Gertrude's Children's Hospital UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement 2014





Statement of Continued Support of the UN Global Compact Mr G Kell

Executive Director

UN Global Compact Office

Dear Mr Kell,

Gertrudes Children's Hospital is pleased to renew our commitment to the UN Global Compact and will support its implementation and its principles in the coming year. The hospital is committed to continuous performance improvement and the sharing of emerging practices.

Company name: Gertrudes Children's Hospital

Sector: Health

Number of employees: 800

UN Global Compact signatory since: September 2008

Contact person: Gordon Otieno Odundo

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Brief description of nature of business

A 67 year old health institution dedicated to the provision of quality healthcare for children. Gertrude's Children's Hospital (GCH) is the only pediatric specialist health institution in Eastern and Central region of Africa. The hospital is a charitable trust run by a board of trustees. The services include inpatient and outpatient services. Gertrude's has a bed capacity of 100 inclusive of a 10 bed intensive care unit. The hospital attends to up to 300,000 children in the outpatient clinics and admits an average of 6,000 patients per year. Outpatient services provided are primary healthcare including well baby and immunization, diagnostic and curative services and 21 specialist clinics that cover every aspect of pediatric healthcare.

Staff includes of nurses (250), doctors (70), laboratory technicians, pharmacists, nutritionists, counselors, psychologists and administrative and support staff. Over 100 consultants including pediatricians, general and specialist surgeons, and anesthetists have admission rights to the hospital and are available for consultations and the running of the specialist clinics. Auxiliary health services include paediatric dentistry, physiotherapy, nutritionist consultations, counseling and play therapy.

Gertrude's also has professional training centre that has a well-equipped library that aims to be a centre for the foundation of the excellence that lies in proper training. This has contributed greatly to reduction in infant and childhood mortality.

Scope of this COE

This COE addresses activities and our hospitals implementation as well as provides a description of the practical actions to support the Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative.

Participate in Global Compact Local Networks

Gertrude's Children's Hospital is an active participant in the Global Compact Local Network activities

Join and/or propose partnership projects

SUSBIZ Kenya was a multi-stakeholder Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme with partners from Federation of Kenya Employers, the Danish Business Authority and Danish Federation of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. The SUSBIZ Kenya Programme was implemented from 2011 – 2013 and facilitated integration of sustainable business development and strategic CSR in Kenyan companies, who had Danish business relations. The aim was to build capacity and show that socially and environmentally responsible business conduct creates better companies.

Gertrude entered the SUSBIZ programme with the Danish partner, Oticon, in order to advance, structure, document and manage ongoing initiative and be in the forefront with global CSR standards. During the programme, new initiatives were also fostered with focus on work abidance of doctors, energy savings, waste management and health & safety.

Internalize the Global Compact and engage companies

The process during the SUSBIZ Programme was anchored in top management and the necessary resources were allocated to drive the implementation during the 2½ years with SUSBIZ.

The Gertrude Foundation formed a strategic partnership with Oticon A/S, to test hearing disabilities with children, and in the long run develop a market for hearing impairments.

Participate in global, regional, and local events

The Hospital CEO Gordon Otieno Odundo has been a panelist in recent forums organized by the local network whose aim is to recruit more local organizations to become members of the Global Compact. The Hospital participated in the second International Children's Rights Conference held in Nairobi as well as the launch of the Business Against Corruption case studies booklet.

Measurement of outcomes

The approach focused on: Participation of managers and workers, Shift away from check lists of compliance, to implementing change management, Develop local capacity to deliver workable solutions to integrate CSR into its business due to the fact business enhancement is realized through implementing CSR management

The SUSBIZ team worked with knowledge sharing through training workshops and in-house assistance with a focus on practical solutions.

The activity flow through the Programme was: CSR assessment and initial audit reports -> action plan development -> training and in-house capacity building -> progress evaluation -> documentation and external communication.

The hospital particularly excelled in effectively managing its labour, health and safety issues and extending this to include their suppliers and sub-contractors