

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

The Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 2016

To: 2018

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

10 October 2018

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact and we welcome feedback on its content.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization 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,

Asmahan Zein
President

Part II. Description of Actions

Please use the box below to describe the actions your organization has taken in support of the Global Compact. It is strongly recommended that the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested. Please refer to the complete list of activities for your type of organization.

- **Engage with Global Compact Local Networks.** The Lebanese League for Women in Business has been a member of the Global Compact Network Lebanon over the past two years between 2016-2018. Additionally, LLWB President Ms. Asmahan Zein is a member of the board of directors of the Global Compact Network Lebanon (GCNL) since 2017.
- **Join and propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability.** Over the past two years, LLWB implemented activities in partnership with members of the Global Compact Network Lebanon including mainly BLC Bank and Libanpost. These activities revolved around:
 - Providing skills development workshops and networking opportunities for women in business and women entrepreneurs in the regions of Beirut, Beqaa and North Lebanon – in partnership with BLC Bank; contributing therefore to SDGs 5 and 8.
 - Implementing gender audits in the process of lobbying for 30% women on boards by 2025, in partnership with Libanpost among other private sector companies; contributing to SDGs 5, 10 and 17.
- **Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues.**
 - **Women on Boards Initiative.** In 2016, LLWB launched its Women on Boards 2025 initiative which aims at ensuring 30% women of boards of organizations by 2025. During its launching event, LLWB gathered signatures from supporters and ecosystem partners highlighting their commitment to support this initiative; a total of 14 signatures were received from private sector companies. LLWB also partnered with the International Finance Corporation (IFC)/ Tamayyaz EIGL for the implementation of IFC's women on boards training, and a total of 14 LLWB members including business women and executive managers took part of the training launched in November 2017.

Under the WOB initiative, LLWB in partnership with three private sector organizations launched a pilot gender audit for assessing the extent to which gender equality is addressed in companies' policies and procedures in partnership with ILO. The companies include Technica International, Khalil Fattal et Fils and Libanpost. The gender audit was launched in April 2018 and is currently on-going. Recommendations and action plans for addressing gender equality in companies' policies and procedures will be developed for each of the pilot companies by end of 2018. The women on board initiative activities contribute to SDGs 5, 10 and 17.

- **Girls' Day.** On the level of advocating for more women in STEM fields, LLWB partnered with private sector organizations for the implementation of its Girls' Day initiative in 2017 and 2018. As part of Girls' day, girls from grades 11 and 12 from public and private schools who have already taken part of the [Girls Got IT initiative](#), also launched by LLWB

with the support of UNICEF, are invited to become interns for two hours in private sector companies. In 2017, the initiative was implemented in Beirut and a total of five private sector companies joined and hosted around 34 students. In 2018, Girls day was implemented in the regions of Beirut, Beqaa and North Lebanon in partnership with 14 private sector companies hosting around 112 girls from public and private schools. The work conducted under Girls' Day contributes to SDG 5.

- **Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams.** During its involvement in the Global Compact Network, LLWB joined a number of sub-committees including subcommittees working on Environment, Women's Empowerment and Micro-enterprise support. LLWB has also been providing support with outreach to GCNL through disseminating the various events and activities organized by the network among its members and networks.
- **Participate in Global Compact global, and local events.** LLWB participated in the events organized by GCNL including focus groups around the SDGs, power breakfasts, among other activities. LLWB also participated in the SDGs Forum organized by GCNL on a yearly basis, through being present during the event, promoting the event and taking part of the panels.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes.

Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/ or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described above.

Measurement outcomes:

- Two partnerships formalized with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles including SDGs 5, 8, 10. And 17.
- More than 25 private sector companies were engaged and involved in LLWB's activities supporting women in business and women entrepreneurs as well as girls in STEM.
- GCNL activities promoted among more than 500 women throughout the outreach activities conducted by LLWB.
- GCNL
- UN Global Compact participant – Libanpost – implementing gender audit for the company under the WOB initiative launched by LLWB, therefore contributing to SDGs 5, 10 and 17.