

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

### SJOHAM BABAJI MISSIONS



An International Organisation dedicated  
to promote peace on earth by offering  
Self-less service to the humanity since 1991  
An UNFCCC Observer Organisation since 2011  
An organization with Special Consultative Status  
in the Economic and Social Council since 2016

#### Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 24 June 2016

To: 24 June 2018

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

's-Hertogenbosch, 23 June 2018

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Sjoham Babaji Missions re-affirms 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 the Sjoham Babaji Mission 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.

Sincerely yours,

H.H. Sjoham Babaji

Founder - Chairman  
Sjoham Babaji Missions

## **Part II. Description of Actions**

The actions that have been taken by the Sjoham Babaji Missions in support of the Global Compact were:

### **ENGAGE WITH GLOBAL COMPACT LOCAL NETWORKS**

The Sjoham Babaji Missions is engaged with the UN Global Compact Network Netherlands.

### **PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS ON CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY**

The Sjoham Babaji Missions has been pursuing actively the past years for partners that can shape our ideas regarding sustainability. We visited many international conferences to come in contact with these partners.

In November 2016 we held exploratory meetings in Marokko with Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) during the UNFCCC COP22. There was a personal meeting with Mrs. Kosha Joubert, the Executive Director of GEN to set up partnerships for the expansion of EcoVillages in Africa and India and cooperation between our International Organisations.

Since December 2016 we are discussing a partnership and cooperation between the World Sustainability Fund and the Sjoham Babaji Missions, a.o. Eco-Villages in India. We are in direct personal contact with Mr. Hans Emile van Essen, Founder and President of World Sustainability Fund, Member U.N. SD - Steering Committee Rule of law and Governance, Member U.N. Global Compact, Audit Committee GC NL, UN ECOSOC registration with Stichting Bronning Fonds, Peaceoneday.org NGO Member, Treasurer of WFBN - World Federalist Movement Nederland, Member of WFM-IGP and CICC and TIAS - NIMBAS Int. MBA Year 2001 Member.

The Sjoham Babaji Missions is looking for a closer cooperation with the Global Compact Network Netherlands. There was a personal meeting with Mr. Andre van Heemskerk, Chairman of the Global Compact Network Netherlands and Supervisory Board Member of the Academy of Business in Society, Brussels, Belgium, to consider cooperation and partnership in a corporate sustainability project in South-Africa and India.

In December 2017, at the International Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany (organised by the Fiji Islands), we engaged in preliminary discussions regarding partnership and cooperation for sustainability projects in Berber, Sudan. Mrs. Somaya Omer Magzoub Abdoun, Director, Environment Directorate, Forests National Corporation (FNC), Ministry of Agriculture & Forests, Khartoum, Sudan, agreed to write an official Concept Note regarding this sustainable project.

## Part II. Description of Actions (continued 1)

Our Partnership Project with W2V Partners B.V., The Netherlands, mentioned in our COE of 2014-2016, is now on an ongoing basis and Neele Consultancy & Expertise v.o.f., The Netherlands is now fully involved in this project.

The Sjaham Babaji Billamangal Dhaam & Eco-Village in West Bengal, India, is now on the way to become a pilot Partnership Project on the subject of Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges; Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

From September 2015 onwards representatives from the two companies from the Netherlands visited the Sjaham Babaji Billamangal Dhaam & Eco-Village twice yearly to continue their site survey and to maintain their horticultural activities achieving the following:

- Food & Nutritional security: Providing fresh vegetables on a daily basis to support the daily distribution of freshly cooked food to the poorest of the poor from the region;
- Capacity Building: Bringing together best practices and practical horticultural techniques from The Netherlands and India (East & West) and to informing the local farmer population about new vegetable varieties from Europe;
- Increasing of the production in the project area in a sustainable way;
- Increase in income: Supporting the local farmers and entrepreneurs, especially women with know-how, to increase earnings from horticultural activities;
- Prevention of food loss: Education about post-harvest-handling.

The companies from the Netherlands involved in the partnership project are:

❖ W2V Partners B.V.

Owner/director Mr. Roderik van Nieukerken

Address: Nicolaas Beetspad 4, 1401 DA Bussum, The Netherlands.

W2V Partners B.V. is specialised in advisory in environmentally sustainable projects in fast growing economies. The company introduced multiple companies and technologies in the area of waste management, waste2bio-energy and recycling (together: Waste2Value) to India over the past 4 years. Presently the company is preparing for setting-up fruit-horticulture projects in India, combining the best of practical horticultural techniques and planting materials from the Netherlands with local time tested sustainable and organic horticultural practices from India.

❖ Neele Consultancy & Expertise v.o.f.

Mr. Emiel Neele and Mr. Jan Neele.

Address: Sportweg 12, 4308 AE Sirjansland, The Netherlands.

Neele Consultancy & Expertise has a 30+ year track record in setting-up, advising and project managing sustainable horticultural projects worldwide. The company has 20+ years of experience in India and introduced several varieties of Dutch bulb flowers, apple, pear and strawberry planting materials from the Netherlands to India.

## Part II. Description of Actions (continued 2)

From October 2015 representatives of both companies maintained with volunteers from the Sjöham Babaji Missions, the horticulture pilot project at the Sjöham Babaji Billamangal Dhaam & Eco-Village. The activities were continued until now and will continue in the coming years:

- Preparation of land for planting;
- Preparation of nursery beds;
- Sowing seeds brought from the Netherlands and locally purchased seeds, including:
  - Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kohlrabi, Chilli pepper, Purple Eggplant, Green Eggplant, Tomatoes (different varieties), Carrots, Radish, Spinach, Beetroot, Beans, Paksoy and Moringa trees;
- Sowing activities including:
  - Endive, Cabbage (new varieties), Red Beet (new varieties), Carrot (new varieties), Capsicum, Zucchini, Cucumber, Yellow cucumber, Paksoy (new varieties), a.o.
- Education and knowledge sharing with local farmers and volunteers about:
  - Sowing at end distance;
  - Sowing in rows/furrow for transplanting material and party end distance;
  - Sowing in soil for transplanting;
  - Transplanting practices.
- Harvesting;
- Sharing know-how about post-harvest handling;
- Education about Dutch techniques for increasing yield from tomato, cucumber and beans plants;
- Exchange of best practices and local knowledge with local farmers and experts;
- Continued maintenance of the fields with local volunteers of the Sjöham Babaji Missions;
- Water harvesting during monsoon season and preparation therefore.

## Part II. Description of Actions (continued)



### **ENGAGE COMPANIES IN GLOBAL COMPACT-RELATED ISSUES**

The Sjoham Babaji Missions introduced the United Nations Global Compact, regarding Global Compact-related issues to:

- Mr. Lase HU, Founder/CEO Hu Holding, Owner Kasteel Wittenburg.
- Mr. Maurits Groen, Co-Founder & Co-CEO WakaWaka, CCO Energetika.
- Mr. Arthur Fedder, CEO De Angelus the Netherlands. De Angelus Estates is the world first organisation which combines organic principles of life throughout variant aspects of development. It is geared at combining Social Investment, Agro, Education, Residential, Conservation and Spirituality in one sustainable development hub.

### **PARTICIPATE IN GLOBAL COMPACT GLOBAL, AND LOCAL EVENTS**

The Sjoham Babaji Missions engaged with the UN Global Compact Network Netherlands, visited meetings organised by the UNGC NL and meetings concerning SDGs:

- In May 2016 the Sjoham Babaji Missions participated on personal invitation of Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in the United Nations World Humanitarian Summit, Istanbul, Turkey, for the Post-2015 Development Goals (SDGs).
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- On 4 November 2016 representatives of the Sjoham Babaji Missions visited 'Challenges and opportunities in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)' for the business and public sector, in Rotterdam. With Peter Bakker (World Business Council for Sustainable Development) and Hugo von Meijenfeldt (National Coordinator for SDGs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and in cooperation with the Large Business Network of CSR Netherlands.
  - On 24 November 2016 representatives of the Sjoham Babaji Missions visited the yearly Network Global Compact Network Netherlands in The Hague, the Netherlands. The agenda was the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).
  - On 8 December 2016 representatives of the Sjoham Babaji Missions visited the Sustainability Summit: Transform your world, organised by the Economic Faculty association Rotterdam (EFR), Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The agenda was the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).
  - On 31 May 2017 representatives of the Sjoham Babaji Missions visited the 'International Conference on the Future of Central African Forests and its People' in The Hague. This conference was organised by NGO Tropenbos International, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UN Global Compact Network Netherlands, Network of Dutch top companies.
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### **Part III. Measurement of Outcomes**

The Measurement of Outcomes of the partnership projects on corporate sustainability are ongoing.

In the Sjaham Babaji Billamangal Dhaam & Eco-Village in West Bengal, India, the building of the Eco-Temple Village complex is in progress.

The ongoing discussions and meetings with GEN and WSF are leading towards a partnerships for the expansion of EcoVillages in Africa and India and cooperation between our International Organisations. We are working on a MoU for the period 2018-2020.

The cooperation with Global Compact Network Netherlands will be intensified the coming years, leading to more partnership projects with Dutch companies.

The project in Sudan with the FNC will lead to:

- combating the effects of the desertification by planting a forest around the city of Berber;
- solar cooking solutions
- waste and water management solutions

We are looking forward to set up a measurable outcome in the coming years.

The outcome of the Sjaham Babaji Billamangal Dhaam & Eco-Village project in cooperation with W2V Partners B.V. and Neele Consultancy & Expertise v.o.f. are:

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS - NATION**

- Chemical free drinking water;
- Reduced Carbon footprints;
- Conservation of bio-diversity;
- Water conservation/Rain water/Roof top harvesting at micro level;
- Reduced water requirement;
- Production of Containment free Agricultural produce leading to improved environment;
- Improvement in environment with organic manures / pesticide.

#### **ECONOMIC BENEFITS - INDIVIDUAL FARMERS**

- Sustainable food/nutritional Security;
- Enhanced income;
- Improved health with healthier organic produce and financial means for medical services.

#### **ECONOMIC BENEFITS - NATION**

- Increased production of agricultural produce;
- Improved G.D.P.;
- Synergic effect on other farmers to adopt Organic Farming.

#### **SOCIAL BENEFITS - NATION**

- Increased employment potential in rural areas;
- Reduced migration to urban centers;
- Sustainable growth of rural areas;
- Reduced incidence of diseases caused by residual chemicals in agriculture produce.