

October 30, 2017  
New Delhi, India

H.E. António Guterres  
Secretary-General  
United Nations New York  
NY 10017, USA

Respected His Excellency,

I am pleased to affirm that S M Sehgal Foundation (Sehgal Foundation), Gurugram, Haryana, India, supports the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. We are committed to support the Global Compact in advancing these principles.

Sehgal Foundation regularly participates in the Global Compact Network India (GCNI) monthly meetings and also the general body meetings. We share and disseminate information about Sehgal Foundation's values and activities at these forums, thereby contributing to the efforts to 'build a movement' through knowledge sharing, cooperation and meaningful collaboration.

Sehgal Foundation's mission is to strengthen community-led development initiatives to achieve positive social, economic and environmental change across rural India. With the support from our donors and partners in the corporate, government and social sectors, we work with rural communities to increase agricultural productivity, manage water resources, strengthen grassroots democracy and facilitate citizen participation through good rural governance, placing a strong emphasis on gender equality and women's empowerment.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to support the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with Global Compact.

As a civil society organization, we help businesses, with whom we collaborates, to advance human rights, protect environment and advocate good rural governance practices that combat corruption. We support UN Global Compact business participants as they implement and report on their sustainability efforts.

Strong governance at the local level supports sustainable development, and Sehgal Foundation addresses the synergy between the demand and supply aspects of rural governance at the village level using two strategic initiatives: 'Good Governance Now' and 'Strengthening Village Level Institutions'. These initiatives, rooted in the human rights law and a decentralized governance approach to development, draw inspiration from the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Declaration on the Right to Development, and other international standards, and spread awareness on rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution and Legislation, including the Right to Information, Right to Education and Panchayati Raj Acts.

We welcome partnerships to further strengthen good rural governance and also join and support issue platforms and work streams that further social accountability and governance.

One demonstration of our support for public accountability and transparency is our commitment to report on the progress made, every two years, according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Sincerely,



Ajay Pandey  
Chief Executive Officer  
S M Sehgal Foundation