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## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

This Communication on Engagement (COE) has covered a period of two years.

From: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017

To: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019

### **Part 1. Statement of continued Support by the Chief Executive Officer**

24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that TAHA 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 Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication on 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.

Yours sincerely,

  
Jacqueline Mkindi  
Chief Executive Officer

## Part 2. Description of Actions

Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) is an apex private sector member based organization mandated to develop and promote horticultural crops (flowers, fruits, vegetables, spices, herbs, tubers and horticultural seeds) in Tanzania. TAHA's goal is to improve the growth and competitiveness of horticultural industry in the country for social and economic gains. TAHA is a unified voicing platform for Tanzania horticulture, representing farmers at all levels, processors, exporters and service providers in the horticultural industry in Tanzania.

In supporting UN Global Compact and its 10 principles, TAHA as the private sector member based organization, performs the following activities.

**A.** Organize learning and dialogue events, workshops and training for our members and stakeholders on UN Global Compact including practical ways to preserve environment for sustainable agricultural production. A number of milestones have been reached through implementation of this activity:

- TAHA established a Standards Coordination Unit to oversee compliance capacities of the horticultural industry including environmental and related standards. This unit facilitates a structure for compliance by enabling dialogue and partner engagement to forge systems and strategies for environmental smart horticulture.
- TAHA has developed an Environmental Management and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) which is a guiding framework for in implementation of interventions that affect environment, including application of Good Agricultural Practices. Furthermore, TAHA has developed Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safe Use Action Plan (PERSUAP), that guides TAHA to assess harmful effect use of agrochemicals may have on the environment.
- TAHA established a pesticide policy which guides on use of hazardous pesticides that may present adverse effect to the environment such as rivers, lakes, soil, etc. The document also guides on how to properly dispose empty containers.
- TAHA conducted the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), to understand the potential effects of farming activities that may present to the environment. Mitigation strategies were also designed.
- TAHA developed an Environmental Smart Horticulture curriculum that is rolled out to farmers and members at large

**B.** TAHA join forces with the UN Global Compact to advocate for the business enabling environment horticultural sector. TAHA addressed numerous policy and related bottlenecks affecting horticultural businesses as stated below:

- Improvement of taxation regime
  - Taxation regime for agriculture has improved over the past two years. TAHA has been able to address over 10 different taxation issues including reduction of crop cess, removal of taxes on cold storage systems and abolition of fertilizer registration fees thus giving major relief and boost horticultural businesses.
- Facilitating horticultural trade
  - TAHA worked on increasing improving plant health and inspection system in order to raise the country's capacity to comply with international market requirements.
- Promoting environmentally friendly farming methods
  - TAHA facilitated registration of 5 types of Biological Control Agents for use in horticultural farming. The aim is to reduce use of pesticides thus preserve the environment.

## Part 3. Measurement of Outcomes

**A.** In organizing learning and dialogue events, workshops and training for our members on the UN Global Compact including practical ways to preserve environment for sustainable agricultural production TAHA achieved:-

- One (1) Standards Coordination Unit was established
  - Environmental Management and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) was adopted in the implementation of TAHA production activities
  - Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safe Use Action Plan (PERSUAP) was adopted
  - Recommendations from Environmental Impact Assessment were implemented
- B.** TAHA join forces with the UN Global Compact to advocate for the business enabling environment horticultural sector has achieved the following:-
- 10 taxation and related issues were resolved.
  - Plant health compliance system was improved
  - Ministry of Agriculture developed Standard Operational Procedures and Field Inspection Manual to strengthen the field inspection done by the Plant inspectors