

14 October 2015

H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NT 10017
USA

Re: Commitment Letter for Non-Business Organizations by Junior Chamber International Apex

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to confirm that **Junior Chamber International Apex** supports the 10 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 the following way(s):

- ✓ To engage with Global Compact Local Network;
- ✓ To engage companies in Global Compact-related issues;
- ✓ To provide commentary to companies on Communications on Progress; and
- ✓ To participate in Global Compact global and local events.

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 the implementation of the 10 principles and to engage with the Global Compact. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within 2 years of joining the Global Compact and every 2 years thereafter according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Yours sincerely




Leo H. Li
President
Junior Chamber International Apex

Descriptions of the practical actions that Junior Chamber International Apex has taken to support the UN Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative and measurement of outcomes:-

Integration with L.O.V.E.

OBJECTIVES

1. To **Echo HKSAR government's call** to promote the **“United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”** in Hong Kong.
2. To **Integrate persons with visual disability** by promoting understandings, acceptance, equal participation and embracing individual differences through a series of activity named **“L.O.V.E.”** to breakdown stereotyping and social barriers.
3. To **Arouse public awareness** towards the **Blind persons** in both local communities, including **Hong Kong** and **Taiwan**.

WHO IS BENEFITED

Blind persons; Sighted youngsters; JCI Apex (HK) members; JCI Port (Taiwan) members; Sponsors; Local government; NGO (Lutheran Center HK); Celebrities; Local community in HK and Taiwan, JCI Members

PERIOD

Oct 2014 - Jul 2015

OVERVIEW

JCI Apex (HK) and **JCI Port (Taiwan)** has signed a **friendship pact in 2013**. We plan to sign an official sister pact within 3 years. Meanwhile, to make sure we match each other, the two chapters are in search of an opportunity to **organize a joint project** before we are twinned.

At the end of 2014, the International Affairs team of JCI Apex (HK) had a chance to be volunteers of a social service to the blind in Lutheran Center HK. After the service, members got an insight that the **Blind persons in HK face a tremendous barrier in community**, in terms of social life and occupation. Additionally, they realized that **most HK people misunderstand the ability of disabled persons**, including the blind. From time to time, the misinterpretation leads to dispute and discrimination in society. Being **global active citizens**, members brought back an idea to serve this blind community under JC initiative. More importantly, this is not only a community development program, but thank for JCI global network, we proposed and invited JCI Port (Taiwan) to join in force with us. After several discussions, JCI Port (Taiwan) welcomed the idea. So finally a joint project in the theme of **“Social Integration”** is thus happened in this year for the very first time.

ACTIONS TAKEN

From Research to Planning

Approached, and successfully invited young artist, Alan HO, to be the project ambassador.

- **Back in 2014**, members of JCI Apex (HK) participated in a social service hosted by Lutheran Service (HK) for the blind. When the service is finished, they came up with idea to organize a joint project with JCI Port (Taiwan).
- The IA team of JCI Apex (HK) went to Kaohsiung to meet with JCI Port (Taiwan) members in **Oct and Dec 2014**.
- Further research is done by joining as **volunteers in the Dialogue in the Dark Concert**.
- A preliminary project proposal is submitted to 2015 JCI Apex (HK) **board of directors to review in Jan 2015**.
- Later on, we completed a more detailed proposal and budget plan for the sake of lining up partners. We received HK\$6000 sponsorship from **HKJC Foundation** and another HK\$6000 fund allotment from **GIA, our corporate sponsor** of the year.
- Total **20 OCs are recruited** from JCI Apex (HK) and JCI port (Taiwan). Meetings are taken place by different methods, including direct visit to opposite chapter, live chat, video conference, LINE, email, etc.
- Approached, and successfully invited the **Deputy Commissioner of Labour and Welfare Bureau** of HKSAR, Mr. Siu Wai Keung, to be the **GOH**.
- Approached, and successfully invited **young artist**, Alan HO, to be the **project ambassador**.

Execution

The **L.O.V.E.** program can be divided into 4 activities as follows:

Live their lives - Sighted participants join an experiential learning activity in “Dialogue in the Dark”. They experience and learn how blind persons live, adapt and overcome the barrier in the darkness. Before entering the event venue, sighted participants are blindfolded, and light is turned off afterwards. **They live in complete darkness like the blind.**

Open their eyes - JCI Port (Taiwan) members bring a **unique travelling experience** to the blind while they share the famous Kaohsiung snacks, and the recorded sounds from the city and country side of Kaohsiung. This activity advocates that a blind person should have the **right of equal participation in social life.**

Value their abilities - They are disabled in some sense, but with **special individual abilities**. We introduce a group of blind musicians “**7Color Band**” to all participants. Their music talents are highly appreciated.

Exchange their views - **The sighted and blind participants** are given the chance to chitchat. This face-to-face interaction helps to breakdown stereotyping and the social barrier. They **express LOVE, make friends with each other**.

Evaluation

Evaluation meeting was held 10 days after the event is finished. Financial statement is finalized and adopted. Useful comments and opinions are collected from OC members, helpers, supporting organizations and advisors. The project file is completed which help as a good reference for future OC team.

RESULTS

Objective 1: Echo HKSAR government's call to promote the "United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" in Hong Kong.

- We invited **Deputy Commissioner of Labour and Welfare Bureau of HKSAR**, Mr. Siu Wai Keung to be the GOH on event day. His opening remarks are video tapped and promoted in JCI Apex (HK) YouTube channel and Facebook. An interview with Mr. Siu is also reported in JCI Apex (HK) newsletter. So we successfully gave a platform to the government officer to promote and elaborate the policy direction.
- We invited a **Young artist**, Alan HO, to be our project ambassador. His participation in this meaningful project drew the attention of the younger generation by means of pre and post event media coverage.
- Through cooperation with other parties like **Members from JCI Apex (HK)**, as well as **Sponsors**, we widely promoted the **Urgent need for Social Integration** towards the disabled in community.

Objective 2: Integrate persons with visual disability by promoting understandings, acceptance, equal participation and embracing individual differences through a series of activity named "L.O.V.E." to breakdown stereotyping and social barriers.

- We successfully launched **L.O.V.E.**, a series of experiential learning activities in the project.

Live the life; Open the eyes; Value the abilities; Exchange the views.

Objective 3: Arouse public awareness towards the blind persons in both local communities, including Hong Kong and Taiwan.

- Full House participation, 20 OCs, members from JCI Apex (HK) and JCI Port (Taiwan), Government, Sponsors, Celebrity, NGOs, plus the community in both HK and Taiwan received the message during the project.
- Channels like Website, YouTube, Facebook Fan Page, Media Coverage, and Newsletter are used to promote and arouse the public awareness towards the concern.
- After event, one of the participants from JCI Port (Taiwan) writes an article in its monthly newsletter, saying how he loves **the program which changes his conception towards the disabled persons.**
- JCI Apex (HK) and JCI Port (Taiwan) agreed to extend the project to the next year. We will not only keep arousing the public awareness towards the blind person, but also call for action.