



Global Compact Network Australia



Dear Signatories, friends and colleagues of the UN Global Compact Australian Network

Welcome to the March e-news for the Global Compact Network Australia which provides ample reading material for the Easter break! I am delighted to announce our most recent Australian Signatory to the Global Compact: **GHD Pty Ltd** and we warmly welcome them to the growing list of Australian Global Compact Participants.

DATE CONFIRMATION FOR INAUGURAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK AUSTRALIA - 4 JUNE 2010:

Plans are well underway for our inaugural annual meeting. (Please note that the tentative date set in the last e-news has shifted from 21 April, due to speaker and venue availability). Our UNGC volunteer Christiane Meyer is currently contacting all signatories to notify date confirmation, and ensure correct contact details prior to invitation mail-out. Attendance is by invitation. Christiane can be contacted at: ungc@ethics.org.au. We are now able to confirm the following:

Date: June 4

Time: 8.00am Casual Breakfast for an 8.30am start until 11.30am

Venue: Accenture, Sydney

Format:

Opening- Rosemary Sainty, Australian Focal Point for the UN Global Compact

Welcome from Host- Jack Percy, Managing Director Australia, Accenture

Ministerial Address- tba

High Level Panel Discussion- Headed by Michael Luscombe, CEO, Woolworths - Australian Signatory, Chair- Dr Simon Longstaff, Executive Director, St James Ethics Centre, and panellists Jack Percy, Managing Director Australia - Global Signatory, Minister of Parliament (tba), Principles of Responsible Investment CEO Signatory (tba) - to discuss the Global Compact and corporate citizenship in an Australian business context, and the role of business and government leadership in driving responsible business practice and sustainable development nationally, regionally and internationally.

Following the panel discussion the event will then move to the business of the meeting. Importantly this will include the calling for foundation members to support the Network, as well as the voting in of an inaugural Steering Committee and Local Country Representative. Full details and all documents and call for committee members will be circulated shortly.

OTHER IMPORTANT DIARY DATES FOR 2010:

1. **27 and 28 May 2010- Parliament House, Canberra - [The 11th National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development \(NBLF\)](#)** – the theme for this year's Forum: Sustainable Business Leadership in the Asia Pacific: Growing the Low Carbon Economy. The NBLF supports the UN Global Compact Network Australia and will therefore feature a presentation/panel on the GC with a focus on Asia Pacific. The Forum is positioned for senior decision makers across business, government and civil society. Visit the website for full program and registration details: www.nblf.com.au

2. **8 June, Brisbane 2010- The 10th Anniversary Of The United Nations Global Compact And The Emerging Sustainable Enterprise Economy.**

(Please note that the tentative date set in the last e-news has shifted, due to speaker and venue availability from June 2 to June 8).

A pre-event session in the lead up to the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the UN Global Compact at the Leaders Summit in New York and to raise the profile of the

Conference and the Earth Charter Festival. Supported by the United Nations Association Australia and Earth Watch.

Details: Tuesday, 8 June, 5:30pm – 8:00pm, Function Room (Level 2), Griffith South Bank Graduate Centre (S07), South Bank campus, Griffith University

Chair: Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Director, Asia Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise

Guest Speakers: Professor Sandra Waddock, Boston College, USA; Rosemary Sainty, Focal Point, Australian UNGC Network; Bill McCredie, Allens Arthur Robinson (UNGC Signatory); Fiona Nicholls, General Manager External Relations, Coal Australia, Rio Tinto.

For full details and to book in: <http://www.griffith.edu.au/business/sustainable-enterprise/events>

3. 24-25 June 2010, New York- UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2010 – by invitation . The Leaders Summit will convene chief executives with leaders from civil society, government and the UN to elevate the role of responsible business. Held every three years, the Summit is the forum for Global Compact participants to renew their commitment to responsible practices, share progress made and set the direction for the coming years. This year the summit celebrates the 10 year anniversary of the Compact. The Australian Focal Point is currently working with the Australian Mission to the UN to host the Australian Delegation at the Summit.

CALLS FOR COMMENT

1. Principles for Responsible Social Investment (PRSI) – Call for comment

As reported in earlier e-newsletters, acting on a proposal initially voiced by the Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, a number of project collaborators including St James Ethics Centre, the UNGC and the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy (CECP) have been distilling best-practices into a set of principles that guide the ongoing practice of social investment. The PRSI will be used in conjunction with the Global Compact. We now have the opportunity to provide comments and feedback on the draft version of the [Principles for Responsible Social Investment](#) (PRSI): "The PRSI offer guidance for organizations pursuing responsible social investment practices, including companies and their foundations, community foundations, private foundations and non-governmental organizations." I would like to encourage those of you interested to email your comments before 1 May 2010 (rsain@ethics.org.au) . It is planned that the final version, to be circulated in May 2010 - will be endorsed during this year's Annual Local Networks Forum (23 June 2010, New York) and launched at the Leaders Summit.

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/networks_around_world_doc/communication/2010-03-08/PRSI.pdf

2. "An Introduction to Linkages between UN Global Compact Principles and ISO 26000 Core Subjects" - Call for comment

The Global Compact Office is asking for comments by all Networks on this [draft publication](#) which examines the relationship between the draft International Standard on Social Responsibility (DIS ISO 26000) and the Global Compact. This is a good opportunity to begin to familiarise yourself with what may become a mainstream initiative of the responsibility /sustainability agenda. The publication provides a high-level overview of the key linkages between the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles and the core subjects of social responsibility defined by ISO 26000 (human rights, labour practices, the environment, fair operating practices, consumer issues, community involvement). Please send your comments (rsain@ethics.org.au) before 1 May 2010. This document is also planned to be endorsed during this year's Annual Local Networks Forum (23 June 2010, New York) and launched at the Leaders Summit.

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/networks_around_world_doc/communication/2010-03-08/ISO2600.pdf

NEW RESOURCE LAUNCHED

Global Compact Cities Programme - Congratulations to the team at RMIT for the recent presentation of their comprehensive blueprint publication - [The Sustainable Cities: Global Compact Cities Programme](#). Professor Paul James presented the publication to the City of Melbourne (a supporter of the Cities Programme since its initiation in 2002) earlier this month. The international launch of the publication was held in Rio de Janeiro on the 23rd of March at the UN Habitat World Urban Forum, the world's premier conference on cities. For a copy of the publication please contact Ms Stephanie McCarthy, Manager, Global Compact Cities Programme: stephanie.mccarthy@rmit.edu.au. Visit www.citiesprogramme.org

UPDATES

[The "Good Business Register"](#) – an online platform **mapped to the Global Compact principles**, developed by St James Ethics Centre, a range of project collaborators and funded by the Federal Government (Treasury) has recently been created to allow small to medium sized business the opportunity to learn and build a sustainability profile in order to communicate responsible business practices to suppliers, customers etc - an increasingly necessary part of doing business. Smaller business (less than 200 employees) that are signatories to the Compact are now invited through April to join a supported cohort of small businesses to complete the Register as a method of writing a sustainability report, which meets the requirements of a CoP. Please contact us if you are interested in this project: rsain@ethics.org.au).

Please contact me should you have any queries.

Rosemary Sainty
UN GLOBAL COMPACT FOCAL POINT FOR AUSTRALIA