January, 2009

Dear Secretary General,

As Managing Partner of Generation Investment Management, I would like to express our continued support for the United Nations' Global Compact. Below you will find a description of our firm and of the actions that we have taken over the past year to support the principles through our primary business activity, which is global equity investing. In addition, we are members of several industry initiatives including the United Nations Environment Program's *Principles for Responsible Investment* (PRI).

This year, I also joined the Copenhagen Climate Council, a global collaboration between international business and science that seeks to create global awareness of the importance of the UN Climate Summit, due to take place in December 2009 in Copenhagen. The Council seeks to ensure support and assistance to global decision makers when agreeing on a new climate treaty.

Given our focus on long-term sustainable investing, we integrate the principles of the Global Compact into the core of our investment strategy, and we encourage other asset owners and managers to do the same.

David Blood Senior Managing Partner Generation Investment Management, LLP

# **Communication on Progress**

# **About Generation**

Generation is an independent, private, owner-managed partnership with offices in London and New York. The firm was co-founded in 2004 by Al Gore and David Blood. Generation has two strategies, Global Equity and Climate Solutions. Global Equity is Generation's flagship product, where we invest in long-long, global, public equities in a concentrated portfolio of 30-50 companies. Climate Solutions was launched in 2007 (and began investing in 2008), and includes private equity, restricted public equity and unrestricted public equities focused on solving the climate crisis.

### Sustainable Investing for the Long Term

Generation's investment approach is based on the idea that sustainability factors—economic, environmental, social and governance criteria—will drive a company's returns over the long term. By integrating sustainability issues with traditional analysis, we aim to deliver superior investment returns.

We are closely aligned with our clients, and our performance is measured over the long term.

### A Unique Research Platform to Analyze Global Challenges

Generation has built a global research platform to integrate sustainability research into fundamental equity analysis.

We focus on key drivers of global change, including climate change and environmental degradation; macroeconomics, poverty and development; water and natural resource scarcity; pandemics and healthcare; and demographics, migration and urbanization.

These global challenges pose risks and opportunities that can materially affect a company's ability to sustain profitability and deliver returns. Our research plays an important role in forming our views on the quality of the business, the quality of management and valuation.

### A Diverse Advisory Board

Our Advisory Board, convened by our Chairman Al Gore, helps set our long term thematic research agenda into global sustainability issues. The Advisory Board is a diverse set of global thinkers who help us anticipate the changing context for business.

### <u>Vision</u>

Generation's vision is to mainstream sustainability in the capital markets, and our core values reflect a commitment to responsible citizenship. Five percent of the profitability of the firm is allocated to the Generation Foundation, which will support global non-profit sustainability initiatives.

### **Generation and the UN Global Compact**

In the following pages, we outline the way in which we take the Principles of the Global Compact into consideration in our business activity as investment managers. It is important to note that we do not have **direct exposure** to many of the principles due to the fact that we are a small and relatively concentrated asset management firm. However, by virtue of being long-term investors focused explicitly on the <u>integration of sustainability factors into</u> <u>investment decisions</u>, we do see a responsibility to address the **indirect impacts** of the Global Compact principles in our role as asset owners.

In terms of measurement and outcomes, we have an internal methodology for assessing the quality of a business and its management team, a framework that reflects both fundamental financial analysis and integrated sustainability research. This approach enables us to monitor the most material sustainability issues (such as those highlighted in the Global Compact) on a company-by-company basis.

We expect our investment approach to deliver superior investment returns to our clients. We believe that sustainable development will be a primary driver of industrial and economic change over the next 50 years, and that shareholders will be best served by companies that maximize their financial return by strategically managing their performance in this new economic, social, environmental and ethical context.

# How We Support the Principles of the Global Compact

# **Human Rights**

*Principle 1:* Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;

*Principle 2:* make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

**Generation Activity**: We do not have investments with major exposure in regions where human rights abuses are endemic. However, we still monitor the issue in our investment process by doing research on a sector and country level to determine if there are material human rights issues for any particular company we may be investigating. We favor companies with clear human rights policies and clear procedures for complaint handling in place. In countries where we have identified a significant risk of human rights abuse, and where a company may have exposure, we will probe the issue deeply with management and other constituents (such as local and international NGOs). We have developed a strong research network over the years in this area.

# Labor Standards

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor;Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labor; andPrinciple 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

**Generation Activity:** All of the companies that we invest in are expected to adhere to a high labor standard, which is reflected in our assessment of the "Management Quality" of the firm (an internal measure we use to define high quality companies we would like to own). To determine how strong a company's labor practices really are, we rely on primary research, as well as discussions with NGOs, unions, and other stakeholder groups. In these conversations and when we talk with the company, we will raise the issues that we believe are most material. Integral to our assessment of management quality, we consider how a company manages its human capital and look for best in class practices on a sector by sector basis.

# Environment

*Principle 7:* Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges; *Principle 8:* undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and *Principle 9:* encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies

**Generation Activity:** We systematically integrate environmental considerations (such as climate change) into our company-level analysis where we believe it is a material long term value driver. For example, we regularly engage with portfolio companies regarding climate change – both to understand their existing commitments and help them understand the full risks and opportunities for shareholder value. The environment and climate change are also central in our assessment of any new investments.

We prefer companies who take the precautionary approach to environmental challenges and demonstrate an understanding of the external costs that their activities place upon the

environment and society. For example, we look for companies in the industrials sector that have experience in carbon risk management and make capital allocation decisions with an understanding of the price of carbon (depending upon geographic location). In addition, we value companies that have foresight in investing in environmental friendly technologies – often we will analyze a company's R&D activity and product pipeline to assess the "carbon intensity of profits."

In 2008, Generation began investing in its second strategy, focused exclusively on Climate Solutions. We invest in private equity, restricted public equity and unrestricted public equity. This strategy is focused exclusively on deploying capital to help solve the climate crisis. We believe there is a significant gap between the capital needed and the capital currently deployed to create enduring solutions to the climate crisis. To address this financing gap will require the efforts of many players, including entrepreneurial ventures, multinational businesses, governments, multilaterals and investors. Investing in scalable solutions now—as Generation is doing through the Climate Solutions strategy—is critical for the future of the planet. See <a href="http://www.generationim.com/strategy/climate.html">http://www.generationim.com/strategy/climate.html</a> for more info on our priority areas and investment focus.

Beyond climate change, Generation takes a systemic view of other sustainability challenges such as poverty, water scarcity and pandemics as they relate to climate change. For a sample of our thematic work on these global and pressing challenges, please visit our website: <a href="http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/challenges/">www.generationim.com/sustainability/challenges/</a>

Our "systems view" of sustainability issues enables us to look at the interaction of sustainability challenges in order to determine both first and second order risks/opportunities for companies. We think this awareness helps us ask better questions and be better long-term investors.

We participate in industry groups such as the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), the Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), and the Enhanced Analytics Initiative (EAI), now part of the UN's Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI), in order to encourage broader transparency and integration of sustainability research into mainstream investment analysis. Our Senior Managing Partner, David Blood, also joined the Copenhagen Climate Council this year to help support the upcoming UN negotiations on climate change in December 2009.

# **Our Internal Environmental Commitments as a Firm**

When it comes to our environmental impact, Generation is dedicated to leading by example. We hold ourselves to the same standards we expect from others.

#### Our Offices

Our first priority has always been to minimize the resources consumed by our business operations. In 2008, we moved into new offices in London and New York that were purpose-built with sustainability in mind.

In early 2009, our New York office will move to One Bryant Park, one of the most energy efficient, ecologically friendly buildings in New York, and the first skyscraper designed to achieve a "Platinum" LEED Certification for environmental excellence. In London, our new building at One Vine Street was also expressly designed to achieve the highest standards in energy performance, and has been recognized as "Excellent" by BREEAM.

Sustainability was a priority in our search for new office space, and we selected both these locations on the basis of their groundbreaking achievements in green building design and execution.

Our New York and London offices feature insulating glass and heat recovery systems; automatic daylight dimming and efficient lighting; rainwater harvesting and extensive water management; waste recycling; and sustainable building materials. Wherever possible, recycled

and recyclable materials were utilized, and we closely manage our building operations on an ongoing basis to prioritize energy efficiency and sustainable practices.

## Carbon Neutrality

As a firm, we have committed to measuring and reducing our carbon footprint, and doing everything we can to minimize our emissions. We then offset all remaining, unavoidable emissions on an annual basis.

Mandatory Offsets: As an Associate member of the Chicago Climate Exchange, Generation has made a legally binding commitment to measure and report its annual business-related emissions. We are legally required to purchase Carbon Financial Instruments (CFIs) sufficient to offset all emissions from electricity use, commuting, and business travel on an annual basis. Our compliance is audited and reviewed annually by regulators from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

Voluntary Offsets: Our environmental commitments extend beyond business operations to the personal emissions of our employees and families as well. We are committed as a group to reducing our carbon footprint, and Generation offers resources for helping employees maximize the energy efficiency of their homes. Generation also works with a portfolio of offset providers to ensure all the emissions generated by employees and their families outside the office are measured and neutralized. Every year, we voluntarily offset the entire carbon footprint of every employee, as well as the carbon footprint of any partners and/or children.

# **Anti-Corruption**

*Principle 10:* Businesses should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.

**Generation Activity:** Corruption risk can be significant, especially in certain business models and geographies. In our analysis of companies for ownership, we do extensive research into issues of corruption and bribery, leaning on NGOs that have expertise in this area. In certain cases, we have excluded companies from investment due to identification of corruption risk where we believe the company has not appropriately addressed the issue in their business model. Sometimes we will look at a company's lobbying activities to determine if there is consistency between external and internal commitments. Again, this is just one of the many indicators we may look at in our in-depth research to determine the quality of a management team.

# **Further Information**

# **Engagement and Thought Leadership in 2008**

Generation remains committed to raising awareness of sustainability issues, and in 2008 we continued to advocate on behalf of many of the central Global Compact principles. We launched a new, re-designed website to facilitate engagement with stakeholders, investors, and the general public, all with a view towards mainstreaming sustainability in the capital markets.

Generation is dedicated to thought leadership on sustainability in capital markets. In 2008, our two founders, Al Gore and David Blood, published editorials in *The Wall Street Journal* and *Financial Times* on issues of sustainability and investing, and these are available from our website: <a href="http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/advocacy.html">http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/advocacy.html</a>. We would encourage anyone wishing to learn more about Generation's commitment to the principles of the Global Compact to read either of these two editorials.

We also continue to share our research into key global challenges, and include highlights of these efforts for the public on our newly redesigned website as well: <a href="http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/challenges/">http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/challenges/</a>

Information on our participation in sustainability-related initiatives (including the UN's Global Compact) is also featured on our website: <u>http://www.generationim.com/citizenship/partnerships.html</u>

And, finally, we provide the general public with an overview of the importance of sustainability to long-term investing:

http://www.generationim.com/strategy/philosophy.html http://www.generationim.com/sustainability/investing.html

We hope our new website will help further the goals of the UN's Global Compact by serving as another means of advocating for the mainstreaming of sustainability issues within the investment community.

## **Our Values**

Our values remain core to the Generation approach, and have not changed since our founding.

### **Commitment to Clients**

Our first commitment is to provide exceptional service to our clients. The best way to achieve this is to deliver superior long-term performance.

## Integrity

Integrity and honesty are the bedrock of our business. We demand the highest ethical standards in our work and in our personal lives.

### **Excellence and Innovation**

We aim for excellence in all that we do. We are committed to hard work, creativity and innovation in our effort to improve our investment processes and to provide the highest quality service to our clients.

### Teamwork

We especially value teamwork. We consider each of the women and men with whom we work as individuals entitled to respect, dignity and recognition on the basis of merit.

### Diversity

We want our team to reflect the diversity of the communities and cultures in which we operate in order to draw from the wisdom of many different backgrounds and perspectives.

### Sustainability Research

We are committed to an investment philosophy that integrates sustainability research with rigorous fundamental equity analysis. This is the best method of long-term investing to protect the interests of our clients. We also believe that just as economic success must be sustainable, sustainability must include economic success.

### Independence

We are committed to an independent employee owned partnership as an enduring business model.

### **Responsible Citizenship**

We recognize our responsibility to live in accordance with our values, to be responsible to the communities in which we live and work and to the world community as well. We endeavor to be good citizens, support charities, be mindful of ways to help our employees fulfill their family responsibilities and serve their communities, and protect our environment and natural resources.