

## **UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement**

## October 2015

A statement by the chief executive or equivalent expressing continued support for the Global Compact and renewing the participant's ongoing commitment to the initiative and its principles:

Consortium for Street Children (CSC) is fully committed to the UN Global Compact and its ten principles. As a child rights organisation, we work particularly on principles 1 and 2, that businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights and make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Sarah Thomas de Benitez, Chief Executive Officer

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A description of the practical actions that the organization has taken to support the Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative. Practical actions should relate to one or more of the specific activities suggested to each type of non-business participant in support of the initiative.

- Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability
- Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues
- Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams

CSC has continued to work in partnership with Global Compact member, Aviva. This long term partnership has been instrumental in developing and delivering key programmes and projects that raise awareness of children in street situations and their rights at a global level. In particular, this partnership and collaboration with others contributed to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child deciding to develop a General Comment on children in street situations, and is supporting the process of developing the General Comment. This means that the UN will issue specific authoritative guidance on street children's rights – it will mean better policies, better practice and better results for street children worldwide.

CSC has developed a new partnership with Baker & McKenzie, another Global Compact member, which, through its Corporate Social Responsibility programme, inspires Firm colleagues to make a difference, and collaborate with clients who share the same commitment to social justice. In June 2015, a two-day International Summit on the legal needs of Street Youth was held, a pro bono output on which Baker & McKenzie collaborated with a number of organisations including the American Bar Association, Accenture, Merck & Co, Regeneron and Consortium for Street Children.

CSC and Baker & McKenzie are now committed to a unique cross-sector partnership, together with Aviva, to help street-connected children get their voices heard in line with Principle 1.

## Measurement of outcomes (i.e. qualitative or quantitative measurements of results)

- CSC has been appointed as Coordinator of the Advisory to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's Working Group on its forthcoming General Comment on Children in Street Situations the first ever piece of international law on street children, which is currently under development. In this role, we are the leading NGO working on this major international development for street children.
- Through its Global Resource Centre (<a href="www.streetchildrenresources.org">www.streetchildrenresources.org</a>), CSC is the recognized "go to place" for resources and research on street children internationally, with more than 1,000 specialist resources available.
- The International Day for Street Children (12<sup>th</sup> April), launched by CSC in 2011, enjoys widespread support. In 2015, the #TweetfortheStreet social media campaign on the Day reached around 1.8 million people through more than 500 tweets.