

## **Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 1 April 2010**

Present: N. Barak (Netafim), C. Frutiger\* (Nestle), M. Ginster (Sasol), A. Walker\* (Levi Strauss); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute), G. Power (UN Global Compact), A. Salloum (Dow Chemical).

(\* C. Frutiger substituted for M. Jimenez; A. Walker for M. Kobori.)

Agenda item	Task
1. Updates	
(Note: this meeting of the Steering Committee was scheduled for a shorter duration – 30 minutes – and designed just to provide brief updates on issues related to the previous full Steering Committee meeting.)	
<ul> <li>Gavin Power and Jason Morrison provided an update on several items:</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Regarding the upcoming conference, content is at a quite advanced stage, and participation is expected to be robust. Thus far, approximately 100 people have registered for the three days of meetings:</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>35 endorsing companies</li> <li>6 observer companies</li> <li>22 NGOs</li> <li>8 UN-Governments</li> <li>7 institutional investors</li> <li>20 other stakeholders</li> </ul>	
With respect to the Human Rights Working Group workshop, 14 April, approximately 35 endorsers have registered. The session will focus on the findings of the human rights survey undertaken by the Pacific Institute, with an eye towards how this workstream of the Mandate should be further developed. A separate report will be developed out of this workshop.	
[SEE NEXT SECTION BELOW]	

- 2. General Conference, and Development of Public Policy Guide
  - The Fifth Working Conference, 15-16 April, will focus on three main areas: the Mandate's water disclosure, human rights, and public policy workstreams.
  - With respect to disclosure, there will be a review of the COP-Water reports issued by endorsing companies, including a discussion of other initiatives' efforts vis-à-vis water reporting.
  - With respect to the public policy, the conference will focus on the draft guide to "Business Engagement with Water Policy and Management". Prior to the conference, the guide will be released for a 5-week public consultation.

Secretariat

- The final guide will be one of the major deliverables at the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit, which will take place in New York on 24-25 June.
- As with other UN Global Compact tools and resources, the guide will set out recommendations and guidance with respect to corporate engagement in public policy on water issues. The guidance will not represent new commitments or be binding in any fashion, but rather offer aspirational guidance for companies with respect to this element of the Mandate.
- In this regard, it was proposed that the Steering Committee ultimately "sign-off" on the final guide – just as other working groups and governance entities have supported previous UN Global Compact implementation guidance.
- It was agreed that the process related to finalization of the guide be further discussed during the endorsers-only section of the New York conference.

## 3. Miscellaneous

It was proposed that the topic of the sixth working conference, to take place at a presently unscheduled date in late 2010, focus on the topic of Community Engagement, one of the six elements of the Mandate. In this regard, endorser Sasol has invited consideration of S. Africa as the location.