

# COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

## Global Fashion Agenda

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:  
1 November 2019 – 31 December 2021

### *Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive*

27 January 2022

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Global Fashion Agenda 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.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organisation has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for our organisation.

Ms. Federica Marchionni

Chief Executive Officer  
Global Fashion Agenda

### *Part II. Descriptions of Actions*

Actions that Global Fashion Agenda (GFA) has taken in support of the Global Compact:

#### **Forums**

- Organised the annual [Copenhagen Fashion Summit](#) (CFS) 2020 and 2021 which convened the fashion industry, multilateral organisations, industry associations, political decision-makers and more to find common solutions to implement social and environmental sustainability.
- In response to the pandemic, GFA brought the Summit to life through an engaging and entertaining on-line [content platform](#). The aim was to deliver an entirely new approach to storytelling—telling stories that champion the intersection of fashion and sustainability and the people and perspectives driving the industry forward.
- The [2021 Summit](#) theme was entitled '[Prosperity vs. Growth](#)' and where GFA hosted rich debate on the topic of de-growth within the apparel and footwear industry.
- The Summit includes an element that showcases innovators and solution providers within an area called the [Innovation Forum](#). During the Forum, GFA facilitates partnerships between innovators and world leading fashion brands and retailers in a matchmaking programme.
  - The 2020 Summit featured a digital Innovation Forum; a curated online space of 42 of the world's most promising solution providers addressing the most pressing issues in the fashion industry.
  - Matchmaking included +450 pre-scheduled meetings that took place during the two days.

- 64% of brands participating in the matchmaking programme responded that it led to potential future business or partnership opportunities with one or more of the solutions that they met.
- The 2021 Summit did not feature matchmaking but instead a digital Innovation Forum with 46 solution providers, covering the entire fashion supply chain. Taking place on the CFS+ platform, the Innovation Forum enabled sustainable solutions which were showcased in private chat rooms where groups could interact with small and large companies to equip them with the tools to embark on their sustainability journey. Whereby, 56% of all 2021 CFS+ attendees visited the Innovation Forum
- During the 2020 and 2021 Summit, GFA hosted [Designer Challenges](#) which tested up-and-coming designers to find sustainable solutions to a design challenge which were presented at the Summit.

## Policy

- GFA proactively advocates for policy changes and supportive measures that reinforce sustainability targets and incentivise necessary change. [GFA's policy goal](#) is to convene and connect relevant policymakers with fashion industry in a collaborative effort to effectively accelerate the fashion industry's sustainability performance.
- GFA has had a formalised policy engagement strategy since 2019 with the aim to convene and connect relevant policy makers and fashion industry decision makers in a collaborative effort to significantly accelerate the fashion industry's sustainability performance.
- GFA is amongst the handful of organisations active in policy and recognized by policymakers through the implementation of the [Policy Hub](#) -Circularity for Apparel and Footwear, as well as, through our GFA stand-alone policy actions.
  - These include high level policy roundtables, open events, policy masterclasses, position papers and many other stakeholder engagement milestones showing the organisation's progress in policy ([2021 policy milestones](#))
    - I.e., GFA held an event on the impact of Covid-19 on the EU textiles policy and the "Fashion CEO Agenda: Policy Gaps and Opportunities."

## Impact

- Circular Systems pilot programme: GFA launched the [Circular Fashion Partnership](#) in 2020, funded by [P4G](#). The partnership is a cross-sectorial project to support the development of the textile recycling industry in Bangladesh by capturing and directing post-production fashion waste back into the production of new fashion products.
  - CFP collected a total of 1569 tonnes (1,568,661 kg) of post-industrial textile waste; of which 42% was traced to the participating project recyclers.
  - CFP established affiliate partnerships with Embassy of Bangladesh in Denmark, The Embassy of Denmark in Bangladesh, McKinsey & Co, Avery Dennison, Fashion for Good and The Good Fashion Fund. The project onboarded 21 global fashion brands and buying houses, 17 recyclers and 48 factories. Additionally, CFP trained 92 factories on appropriate waste handling and segregation.

## Thought Leadership

- Developed [publications](#): Annual [Fashion CEO Agenda](#), [Fashion on Climate](#), [Scaling Circularity](#).

## Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Measured outcomes of the activities described in Part II.:

- The Copenhagen Fashion Summit addresses the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact through its mainstage programme addressing the areas of Human Rights, Labour and Environment.
- Publications: The priorities in the Fashion CEO Agenda 2021 addresses the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):
  - Fashion CEO Agenda priority “Respectful and secure work environments” addresses SDG 5: Gender equality, 8: Decent work and economic growth, 1: No poverty, and 10: Reduced Inequalities.
  - CEO Agenda priority “Better wage systems” addresses SDG 1: No poverty, 8: Decent work and economic growth, 10: Reduced inequalities and 12: Responsible production and consumption.
  - CEO Agenda priority “Circular systems” addresses SDG 12: Responsible production and consumption, 17: Partnerships for the goals, 13: Climate action, and 9: Industry, innovation, and infrastructure.
  - CEO Agenda priority “Efficient use of resources addresses SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation, 7: Affordable and clean energy, and 12: Responsible production and consumption.
  - CEO Agenda priority “Smart material choices” addresses SDG 13: Climate action, 14: Life below water, and 15: Life on land.
- GFA’s policy engagement especially addresses Labour and Environment together with the SDG 12: Responsible production and consumption.
- GFA’s Circular Fashion Partnership addresses SDG 12: Responsible production and consumption, 17: Partnerships for the goals, 13: Climate action, and 9: Industry, innovation, and infrastructure.