



# The CEO Water Mandate

## Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 16 December 2010

Present: M. Bhutani (Hindustan); M. Ginster (Sasol); M. Gough (Reed Elsevier); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); G. Power (UN Global Compact)

Agenda item	Task
<p>1. De-Brief and Review of S Africa Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ G. Power provided a summary of the discussions and outcomes related to the sixth working conference of the CEO Water Mandate, which took place on 15-17 November in Cape Town, S Africa.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat believes that this was one of the most successful and productive Mandate conferences to date. Noteworthy aspects included:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant multi-stakeholder attendance and participation;</li> <li>- Productive discussions related to the Mandate's three workstreams (ie, public policy; human rights, disclosure);</li> <li>- Focus on a specific location experiencing water stress, ie, S Africa.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The conference also served as the platform for the global release of the CEO Water Mandate's Guide to Responsible Business Engagement with Water Policy.</li> <li>▪ The main outcomes of the conference included the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consensus that the Mandate should actively enable and facilitate company pilot testing of water practices on the ground and/or endorse collective action opportunities;</li> <li>- Decision to develop operational guidance on how business can respect the human right to water and sanitation. Related, agreement by endorsers to revise the Preamble of the CEO Water Mandate core document to include references to the two recent UN resolutions on the human right to safe water and sanitation;</li> <li>- Decision to develop a corporate water disclosure framework, including guidance for aligning water disclosure with stakeholders' information needs;</li> <li>- Agreement by endorsers to add four non-endorsers (ie, non-business) special advisors to the Steering Committee as a means to broaden diversity of expertise and perspective. (See below.)</li> <li>- Agreement to formalize relationships with key strategic partners via Memorandums of Understanding.</li> <li>- Agreement to explore greater alignment with the UN Global</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<p>Compact's Caring for Climate initiative.</p> <p>[SEE NEXT SECTION BELOW]</p>	
<p>2. Addition of Four Non-Endorser Members to Steering Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At the endorser-only meeting during the S Africa conference, there was consensus on appointing four non-endorser (ie, non-business) special advisors to the Steering Committee as a means to diversity expertise and perspective on the main governance body. It was agreed that these advisors should come from the following stakeholder groups: i) UN Agency; ii) NGO focused on social issues; iii) NGO focused on conservation issues; and iv) public sector water entity.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat presented its proposals for the four candidates, which the Steering Committee approved. The following lists the four proposed groups (but not the individuals as the outreach process has yet to commence): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UN Development Programme</li> <li>- WaterAid</li> <li>- The Nature Conservancy</li> <li>- International Water Association</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The Steering Committee directed the Secretariat to invite the proposed individuals to join the SC.</li> </ul> <p>3. Revision of Preamble of CEO Water Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At the endorser-only meeting in Cape Town, endorsers agreed that the Preamble of the CEO Water Mandate be amended to include a reference to the 2010 resolutions by the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly. It was agreed that the language should reference these two important resolutions but not suggest or entail any new commitments by Mandate endorsers in terms of adopting a formal human right to water policy. (The Mandate is currently developing operational guidance on the human right to water, which will cover corporate practices in terms of a rights-based approach as well as an explicit policy approach.)</li> <li>▪ The Steering Committee agreed with the draft language proposed by the Secretariat and directed the Secretariat to revise the Preamble and send it out to all endorsers. The amended Preamble will be posted on the Mandate's website on 15 January 2011. (The Steering Committee also directed the Secretariat to add a footnote to the CEO Water Mandate core document, indicating this amendment to the Preamble and its date of change.)</li> </ul>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Secretariat</p>

4. Alliance for Water Stewardship Board Nomination

- At the endorser meeting in Cape Town, endorsers accepted the invitation by the Alliance for Water Stewardship to appoint a Mandate endorser on the Board of the AWS to represent the Mandate and ensure synergies between the two initiatives. Endorsers agreed that this individual should ideally be a current member of the Mandate's Steering Committee and directed the Secretariat to explore this possibility.
- During the conference call of the Steering Committee, it was agreed that Mark Gough from Reed Elsevier would serve as the Mandate's representative on the AWS Board, and that M. Bhutani from Hindustan Construction would support M. Gough as an alternative.

5. Draft MOU with CDP-Water

- Recognizing the growing synergies between CDP-Water and the CEO Water Mandate in relation to the area of water disclosure, endorsers in Cape Town agreed that the Secretariat should develop a draft MOU between the CEO Water Mandate and CDP-Water outlining areas of potential collaboration – including CDP-Water incorporating the Mandate elements into the on-going development of its questionnaire, and the Mandate recommending CDP-Water reporting language in relation to the Communication on Progress – Water understanding that the Mandate will continue to encourage companies to report using broader sustainability guidelines as well, most notably the Global Reporting Initiative.
- The Steering Committee approved the draft MOU as developed by the Secretariat and directed the Secretariat to share the draft MOU with CDP-Water for its input.

Secretariat

6. Pilot Testing in S Africa

- There was endorser agreement at the Cape Town conference for the Mandate and interested endorsers to pursue collective action efforts in S Africa.
- The Secretariat will soon send to endorsers a survey to gauge interest in specific watersheds in S Africa as well as different modes of collective action.
- Germany's GTZ is interested in partnering with the Mandate in relation to such an effort and had indicated financial resources to commit – provided that corporate matching would be secured. In addition, the Alliance for Water Stewardship also has also been working with GTZ to mobilize a collective action in S Africa, and GTZ has suggested that the three parties explore a joint undertaking.
- The Secretariat plans to soon discuss with AWS areas of commonality and interest. In mid-February the Mandate Secretariat will meet Johannesburg with GTZ and interested companies to further explore the scope and objectives of such a collective action.

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<p>7. Expansion of the UNEP-Mandate Capacity-Building Tool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Steering Committee approved the Secretariat's proposal to expand the scope of the UNEP-Mandate Water Capacity Building Platform, especially in relation to the idea of creating a watershed-specific, match-making hub for companies. Germany's GTZ is also interested in this project and has indicated funds to contribute. IBLF and Deloitte are also potential partners. A concept note will be prepared by the Secretariat and shared with the Steering Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>Secretariat</p>
<p>8. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Per agreement in Cape Town, the next gathering of the CEO Water Mandate will take place in Cairo, Egypt, on 17-19 May 2011, and will coincide with the UN Global Compact's Caring for Climate general meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>Secretariat</p>