



Association of Banks in Lebanon

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

June 12, 2019 till June 10, 2021

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chairman

To our stakeholders,

As chairman of the Association of Banks in Lebanon (ABL), I am pleased to reaffirm our support to the UN Global Compact principles, in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

Below is our Communication on Engagement that describes the actions taken by ABL to support the UN Global Compact and the SDGs we chose to promote : zero hunger, quality education and gender equality. This information will also be shared with our stakeholders through our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Salim Sfeir

Chairman

Part II. Description of Actions

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic and Beirut explosion on August 4, 2020 that damaged ABL building very badly, we took few actions to support the UN Global Compact principles and to promote the **three SDGs** we chose : *zero hunger, quality education and gender equality*.

ABL continues to cooperate with local NGOs to provide coffee breaks and lunches for the persons that participate to conferences and seminars that take place at ABL premises Thus, the money raised by the NGOs goes to help the less fortunate.

In December 2019, as part of its end year activities, ABL took a humanitarian initiative by collecting money from all its staff and giving it to a local NGO « Shreek » that purchases food and distributes them to needy families. The same action was repeated in December 2020.



On another hand, education became accessible to a larger banking population with ABL's e-learning platform « *ABL-eT* ». During 2020, the HRD department developed a new design for its homepage and added new features and updates for the users. The “Anti Money Laundering” course was also updated and translated to Arabic and new videos were added to the “MOOC” to enrich the users' knowledge in a wide variety of subjects related to banking. Finally, an awareness video on Covid-19 was put on the landing page.



Finally, as a member of the European Banking Training Network “EBTN” (www.ebta-association.eu), ABL follows up its activities and in December 2020, staff of the HRD department participated to a webinar on « The Paradox of Gender-neutral Banking » that discussed topics related to women's empowerment principles as well as perspectives and plans for gender-neutral banking in different countries.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

473 persons joined ABL's e-learning platform « *ABL-eT* » and were able to enjoy new learning experiences in different fields.

Cooperating with NGOs to provide food and beverage during events taking place at ABL helps to highlight the name of the NGO and encourages participating banks to use their services at their premises. The money raised by the NGOs goes to help the less fortunate. Also, ABL tries to reach as many needy families as possible each year by taking humanitarian initiatives that have become embedded in ABL employees' culture.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S.H.', is positioned below the text. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.