The Business Case for Respecting and Supporting Labour Rights
Respecting and supporting labour rights helps companies improve their workplace practices beyond legal compliance. Upholding freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining can contribute to effective industrial relations and can be a more effective and flexible approach compared to state regulation. Through collective bargaining, genuine dialogue can be established to address working conditions and terms of employment. Such dialogue can contribute to a clearer understanding of varying perspectives and help resolve differences to reach mutually acceptable collective agreements.

Companies that use discriminatory practices in employment deny themselves access to talent with a broader range of skills and competencies. By creating inclusive workplaces, business can set a positive example for the elimination of discrimination in broader society. Bringing together workers of diverse backgrounds and ensuring equitable treatment helps build a sense of common purpose that can raise morale, engagement and commitment to the organization.

How the UN Global Compact Supports Business Action: Labour Workstream
The UN Global Compact develops and disseminates tools and guidance materials relating to the Labour Principles. Created in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Global Compact develops concise and practical “call to actions” for business on specific labour topics. It also provides Local Networks an independent forum for participants to engage directly with ILO representatives at the regional and local levels.

Activities and Engagement Opportunities
- Learn about and share best practices on labour topics that are most relevant on the Human Rights and Business Dilemmas Forum
- Participate in webinars and Local Networks activities on labour
- Join multi-stakeholder and sector-level initiatives to share best industrial relations practices
- Participate in the Child Labour Platform, a multi-sector, multi-stakeholder forum for sharing experiences and lessons learned in eliminating child labour