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DATE

10 August 2021

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TO

H.E. António Guterres  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017  
United States of America

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FROM

I.R. Consilium, LLC  
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Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I respectfully write to reaffirm I.R. Consilium, LLC's continued support of and commitment to the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact on Human Rights, Labor, Environment, and Anti-corruption.

In this annual Communication on Progress, I am pleased to share some of the activities and initiatives that demonstrate our commitment to the Global Compact and its principles, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals. This promise is reflected in our business strategy, culture, and daily operations, is written within our Code of Conduct, and is discussed at team meetings. We work to continually improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles not only within our internal operations, but also within the projects and partnerships we undertake.

While there are numerous examples of how our work has furthered the aims of the Global Compact, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals, I am pleased to share a few with you:

- We have continued our groundbreaking work of identifying, mapping, and exposing illicit and high-risk supply chains of different sorts, often tied to widespread criminality, violence, and sanctions busting (SDGs 3, 6, 11, 13, 15 and 16). In September, our major report for the OECD on high-risk gold flows out of Venezuela is scheduled for public release. In April 2021, we partnered with the NGO [SOSOrinoco](#) and the investigative reporters of the Venezuelan outlet [runrun](#) to give a preliminary presentation at the OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains; we subsequently delivered a briefing on illicit gold flows out of Venezuela at the WCO/OECD 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the informal law enforcement network on minerals-related crimes. In a related project, partnering with the [Colorado School of Mines](#) and the Canadian NGO [IMPACT Transform](#), we won a five-year grant from the United States National Science Foundation to conduct comparative mapping of the networks linked with gold and mercury flows in Peru and Colombia on one hand, and Kenya on the other. Work on the project is now underway. In addition to the aforementioned SDGs, this project also addresses goals 5 and 12.
- We have also continued to work to draw international attention to the deepening crisis of the *FSO Safer*, a floating oil storage and offloading facility in the Red Sea, roughly five miles off the coast of Yemen.

Building on our work of previous years, as well as the relationships we have patiently built in our efforts to avert a major humanitarian and environmental catastrophe, we have continued both to work behind the scenes with stakeholders toward resolution, and to bring more attention to the crisis. The latter efforts have led not only to coverage in a number of international news outlets, but also to a long-form [article in \*Time\*](#) and to forthcoming feature stories in multiple internationally renowned outlets of print and televised long-form journalism. This crisis, if unresolved soon, will lead to devastating long-term impacts on the marine environment (SDG 14), the livelihoods of coastal communities (SDG 1), food security in the Red Sea (SDG 2), availability of clean water, leading to further conflict (SDG 6), escalation of the famine in Yemen (SDG 2), the already fragile regional context (SDG 16), and the wider life in the Red Sea region (SDG 15). We will continue to do all we can to prevent such a crisis.

- We have also continued, through our connections with coastal and archipelagic states around the world, to advance the causes of maritime security, environmental sustainability, and the Blue Economy. Our partnerships with multiple technology providers to examine how sophisticated Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) platforms can enhance the ability of states around the world to govern, secure, and protect their precious marine resources have led to the adoption of a world-class MDA platform, and its immediately successful implementation, by CARICOM IMPACS in the Caribbean. Our efforts in this area have focused on the protection of the marine environment from illegal activities (SDG 14) and the law enforcement responsibilities of a region's states to counter crime in the maritime domain (SDG 16) as well as the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on maritime criminal activities.
- Our work on maritime security, environmental sustainability, and the Blue Economy has also included, through UNDP, a project in which we have provided analysis for the government of Equatorial Guinea of that country's largely untapped maritime economic potential, and put forth proposals on how to develop those maritime resources sustainably, in a manner that ensures broad and lasting economic benefit to the people of Equatorial Guinea. This project supports SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14.
- With the world's leading credibility on the subject, we also continued

our work in researching, reporting on, and advising on downstream oil theft and ways to combat illicit hydrocarbons activities (SDGs 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 16). We are contributing the chapter on oil and fuel crime to a forthcoming book in the Routledge series [Studies in Organized Crime](#), tentatively titled *The Private Sector and Organized Crime*.

As proud contractors to the United Nations, we support the broader goals of the UN and the Global Compact specifically. We are honored to highlight our participation to the general public through our website and will continue to work to uphold and promote the Ten Principles. Please accept this annual report as a statement of our continued participation.

We recognize and celebrate that in taking action implementing the Ten Principles and wider UN goals, we contribute to a safer, more secure, more peaceful, and more prosperous world.

Respectfully yours,



Dr. Ian M. Ralby  
CEO, I.R. Consilium, LLC