenya, S Korea, Brazil, Sri Lanka, and Israel.
 - Continuing to engage in the UN's Post-2015 Agenda, in terms of both the goal side (ie, an expected water and sanitation goal) and the implementation side (ie, positioning the CEO Water Mandate as a global implementation platform for business action and engagement). See below.
 - Expanding and “localizing” the Water Action Hub to better enable country-level capacity building and partnership brokering and implementation (eg, India, Mexico).
 - Developing a water and supply chain working group and related workstream, beginning with a focus on water stewardship in the food/ag sector.
 - Rolling out recently developed guidance, including the Water Disclosure Guidelines, and the guide to respecting the human rights to water and sanitation (to be released in January 2015).
- SC members and advisors relayed the following feedback and suggestions:
 - The Secretariat should seek to develop a mapping and calendar of planned LN activities in order to effectively engage and involve Mandate endorsers and subsidiaries in these activities.
 - It will be important that LN activities are largely funded by the LNs themselves, whenever possible, with limited financial resources coming from the central Mandate Secretariat.
 - Future long-range strategic plans of the Mandate should seek to include more objectives framed as business-like, quantifiable metrics

3. Update on UN's Post-2015 Agenda and “SDGs”

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ G. Power shared the Open Working Group’s proposed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), noting the launch of a new inter-governmental committee (chaired by Ireland and Kenya) which will begin of a series of meetings and consultations in early 2015 focusing on possibly consolidating the proposed SDGs. G. Power informed the SC members that it is quite possible that Governments will not reduce the number of goals from 17, focusing instead on consolidating and refining the associated targets (totally 169 at present). ▪ An advanced “thought paper” from the new inter-governmental committee states that the process will be transparent and inclusive – seeking engagement and views of major stakeholder groups, including the business community. In this respect, the Mandate will continue to seek to positively influence thinking in relation to a proposed stand-alone goal on water and sanitation. In the Issue Brief issued by the UN Global Compact and CEO Water Mandate in 2014, a stand-alone goal is proposed along with four related targets. ▪ In addition, the Secretariat will continue to position the CEO Water Mandate (and the Water Action Hub) as an important implementation platform to engage business in the Post-2015 era. 	
<p>4. Miscellaneous</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The next conference call of the Steering Committee will be scheduled for the February-March timeframe – date-to-be determined and communicated. 	