Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution Professional education

"PITIRIM SOROKIN SYKTYVKAR STATE UNIVERSITY"

## RESEARCH CENTRE FOR CORPORATE LAW, GOVERNANCE AND VENTURE INVESTMENT

**Member of the United Nations Global Compact Network** 

167000 Republic of Komi, Syktyvkar, Oktyabrsky prospect, 55 tel. (8212) 794-777; (8212) 390-393; E-mail: scientific.center.syktsu@mail.ru

Dear readers,

Since joining the UN Global Compact Network, the Research Centre for Corporate Law, Governance and Venture Investment of Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University has promoted the corporate sustainability initiative both regionally and at the Russian and international levels. Scientific research has been carried out, thematic conferences and roundtables for business have been organised, advice on sustainability has been provided, and work on training responsible executives has been carried out.

As we look to the future, we declare that the staff of the Research Centre for Corporate Law, Governance and Venture Investment at Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University is ready to continue to support the UN Global Compact and promote the implementation of the ten principles in organisations and enterprises.

This report contains information for stakeholders on the activities of the Research Centre for Corporate Law, Governance and Venture Investment at Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University in support of the UN Global Compact for 2020-2021.

We invite dialogue and are open to cooperation on the development of the UN Global Compact initiative in the implementation of the ten principles as well as the Sustainable Development Goals.

Regards,

Dr. Arif Shikhverdiev

Head of the Research and Development Centre,

Member of the Russian Community of Corporate Directors

Doctor of Economics, Professor, Academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences

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### Performance report on the implementation of 10 principles of the UN Global Compact

#### 1. A scientific study on sustainable development has been carried out.

During the reporting period, the Research Centre for Corporate Law, Governance and Venture Investment at Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University conducted a scientific analytical case study, Mechanisms and Factors of Development of Business Ecosystems in the Arctic Environment, using four Arctic territories of the Komi Republic as an example.

The study focuses on the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples of the Arctic and the North. Particular attention is paid to the issues of social and environmental responsibility of business in the Arctic. The need to protect the rights of non-resident entrepreneurs in the northern and the Arctic territories is highlighted.

Based on the results of the study, the constituent elements of a mechanism for the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems, small and medium-sized enterprises to ensure the effective development and exploitation of the European Arctic, taking into account the 10 Principles of the UN Global Compact Network. It proposes measures to improve the legal regulation of the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems in the Arctic to ensure sustainable development.

Taking into account the international Principles of Corporate Governance (OECD) and the UN Global Compact Network Principles, the components of entrepreneurial ecosystems in terms of a high level of corporate governance and corporate culture in the European Arctic have been developed.

Given the vulnerability of nature in the Arctic and the danger of irresponsible behaviour towards the environment and people, proposals have been developed that contain provisions to ensure a high level of social and environmental responsibility for small and medium-sized businesses in the Arctic, including the implementation of the UN Global Compact Network Principles for Social Responsibility in Business.

# 2. Training for future decision makers and implementation of the UN Global Compact Network Principles is organised.

- a). The subject of Corporate Social Responsibility has been introduced into the curricula of Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University. In this course, the principles of the UN Global Compact Network are studied, among others. Through internships and work placements at enterprises, students who have studied this course explain the benefits of implementing the UN Global Compact Network Principles in practice.
- b). Provision of advisory support, organisational and technical support to businesses in the Komi Republic on improving their social and environmental responsibility and sustainable development.
- c). As part of its activities, the Research Centre for Corporate Law, Governance and Venture Investment, together with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Komi Republic and the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of the Komi Republic, established and operates a "Laboratory of Social and Environmental Responsibility of Business".

Within the framework of this Laboratory, information on implementation of the UN Global Compact Network Principles in the activities of organisations (members and partners of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Komi and the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Komi) is provided. The best practices of enterprises with implementation of the UN Global Compact Network Principles are analysed. Consultation work on implementation of these Principles is carried out.

d). The Academy of Financial Literacy and Youth Entrepreneurship Development project at Pitirim Sorokin Syktyvkar State University is implementing an educational programme for students, pupils and young people in the Republic of Komi in 2020-2021. Within the teaching context of the basics of entrepreneurship, close attention is paid to entrepreneurial culture and sustainable development issues in the North and the Arctic.

#### 3. Conducting roundtables, thematic conferences.

- 1) International Scientific and Practical Conference "Trends Towards Economic Growth and Sustainable Development" was held (March 2020).
- 2) The annual Scientific and Practical Roundtable "Issues of Social and Environmental Security in the Arctic Development" was held (May 2020 and May 2021).

The discussion resulted in practical recommendations on the creation of mechanisms to ensure social and environmental security and ensure protection of indigenous peoples' interests in the development of the Arctic.