

Dr. Subhrankar Mukherjee *PhD, MBA*

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12th October 2015.

To:

H. E. Ban Ki-Moon

Secretary General

United Nations

New York, NY 10017

USA.

Subject: **Communication of Engagement (COE) for non-business organizations**

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am writing this letter to submit the Society's **Communication of Engagement (COE) for non-business organizations**, and I hope that you will please allow this letter to serve as such.

A. Commitment to the UN Global Compact

In order to best serve our commitment to the UN Global Compact, I wish to inform you that the Society (ARTS) has built an Aquaponics and Spirulina Eco Park at Mumbai, in collaboration with Central Institute for Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai. The project has recently been completed physically, and it has the following areas:

- **'Reception Area' (RA) Zone**, which handles the incoming visitors and facilitate the arrival and orientation processes.
- **'Interactive Aquaponics Learning' (IAL) Zone**, which is the Greenhouse containing a demonstration of Aquaponics systems and technologies, *as well as interpretive education programs*;
- **'Wholistic Development Model' (WDM) Zone**, which demonstrates a number of technological imperatives, including biomethanation, vermicomposting, and an environmental education and conservation area, *for visitors to experience the various ecosystems of the holistic model*.

We hope to start holding seminars and workshops soon at CIFE, to promote this soil-less technology for growing vegetables, and also fish. Besides promoting food security, which is the primary aim, we intend to highlight solving the problem of food deserts in the Cities of India, promote water and energy conservation and reduction of GHGs.

B. General comments:

This COE covers the period from August 2012 until October 2015. As a change-agent, the Society's responsibilities include the promotion of:

- 1) Sustainable development by highlighting social, environmental and economic issues; and
- 2) Knowledge and actions for the dissemination of appropriate technologies for global social responsibility.

As a learning institution devoted to biomimicry and appropriate technologies, the Society engages in activities such as Urban Agriculture and Vertical Farming, which helps to grow food



in the city environment. We also promote 'Guerrilla Gardening' initiatives to enable cooperation with a multitude of organizations, such as municipalities, multinational corporations, and international/national/local non-governmental organizations, to the widespread growth of food, for consumption by the poor people.

We look forward to our continued participation in and in close working relationship with the **UN Global Compact**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Subhrankar Mukherjee', written over a horizontal line.

Subhrankar Mukherjee *PhD, MBA*

Secretary,

Society for Appropriate Rural Technology for Sustainability (ARTS)