de volksbank

Mr. António Guterres Secretary-General **United Nations** New York, NY 10017 **USA**

Directie

Croeselaan 1 P.O. Box 8444 3503 RK Utrecht The Netherlands

E martiin.gribnau@devolksbank.nl

Our reference

MG/0020/LJ

Subject

UN Global Compact

Date

April 9, 2021

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that de Volksbank N.V. continues to support the ten principles of the Global Compact on human rights, labour rights, environment and anti-corruption. With this letter we express our intent to implement these principles. We are committed to integrating the Global Compact Principles in our strategy, culture and day-to-day operations of our company. In addition, we are committed to engaging in collaborative projects which advance the Sustainable Development Goals.

De Volksbank N.V. will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public. In 2020, we published an update of our 2019 human rights report. We reported progress on the salient issues that were identified previously as well as information on other relevant initiatives, such as our efforts to develop 'fair algorithms' (i.e. algorithms that do not discriminate between clients). Our sustainable brand ASN Bank, along with ASN Investment Funds, continued to be a frontrunner on the topic of living wages. As a founding member of the Platform Living Wage Financials, which now consists of 15 Dutch and international asset managers, it continued its engagement with investee companies to stimulate the payment of a living wage to factory workers (in the supply chain). We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the annual submission of a Communication on Progress (COP) that describes our efforts to implement the ten principles. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to share this information with our stakeholders.

Kind regards,

Martiin Gribnau

