



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

7th August, 2018

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The CSR Centre is pleased to continue its support and engagement with the UN Global Compact and uphold the ten principles on human rights, labour standards, environment and anti-corruption. Through the nine years of collaboration with the UN Global Compact we have continuously based our work on the UNGC Principles and in the last three years with the SDGs. We have been a full fledged member of the UNGC Local Network from April 2010.

We have since aligned all our implementation work in accordance to the ten principles of the Compact. Through research, capacity building and policy dialogues on various thematic issues and projects we have been able to introduce and disseminate the global agenda of UNGC into the local framework and actively engaged with not only businesses in Bangladesh but also the development sector, civil society and the Government in supporting the UNGC Principles in Bangladesh. We have been successfully advocating and engaging with private sector to implement the SDGs.

We hereby submit the COE for the CSR Centre to further contribute to the global agenda on sustainable development in Bangladesh and globally.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shahamin S. Zaman'.

Shahamin S. Zaman
CEO, CSR Centre

About the CSR Centre



The CSR Centre is an organization dedicated to raise awareness about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and encourage responsible business practices in Bangladesh to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The CSR Centre was established in 2007 initiated by the private sector of Bangladesh to encourage and expand on strategic CSR practices in Bangladesh and globally.

The primary objective of the Centre is to become the prime source of information, resources, and advisory services on CSR in Bangladesh, and the operational principal is to contribute to achieving the development targets set in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through private sector led growth.

CSR Centre provides capacity building initiatives on CSR and other social compliance issues, private sector engagement and multi-stakeholder dialogue for development partners, national and international companies and works closely with relevant Government Ministries

The CSR Centre launched the UN Global Compact in Bangladesh in 2009 which is the largest official platform for corporate engagement and CSR in the globe led by UN Secretary General. The Centre is the hosting organization for GCLN Bangladesh and works along the UN initiatives nationally, regionally and globally.

Mission

To be the innovators of change through CSR.

Vision

The CSR Centre's vision is to be the catalyst for better society by encouraging public, private and development sectors towards promoting responsible business.

Key Activities and Services:-

- Facilitate stakeholders to become CSR Champions
- Provide training on GRI and specific CSR topics to enhance private sector capacity
- Develop strategies for CSR practices & sustainability
- Disseminate & share CSR best practices in Bangladesh
- Promote UNGC membership & provide advisory services to members
- Facilitate forums, seminars, workshop to engage stakeholders in advocating responsible business practices

Human Rights

- ☐ Principle 1: Support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
- ☐ Principle 2: Make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

The CSR Centre is committed to follow International Human Rights Conventions, laws and best practices. It provides a platform for partner companies and non-business stakeholders to advance the Human Rights Principles at the local level.

Implementations:

- CSR Centre in partnership with Amfori organized three roundtable seminars on Capacity Building for RMG sector, Child & Women's Empowerment to promote the free trade and sustainable supply chain.
- The Centre organized the event "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" in partnership with Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), IFC & UNGC to celebrate the International Women's Day.
- In partnership with Amfori and DBL Group launched a new project title "Shobola: Empowerment for Better Business". The object of this project is to highlight the business and operational benefits of empowering women in Bangladesh through Amfori member companies and producers who are sourcing from the RMG sector in Bangladesh.
- It organized a workshop on "Sustainability Reporting through SDGs & CSR"

Labour

- ☐ Principle 3: the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- ☐ Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- ☐ Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and
- ☐ Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation.

The CSR Centre respects and supports UNGC Principles on Labour Standards and incorporates these into policy and strategy. They comply with the Labour Laws of Bangladesh and other related international laws and standards.

Implementation:

- As a service provide of BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiatives) conducted several trainings on Fair Remuneration & Decent Working Hours, Occupational Health & Safety Management, Social Management System, Getting Started with BSCI.
- Conducted social audit in RMG factories in Pakistan to improve their social and environmental performances through CSR initiatives.
- CSR Centre implement a project “Step Up- Responsible Production as a Business Driver in RMG sector in Bangladesh. The objective of the project is to incorporate CSR into the RMG sector in Bangladesh by capacity building initiatives.
- It developed two guidebooks on “Directory for RMG Workers-Specific Social Services in Dhaka” and “Factory Guidebook for effective Worker- Management Communication”.

Environment

- ☐ Principle 7: support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- ☐ Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote environmental responsibility; and
- ☐ Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

The CSR Centre is very much committed and respectful towards the Environmental Principles of the UNGC. They help the companies to incorporate the environmental code of conduct in its policy and practices.

Implementation:

The CSR Centre ensures that its activities are environmentally friendly. Through implementing different projects it raise awareness and promotes sustainable environmental.

Anti-corruption

- Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

The CSR Centre understands the significance of anti-corruption and provide the GCN Bangladesh member organizations and other stakeholders a platform for sharing knowledge ,dialogue, actions and encouraging them to implement the Principle.

Implementation:

- Developed National CSR Guideline for private sector lead growth in Bangladesh with Ministry of Planning, Government of Bangladesh.
- CSR Centre in partnership with Saferworld organized a national seminar on “ Empowering Communities through Business for Peace”. The object of the seminar was to bring together businesses, politicians and civil society groups to discuss and promote peace and resolve conflict.
- It provided training on Sustainability Reporting.