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COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE) October 2018 to October 2020

October 21, 2020

To our stakeholders,

At AARP, we empower people to choose how they live as they age. Just as our founder, Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, did over 60 years ago, we envision a society in which all people live with dignity and purpose over an ever longer span of healthier, more financially secure, and more fulfilling years. What we do for one, we do for all.

It is with this vision and purpose in mind that I am pleased to reaffirm AARP's commitment to the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact related to human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption.

Herein, please find our Communication on Engagement, which outlines how we have worked to advance these principles and engage with the Global Compact over the last two years.

Keeping with our commitment to public accountability and transparency, we will share this information with our stakeholders and the general public. We welcome any feedback on our submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jo Ann Jenkins".

Jo Ann Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer

Description of Actions

AARP is a broad, diverse organization working in multiple ways to advance the rights and wellbeing of older adults around the world. As a social mission organization, the core of our ongoing vision, mission, and work aligns closely with the work of the United Nations and the UN Global Compact. Our efforts to advance these principles has coalesced around these broad activities over the last two years:

- Supported the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically by highlighting the need to include older persons, in an effort to leave no one behind.
- Promoted the need for reliable, disaggregated data by age.
- Reinforced efforts to decrease the digital divide by highlighting the importance of access to technology by older persons.
- Drew worldwide attention to the impact of COVID-19 on older persons.
- Advocated for the consideration of a Convention to Protect the Rights of Older Persons.
- Increased awareness of the need to change employment policies in the context of the future work, specifically to promote the multigenerational workforce.
- Partnered with multiple global stakeholders to address the vital issues older persons and their families face.

These activities are ongoing as we look to help address the recovery from the global coronavirus pandemic, particularly with a focus on inequity and racial and gender disparities wherever they exist.

Beyond our social impact, AARP is working to embrace not only a corporate social responsibility (CSR) mindset, but an approach actively engaged around environmental, social, and governance (ESG) principles.

We are in active discussion with leading organizations who team up with clients on their ESG journey helping us:

- Establish a strategy around ESG.
- Understand our ESG current state and future state goals.
- Identify ESG-related risks and address those that are material.
- Address ESG activities already underway.
- Identify our internal stakeholders.
- Outline metrics to help measure our ESG efforts and progress.
- Produce a public report on our ESG and sustainability activities.

We look forward to sharing our progress towards embracing a fuller ESG mindset in the years to come.

should embrace the multigenerational workforce. We plan to release a major report, together with the OECD, by the end of this year.

- AARP holds consultative status at the UN, and we have, for the past 13 years, co-sponsors the AARP UN Briefing Series with UNDESA and the Office of the President of the General Assembly. This year, we engaged private sector and industry experts, as well as Member States, NGOs, and other key stakeholders. Speakers included AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins and the President of the UN General Assembly, among others. The theme of the 2020 event was “The Future of Work: Living, Learning, & Earning Longer.” Previous themes have touched upon poverty and social protection for older women, among others.
- AARP’s initiative on the Future of Work with the private sector was cited in the Secretary General’s report to Member States for the UN 75th General Assembly.
- AARP UN partnerships include working with UN Agencies, UNDESA, UNDP, UN Women, OHCHR, WHO, ITU, UN World Data Forum, the World Bank, and the ILO.
- AARP routinely sponsors the annual UN International Day of Older Persons and provides speakers for the event. The event in 2020 reached a global audience. The theme “Pandemics: How Do They Change How We Address Age and Ageing?” Speakers included The Secretary General and the President of the General Assembly, along with industry experts, UN Agencies, and civil society.
- AARP was featured in the Secretary General’s video for UN 75th anniversary on the Global Conversation on “the world we want.” AARP was active in the UN2020 negotiations on the UN People’s Declaration presented to the UN’s 75th session of the General Assembly, collaborating with multiple stakeholders, Member States, UN agencies, and civil society organizations.

Measurement of Outcomes

More specifically, our work and activities in support of the UN Global Compact principles has manifested in the following outcomes:

- AARP plays a leadership role at the UN on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As co-chair of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing – a coalition of 14 organizations – which takes policy positions on the thematic areas to the High-Level Political Forum, the main UN Platform for the monitoring and implementation of Agenda 2030. We host side events with Member States and the private sector to ensure that the important issues related to the rights of older persons are considered and to promote the SDGs related to poverty, hunger, health, gender, education, urban settlements, and partnerships.
- AARP is a member of the UN Titchfield City Group on Ageing. We advocate with national statistical organizations to include data disaggregated by age to ensure that the issues related to older populations are captured and well-understood by researchers and policymakers.
- AARP has served on Expert Group meetings at the UN on the role of technology and older persons. We have had experts present at the UN World Summit on Information Systems (WSIS) conference, as well as held side events with the Permanent Mission of Japan and UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).
- AARP played a pivotal role with the Office of the UN Commissioner for Human Rights in its Policy Brief on Older Persons. This brief was the impetus for the Secretary General's *Policy Brief on the Impact of COVID-19 on Older Persons*. AARP partnered with the SG's Office to create and videotape a "fireside chat" with AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins and Secretary-General, António Guterres to promote awareness about the recommendations. This video has been widely disseminated on AARP platforms as well as by UN agencies and is available on the UNDESA website.
- AARP is a founding member of the Global Alliance on the Rights of Older Persons, which is a coalition of approximately 380 NGOs. We participate in the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing, working with the Member States Group of Friends of Older Persons.
- AARP is a member of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Future Council on Longevity. Through our work with the WEF, AARP plays a pivotal role raising issues related to the megatrend of healthy longevity. Additionally, we have established a collaborative with WEF, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the private sector to advance the role of a multigenerational workforce through our "Living, Learning & Earning Longer" initiative. With a goal of engaging 50 global employers about why and how they