

Richard T. Clark
Chairman, President &
Chief Executive Officer

Merck & Co., Inc.
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January 8, 2009



The Hon. Ban ki-Moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

Over the course of recent years, my colleagues and I have noted the progress of the United Nations Global Compact, which has encouraged corporate consideration of universally accepted principles to harmonize the role of business and society. The Global Compact recognizes that, because of the wealth that business creates, businesses are part of the solution to world peace and security and to achieving a decent standard of living and quality of life in those societies that have not yet benefited fully from globalization.

I am pleased to confirm that Merck & Co., Inc., supports the ten principles of the Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor standards, protection of the environment, and anti-corruption. We express our intent to support and advance those principles within our company and entities controlled by it. We undertake to make a clear statement of our support of the Global Compact in our annual corporate responsibility report and other public documents.

It is our understanding that the Global Compact reflects shared values and principles between the United Nations and businesses such as Merck, but that the Global Compact is not a grading or enforcement mechanism nor does it involve any concepts of profit or technology transfers. Moreover, our participation in the Global Compact does not limit our freedom as permitted by law to oppose public or private sector activities which we do not believe are in the best interests of our company. We note that the general intentions behind the Global Compact may be implemented differently in different countries, in keeping with local laws and customs.

I have enclosed some general information regarding our company and certain of our corporate responsibility initiatives. Geralyn Ritter, Vice President, Global Public Policy, will serve as Merck's key contact person responsible for liaison with the UN Office of the Global Compact; she can be reached at +1 908 423 6875; email geralyn_ritter@merck.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

cc: Mr. Georg Kell, Executive Head, UN Global Compact