



Global Compact Network
Sudan



Under the Patronage of H.E Mr Ali Osman M. Taha – Vice President,

Conference on

“Responsible Business and Investment in Conflict-Affected Areas”

Burj Elfateh Hotel Khartoum, Sudan

1-2 March 2010

BACKGROUND, OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA

Background

In December 2008, the Global Compact Local Network Sudan was launched to support the interest and commitment demonstrated by leading companies and civil society organizations. This followed the May 2006 Forum in Khartoum organized by the UNDP Sudan, Ahfad University for Women and the UN Global Compact Office on “Public – Private Partnerships: shared challenges and opportunities”.

In January 2007, the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Initiative organized an event on responsible investment and business practices in conflict-affected countries. Following the positive outcomes of this initial discussion, the two organizations decided to invite institutional investors, companies, civil society and UN representatives to take part in an expert group to explore the opportunities and challenges faced by companies operating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas. There have been a series of expert group consultations including a meeting in Istanbul (June 2009) and a meeting in New York (November 2009) as well as a webinar and several discussions by email and conference call. The outcomes of this collaboration resulted in the development of a Guidance document for companies and investors on "Responsible Business and Investment in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas".

The primary purpose of this Guidance document is to articulate a common understanding of what constitutes “responsible business” in a conflict-affected or high-risk area. It will assist companies in meeting their commitment to the Global Compact in all areas where they have operations and aid investors in developing a more strategic approach to investment decisions. It will help companies and investors to address the risks to both companies and communities from corporate operations in conflict or post conflict-related scenarios and facilitate constructive engagement between companies, investors, stakeholders and potential shareholders. The final Guidance will be launched at the upcoming United Nations Global Compact Leader’s Summit on 24-25 June 2010 at UN Headquarters in New York.

Objectives

The Global Compact Network Sudan, in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Office and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Initiative are organizing this event on “Responsible Business and Investment in conflict- affected and high-risk areas” to bring together business, investors, civil society, academia, UN and Government representatives to:

- Build a common understanding of what is considered to be “responsible” business practices in the context of Sudan. Examine how the private sector can make a positive contribution to sustainable peace and development in Sudan.
- Provide input to the development of a Guidance document for companies and investors regarding implementation of the UN Global Compact principles in conflict-affected or high-risk areas.
- Support a constructive and long-term dialogue between investors and companies to ensure added value for all stakeholders.

Agenda

The event will begin in the morning of 1 March with an overview of the UN Global Compact in Sudan and the important role of the private sector in contributing to peace and development. The event will be also an opportunity to present the increasing growth of responsible investments and the role of investors to promote best business practices in challenging contexts. During the day, practical experiences from Sudan and across the globe will be presented to highlight opportunities and challenges of working in conflict affected zones. These thematic panels and interactive discussions will be organized following the structure of the draft Guidance document for companies and investors and will explore the following aspects:

- 1) Core business**
- 2) Government relations**
- 3) Local Stakeholder Engagement**
- 4) Strategic Social Investment**

At the conclusion of the event, participants will agree on next steps and the way forward.

PROGRAM

1 March 2010

08:30-09:00	Arrival & Registration: LebDAH Hall
9:00-9:20	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks Ms. Lena Mahgoub, Focal Point, Global Compact Local Network Sudan</p> <p>Opening Session addresses by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ali Mohamed AlHassan Abarsi, Vice President, Sudanese Businessmen Federation as Chair of the UN Global Compact Local Network Sudan Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Vice Chair, UN Global Compact Board Mr. Claudio Calderone, Country Director, UNDP Sudan <p>Inaugural Address by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E Mr. Al Zubeir Ahmed Al Hassan, Minister of Energy and Mining (<i>on behalf of H.E Mr. Ali Osman M. Taha, Vice President</i>)
9:20-9:45	<p>Session I: Global Compact Local Networks</p> <p>How can the Global Compact Local Network Sudan foster constructive dialogue and mutual support among all its stakeholders in aligning their activities with and implementing the Global Compact 10 principles in the context of Sudan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the Global Compact Local Network Sudan Mr. Mazin Abusin, Managing Director - SOMMAR , Global Compact Local Network Sudan Secretariat Lesson Learned from the Global Compact Network in the Gulf Region Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, Chairperson of EEG and Board Member of UN Global Compact, Focal Point for Gulf States Network
9.45-10.15	<p>Session II: Introduction to the Guidance document on “Responsible Business and Investment in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas”</p> <p>How was this Guidance document developed and what are the concerns it intends to address? What are the respective roles of companies and investors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical use of the Guidance for companies Ms. Melissa Powell, Head, Strategy and Partnerships, UN Global Compact Office Practical use of the Guidance for investors Ms. Valeria Piani, Head, the PRI Engagement Clearinghouse, Principles for Responsible Investment
10:15-10:45	Tea Break / Refreshments
10:45 – 11:20	<p>Session III: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned - Core business</p> <p>How to ensure that core business activities do not exacerbate tensions within communities which may lead to conflict and how do companies measure their progress? What are the key challenges and how can they be overcome?</p> <p>Chairperson: Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Vice Chair of the UN Global Compact Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An NGO perspective - Ms. Ulrike Joras, Senior Programme Officer, International Alert A Corporate perspective - Mr. Qin Anjiang, Vice President, CNPC -Nile An investor perspective - Mr. Neil Brown, SRI Analyst, Aviva Investors A local community perspective - Dr Sumaya El Sayed – Executive Committee member - Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS) An UN perspective - Mr. Bartholomew Armah, Senior Policy Advisor, UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR)

11:20-11:55	Interactive Discussion Session – Core business Participants will be seated in roundtables to enable a more detailed discussion and to share relevant experiences and lessons learned.
11:55-12:15	Report-Back Session on Core business - Challenges and opportunities
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 -14:05	Session IV: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned - Government relations How do companies engage with Governments in conflict-affected and high-risk areas? How does good practice look like in Sudan? Chairperson: Dr. Osman Satti, Director General, Directorate for Environment and Safety, Ministry of Energy and Mining. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A corporate perspective – Mr Mohd El Amin Mustafa–Corporate Affairs, Information Office - Sudatel • A local company perspective – Dr Hafi Anwer Saad,Medical Consultant-Community Development Program , Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Companies • An investor perspective - Mr. Kris Douma, Head of Responsible Investment Support & Active Ownership, MN Services • A local community perspective/ State – Mr. Elfateh Farah, Forestry National Corporation
14:05-14:40	Interactive Discussion Session – Government Relations Participants will be seated in roundtables to enable a more detailed discussion and to share relevant experiences and lessons learned.
14:40-15:00	Report-Back Session on Government Relations - Challenges and opportunities
15:00-15:25	Tea Break / Refreshments
15:25-16:00	Session V: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned - Local Stakeholder Engagement What are the most effective mechanisms for stakeholder engagement? What are the key challenges in engaging with local stakeholders and how can they be overcome? Chairperson: Mr. Akolda M. Tier – Professor of Law, University of Khartoum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A corporate perspective - Mr. Bernard Claude, Chairman of the Ethics Committee, Total • A local company perspective – Dr. Changkel Banak, Corporate Affairs and Community Development Manager – White Nile Petroleum Operations Companies (WNPOC) • An investor perspective - Ms. Saskia van de Dool, Responsible Investment Advisor, PGGM • A local community perspective – Ms Shadin Elfadil, Program Officer, NIDAA
16:00-16:35	Interactive Discussion Session – Local Stakeholder Engagement Participants will be seated in roundtables to enable a more detailed discussion and to share relevant experiences and lessons learned.
16:35-16:50	Report-Back Session on Local Stakeholder Engagement - Challenges and opportunities
16:50 – 17:00	Wrap up Day 1 Chairperson: Sir Mark Moody-Stuart
20:00 – 22:00	Evening Program

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9:00 – 9:35	<p>Session VI: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned - Strategic Social Investment</p> <p>How do companies devise and implement responsible social investment strategies and how do they assess their impact? How do companies ensure that their socio-economic activities make a meaningful contribution to development and pace?</p> <p>Chairperson: Lena Mahgoub , Sudan Network Focal Point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A corporate perspective - Ms. Katherine McPhail, Senior Program Director, International Council on Mining and Metals. • A Local company perspective - Ms. Suzan El Sadig, Customer Services Manager, Sayga Investment Company. • An investor perspective – Ms. Anna Pot, Senior Sustainability Specialist, APG • A local community perspective – Dr. Kimo A. Adiebo, Assistant Professor of Economics, College of Social and Economic Studies, Juba University
9:35- 10:10	<p>Interactive Discussion Session - Strategic Social Investment</p> <p>Participants will be seated in roundtables to enable a more detailed discussion and to share relevant experiences and lessons learned.</p>
10:10-10:30	<p>Report-Back Session on Local Stakeholder Engagement - Challenges and opportunities</p>
10.30-11.00	<p>Tea Break/Refreshments</p>
11.00-12.00	<p>Recommendations and Next Steps for the Global Compact Local Network Sudan</p> <p>Ms. Lena Mahgoub, Focal Point, Global Compact Local Network Sudan</p> <p>Interactive Discussion: With respect to the issues discussed over the sessions, how can the Global Compact Local Network Sudan further engage participants in efforts to advance the Global Compact principles and to implement the Guidance document in the country?</p>
12:00-12.30	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steering Committee member – Mr El Sheikh M. El Sheikh – Chair of GC Sudan Network • Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Vice Chair, UN Global Compact Board • Mrs Habiba Al Marashi, Chairperson of EEG and Board Member of UN Global Compact • Mr. Bakri Yousif, Secretary General, Sudanese Businessmen and Employers Federation • H.E Prof. Elias Nyamllel Wakoson, State Minister of International Cooperation
17.00- 20.00	<p>Farewell Gathering - Nile Cruise</p>