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January 15, 2021; Friday.

The Global Compact,
United Nations,
New York, NY 10017,
USA.

RE: Statement of Continued Support for the Global Compact

Dear Sir/Madam:

I hereby confirm our continued participation and support to the Global Compact initiatives, as Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog continues to adopt Global Compact principles deeply intertwined with its daily operations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laxmi Sharma
Managing Director



Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog

UNGC ID 6076

Member since September 11, 2006

Communication on Progress (COP)

January 15, 2021

Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog is pleased to confirm its support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-Corruption. We have strict guidelines as well as measurement of outcomes in place. In our 2020/21 Corporate Sustainability Report below, we describe our actions to continually improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our business, strategy, culture, and daily operations. We also commit to share this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog (LWCU)

Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog (LWCU), founded in 1982, is the first button factory in Nepal. It is also the first industry in Nepal to produce handicraft items from bones and horns of domestic animals, particularly buffalo. When Laxmi Sharma founded LWCU the concept of using bone and horn to produce buttons had not even entered Nepal. LWCU developed its own technology to make tools and hand-operated machines needed for handmade production. Since then, LWCU has created more than 7,000 styles of buttons, from simple, round ones to exclusive animal designs. Today, Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog uses bone, horn, dried twigs and branches, bamboo, coconut shell, peach seeds, and more are used to make a wide range of unique hand-crafted items for collecting, to give as gifts, as fashion accessories, and more. Besides buttons, it produces necklaces and bracelets, massage products, hairpins made of horn and bone, and more. LWCU exports its products to many countries throughout the world.

Laxmi Sharma

Laxmi Sharma is well established as an icon of successful women entrepreneur in Nepal. She is known as the synonym of struggles and social worker as being the first women tempo driver not only within Nepal rather in the South-Asia. She has been producing buttons and other handicraft since 35 years and introducing Nepali arts and handicraft over the world through buttons. Mrs. Sharma had hardly attended 3 days in School but she can speak many languages very fluently. However, she belongs to one of the backward ethnic group, her father belongs to the Magar and mother belongs to Tamang ethnic group. Since establishment of the LWCU, she has provided employment opportunity to over 4,500 people through her industry. Those people became very skillful and trained in making buttons, weaving Dhaka, Pashmina Shawls and other handicrafts productions.

Laxmi Sharma has also been honoured by many institutions and has been delivering lectures on entrepreneurship and many business in various universities and colleges in Nepal. She has been recognized with many national and international awards.

National Awards

- Women Entrepreneurship and Gold Medal - 1987 (National Youth Service Fund Nepal)
- Best Exporter of New Product - 2000 (Nepal German Chamber of Commerce and Industry - NGCCI)
- Best Exporter of Horn & Bone Crafts - 1998/1999, 2000-2002 (Handicraft Association of Nepal)

International Awards

- Outstanding Woman Entrepreneurship of Nepal - 1997 (Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs, India)
- The Leading Woman Entrepreneurship of the World - 2000 (Star Group of USA)
- The Global Entrepreneurs - 2000 (Business Women's Network-BWN Washington DC, USA)

Laxmi Sharma is also a founder and currently a chairperson of Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre (KAT) Centre. KAT Centre is one of the most renowned social organization that works for the rights of the stray animals especially for Dogs, Cats and other animals. KAT has been working for the

sterilization of the street dogs and Cats & has been controlling the rapid increasing populations of those animals to stop their sufferings. KAT is also involved in "STOP RABIES" activities by providing them the rabies vaccinations in annual basis in many communities in Kathmandu. It has been also providing health services, food and caring facilities for more than hundreds of dogs and cats at the centre.

LWCU at the Present

Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog is running in 38+ years of its establishment as a typical Nepali industry using local human resource and raw materials. It has provided skilled training with training allowance and accommodation to the participants over four thousand people. LWCU has special policy of selecting participants to the training; including marginalized community, minority ethnic/endogenous people, disabled people, leprosy survivor, and abnormal people from the various remote and backward region of Nepal. LWCU has been exporting its products in more than a dozen countries around the world.

As other Nepalese industries and businesses, the LWCU has also affected by the decade long armed conflict and political instability. In the back force of political parties, it's workers demanded unlawful demand and benefits from the industry. While LWCU could not give them such benefits and fulfill their demand, workers disturbed to industry to run smoothly and later on, they went to the court. Due to the political obstacle and disturbances unfortunately, the factory had to face many ups and down. Now, all the cases and problems of labour has solved and again factory is running smoothly. In past, this factory has lost millions of dollar business in past however, Laxmi Sharma is not a person like who gets back when problems comes on her way, she fought against all the obstacles and problems that came along continuously and finally she became success to resolve those problems. However, political situation for business and industries has now improved. There seems many good signpost for business and economic upwards after all three level's election and forming new government in Nepal.

Social Services of LWCU

Laxmi Wood Craft Udhyog (LWCU) is not only a profit making company but it also has a great contribution in various social service activities in Nepal. It has been contributing 15% of its profits in Social services for the helpless people for saving their life by providing them shelter, study and helping them in their career development. You can find many students getting financial supports from LWCU from the Previous reports. The proprietor of LWCU, Laxmi Sharma herself is also earning from other resources. She has been delivering lectures as an entrepreneur in various programmes about the business and their studies, selling paintings, song albums and books. She has been spending her personal earnings also in various social services. LWCU has been doing a great support for many helpless and orphan children by providing them shelter, study and opportunity for career development.

This report includes the activities conducted during the period of 2020/21. The social services and activities conducted were very few due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

Community Dog Feeding (CDF) Program



The Community Dog Feeding (CDF) program was one of the popular programs during this COVID-19 pandemic lockdown that has been running by KAT Centre, Nepal. We had run this CDF program in the first lockdown as well, where we had fed thousands of street dogs who were starving because of insufficient food.



Laxmi Wood Craft Contributed in feeding the street dogs and cats. All the necessary meals were provided via Laxmi Wood Craft. It was a success along with KAT Centre and volunteers from the field we were able to contribute on the project.



Laxmi Wood Craft has this year contributed in KAT Centre mostly as people were less concerned about the animals when the Lock Down and COVID-19 hit. We were responsibly contributing in feeding the animals.



Besides we also sponsored all the event of Kukur Puja (Dog Festival) at KAT Centre. We are also contributing continuously in providing rescue, rabies vaccine and animal birth control to dogs with the KAT Centre.

Sponsorship of AGM of European Economic Chamber (EEC)



LWCU sponsored the very event with the required materials of the event provided via Laxmi Wood Craft.