



WUSME WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
In Special Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013

STATEMENT TO UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT
COMMUNICATION OF COMMITMENT

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Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:
April 2017 - September 2019

Rep. of San Marino, 25th October 2019

Part I. STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that WUSME World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises 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 for the period April 2017 to September 2019. We welcome feedback on its contents.

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,

Dr. Gianfranco Terenzi
President

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PART II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

During the subject COE period, WUSME has undertaken actions in support of the UN Global Compact that particularly referred, among the other principles, to the following Principles of the UN Global Compact:

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining,

Principle 6: The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation,

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges,

Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

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EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS INCLUDE:

WUSME'S PUBLIC RELATIONS POLICY

Since WUSME's partnership with UNGC, having been constituted in the year 2013, it is an integral part of our standing public relations policy to inform our members and our affiliated partners about the principles of UNGC and encourage them to follow our example. We are doing this in all WUSME Conferences, General Meetings and workshops, but also via our public media, in our website, in the social media, e.g. Facebook, Twitter, in our periodic WUSME Newsletters and in the special editions of the WUSME Magazine @THINK SME of 2017, 2018 and 2019. Therein we informed entrepreneurs in more than 100 Countries about UNGC's mission.

YEAR 2017 - UNGC PRINCIPLES RELATED INITIATIVES

WUSME Written Statement approved for the 50th Session of the UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD50)

3-7 April 2017 - The Written Statement presented by WUSME for the fiftieth Session of the UN Commission on Population Development (CDP50) has been approved as official document by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/CN.9/2017/NGO/9

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UN International Day of Rural Women and World Food Day

October 17th, 2017 – Debrecen (HUNGARY) – On the occasion of the UN International Day of Rural Women and World Food Day, established in 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly, Margit Batthyany-Schmidt, President and Co-Founder of the Union of Hungarian Women (UHW) and Member of the WUSME Board of Directors, attended the conference organized by the same UHW in Debrecen, Hungary, on 16th and 17th October, 2017.

YEAR 2018 AND 2019 – UNGC PRINCIPLES RELATED INITIATIVES

WUSME Written Statement approved for the 56th Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD56)

31 January–7 February 2018 – The Written Statement presented by WUSME for the fifty-sixth Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD56), on the theme “Institutional reforms and encouragement of private initiatives: the key strategy for the eradication of poverty”, has been approved as official document by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

<https://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2018/NGO/38>

WUSME Written Statement approved for the 56th Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD57)

11–21 February 2019 - The Written Statement presented by WUSME for the fifty-seventh Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD57), on the theme “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies”, has been approved as official document by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

<https://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2019/NGO/55>

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WUSME Written Statement for the 63th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63)

11-22 March, 2019 – The Written Statement presented by WUSME for the sixty-three Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women on the theme “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” has been approved as official document by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

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<https://undocs.org/E/CN.6/2019/NGO/49>

WUSME at the 63^o session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women

March 22th, 2019 – “Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”.

This is the main theme of the 63st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), one of the most influential gatherings on gender worldwide, held from 11 to 22 March 2019 at the UN headquarters in city of New York. Ms. Annie Borello, WUSME Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, attended the event on behalf of the Union of Small and Medium Enterprises.

UN Secretary General António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres opened the meeting, saying that “women must be able to participate equally in all aspects of society. Thus we will build a better world for all. I am proud to be a feminist. All over the world there is a retreat in women's rights “. And in view of the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Action Platform, he invited “to reverse this phenomenon and continue to push forward for gender equality and women's economic empowerment”.

Gender equality, therefore, is at the center of the event and Sustainable Development (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>), including SDG 1 (end of poverty), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities).

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WUSME contribution to the work of the United Nations in the fields of environment protection and climate resilience

Delegates of WUSME interacted with high-level representatives of the United Nations regarding the action priorities of NGOs in support of SMEs and Crafts. In addition, in written and verbal statements submitted to ECOSOC and other UN Agencies, actions and recommendations for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including climate resilience-, and environment protection and waste management programs, and for sustainable economic and social development, have been proposed.

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4th October, 2018 – WUSME President Gian Franco Terenzi attended an important International Forum of Former World Leaders held from 28 to 30 September 2018 in Beijing. The event corresponded to the 35th Annual Plenary Assembly of the Inter Action Council, an international organization bringing together former world leaders to unite their energies, experiences and international contacts and develop and encourage change in the world. The forum was attended by eminent representatives of institutions from over 40 countries. Present many former Heads of State, Prime Ministers and Ministers.

On the occasion, WUSME President met with prominent dignitaries on the institutional scene, such as H.E. the Vice President of the People's Republic of China Mr. WANG Qishan.

The event focused on highly significant topics, such as artificial intelligence, climate change and the commercial war affecting the global economy.

June 25th, 2019 – WUSME took part in the annual R20 AUSTRIAN WORLD SUMMIT held in Vienna on May 28th and 29th 2019. Attending the event in representation of WUSME, its General Secretary Prof. Dr. Norbert W. Knoll-Dornhoff. The Austrian World Summit, at its third edition, is a long-term initiative to help regions, states and cities implement the sustainable development goals of the UN Agenda by 2030 and achieve global climate protection goals defined in the 2015 Paris Agreement to limit climate change. The UN General Secretary António Guterres (who held a World Summit on Climate in New York City in September 2019), addressed the Summit stressing that “many of the countries that promised to make a certain number of actions are not pursuing what was promised”.

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May 17th, 2019 – More and more companies are committed to integrating climate impact into their corporate decisions, as green economy can be a formidable factor of competitiveness, a challenging path for business in terms of efficient use of energy, innovation and high-tech. WUSME is committed to highlight the opportunities for SMEs to play an active role in fighting climate change. In line with this mission, on occasion of COP24 in 2018, WUSME has been admitted as Observer Organization to the UNFCCC process and has recently expanded its collaboration with GREENWILL, a global non-profit environmental initiative promoting the adoption of a Green Policy, eco-sustainable guidelines for individuals, businesses and organizations, worldwide.

THE PROPOSALS OF WUSME:

On the occasion of the 9th edition of the SINO-EUROPEAN ENTREPRENEURS SUMMIT (SEES) held in Paris on 4 and 5 June 2018, WUSME President Gian Franco Terenzi shared information on SME related projects and existing opportunities to help the growth of SMEs in emerging countries, especially in Africa, and strengthening SMEs cooperation between Europe, Asia and Africa. The proposal of WUSME is to set up a fund for the micro-financing of companies, with international participation of the various member countries and international partners. Among the sectors of interest: agriculture. For solid growth it is, in fact, recommended to relaunch agriculture and SMEs in a perspective of lasting growth, with an emphasis on safeguarding environmental compatibility, a rational use of natural resources and social sustainability.

During the reference period, WUSME has been engaged in organizing and promoting the realization of an International SME Conference in China, a high-level event conceived as opportunity for direct meeting to establish and strengthen relationships, exchange information, develop knowledge and experience, initiate collaborative relationships at different levels and present innovative projects from the vast world of entrepreneurial business. The meeting between different economic cultures facilitates the expansion of the entrepreneurial basin and extends itself in a common will to find opportunities.

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PART III. MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

Outcomes include:

Through the distribution of WUSME magazines, the publication of news on digital media and the active participation in various initiatives, WUSME informed hundreds of institutions and organizations of SMEs worldwide, on the mission and principles of the UNGC. Similar information and recommendations have been expressed to entrepreneurs in individual meetings. Many WUSME members have indicated their intention to join UNGC.

The activity of dissemination, carried out in the reference period, has been considerably extended also thanks to a broader network of WUSME representatives worldwide and a more intense collaboration with WUSME-related SME organizations, following the signing of 17 agreements of collaboration and activation of information exchange.