

**Brenda D. Colatrella**  
Executive Director  
Office of Corporate Responsibility

**Merck**  
K1-3181  
2000 Galloping Hill Road  
Kenilworth, NJ 07033  
T 908 740 1778  
F 908 740 0980  
brenda.colatrella@merck.com  
merck.com

September 14, 2017



To our stakeholders:

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the UN Global Compact is the annual preparation and posting of a Communication on Progress (COP) comprised of a CEO statement of continued support for the UN Global Compact, a description on practical actions with regard to the principles of the UN Global Compact, and a measurement of outcomes or expected outcomes.

We are late in creating, sharing and posting our COP report due to an unexpected delay that has unfortunately caused us to postpone the launch of our annual corporate responsibility report and the corresponding COP.

We hereby ask for an extension period in order to be able to post a COP that describes our company's efforts and progress to implement the principles of the UN Global Compact. Our new COP report will be posted to the UN Global Compact website by November 15, 2017 at the latest.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brenda D. Colatrella', written in a cursive style.

Brenda D. Colatrella