

6th September 2023

UN Secretary-General António Guterres
UN Headquarters
New York
NY 10017

Re: Letter of commitment on behalf of Humanity & Inclusion UK

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

[Humanity & Inclusion UK](#) (legal name: Handicap International UK operating as Humanity & Inclusion UK) herewith introduces its application to join the UK network of Global Compact.

Humanity & Inclusion UK (HI UK), as a member of the [Handicap International Network](#)¹, registered at 9 Rushworth Street, London, SE1 0RB, registered company number 4010383, registered charity number 1082565,² will take over the participation of Handicap International Federation³, headquartered in France, in the UN Global Compact, and will represent the whole HI Network in the Global Compact from our UK branch.

Humanity & Inclusion UK, like the global HI Network, supports the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. With this commitment, HI UK confirms our intent to support the Global Compact advancing these principles, and will make clear statements of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

We also pledge to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in supporting the 10 principles while implementing HI's social mission:

- Principles 1 and 2 linked to respect of human rights are at the heart of our values and principles of intervention: HI works alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action and bearing witness in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and fundamental rights.

¹ The global Handicap International network has become Humanity & Inclusion (HI). The HI network is composed of the Handicap International Federation and 8 National Associations: The French association – which founded the network in 1982 – and the associations that have formed subsequently in Belgium (1986), Switzerland (1996), Luxembourg (1997), Germany (1998), the United Kingdom (1999), Canada (2003) and the United States (2006).

HI National Associations such as Humanity & Inclusion UK represent the network in the country in which they are based. They contribute towards achieving the federal network's objectives: (1) mobilizing financial resources on behalf of the HI Federation's programmes, (2) developing HI's brand image through communication and awareness-raising actions and (3) representing the federal network's values and positioning.

² Please refer to the registration documents in annex.

³ The [Handicap International Federation has been a member of the UN Global Compact since 2019](#).

- On labour conditions (Principles 3 to 6), HI refrains from using suppliers, service providers or consultants which infringe national and international rules governing basic labour rights (child labour, forced labour, discrimination etc.), human rights (active involvement in conflicts, violation of human dignity, security, health etc.), commercial practices and environmental protection. HI's position is based on international legal frameworks, in particular the United Nations' Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the protocols of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the various international human rights' conventions.

Regarding child labour in particular, HI is committed to the protection and promotion of children's rights and reaffirms its policy of zero tolerance of any form of child abuse. Our Code of Conduct: Prevention of abuse and safeguarding sets forth the "expected behaviours and practices constituting the organisation's minimum standards and actions to be avoided". In HI's Child Protection policy, child labour refers to the employment and work of children below the age of 15. HI is extremely vigilant with regard to this age limit in order, amongst other things, to preserve children's access to schooling and vocational training. Furthermore, and with due regard to national legislation, HI is careful to employ people over the age of 18 and encourages all those working in collaboration with HI to do likewise.

- On environment (Principles 7 to 9), HI is committed to the principle of "not harming" the environment by making a commitment to reduce its ecological footprint. HI has an Environmental Agenda to adopt a global approach with good practice objectives applying to all its entities, with differentiated action plans according to the capacities and context of each site. This Agenda is a key policy guiding HI's work and the organisation is committed to the reduction of its environmental impact.

HI has been working with an engineering school (INSA) to be able to report on Energy Consumption and Waste Management for our programmes. HI has conducted an organisation-wide Carbon Footprint Assessment. The data was collected in 37 of our countries of operation and at headquarters-level in both France and the UK for the year 2019. This assessment is part of a sectoral approach, carried out within the framework of the Carbon Working Group (CWG) of the Humanitarian Environment Network, composed of 10 international NGOs. With this working group, HI has agreed on a methodology and common parameters to collect and analyse the data collected across our entities.

Focused on our UK operations, we are developing a carbon reduction plan for HI UK in which we commit to net zero by 2050. We expect to update it each year to report on our environmental performance.

- Finally on Principle 10 relating to Anti-Corruption, HI will not tolerate any form of fraud, bribery or corruption in the conduct of its activities and has introduced measures to reduce the risks and consequences. HI adopts a pragmatic approach to preventing and fighting fraud, bribery and corruption, based on an analysis which takes into account: risks specific to each of the countries in

which HI works or has offices; risks inherent in each function/profession exercised by its staff; and risks related to each sector of activity in its intervention setting.

We recognise that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organisation's efforts to support further the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with the Global Compact. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report in September 2023 about progress done during the period 2021 – 2023 for the HI Network and then every two years according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Graham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George Graham
Chief Executive
Humanity & Inclusion UK

August 2nd, 2019

H.E. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
USA

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm that Handicap International Federation, usage name Humanity & Inclusion (HI), supports the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. With this commitment, we express our intent to support the Global Compact advancing these principles, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

We also pledge to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in supporting the 10 principles while implementing HI's social mission:

- Principles 1 and 2 linked to respect of human rights are at the heart of our values and principles of intervention: HI works alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action and bearing witness in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and fundamental rights.

- On labour conditions (Principles 3 to 6), HI refrains from using suppliers, service providers or consultants which infringe national and international rules governing basic labour rights (child labour, forced labour, discrimination etc.), human rights (active involvement in conflicts, violation of human dignity, security, health etc.), commercial practices and environmental protection. HI's position is based on international legal frameworks, in particular the United Nations' Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the protocols of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the various international human rights' conventions.

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Legal name:
Federation Handicap International
N° Siret: 519 655 997 00038

- On environment (Principles 7 to 9), HI is committed to the principle of "not harming" the environment by making a commitment to reduce its ecological footprint. To achieve this, HI adopts a global approach with good practice objectives applying to all its sites, with particular attention to its intervention areas.

- Finally on Principle 10 relating to Anti-Corruption, HI will not tolerate any form of fraud, bribery or corruption in the conduct of its activities and has introduced measures to reduce the risks and consequences. HI adopts a pragmatic approach to preventing and fighting fraud, bribery and corruption, based on an analysis which takes into account: risks specific to each of the countries in which HI works or has offices; risks inherent in each function/profession exercised by its staff; and risks related to each sector of activity in its intervention setting.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to support further the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with the Global Compact. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within two years of joining the Global Compact and every two years thereafter according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Sincerely yours,



Stanislas BONNET
Director of Institutional Funding

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