

August 5, 2021

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement : January 2020-December 2021

Statement of Continued Support

To our stakeholders: I am pleased to confirm that the World Bamboo Organization reaffirms its support of the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our third Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome any comments on its contents, or how we can improve our communications to our stakeholders and to the general public. In this COE, 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.

The World Bamboo Organization has fully embraced the United Nations declaration of 2021 to 2030 as the '[Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#)' - the massive global 'call to action' to mobilize the political and financial support necessary to restore deforested and degraded ecosystems over the coming decade. We, and our stakeholders, see real potential where bamboo can help with many of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. On January 25, 2021, WBO Executive Director Susanne Lucas took part in a webinar hosted by Panjab University, Chandigarh India, entitled the Bamboo and the SDGs. <powerpoint attached>

The World Bamboo Organization has also signed [The New Declaration on Reforestation for Biodiversity, Carbon Capture and Livelihoods](#) to protect and restore the world's forests. This important manifesto outlines key requests to policymakers, reforestation financiers and practitioners, to enable better decision-making for global reforestation to safeguard forest biodiversity, mitigate climate change and improve livelihoods.

WBO also was a signatory of the online "A Statement from Business Leaders for Renewed Global Cooperation".

Some of us were able to attend virtual events organized by UN Global Compact these past 2 years, including in 2020, Uniting Business Live, and in 2021, the Supply Chain Resilience Through Sustainability and Leaders Summit. Our structure is horizontal and consists of "ambassadors" from around the world, all of whom are volunteers. You can read about our team on our website, www.worldbamboo.net

The mission of the World Bamboo Organization is to promote and support the use of bamboo as a sustainable and alternative natural resource through the development of partnerships and alliances, and the creation of mechanisms for global communication, information exchange, and technology transfer. We are a United States tax-exempt 501c6 organization.



Many of our ambassadors continue to make virtual presentations around the world (India, Philippines, Spain, Taiwan, Mexico, etc) in which they have emphasized the potential of bamboo in the SDGs. In continuation of our commitment to the Global Compact, we have encouraged our corporate members to join the UN Global Compact. We have been unable to host any in-person workshops or symposia due to the covid19 pandemic, however we mention our participation in the UN Global Compact to show our support for corporate sustainability and the SDGs via social networks such as Twitter and Facebook by sharing UNGC posts to our over 14,000 followers.

Unfortunately we had to cancel our 12th World Bamboo Congress which was to be held in Taiwan in 2021 due to the covid19 pandemic. The theme of that congress was “BambooNow” and was to emphasize the role bamboo has in helping the planet through the SDGs. Events took place within Taiwan, without an international audience. You can see more on the Congress website, www.worldbambocongress.org

Because our concern for the planet’s environment, we want to become more active in developing sector-specific tools and resources on corporate sustainability issues in collaboration with the UN Global Compact. Our members are focused on bamboo, and together we can provide targeted expertise on many aspects of bamboo to the UN Global Compact working groups and develop special initiatives. Because many of the billions of people working in bamboo are rural poor, and a large percentage are women, we are particularly concerned with human rights and labor issues. Therefore, the Ten Principles are extremely valid points to WBO.

We are proud to be participating in the UN Global Compact; thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susanne Lucas".

Ms. Susanne Lucas, Executive Director and CEO - WBO

9 Bloody Pond Road, Plymouth, MA 02360 USA / 508-685-0342 / info@worldbamboo.net

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