

28 October 2015

Dear Mr Secretary General

**UN Global Compact – Communication on Engagement**

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand has been a signatory to the UN Global Compact since 2011. This first Communication on Engagement highlights activities undertaken between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2015.

I am pleased to confirm that Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand reaffirms its support of the ten principles of the Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe our actions to support the Global Compact principles and engage with the initiative. We also commit to share this information with our stakeholders using our channels of communication.

Yours sincerely



Lee White FCA

Chief Executive

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
AUSTRALIA + NEW ZEALAND

### About us

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand is a professional body comprised of over 100,000 diverse, talented and financially astute members who utilise their skills everyday to make a difference for businesses the world over.

Members of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand are known for professional integrity, principled judgment, financial discipline and a forward-looking approach to business.

We focus on the education and lifelong learning of our members, and engage in advocacy and thought leadership in areas of public interest that impact the economy and domestic and international capital markets.

We are represented on the Board of the International Federation of Accountants. Our global network also includes the 800,000-strong Global Accounting Alliance and Chartered Accountants Worldwide, which brings together leading Institutes in Australia, England and Wales, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland and South Africa to support and promote over 320,000 Chartered Accountants in more than 180 countries.

### Communication on Engagement

During the last year, we have engaged with, supported and promoted the principles of the Global Compact in a number of ways, as described below.

Areas of engagement	Our actions and outcomes
Deliver education on topics related to the Global Compact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Behaving ethically is part of our Capstone model for the CA Program. All candidates are required to pass this module prior to being admitted to membership.</li><li>Our CFO of the Future course includes a session covering risk management, ethics, sustainability and integrated reporting. This was held twice during the period as well as 2 intensive sessions which also covered these topics, they were attended by a total of 371 delegates.</li><li>Business Forum 2014 included sessions on corruption, wellbeing, integrated reporting, diversity and building a sustainable business in 4 locations attended by 652 delegates in total.</li><li>Business Forum 2015 included sessions on sustainable procurement &amp; supply chain and diversity in 6 locations attended by a total of 126 delegates.</li><li>We also held 2 webinars on sustainability and environmental reporting with nearly 30 delegates.</li></ul>
Conduct research and thought leadership in relation to the Global Compact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We provide academic grants on an annual basis up to \$20,000. In 2013 and 2014, 2 grants were awarded for individual research projects on integrated reporting. Additionally final reports were received on a number of related topics including water, integrated reporting, human rights and environmental accounting.</li><li>We are a partner in Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage projects on both carbon modelling and non-financial assurance. These projects are on-going and have not yet delivered their final report.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We published the thought leadership paper - <i>Why ethics matters to your bottom line</i>. The paper has been downloaded thousands of times, nearly 2,000 hard copies have been shared and the blog on the topic has over 2,500 views. It has also been reused by other organisations in educational and other publications.</li> <li>• We issued Audit committee guides on Assurance of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in December 2013 and on Integrated Reporting in May 2014.</li> <li>• In September 2014, we published thought leadership paper - <i>Is policy making measuring up?</i> which looks at the need for measures of national success beyond GDP. This was launched at a dinner attended by over 200 guests, including the Federal Minister for Education. We have distributed over 2,000 hard copies, with 500 web downloads and 1,500 blog views.</li> <li>• We published our thought leadership paper - <i>Fast Forward, Leading in a brave new world of diversity</i> in May 2015. The paper looks at the traits needed for inclusive leadership. This was launched in Sydney to 60 high level guests and a further 1700 attended the launch in New Zealand in person and online. Over 2,500 hard copies have been distributed with over 500 web downloads and over 700 blog views. The video clip on diversity has received over 400 views. Further events have also taken place since June 2015.</li> </ul>
Disseminate the Global Compact principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We continue to promote the IFAC code of ethics to our 115,000 members and students as this represents part of our professional designation and a requirement for membership.</li> <li>• Lee White hosted a roundtable in December 2014 on ethics with CFOs, which was published in the Australian Financial Review.</li> <li>• We have published a significant number of blogs on topics connected to the principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One blog on the UN SDGs attracted over 1,600 views.</li> <li>○ 3 blogs were published on topics related to ethics, bribery and corruption with total views of over 6,700.</li> <li>○ 5 blogs were published on diversity with over 9,500 views.</li> <li>○ A further 12 blogs were published in the period on sustainability and environment related topics with an average of over 2,000 views each.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<p>Lend capacity to Global Compact Local Networks and/or the Global Compact Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are an active member of the Global Compact Network Australia (GCNA).</li> <li>• We have hosted two joint events with GCNA during the period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A session in May 2014 with A4S chairman Jessica Fries attended by 40 accountants and sustainability professionals.</li> <li>○ A session in February 2015 with Bob Massie attended by 40 accountants and sustainability professionals.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We supported a survey into social procurement with GCNA in September 2014.</li> <li>• We are represented at many of the GCNA's activities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are members of the Accounting Bodies Network of the Prince of Wales Accounting 4 Sustainability Project and actively engaged in their activities. We hosted a roundtable on measure what matters in May 2014 with around 8 key stakeholders. We attended their annual forum and promote their activities to our membership.</li> <li>• Lee White is a member of the International Integrated Reporting Council.</li> <li>• We are a joint founder of Indigenous Accountants Australia and support the 1000 indigenous accountants' initiative.</li> <li>• We coordinate our own charitable giving scheme - Everybody counts.</li> </ul>

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