



The CEO Water Mandate

Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call, 28 July 2014

Present: M. Alexander (Diageo); S. Arango (Grupo Nutresa); N. Barak (Netafim); C. Brown (Olam); J. Cassin (Forest Trends); B. Fulford (GlaxoSmithKline); M. Ginster (Sasol); D. Hillyard (WaterAid); J. Maestu (UN-Water); J. Morrison (Pacific Institute); G. Power (UN Global Compact); H. Share (AB InBev)

| Agenda item | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Update on UN Post-2015 Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The UN Global Compact and the CEO Water Mandate continue to be actively engaged in the UN Post-2015 process – providing inputs and recommendations to several key UN processes. ▪ G. Power provided an update on the UN Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals, which on 19 July issued its final proposal on the “SDGs”. The proposal and related goals will be reviewed and debated by UN Member States during the General Assembly in September 2014. It is expected that Member States will issue a final set of SDGs in September 2015. ▪ The OWG’s proposal contains 17 goals with numerous sub targets. Of importance to the work of the CEO Water Mandate is the fact that the OWG has identified water and sanitation as a dedicated stand-alone goal – specifically, Goal 6: “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”. ▪ Further, this goal – via the eight associated sub targets – covers the main areas proposed by the UN Global Compact and CEO Water Mandate in 2013 as being especially important: water access; sanitation; water-resource management; and water quality. ▪ G. Power said that the UN Global Compact and CEO Water Mandate will continue to be engaged in the Post-2015 process in the hopes of positively influencing the ultimate goals, in addition to advancing strategies and concepts in relation to public-private implementation modalities. <p><i>SC Members were exceedingly positive about the fact that the OWG has proposed water and sanitation as a stand-alone goal. One SC member noted that there is some concern among certain observers that the current formulation of the water/sanitation goal is too broad.</i></p> | |

2. Overview of Plans for Stockholm: World Water Week

- The CEO Water Mandate, per tradition, will hold an annual conference and related activities in Stockholm during World Water Week 2014.
- J. Morrison provided an overview of the CEO Water Mandate's planned activities and related agendas, which will run from 1-3 September:
 - 1 September: the Mandate will convene its multi-stakeholder event at the Scandic Hotel. The conference will focus on several areas: the Post-2015 agenda on water and sanitation (with the release of a white paper on sanitation); the human right to water and sanitation (with the release of the Mandate's good practice guidance); and corporate water disclosure (with the release of the Mandate's global disclosure guidelines).
 - 2 September: The Mandate in partnership with the Water Integrity Network; WBCSD; the Alliance for Water Stewardship; and GIZ will convene a session on ensuring integrity and effectiveness in relation to water stewardship initiatives.
 - 3 September: The Mandate will convene a special session on leveraging collective action in the agricultural supply chain.

3. Strategy: Mandate and UN Global Compact Local Networks

- Per the Mandate's two-year strategic plan (see www.ceowatermandate.org), increasing numbers of UN Global Compact Local (Country) Networks are considering or planning national/local-level events focusing on the CEO Water Mandate. These include the Local Networks of Uganda, Kenya, Colombia, Brazil, Chile, Sri Lanka, and China.
- The CEO Water Mandate Steering Committee and Secretariat identified numerous benefits to this strategic shift – ie, from global to local. These include:
 - Assisting UNGC Local Networks in advancing and

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>broadening their sustainability agendas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focusing on concrete local water and sanitation challenges, with an eye towards advancing solutions and contributing to national/local sustainability objectives. ○ Linking the Mandate’s work with national Post-2015 development strategies under consideration. ○ Increasing endorser base through recruitment of UN Global Compact companies residing in the Local Networks. <p><i>SC members welcomed this strategic shift, while at the same time noting some challenges/considerations, including: ensuring that the Mandate has a set of standard global resources and messages that should then be customized to reflect local realities; assisting Local Networks in the related activities while not overstressing the Mandate’s human and financial resources.</i></p> | |
| <p>4. Strategy: Mandate Conferences</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In recent years, the Mandate has settled on a conference formula whereby the initiative convenes two large global events annually – a roving early-year conference (eg, Peru 2014; India 2013) and the annual Stockholm activities (August/September). ▪ Given the strategic shift to Local Networks (item 3 above), the Secretariat proposes that the Mandate consider ending the convening of the annual early-year conference, given that it is expected that many LNs will increasingly convene at the local level. ▪ Such a decision will also relieve the Secretariat from time-intensive fundraising related to the conferences. ▪ The Secretariat requested the views of SC members in advance of the Stockholm governance meeting where this will be proposed to a wider group of endorsers. <p><i>SC generally supported the idea, with two members believing that this would be highly strategic given the Post-2015 agenda and the fact that national governments will be taking up the SDGs.</i></p> <p><i>One SC member expressed concern that ending the roving conference would reduce the Mandate’s ability to project globally.</i></p> <p>5. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ J. Maestu invited SC members to consider contributing exhibits for UN-Water’s activities on 22 March 2015 (World Water Day and the culmination of the so-called Decade for Water). | |