

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

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Transparency International Australia



**Period covered by this Communication on Engagement** [Ideally the two years prior to this report]

From: 1/2017

To: 3/2019

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

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your organization's Chief Executive or equivalent.

19/3/2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Transparency International Australia reaffirms 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 our organisation has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organisation like ours.

Sincerely yours,

Serena Lillywhite  
Chief Executive Officer  
Transparency International Australia

## 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 suggested activities for your type of organization found [here](#).*

In the past two years TIA has taken the following actions in support of the Global Compact:

TIA Acting Chair attended UNGC Cities Programme events and met with Michael Nolan, Chair of the Cities Programme in April 2017. The meeting resolved to identify opportunities for collaboration given the overlap in activities and a desire from both organisations to collaborate across the civil society sector.

Several TIA staff and Board members participated in Global Compact local events, such as the Adequate Procedures Briefing in Melbourne in May 2018.

### Engaged with Global Compact Local Networks

- TIA participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian SDGs Summit in Melbourne, March 2018.
- TIA Invited and secured Global Compact Network Australia Anti-Corruption Working Group Chair to a TIA-led discussion during the IMARC conference in Melbourne in October 2018.
- TIA invited and secured the UNGC Australia Anti-Corruption Working Group Chair to speak at the biannual TIA conference on April 4, 2019.

### Engaged companies in Global Compact-related issues

- TIA actively engages its corporate members on anti-corruption issues, through events around Australia, as well as tailored presentations for members on corruption risks especially in the mining and finance sectors. Many of our corporate members are also UNGC members. Our work aligns with the UNGC Principles on Human Rights, Labour, Environment and of course Anti-Corruption. The nexus between these principles are well known, and our engagement with companies, including UNGC Network Australia members is focused on this.
- TIA participated in events hosted by our corporate members on Modern Day Slavery and Adequate Procedures to prevent Bribery of Foreign Officials.

### Engaging government in Global Compact-related issues, acknowledging the Global Compact's work

- TIA appeared before the UNCAC review team (2<sup>nd</sup> cycle review of Australia, focusing on asset recovery (chapter 5) and preventive measures (chapter 2), referring to the work of the Global Compact in Australia.
- We appeared before the OECD review team, assessing Australia's commitment to the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, similarly drawing on our engagement with the Global Compact – particularly Adequate Procedures to prevent bribery of foreign officials.
- TIA has been active in the formulation and monitoring of Australia's Open Government National Action Plans, which include several commitments relating to anti-corruption. TIA is member of the OGP Forum – hosted by Prime Minister and Cabinet. The SDGs and the UNGC are discussed in the context of human rights and anti-corruption.
- TIA participated in the Australian Federal Police Discovery Day, November 2018, where the UNGC was identified as a possible stakeholder for future AFP work to prevent corruption.

### **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 in Part II above.

In the past two years, TIA has made 20 submissions that have directly or indirectly furthered the aims of the Global Compact Local Network in Australia. The submissions are available on our [website](#).

In recognition of our expertise in tackling corruption, TIA has appeared before several Joint Parliamentary Committee hearings that have had direct impact. For example, the passing of amendments to Whistleblower Protection legislation, which provides a world first in the support to, and protection of, whistleblowers in the private sector. UNGC Australian members are now gearing up to ensure they have the necessary policies and procedures in place to mitigate the risk of prosecution under the new offence of failing to demonstrate protection and support processes are in place.

TIA has been recognised for its expertise and contribution to strengthening Australia's national integrity system. This included the successful passing of the National Integrity Commission Bill in November 2018. This has been done in partnership with Griffith University – a UNGC Network Australia member.

TIA is active in the media, and regularly called on to comment on corruption, foreign bribery and integrity misconduct. Our corporate members, many of whom are UNGC members, have noted the high profile that TIA has. TIA is highly regarded by both government and business for our expertise, evidence-based research, and our collaborative approach to Tackling Corruption.

TIA is planning to bring companies and government officials together to discuss the forthcoming Adequate Procedures guidance to prevent bribery of foreign public officials.

TIA corporate members who are also UNGC Network Australia members include: Allens, BHP, ANZ, CBA, Westpac, NAB, Oceanagold, Telstra, Worley Parsons, KPMG, Deloitte, CPA, EY, PWC and Griffith University. This provides a unique opportunity for TIA to demonstrate our support for the UNGC Principles, and to engage directly with companies to strengthen their implementation of those Principles.