



**WUSME WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES**  
***In Special Consultative Status at UN ECOSOC since 2013***

**STATEMENT TO THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT**  
**COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)**  
**Draft 20 October 2021**

**Period covered by this Communication on Engagement (COE)**  
**APRIL 2019 – SEPTEMBER 2021**

**PART I. STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE PRESIDENT**

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that WUSME World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact for the period April 2019 to September 2021. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, 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.

Sincerely yours,

Ms. Barbara Terenzi  
President



## **PART II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS**

During the subject COE period, WUSME has undertaken actions in support of the UN Global Compact that particularly referred, among the other principles, to the following Principles of the UN Global Compact:

**Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining,**

**Principle 6: The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation,**

**Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges,**

**Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.**

### **EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS INCLUDE:**

#### **WUSME's Public Relations Policy**

Since WUSME's partnership with UNGC, having been constituted in the year 2013, it is an integral part of our standing public relations policy to inform our members and our affiliated partners about the principles of UNGC and encourage them to follow our example. We are doing this in all WUSME Conferences, General Meetings and workshops, but also via our public media, in our website, in the social media, e.g. Facebook, Twitter, in our periodic WUSME Newsletters and in the special editions of the WUSME Magazine @THINK SME of 2019 and 2020. Therein we informed entrepreneurs in more than 100 Countries about UNGC's mission.



## YEAR 2019 - UNGC PRINCIPLES RELATED INITIATIVES

### STATEMENT OF WUSME TO THE 57TH COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (CSocD57)

co-authored by Norbert W. Knoll von Dornhoff, General Secretary, with the guidance of Gian Franco Terenzi, President, Members of the Board of Directors and staff members of the HQ.

#### Priority Theme

Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies

#### Emerging Issues

Empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: Addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth

#### TITLE OF THE STATEMENT

*An Innovative Approach for the financing of social protection policies, particularly of farmer- and crafts- families in less privileged economies.*

Full document available at: <https://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2019/NGO/55>

### STATEMENT OF WUSME TO THE 63TH COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ([CSW63](#))

co-authored by Dr Pauline T Crawford, Chairwoman of the WUSME Permanent Commission on Social Issues and Women Entrepreneurship and WUSME Board Member, with the guidance of Gian Franco Terenzi, WUSME, President, Office Bearers and members of the HQ.

#### Priority Theme

Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

#### Review Issues

Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development (agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session)

#### TITLE OF THE STATEMENT

*SMEs and the Expanding Influence of the Female Entrepreneur*

Full document available at: <https://undocs.org/E/CN.6/2019/NGO/49>



## **WUSME AT THE “UN GLOBAL PACT FOR ENVIRONMENT” ROUNDTABLE IN PARIS**

PARIS (FRANCE) – On January 9th, 2019 WUSME attended the Roundtable on the UN Global Pact for the Environment held in Paris, France. WUSME Ambassador in Tunisia and Africa SMB Forum President, Dr. Dogad Dogoui, present to represent the Organization. During the event, Dr. Dogad Dogoui addressed the theme of Small and Medium Enterprises. Specifically, he drew the delegates' attention on how SMEs might be affected by Global Pact and what's the importance of SMEs to environmental issues. “Small and Medium Enterprises – he said during his speech- make up 80% of business worldwide and represent an important part of the supply chain: the UN, the states and corporate groups must take into account their insights “.

## **MEETING OF WUSME WITH ECOSOC PRESIDENT MS. INGA RHONDA KING**

On January 14th, 2019 WUSME Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Ms. Annie Borello met the President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Ms. Inga Rhonda King, at the ECOSOC Headquarters in New York. The discussion referred to the activity carried out by WUSME, since its foundation in 2010, in support of Small and Medium Enterprises as NGO in Special Consultative Status with the UN-ECOSOC. As of today, in fact, WUSME is one of the few Non-Profit-NGOs, operating in protection and support of SMEs globally, interacting with the UN system and related Offices in Geneva, New York and Vienna, as recognized Bridge Organizations for SMEs and related Associations, seizing opportunities for funds, projects, contacts, as well as qualified information able to enhance profitable partnerships.

## **WUSME AT THE 63° SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

March 22th, 2019 – “Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”. This is the main theme of the 63st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), one of the most influential gatherings on gender worldwide, held from 11 to 22 March 2019 at the UN headquarters in city of New York. Ms. Annie Borello, WUSME Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, attended the event on behalf of the Union of Small and Medium Enterprises. UN Secretary General António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres opened the meeting, saying that “women must be able to participate equally in all aspects of society. Thus we will build a better world for all. I am proud to be a feminist. All over the world there is a retreat in women's rights “. And in view of the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Action Platform, he invited “to reverse this phenomenon and continue to

**“WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES”**  
***in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013 and UNIDO since 2020***

Strada Borrana, 35 47899 Serravalle - Repubblica di San Marino  
Iscritta nel pubblico Registro delle Associazioni della Rep. di San Marino al n. 350  
Codice Operatore Economico: SM 23085 Tel.: +378 0549 991277 Fax: + 378 0549 807710  
[www.wusme.org](http://www.wusme.org)



push forward for gender equality and women's economic empowerment". Gender equality, therefore, is at the center of the event and Sustainable Development (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>), including SDG 1 (end of poverty), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities). During the CSW, UN Women, the African Union (AU), the Interparliamentary Union (IPU), Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Secretaría General Ibero-Americana, and other UN and NGO partners launched a multi-stakeholder [strategy](#) on equality in law. The women of the United Nations have, also, launched a series of guidelines for integrating gender into infrastructure development in Asia and the Pacific (more.... <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/csw-63-focuses-on-social-protection-public-services-sustainable-infrastructure/>).

#### **WUSME AT THE UNGA INTERACTIVE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER HEARING IN NEW YORK**

April 29th, 2019 – Representatives from public health organizations, civil society, foundations, academia and the private sectors discussed their perspectives on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and shared best practices, during the UN General Assembly's (UNGA) Interactive Multi-Stakeholder Hearing on UHC, which took place last April 29th, 2019, at the UN headquarters in city of New York. Discussions will contribute to the UNGA's High-level Meeting UHC to be held on 23 September 2019, in New York, with the overall theme: "Universal Health Coverage: Moving Together to Build a Healthier World". Ms. Annie Borello, WUSME Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, attended the event on behalf of the Union of Small and Medium Enterprises. Upon beginning of the proceedings, UNGA President Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garces stated that the SDG, Sustainable Development Goals 3 (good health and well-being), while crucial to deliver the entire 2030 Agenda, is "one of the most challenging to achieve" (more...<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/stakeholders-bring-inputs-to-unga-meeting-on-universal-health-coverage/>). Indeed, the achievement of a "Universal Health Coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all" is one of the goals of the sustainable development (SDG).

The hearing included three panel discussions on: UHC as a driver of inclusive development and prosperity; UHC as commitment to equity; and multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder action and investments for UHC. The proceedings highlighted the importance of prevention, at civic and family levels, to limit the costs of Universal Healthcare as well as the strengthening of primary health care. Delegates brought the

**"WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES"**  
*in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013 and UNIDO since 2020*

Strada Borrana, 35 47899 Serravalle - Repubblica di San Marino  
Iscritta nel pubblico Registro delle Associazioni della Rep. di San Marino al n. 350  
Codice Operatore Economico: SM 23085 Tel.: +378 0549 991277 Fax: + 378 0549 807710  
[www.wusme.org](http://www.wusme.org)



example of the Thai government, which launched a program based on balancing the cost-benefit in order to extend the best level of care to as many citizens as possible. In late May 2019, the 72nd World Health Assembly will take up several topics related to Universal Health Coverage and the 2030 Agenda.

### **WUSME AT COP25, THE UN CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN SPAIN**

December 4th, 2019 – The WUSME is attending COP25, the UN Conference on climate change, which brings together in Madrid negotiators of nearly two hundred countries until December 13th, 2019. To be discussed are the measures to be taken in order to achieve the goals convened with the Paris Agreement in order to limit global warming by 1.5 ° C, compared to pre-industrial levels. On Thursday December 5th, at 11.30 am, the Organization will hold a side event in cooperation with Griffith University-Australia, entitled “Climate Goals: the contribution of SMEs and Nature based solutions”. WUSME Secretary General Prof. Dr. Norbert W. Knoll von Dornhoff will be moderator of the event. Speakers: Prof. William Moomaw, Emeritus Professor of International Environmental Policy, Center for International Environment and Resource Policy, Co-Director Global Development and Environment Institute Tufts University; Ms. Virginia Young, National Liaison Officer and Director, International Forests and Climate Programme at the Australian Rainforest Conservation Society; Mr. Dogad Dogoui, WUSME Ambassador and President of Africa SMB Forum and Mr. Remy Katler, of Public Affairs of Solar Impulse Foundation.

### **WUSME'S COP25 SIDE EVENT: “CLIMATE GOALS, THE CONTRIBUTION OF SMES AND NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS”**

6th December, 2019 – On Thursday, December 6th, 2019, under the COP25, the UN Conference on climate change, WUSME held a Side Event in Madrid, in cooperation with Griffith University-Australia, with the title “Climate Goals: the contribution of SMEs and Nature based solutions” and with the theme “Innovative approaches and paths that will enable SMEs to contribute to climate goals. If Nature Based action is to provide part of the climate solution, it must do it by reducing emission, integrating biodiversity, protecting the ecosystem and supporting the livelihoods.” WUSME delegates to COP25 Secretary General Norbert W. Knoll, who acted as Moderator of the Side Event, and WUSME Ambassador Dogad Dogoui addressed the audience and interacted with Speakers from Griffith University Prof. William Moomaw, Emeritus Professor of International Environmental Policy, Center for International Environment and Resource Policy, Co-Director Global Development and Environment Institute Tufts University; Ms. Virginia Young, National

**“WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES”**  
***in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013 and UNIDO since 2020***

Strada Borrana, 35 47899 Serravalle - Repubblica di San Marino  
Iscritta nel pubblico Registro delle Associazioni della Rep. di San Marino al n. 350  
Codice Operatore Economico: SM 23085 Tel.: +378 0549 991277 Fax: + 378 0549 807710  
[www.wusme.org](http://www.wusme.org)



Liaison Officer and Director, International Forests and Climate Programme at the Australian Rainforest Conservation Society. Main issues covered by the speakers during the meeting and discussed with delegates attending the Side Event, in a lively debate, related to the close link between climate change, nature and economy, the recommendations of WUSME for actions promoting enterprises to operate in favor of climate mitigation; the role of academic research in providing a framework for business activities to benefit to nature and local communities; climate emergency as business opportunity; the need for funds allowing SMEs to improve their technologies, adaptation and resilience to climate change; technology and innovation adopted by SMEs to be climate neutral.

## **YEAR 2020 - UNGC PRINCIPLES RELATED INITIATIVES**

### **WUSME & UNIDO: APPLICATION FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS AND APPROVAL**

An important Milestone of WUSME's presence in The United Nations Family 2020 was the approval of Consultative Status at at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization UNIDO with headquarters at the United Nations Office in Vienna, Austria.

### **WUSME ACCREDITED AT THE UNOV, UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN VIENNA**

Vienna, February 17th, 2020

WUSME is accredited at the United Nations Office in VIENNA (UNOV) for year 2020 as well. Representatives appointed by the Association are WUSME President Gian Franco Terenzi and General Secretary Norbert Knoll von Dornhoff. As NGO in "Special Consultative Status" with the UN-ECOSOC since 2013, WUSME has the opportunity, through its representatives, to interact regularly with the United Nations system to acquire qualified information on opportunities of growth and development existing for Small and Medium Enterprises and Crafts, start up, young entrepreneurs and women entrepreneurs. The accreditation to the United Nations confirms the commitment of WUSME in the promotion and enhancement of SMEs with particular reference to their access to finance, education & training, business.

### **WUSME CONTRIBUTION TO UNFCCC-COP ON THE TOPIC "FINANCE FOR NATURAL BASED SOLUTIONS"**

September 14th, 2020 – Since its early years, WUSME has always been committed to emphasizing the importance of climate change and its consequences for the

**"WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES"**  
*in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013 and UNIDO since 2020*

Strada Borrana, 35 47899 Serravalle - Repubblica di San Marino  
Iscritta nel pubblico Registro delle Associazioni della Rep. di San Marino al n. 350  
Codice Operatore Economico: SM 23085 Tel.: +378 0549 991277 Fax: + 378 0549 807710  
[www.wusme.org](http://www.wusme.org)





development of Small and Medium Enterprises worldwide, highlighting opportunities for their contribution.

As Observer Organization to the COP, WUSME received an invitation from the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) to submit proposals and inputs on its next Forum on "Finance for Nature-Based Solutions".

The Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance is a platform for a wide range of stakeholders from governments, climate funds, financial institutions, civil society, think tanks and the private sector to discuss a topic of interest in climate finance and promote links and coherence in mobilizing and providing climate finance.

The statement of the Union has been well received and posted on the website of the UNFCCC: <https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/events-meetings/scf-forum/the-next-scf-forum-financing-nature-based-solutions>

### **WUSME AT THE WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONGRESS 2020: "FUTURE TRENDS OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP"**

December 23th, 2020 – On the occasion of the *Women Entrepreneurship Congress 2020* held in virtual mode from November 19nd to 21rd 2020 due to the Covid-19 health emergency, Ms. Katarina Jagic, WUSME Co-Founder and WUSME Ambassador in Croatia, spoke on behalf of the Association during the event on the theme "Future trends of women entrepreneurship".

In her speech, Katarina Jagic focused on female entrepreneurship in Croatia, the opportunities that exist, the role of technology even more relevant today for the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

"The role of women is and will be greater in business and the world economy. This means that the focus should be on the role of technological innovation and female entrepreneurship in the future economy. Both can create new opportunities to strengthen women's economic empowerment" Jagic said.

According to the WUSME Ambassador to Croatia, encouraging women to enter the business world and strengthening the female enterprise contributes to making the economy stronger. "UN Women is highlighting the fruitful contributions of women to sustainable peace, human security and justice," she said at the end of her speech.





## **YEAR 2021 - UNGC PRINCIPLES RELATED INITIATIVES**

### **WUSME AT THE UNIDO ITPO ITALY EVENT: OPPORTUNITIES IN IRAQ**

REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO – On March 3th, 2021, WUSME took part in the virtual event held to present the activities of UNIDO ITPO Italy as part of the project “Investment Promotion for Iraq – Phase II”., WUSME President Barbara Terenzi attended the meeting online from the Headquarters in San Marino.

The initiative was aimed at presenting the goal of the project, funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and implemented by UNIDO: the promotion of commercial and investment opportunities in Iraq and support to the Iraqi private sector through the development of international partnerships, in order to contribute to the creation of job opportunities and acceleration of sustainable economic growth in the country.

Small and Medium Enterprises could, therefore, represent in this context a favorable opportunity to develop and relaunch the regional and international economy, especially in the current crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Consistent with its mission and by virtue of its Consultative Status with UNIDO recently acquired, WUSME is committed to offer its support to the growth and cooperation of SMEs, through its collaboration in partnerships aimed at implementing SME related projects.

### **WUSME AT UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING 2021**

REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO – July, 12th 2021 – WUSME President, Mrs. Barbara Terenzi, participated virtually on Interprefy in the UNIDO IDB meeting. As WUSME is in Consultative Status at UNIDO since 2020, our organization directly liaises with UNIDO General Director, H.E. Li Yong, and UNIDO officers in charge of SMEs-related matters and cooperation with NGOs. Special meetings with UNIDO officers will take place in the course of this year.

### **WUSME AT 36TH SESSION OF THE UNCITRAL IN VIENNA**

VIENNA – October 12th, 2021 – WUSME attended the 36th session of the UNCITRAL Working Group (the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) on enhancing access of MSME to credit, which took place in Vienna from 4 to 8 October 2021.

Delegate of the Organization to the event, Mr. Michel Fossaert, WUSME Member of the Board, who spoke during the proceedings, reporting considerations expressed in the Statement submitted by WUSME and put on record by the Working Group.

**“WORLD UNION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES”**  
*in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013 and UNIDO since 2020*

Strada Borrana, 35 47899 Serravalle - Repubblica di San Marino  
Iscritta nel pubblico Registro delle Associazioni della Rep. di San Marino al n. 350  
Codice Operatore Economico: SM 23085 Tel.: +378 0549 991277 Fax: + 378 0549 807710  
[www.wusme.org](http://www.wusme.org)



Mr. Fossaert focused on some issues in particular, such as loans and guarantees, strengthening the resilience and liquidity of companies and financing to support the energy transition of SMEs.

### **PART III. MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES**

#### **Outcomes include:**

Through the distribution of WUSME magazines, the publication of news on digital media and the active participation in various initiatives, WUSME informed hundreds of institutions and organizations of SMEs worldwide, on the mission and principles of the UNGC.

Similar information and recommendations have been expressed to entrepreneurs in individual meetings. Many WUSME members have indicated their intention to join UNGC.

The activity of dissemination, carried out in the reference period, has been considerably extended also thanks to a broader network of WUSME representatives worldwide and a more intense collaboration with WUSME-related SME organizations, following the signing of agreements of collaboration and activation of information exchange.