

Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call: 20 April, 2017

<u>Present</u>: N. Barak (Netafim); G. Burian (Monsanto); A. Duque (Cementos Argos); A. Fourie (ABInbev); C. Galli (Nestle); I. Huijbrechts (Carlson Rezidor); T. Jones (Teck Resources); L. Karbassi (UN Global Compact); H. Huusko (UN Global Compact); J. Morrison (Mandate Secretariat); M. Ha (Mandate Secretariat)

Agenda item

- Welcome and Agenda Review
 - L Karbassi welcomed all participants to the call and provided an overview of the agenda for meeting
- 2. Approval of previous meeting's summary

The previous meeting's summary was approved by Steering Committee Members and will be published on the Mandate's website.

- 3. Update on UNGC 2017 Programmatic Work
 - L. Karbassi provided an update of the nine Action Platforms that will integrate the SDGs as well as the Global Compact's 10 principles. The Action platforms each look to engage 20-40 companies who will work to advance the platforms over the course of 2-3 years. The Action Platforms are listed here: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/sdgs/action-platforms
 - She also provided an update on the new mandatory fee structure the UN Global Compact will introduce in 2018. An announcement will be made jointly with the Local Networks by June 2017
 - She also noted that the next Board meeting of the UN Global Compact will be held in July 2017 to coincide with the High Level Political Forum

Steering Committee members noted that it would be beneficial to ensure alignment across the Action Platforms on areas where there is overlap and to see potential areas for integration of some of the Mandate's work.

- 4. Discussion on Mandate Workplan for 2017
 - M. Ha provided an overview of discussions held in January 2017 with Mandate endorsers around the workplan for 2017 noting the overall elements of the workplan were well received by endorsing companies.
 - The Secretariat will make some refinements to the workstreams based on the consultations. In particular, the Human Rights and WASH

Working Group will put more emphasis on work related to WASH in direct operations, in addition to ongoing work related to supply chains and communities.

SC members noted that there is ongoing work around WASH in the workplace that would address the elements around WASH in direct operations (such as the WASH Pledge) and encouraged general engagement with other partners focusing on WASH through the WASH4Work initiative.

SC members expressed support and interest in the work around context based water targets and look forward to phase 2 work.

5. Stockholm World Water Week Updates

J. Morrison provided an overview of the Mandate's planned activities during World Water Week, including the four side events that will be held within the main conference and the Mandate's side meetings to be held on Sunday to Tuesday, August 27-29th. The sessions will cover the Mandate's work around water access, sanitation, and hygiene; feature the Business Alliance for Water and Climate; further develop work in disclosure and context-based target setting; and feature collective action activities underway at the local level. The Mandate will collaborate with a few Local Networks to feature this last element of the work.

SC Members requested additional information about the Business Alliance for Water and Climate, as well as the extent and types of activities it is undertaking with the Local Networks. Those documents will be shared with all SC members.

4. Discussion of the Mandate as an Action Platform

- With the changes to the programmatic work of the UN Global Compact, discussions are underway to determine how to best advance and integrate the work of the Mandate.
- As the Action Platforms are structured to use one SDG to highlight the potential contributions that businesses can make not only to the single SDG but to the variety of other related SDGs, there is an opportunity to create a water-focused Action Platform that would carry on action focused elements of the Mandate's work over the next 2-3 years.

SC members preliminarily viewed this positively and encouraged further exploration. The Mandate Secretariat will develop this thinking further and share with SC members at the next SC meeting, including a draft of what the water-focused Action Platform could cover.