



Communication on Progress

Year: 2013

STATEMENT

Michinoku Trading is a socially-conscientious business venture in the Health and Wellness industry. The company utilizes a global network to provide unique and high quality products that reflect our motto "true health comes from a healthy soul".

We have intentionally pursued particular products and a business model that would promote environmental sustainability, support local economies in developing countries and promote the health of our individual consumers. It is in this line of our mission that Michinoku Trading is an active participant in the United Nations Global Compact.

Additionally, we seek to make every effort to ensure that production and distribution of our products will also foster emotional and psychological health in local and global economies by rejecting all forms of corruption, forced labor, child labor, human rights abuses, discrimination and environmental degradation. We have outlined here our commitments and our plans for healthy growth and development.

Date: April 21, 2014

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Position: President, MORINGA LIFE

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| Global Compact Principle | Action Taken & Impact Achieved and/or Plans for the upcoming Year |
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| <p>1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading in its corporate policy upholds the internationally recognized UN Declaration of Human Rights as a baseline for its business practices. The company motto recognizes the importance of health in every form for each individual. As such, we would only seek to provide the same respect as our employees and consumers to those with whom we interact through business and philanthropy. We also state, unequivocally, our intention to uphold this statement in our website as well as select promotional materials. In the future, we may plan to provide or fund education about human rights through our website.</p> |
| <p>2: and make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading is committed to working directly with local Moringa farmers through NGOs rather than working with brokers with whom the main objective is to increase profits. By doing so, we receive Moringa from a reliable organization that is also simultaneously working for the good of the community. Michinoku Trading has created and implemented the Moringa Project to create sustainable communities in Africa, South America, and Southern Asia where Moringa is grown. We work with a number of NGOs across those nations to help the local communities to be self-sufficient and self-functioning with cultivation of their given resources.</p> <p>Michinoku Trading has been partnering with the Shape Lives Foundation in Ghana, a non-profit organization that is working to develop a vibrant, local economy in the Santrofiki community. The organization provides jobs and opportunities for participants to take part in small businesses and address local issues with malnutrition and general health. The Shape Lives Foundation sends reports, including video reports and testimonies from Ghana to testify to the positive impact that the Moringa Project brings to the local economy.</p> |

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| | <p>Michinoku Trading was the sole buyer of Moringa from the Shape Lives Foundation in year 2010 and thus provided jobs and income to those from a community numbering about 8,000. The role that women are able to play in the production of Moringa is especially notable in that they are given the autonomy to organize as a group and determine flexible work schedules.</p> |
| <p>3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading will be responsible in allowing our partners and consumers to be educated about their rights and responsibilities through giving informed choice. We have developed a social venture designed to contribute to the long-term development of a local community by providing funds and means to establish practices that would allow the local farmers to work even beyond Michinoku Trading. We have advised and funded programs for the Shape Lives Foundation in Ghana in order that they have the means to produce products that would meet international trading criteria.</p> |
| <p>4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading seeks out organizations that are interested in providing jobs to in need communities with a commitment to stand against all forms of compulsory or forced labor. We refuse to engage in the business of all forms of forced or compulsory labor and will not knowingly enter into partnerships with organizations or individuals who do so. We will also seek to find alternative solutions to forced labor through creating a vibrant local economy and active participation in charity work, which we believe would lead to the end of a need for any person to work in unsafe, illegal situations.</p> |
| <p>5: the effective abolition of child labour;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading refuses to engage in the business of child labor and will not knowingly enter into partnerships with organizations or individuals who use illegally child labor. We will also seek to find alternative solutions to child labor through creating a vibrant local economy and active participation in charity work, which</p> |

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| | <p>we believe would lead to the end of a need for children to work in unsafe, illegal situations.</p> |
| <p>6: and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading strives to be an equal opportunity employers and will seek to make partnerships with like-minded organizations. Our hiring practices follow the standard U.S. guidelines that prohibit discrimination in all forms in the workplace.</p> <p>As taking into the groundwork, through the Moringa project in last year (Jan – Dec 2013), we have planted 1,002 Moringa trees to help reduce malnutrition among women and children in the community as well as enhancing Moringa contribution to reducing CO₂. So far our project is beneficiating 12 women, 334 children with numerous family members in Santrokofi community in the Volta region of Ghana.</p> |
| <p>7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading aims to decrease its carbon footprint by funding and supporting the growth of the Moringa plant, which is known to be particularly effective at consuming CO₂ gases and producing oxygen. We also renovated the Moringa plants farm with replacing the old Moringa tree with the new trees by receiving the new fund from Japan. This fund was generated through “Readyfour” cloud founding program. It is beneficial for the local famers to optimize the production of Moringa while increasing the number of Moringa trees.</p> <p>Aside from promoting the growth of Moringa plants for business, we have implemented Energy Efficient Cook Stove program. We have distributed 262 stoves to impoverished families in the community in year of 2013. It costs only \$25 to provide a family with a fuel-efficient stove and a bag of charcoal that could last for a month.</p> <p>The typical stove used for cooking in many household in Ghana is not much better than a</p> |

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| | <p>Stone Age campfire; it is poorly insulated, inefficiently burns a lot of wood and it spews disease-causing particulates into the air. In addition, the weekly cost for wood helps keep numerous families in poverty.</p> <p>The solution is to provide needy families with better cooking stoves. These stoves reduce or eliminate the need for wood thus reducing the demand for logging forests, reduce poverty via several ways- reduces starvation through increased crop production.</p> <p>Moringa project intends to provide fuel- efficient cooking stoves to impoverished families that cannot afford to buy at cash price in the market. In return, these families shall plant trees and nurture them to grow either at their gardens, farms and other designated places to protect the environment and reduce global warming.</p> |
| <p>8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading is confident that our products will appeal to those who will be concerned with concern for the earth as well as the self as we keep advocatig Moringa contribution to the earth. As such, we seek to create a network of conscious consumers and provide them and the rest of the public with information about the different ways with which we as individuals might reduce our carbon footprint or decrease our waste. We are also exploring ways to reduce packaging while maintaining a high level of sanitation.</p> |
| <p>9: and encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading is extremely committed to developing environmentally friendly technologies utilizing the Moringa plant. As Michinoku Traiding expands and is able to do more research on this remarkable plant and we hope to contribute to the development of technologies that will fully utilize the Moringa plant.</p> <p>In addition to the plant's ability to absorb CO₂, there has also been preliminary evidence</p> |

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| | <p>pointing to the possibility of using Moringa seeds to purify water. Moringa has been shown to grow in climates in which the growth of other types of vegetation has been extremely difficult (such as Sub-Saharan Africa) and may prove to be particularly effective in producing an industry that would, as a business practice, proactively fight climate change and address the scarcity of clean water supplies.</p> |
| <p>10: Businesses should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.</p> | <p>Michinoku Trading will refuse to work in circumstances that compromise our ability to make decisions that might go against our company's intent to spread goodwill, growth and development in all areas. This includes situations that might call for bribery or extortion and other such corrupt practices. We will refuse to go into contract with organizations that might be known to do so, utilizing monitoring agencies and the like to guide our decisions.</p> |