



# The CEO Water Mandate

## Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 23 July 2013

**Present:** N. Barak (Netfim); N. Govender (Eskom); J. Maestu (UN-Water); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); C. Piedrahita (Grupo Nutresa); G. Power (UN Global Compact); H. Rippman (Nike); J. Rother (Bayer); D. Yeo (WaterAid)

Agenda item	
<p>1. Review of UNGC's Post-2015 Report to the UN Secretary-General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ G. Power informed the Steering Committee that the UNGC submitted its official report on the Post-2015 agenda to the UN Secretary-General on 17 June. (The document was sent to Steering Committee members in advance of this conference call.)</li> <li>▪ G. Power represented an overview of the document, and highlighted the aspects especially relevant to the CEO Water Mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. "Water and Sanitation" are identified in the top issue priorities as projected in the UNGC's hierarchy of proposed Post-2015 development imperatives (page 5)</li> <li>ii. Related, "Water and Sanitation for All" is proposed as a stand-alone goal within the report's "Design for Sustainable Development Objectives", and includes specific targets related to WASH; water-resources management; and waste-water treatment (page 15)</li> <li>iii. The main body of the text (page 10) contains a section on "Water and Sanitation", describing why this should be at the center of any new development framework. In addition, the important role of "corporate water stewardship" (as embodied in the CEO Water Mandate) is highlighted.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ G. Power informed the SC that the UN Secretary-General is currently developing his final report, which will reflect inputs from a range of sources. G. Power indicated that while the UNGC hopes that key aspects of its overall report will be reflected in the Secretary-General's final report to UN Member States, it is unlikely that the SG's report will include the water-specific aspects of the UNGC's submission. Nonetheless, references to the UNGC's report will be valuable in referring Member States and others to the overall report and various aspects, including the sections on Water and Sanitation.</li> <li>▪ In addition, G. Power said that the UNGC Office will continue to use its report in its engagement and interactions with Members States between now and 2015.</li> </ul>	

***Steering Committee members reacted positively to the report. One member noted that the target related “Fresh water use brought in line with supply” appeared to expand on the Mandate consultation in Mumbai where the discussion focused mainly on the issue of abstraction rates. The Secretariat noted that subsequent consultations led the conclusion that a goal related to balancing supply and demand would be desirable.***

***Another SC member suggested that greater elaboration might be needed in terms of the sanitation target – ie, the distinction between basic access to sanitation by 2020 and improved sanitation facilities by 2030.***

***Another SC member suggested that the Mandate Secretariat created a database to showcase best practices in relation to Mandate endorsers – for the benefit of Member States, policy makers, and other stakeholders. This could build in the Rio+20 Communique by Mandate CEOs which included examples of commitments and actions.***

2. Updates on Mandate Events in Stockholm, and New York City 2013

- J. Morrison provided an update on plans related to both the Stockholm event during World Water Week (4 September) and the CEO Water Mandate’s side event at the UNGC Leaders Summit (19 September).
- The Stockholm conference will be multi-stakeholder in orientation and focus on the Mandate’s three priority work areas: i) corporate water disclosure (where the Mandate is developing global guidance); ii) collective action (where the Mandate will be releasing its final good practice guidance); and iii) water and human rights (where the Mandate will release results of its initial research).
- The Mandate Secretariat will also convene an endorser-only session following the close of the event. This session will focus on strategic issues related to the CEO Water Mandate – and will be used as the basis for the development of a 2-3 year strategy paper to be developed by the Secretariat following both the Stockholm and New York events.
- In Stockholm, the Mandate will also be represented by PepsiCo in a special session by UN-Water focusing on stakeholder dialogue.
- On 19 September, the CEO Water Mandate will convene a special half-day event in conjunction with the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit, taking place on 19-20 September in New York City.
- The Mandate’s event on 19 September will focus on corporate water stewardship and the Post-2015 development agenda, and incorporate key aspects of the UNGC’s submission to the UN Secretary-General. The Deputy Secretary-General has been invited to deliver remarks at the event – related to his call-to-action on

<p>sanitation. Supporting the DSG, the Mandate Secretariat will release a white paper on corporate practices in relation to the global sanitation challenge.</p>	
<p>3. India Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat informed the Steering Committee that the CEO Water Mandate will take part – via the presence of J. Morrison – in a UNGC social enterprise collaboration lab, scheduled to take place in New Delhi on 22-24 October 2013. The lab is part of the UNGC’s separate Social Enterprise initiative that focuses on identifying promising entrepreneurial concepts. This year’s lab – the first – has chosen the topic of Water and Sanitation.</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Constituting the 2013-2014 Steering Committee</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat informed the Steering Committee that, per the Mandate’s Constitution, five current business members of the Steering Committee will be leaving their two-year seats. (The Mandate’s SC consists of 10 business seats, with each serving staggered two-year terms.)</li> <li>▪ G. Power thanking the following departing SC members for their commitment and service – Michael Glade (Molson Coors); Nandha Govender (Eskom); Sanjiv Paul (Tata Steel); Jochen Rother (Bayer); and Ivon Studer (AkzoNobel Latin America).</li> <li>▪ In addition, two of the four non-business Special Advisors will be leaving their positions – Brian Richter (The Nature Conservancy), and Daniel Yeo (WaterAid).</li> <li>▪ In the coming weeks, and during the Stockholm event, the Secretariat will be inviting nominations to replace the five business seats. Following the nominations, the Secretariat will make recommendations to the still serving members of the Steering Committee. In addition to the geographic requirement, candidates will be selecting based on the following the three criteria: i) demonstrated commitment and engagement in the Mandate; ii) business sector diversity; and iii) ability to bring fresh ideas.</li> <li>▪ In relation to the open Special Advisors seats, the Secretariat will develop proposals for one or two high-priority social NGOs and environmental NGOs for consideration.</li> </ul> <p>5. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ D. Yeo briefed the SC on the recent meeting he attended of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Water Security. He said that one of the key areas discussed was water policy and governance, and in this regard highlighted the potential</li> </ul>	

contribution of the Mandate's "Responsible Business Engagement in Water Policy".

- The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be scheduled following the formulation of the 2013-2014 group.