

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Global Off Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA)



### Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: May 2014; To: December 2016

### Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

*I am pleased to confirm that the Global Off-Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents. In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.*

**Koen Peters**

Executive Director, Global Off-Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA)

15<sup>th</sup> December 2016

### Part II. Description of Actions

*GOGLA seeks to promote lighting and household electrification solutions which benefit society and business and to support the scaling of the sector based on triple bottom line principles. While the main sustainable impact is on providing access to clean energy in developing and emerging markets, there are potential social and environmental risks during the production of lighting solutions, in distributing them to end-users, and at the end of their lifecycle.*

*Recognizing that managing these issues requires collaboration within the industry and other stakeholders, GOGLA has initiated a sustainability program and work group which is made up of member companies operating within the off-grid solar industry.*

*GOGLA's sustainability program has been developing and will continue to develop recommendations, guidance and best-practice tailored for our sector to help support our members.*

*Our work therefore engages members on Global Compact related issues and attracts new participants to the UN Global Compact and we maintain our willingness to provide our expertise and voice to global compact working groups and initiatives.*

### Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

- *Our sustainability work group meets regularly throughout the year to further its stated objectives and develop our sustainability agenda. The sustainability working group reports directly to GOGLA's Board of Directors, and is chaired by one of the Board members. We will continue to do this.*

- *GOGLA is producing a sustainability guidance note for members, entitled '5 pillars of sustainability' and encourages members to follow this guidance which promotes social and environmentally responsible:*
  - *Product design and quality;*
  - *Manufacturing: Ethical sourcing and production;*
  - *Distribution of materials and goods across the value chain;*
  - *Communication with and education and protection of customers;*
  - *End of life treatment, reuse, refurbish, recycle/treatment/disposal of e-waste*
  
- *GOGLA has issued Guidelines on **Corporate Responsibility** which all members are asked to accept and endorse as part of their membership obligations. Further byelaws encourage responsible behaviour from GOGLA staff and members through e.g. its **Code of Conduct**, **Gender Representation Policy**, and (forthcoming) **Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy**. The **GOGLA Ethical Review Committee Policy** describes how GOGLA can act on infringements on these policies.*
  
- *Our ongoing commitment to sustainability and best practices will be on the agenda at our next international conference scheduled for January 2018.*