

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Junior Chamber International South Africa



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 1 January 2019

To: 31 December 2020

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.

/10 January 2021


To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Junior Chamber International (JCI) South Africa 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 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,

Silindile Mbaza



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

Anti-Discrimination

- ☐ Our history of a racial divided society keeps on bringing back the wounds of the past to even affect the current generation and post-democratically elected government. We have seen divisive politics that have polarised the country in many instances and although the resilient spirit of the South Africans has stood largely unshaken at the core, the debates are going on. Amidst all populist dispositions that youth organisations have taken we are still adamant in advocating and actively reflecting a vibrant, progressive rainbow nation.
- ☐ We agree that the nation has to go through phases of anger, disappointment, desperation and hopelessness as we try to build on the utopian ideal of a united nation in diversity. We pride ourselves in being a motivator at times of despair and hopelessness, the calm voice amidst anger, consoler in disappointments and a solution finder in times of desperation calling young people to action and taking active citizenry as a responsibility and not a favour to one's country through our visits to our local organisations, meeting with different stakeholders and through engagements with other youth movements and different platforms.

- Internally we pride ourselves as the only, if not one of the very few, South African organisation open to foreign nationals into the leadership of the organisation. Our moment of pride was in Durban in 2015 when all local organisations present unanimously voted for the first non-South African born National President. This gesture has seen members of JCI South Africa becoming more confident to stand for candidature in local electing more freely and the number of foreign nationals increasing in leadership, such is even seen in the incoming National Board.

Environment

- JCI South Africa has achieved a virtual biased existence in communication reducing paper use to an average of 500 sheets every three months. This is attributed to the rapid pace at which we need to communicate over the vast area that our organisation exists.

Anti-Corruption

- We have successfully established a fundraising and financial management division within our organisation in the form of the JCI South Africa Foundation. This division is independent of the management board and holds the management board to account financially, bringing about separation of power whilst ensuring that a different body maintains the transparency and financial accountability of the board.
- The foundation is a constituency of Senators (lifetime members of our organisation) who know the long term plan of the organisation, assist in fundraising, understand the organisation's operations very well; this is the reason why the organisation trusts the advice of the foundation and its assistance in keeping the board financially in check. It is through this that corruption is sustainably kept in check through an institution.

Human Rights and Labour

- ☐ Our local chapters frequently hold gender-based dialogues which encourage respect for human rights and gender equality in the workplace and in the broader society.
- ☐ We also provided leadership training to schools, drug rehabilitation centres, orphanages, centres that cater for abused women, universities and attend youth dialogues where we cultivate awareness of and respect for human rights and entrench peoples' awareness of their own rights.
- ☐ As a youth based organisation we also stand for the respect both for and by young people. We strive to give young people a greater voice in society and to impart young people with the skills to be the leaders of tomorrow.
- ☐ JCI South Africa Members are extensively involved in community projects and through these community projects they have been recognised for their dedication and outstanding work. One of the projects -The food garden project run by the local organisation JCI Tshwane, was recognised as a project which has impacted lives positively at the annual 2018 Africa and the Middle East Conference in Benin. Plans are in the pipeline to rollout the project throughout the country.

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.

Partnerships formalised with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles

Expertise and training provided by our organization to civil society organizations throughout South Africa on the UN Global Compact

Maximising activities that enhance and promote the 10 principles of the UN Global Compact, which are:

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

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

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

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

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

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

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.