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GESCHÄFTSFÜHRUNG

Kofi Annan  
Secretary-General  
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Datum: 6 March 2006  
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**Re: Global Compact - Communication on Progress**

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

Thank you very much for accepting our application to become member of the UN Global Compact in May 2005. At the same time I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome Mrs. Löbsack and me received during our recent visit to the Global Compact Office in New York. As agreed with Mr. Georg Kell, Executive Head of Global Compact, I want to give you a short overview on progress made by DED to support the ten principles of the Global Compact.

Initially we have informed stakeholders, employees and partner institutions about our membership and the way we perceive to support the Global Compact in advancing human rights, labour rights, the protection of the environment and anti-corruption. Our Annual Report 2005 will particularly focus on our Global Compact membership. Within our institution we have concentrated on the improvement of environmental aspects concerning procurement, energy and water consumption. Our next step will be an environmental cost analysis. Furthermore we have become active members of the German Global Compact network.

Regarding our engagement in Asia, Africa and Latin America be informed that we were able to integrate CSR activities in general and the promotion of the ten principles in particular in many of our 45 partner countries. We are proud to supporting the Regional Global Compact Office in Pretoria with one of our development experts and I have assured the Executive Head of Global Compact during our meeting on 7 February 2006 that we will also provide the same assistance to the Global Compact in Vietnam and the Philippines. Furthermore we want to express our willingness to assist your regional networks in facilitating existing contacts to local small and medium enterprises (SMEs), business associations and chambers through development experts in business promotion and public private partnership.

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EFQM/OAP zertifiziert durch

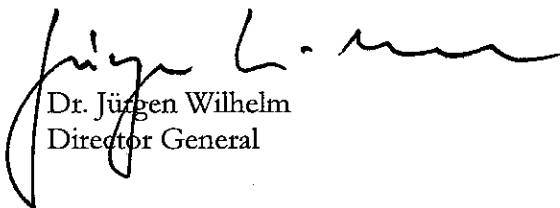


Among others allow me to highlight a few of our activities in improving social and environmental standards within local SMEs of our partner countries:

- ☐ Training of SME staff in social, environmental and chemical management in Vietnam
- ☐ Public Private Partnerships concerning industrial safety, health care, waste management and integration of handicapped employees in Vietnam
- ☐ Support of the association "Philippine Businesses for Social Progress" during the implementation of CSR programmes
- ☐ Co-operation with the CSR association "UniRSE" in Nicaragua
- ☐ Public Private Partnership with 20 Ecuadorian Flower Producers regarding certification by the Flower Label Programme (FLP) with a particular focus on avoidance of pesticides and sustainable resources management
- ☐ Implementation of HIV/AIDS workplace programmes for SMEs in Southern Africa regarding prevention, antiretroviral therapy and treatment

We highly appreciate being associated with and of service to the United Nations Global Compact.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Jürgen Wilhelm  
Director General