



The CEO Water Mandate

Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 14 Nov. 2012

Present: N. Barak (Netfim); F. Batz (GIZ); B. Fulford (GlaxoSmithKline); M. Glade (Molson Coors); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); G. Power (UN Global Compact); H. Rippman (Nike); I. Studer (AkzoNobel) Daniel Yeo (WaterAid)

Agenda item	
<p>1. Welcome and Governance Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ G. Power welcomed members of the newly constituted Steering Committee for 2012-13 – this being the first conference call of the body. ▪ For the benefit of new Steering Committee members, G. Power provided some background information on the Steering Committee and the governance of the Mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Per the Constitution of the CEO Water Mandate, the Steering Committee is the main governance body of the initiative whose purpose is to provide counsel and advice on strategic, administrative, and financial matters. ○ The Steering Committee is composed mainly of voting business representatives (who serve staggered two-year terms). In addition, the Steering Committee has several non-voting Special Advisors representing civil society, the public sector, and other non-business interests. ○ Governance decisions of the Steering Committee are augmented by decisions taken at the endorser-only meetings, which occur as a regular part of the Mandate's working conferences. ○ The SC operates on a consensus decision model; when consensus cannot be reached, a simple majority vote decides matters. ○ The SC discussions employ the Chatham House Rule, and a summary of every conference call is produced and posted on the public CEO Water Mandate website in the spirit of transparency and disclosure. 	
<p>2. Update on Plans Related to Mumbai (2013) and Stockholm (2013)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ J. Morrison provided an update on plans related to the CEO Water Mandate events in Mumbai and Stockholm in 2013. 	

- The CEO Water Mandate is planning to hold its 2013 multi-stakeholder general conference in Mumbai, on 5-8 March. Mandate endorses HCC and Tata, together with the local School of Management, have agreed to host and/or sponsor the event. (The Secretariat will seek to fill the final sponsorship spot(s)_ in the coming weeks.)
- The Mumbai conference will feature, per tradition, a significant multi-stakeholder session, bringing together endorsers and other corporate interests with civil society, the public sector, academia, and other stakeholders. In terms of the private sector, the conference will also seek to involve select corporate members of the UN Global Compact's India Network, as well as select members of the Federation of Industry and Chamber of Commerce India (FICCI).
- The general theme of the conference will be "collective action", and in this regard the conference will incorporate the Mandate's draft guide to collective action as well as the recently launched Water Action Hub.
- In addition, the conference will include a technical session for endorsers. The purpose of this session will be to provide companies with guidance in relation to implementing key Mandate technical "products" – such as the guides related to collective action and responsible engagement in public policy.

The SC agreed that given venue space considerations, the Secretariat should "screen" both the UNGC India Network and FICCI invitation list in order to select an appropriate number of companies for whom water stewardship issues are a top or emerging priority.

The SC agreed that the technical session should follow the general multi-stakeholder event, rather than the reverse order.

- In terms of Stockholm 2013, the Secretariat asked the SC for guidance with respect to whether to follow the same format as the 2012 session at World Water Week – that is, convening the information-oriented session at a nearby hotel, in parallel with the main World Water Week conference, in order to reduce convening expenses.

The SC agreed that the 2013 session should follow the same approach as 2012, while also encouraging the Secretariat to explore opportunities to partner with other groups on sessions that will take place within the main SIWI conference (e.g., exploring a possible session partnership with the Alliance for Water Stewardship).

3. Update on Priority Workstreams	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ J. Morrison provided an update on the Mandate’s priority workstreams: ▪ Regarding <u>water disclosure</u>, the Secretariat has begun work on phase two, which involves finalizing the Mandate’s global guidelines in 2013. The Secretariat is undertaking targeted consultations on the guide, while also reaching out to key practitioners, especially with an aim to drive harmonization around concepts, frameworks, and terminology. Related, during the Mumbai conference, the Secretariat plans to hold a joint session with CDP Water Disclosure and the Alliance for Water Stewardship. ▪ Regarding <u>water and human rights</u>, the Secretariat, per agreement during the endorser session in Stockholm, is drafting a concept note for phase II work for the Mandate’s Human Rights Working Group, with special consideration on the linkage between “respect” for human rights and the overall concept of corporate water stewardship. <p><i>One SC member stressed the importance of including some guidance on going beyond “do-no-harm” approaches – that is, in relation to “supporting” human rights. The member questioned whether the concept of “water stewardship” sufficiently relates to human needs and suggested this be further explored.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regarding <u>water and collective action</u>, the Secretariat is developing the next phase of the Water Action Hub, which the Mandate launched in August 2012. Based on a survey sent to endorsers, the Hub will continue to add additional profiles on key river basins. In early 2013, for example, the Hub will add the Limpopo, Lake Victoria, and Ganges basins. ▪ G. Power informed the SC that the Water Action Hub is generating increasing interest within the UN, and especially in relation to discussions around the UN’s Post-2015 Development Agenda and plans for UN Sustainable Development Goals, to replace the MDGs. Mr Power said the UN Global Compact will play in a key role in providing private-sector input to the “SDGs”. In this regard, the Water Action Hub will be flagged as an innovative implementation platform. <p>4. UN-Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Secretariat updated the SC on the strengthening relationship between the Mandate and UN-Water, the UN’s inter-agency coordination body on water issues. ▪ In January 2013, the Mandate, represented by J. Morrison, will convene a special session at UN-Water’s conference in Zaragoza. 	

The conference will focus on commitments and action in relation to water access and efficiency.

- The Secretariat recommended that Josefina Maestu, head of UN-Water's Decade Programme on "Water for Life" be appointed as a Special Advisor to the SC. In terms of UN representation on the SC, Ms Maestu would replace Mr Andrew Hudson of UNDP, whose term recently expired.

The SC unanimously approved the appointment.

5. The Mandate and UN Global Compact Local Networks

- The Secretariat proposed that the Mandate consider adopting a strategic plan to integrate its work within the context of the UN Global Compact's Local Networks.
- G. Power noted that the UNGC has established 101 Local (ie, Country) Networks around the world, many in water-stressed regions. These Networks are increasingly utilized by the UNGC Office to disseminate and share its global issue work.

The SC directed the Secretariat to develop a briefing note that would outline a possible pilot program in relation to a select number of key Local Networks. The note and the underlying concept would be discussed at one of the SC conference calls in early 2013.

6. Miscellaneous

- The next conference call of the SC will be scheduled for mid/late January 2013 – exact date to-be-determined.