Basel, 21 October 2019

United Nations Global Compact
Communication on Engagement

Statement of Continued Support

The Basel Institute on Governance is pleased to confirm its commitment to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and its Ten Principles. The Basel Institute is an independent not-for-profit competence centre working around the world to strengthen governance and counter corruption and other financial crimes in fulfillment of the UNGC’s 10th Principle on Anti-Corruption. The Basel Institute has partnered with the UNGC since 2013 in support of our shared goal of combating corruption. This is the Basel Institute’s third Communication on Engagement and describes activities and outcomes of our efforts in support of the UN Global Compact Principles from October 2017 through October 2019.

Description of Actions and Measurement of Outcomes

The International Centre for Collective Action (ICCA), which is part of the Basel Institute on Governance, won a competitive tender to develop and maintain the B20 Hub on Anti-Corruption Collective Action and to collaborate with the UN Global Compact in July 2013. To that end, the ICCA continues to maintain and update the B20 Collective Action Hub website: www.collective-action.com. This website serves as a comprehensive, interactive online database, as well as a resource centre for all information on Anti-Corruption Collective Action, including examples of Collective Action initiatives and practical tools and other knowledge products to support Collective Action.

From October 2015 through August 2018, the Basel Institute and UNGC collaborated intensively on a joint project funded by the Siemens Integrity Initiative’s Second Funding Round entitled: “Scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action: B20 Hub on Anti-Corruption Collective Action.” In this context, the Basel Institute provided expert support to the United Nations Global Compact Office, as well as the local Global Compact networks in Brazil, Japan, Kenya, and Nigeria. The objective of the project was to enhance the knowledge and capacity of these UNGC local networks to promote Collective Action as a tool to generate tangible anti-corruption action by businesses in their networks. The project successfully resulted in the development by each local network of a Collective Action Roadmap and the implementation of an anti-corruption compliance self-assessment tool by the Global Compact Network Japan.

Beyond this particular project, the Basel Institute continuously raises awareness of the UN Global Compact as an example of Collective Action at conferences and in its own Collective Action initiatives, as well as the Global Compact principles in the ICCA’s ongoing trainings with the private sector and other actors.

Collaboration with UNGC local networks continues beyond our past joint project. For example, in March 2018, the ICCA presented on Collective Action at the Global Compact Network Korea’s Fair Player
Summit and Pledge Ceremony. The ICCA was also delighted to have the participation of representatives of the local networks of Brazil, Japan, and Korea at conferences we convened in Switzerland in 2018. Furthermore, the Brazil Network reached out to the Basel Institute for advice on how to further develop its facilitation role for several of its Collective Action initiatives in July 2019, and the Basel Institute has reached out to meet with the Colombian Local Network in October 2019 to share information on complementarities between our private sector compliance and Collective Action support efforts in Colombia. The ICCA stands ready to provide advice to any other local Global Compact Network to support the pursuit of anti-corruption Collective Action Initiatives.

The Basel Institute has also been an active member in the UNGC Local Network Switzerland. We were delighted to attend the General Assembly for 2019 and actively contribute to the deliberations on the Swiss Local Network’s future priorities. The Basel Institute’s Head of Compliance, Corporate Governance, and Collective Action, Ms Gemma Aiolfi, also gave the keynote speech on the fight against corruption in Switzerland for the Swiss Local Network’s Third Dialogue in May 2019, which focused on Anti-Corruption and the Tenth Principle. The Basel Institute remains interested in pursuing further collaboration with the local network as well as the wider membership of UNGC Switzerland.

The Basel Institute has a monitoring & evaluation plan that tracks our activities promoting Collective Action as a tool for preventing corruption. Feedback we have received from our outreach and training efforts indicates that our technical advice has had a positive contribution in equipping our partners to increase their effectiveness in providing advice on Collective Action, which in turn contributes to the prevention of corruption and improvement of business environments in the contexts where they operate.

The Basel Institute remains steadfast in our commitment to contribute to the global fight against corruption and looks forward to continued collaboration with the UN Global Compact and promotion of its Ten Principles in the years to come.

Gretta Fenner
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