



The CEO Water Mandate

Summary of Steering Committee Conference Call: August 9, 2018

Present: A. Leles (SANASA); N. Barak (Netafim); A. Fourie (AB InBev); E. Korosi (BHP); M. Weick (Dow Chemical Company); P. Bjornsen (UNEP-DHI); C. Pereira (UNDP/UNGC Network Brazil); A. Erickson (TNC); T. Jones (Teck Resources); J. Morrison (Mandate Secretariat); M. Ha (Mandate Secretariat); L. Karbassi (UNGC)

Agenda item	
<p>1. Welcome and Agenda Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ L. Karbassi welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly new Steering Committee members. ▪ The circulated slides for the meeting included an update on the work of the Action Platform for 2018, KPIs for the workstreams, and expected work in 2019. <p>2. Review of 2018 Action Platform Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Ha provided an overview of the key pillars of the Action Platform focused on building the capacity of learners and leaders, facilitating on the ground collective action, and developing metrics and reporting all towards helping to achieve SDG6 and bring about greater water security. She also provided a reminder that the key objectives for the AP are to be achieved by the end of the three years. • M. Ha also provided an update on the chosen KPIs for 2018, noting that the AP has made good progress across all the chosen KPIs, increasing the number of companies that have endorsed the Mandate, to undertaking pilots, and creating additional tools and resources for use by companies. • Each of the four workstreams (WASH and Human Rights, Collective Action & Policy Engagement, Direct Operations and Supply Chains, Metrics, Indicators and Disclosure) is progressing smoothly. • The AP has also been very active at the local level, working through the UNGC structure with its local networks to advance priorities tied to the workstream and also working with the UNGC offices to develop “Playbooks” aimed at helping local networks to undertake relevant local actions on water. • The AP has also had a very busy year engaging in relevant global conferences such as the World Water Forum and the High Level Political Forum earlier this year. The platform is also now planning on activities for its yearly World Water Week. <p>Steering Committee (SC) members acknowledged these advancements.</p>	

3. Proposed Activities in 2019

- J. Morrison provided an overview of expected activities for 2019 with the majority of the work staying on track. We will be advancing similar work in 2019 as we did in 2019. There are two pieces of activities that will be added to the work. These include:
 - The launch of work titled, “Towards a Harmonized Corporate Water Assessment and Disclosure Protocol”

J. Morrison mentioned that this work comes out of conversations with BHP in particular about the need to further align assessment methodology and terminology that bridges the gap between public and private sector approaches with the goal of greater harmonization in the water space. The work will help companies’ performance by consolidating around water risk characterization and looking into areas that have not been the focus of the water stewardship community as much, particularly water in supply chains.

The Mandate would look to work with WRI on this given their past history developing the GHG and the Food Lost and Waste Protocols.

Steering Committee members expressed general support for the work with comments focused on the need to general alignment with other work being developed in the space, so as not to duplicate, such as the work by CDP and GRI and the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures. Members also expressed the need to have good stakeholder engagement and buy-in to manage any reputational risks that might arise.

- Work in regard to the expansion of the collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

J. Morrison mentioned that earlier this year, the Mandate entered into an agreement with SDC that supports the Mandate’s core work with some soft earmarks for areas of particular interest to SDC. He also noted that there is great potential to expand the work beyond the initial countries, such as India where SDC is interested but would like this to tie into climate and water work, and South Africa. There might be an opportunity to supplement this agreement with annexes that look at extensive collaboration in these countries and potential others that also tie in the Mandate’s tools, such as the Water Action Hub and the Stewardship Toolbox to advance collective action and better local outcomes.

SC members were supportive of this work and would be interested in hearing more once geographies are scoped.

4. Mandate Governance

- J. Morrison noted that with the changes to the selection process for

the Mandate's steering committee due to transition of the Mandate's programmatic work into a new Action Platform, it has led to a smaller group of companies to draw from for the composition of the Steering Committee that has adequate representation across geographies.

- As such the Secretariat suggests that the selection process is amended that allows companies in the Action Platform to either nominate an individual from their headquarters or from their local subsidiaries to the SC. As a result, geographic diversity would be maintained.

SC members raised the question in terms of what criteria are used, and the Secretariat noted that this is usually based on a mixture of ensuring sector diversity, geographic diversity, diversity in points of view or work that is relevant to the work of the Mandate. More details can be found in the Mandate's [Constitution](#). There was general agreement that this was a sensible approach. Via follow-up email communications, SC members also suggested that some SC members could self-nominate to extend their stay on the SC as appropriate beyond the 2 year term, if no other regional nominations are put forward.