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To our stakeholders

April 18, 2017

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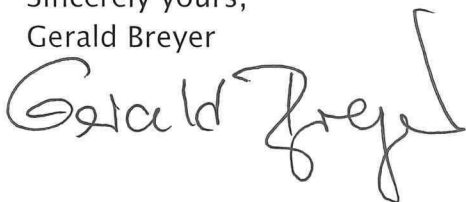
Communication on Progress

Ladies and gentlemen,

A key requirement for the participation in the UN Global Compact is the annual preparation and posting of a Communication on Progress (COP). The COP should content the statement of continued support for the UN Global Compact of our CEO, our practical actions with regard to the principles of the UN Global Compact, and a measurement of the outcomes of our actions. This year we are late in sharing and posting our COP report. There is a main reason for that: the team for data collection, writing, editing, translating and layout of our Sustainability Report 2016 has changed in October 2016.

We hereby ask for an extension period in order to be able to post a COP (the COP is included in our Sustainability Report) that describes our company's efforts and progress to implement the principles of the UN Global Compact. Our new COP will be posted on the UN Global Compact website by May 12, 2017.

Sincerely yours,
Gerald Breyer



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